CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this first chapter of this research, the researcher presents six sub-chapters related to the study. These topics background of the study, These topics cover (1) background of the study, (2) formulation of research problem, (3) objectives of the research, (4)significance of the research, (5) scope and limitation of the research, (6) definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

The Covid-19 virus or known as Coronavirus has been a source of problem in many countries. According to the World Health Organization, the COVID-19 virus is a new type of virus that started to spread out of control in the Wuhan area, Hubei Province, China, in December 2019. Recently, the COVID-19 virus has spread in many countries and caused a universal pandemic, especially in Indonesia. This pandemic gives universal problems in Indonesian citizens, industry, economy, etc, especially in education. Due to this pandemic the Ministry of Education and Culture issued Circular Letters 2 and 3 of 2020, in which it explained ways to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the educational environment (KEMENDIKBUD, 2020). Most of school, college, private, etc. have stopped face-to-face teaching and doing social or physical distancing. Consequently, teaching and learning process, especially English learning do at home by using online learning or technology driven learning.

The integration of technology has continuously occurred within every other aspect of our life, for instance, education. According to Mustafa (2015) Using technology in foreign language learning and teaching is useful for both teachers and students. There is a great tendency among teachers to use technological tools in language learning classrooms. Technology has been used to both help and improve language learning. Technology enables teachers to adapt classroom activities, thus enhancing the language learning process. Technology continues to grow in importance as a tool to help teachers facilitate language learning for their learners (Ahmadi, 2015).

Moreover, according to Kapenieks et.al (2012) the new technologically driven learning approaches seemed to offer a solution to the increased demand a comparatively low initial cost and many countries supported a wide array of E-Learning solution. E-learning is learning which utilizes electronic technologies to access educational curriculum outside traditional classroom and it refers to learning that delivered online. There are several various types of applications of E-learning one of them is Google Classroom (Wijaya, 2016). Classroom of use Google is expected to improve quality and providing assistance in education especially in learning English. Google Classroom is a free application designed to assist students and teachers connect, work together, organize and create assignments, it enables learning to be paperless. It makes teachers simply build groups to share assignments and announcements. It also has some

benefits such as paperless, can be accessed anywhere and everywhere as long as there is internet connection and from any devices, to communicate between teachers and students, to give feedback to students, and personalized learning. It has a learning feature that makes teachers create and handle assignments actively and also provide feedback to students.

According to Shaharanee etc. al Google Classroom's thus show it is effective as an active learning tools. It contributed to the training of online instructors in methods and the designing of educational support programs that allow students to succeed in the online environment. It is timely that Google Classroom's tools should be integrated into the teaching and learning of data mining software, not solely because it is a useful utility tool. In addition, according to Mualim (2019) Google Classroom as one of the development of information technology could be used to deliver materials in addition to the traditional physical classrooms, training students" learning hybridity thus optimizing their learning autonomy. According to M. DiCicco (2016) Google Classroom into social studies instruction resulted in an increase of student vocabulary scores except students' understanding of the content knowledge. Google Classroom may be considered as a program for resources in the classroom for teachers and students.

Moreover, according to Hussaini etc al. (2020) Google Classroom enhances the teaching and learning process. It is also reliable, effective and efficient in improving students' access and attentiveness towards learning,

activities conducted in Google classroom changes students from passive to active learners. Students can easily track their progress with online assessments in Google Classroom, parents can check and monitor the performances and progress of their children easily and at their convenient time. In the current situation of global Covid-19 pandemic, restricted movement and social distancing, it is recommended that applying Google classroom will assist both students and teachers to connect, work together, create assignments, grade students and post lecture notes (Hussaini etc al. 2020).

In this research, the researcher wants to conduct a study with the same application that is Google Classroom, but focus on reveal the important digital technology in regards in the learning activities, students' experience in using Google Classroom in their learning English, and students' perceptions about the benefit of Google Classroom in learning English through the students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom as an alternative media for English learning at MAN 2 Tulungagung, as a caused of covid-19.

Based on the explanation the researcher would like to examine about "the students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom as an alternative media for English learning at MAN 2 Tulungagung."

1.2 Formulation of the Research Problem

Based on the background of the problem above can be formulated as follows: "What are the students' perceptions toward the use of Google

Classroom as an alternative media for English learning at MAN 2 Tulungagung?"

1.3 Objectives of the Research

Based on the research problem above, the objective of the research is to find out students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom as an alternative media for English learning at MAN 2 Tulungagung.

1.4 Significance of the Research

The researcher hopes that the results of this study are useful for:

1. The English Teacher

   The result of this research hopefully will give English teacher information on how Google Classroom as a media for English learning helps and gives benefit for students in English learning process. If Google Classroom can help and give benefit for them in learning process, it can be an alternative for teacher to use this media in teaching and learning process, especially in English learning.

2. The Other Researchers

   This research is expected to be beneficial for the other researchers as reference for those who want to conduct further research related to use of Google Classroom.

3. The readers

   This research can improve the reader's knowledge and new perspective in English learning by using Google Classroom.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Research

The scope of this research covers students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom as an alternative media for English learning at MAN 2 Tulungagung. The subject of this study is the students who have ever used Google Classroom as a media for English learning process that is the eleventh grade students because they have experience on the use of Google Classroom in learning process, especially in English learning process. Therefore, this research is limited to the XII IPS students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom as an alternative media for English learning, because they have an experience in using Google Classroom in learning English and only those class that used Google Classroom in learning English. In addition, the teachers use different application in learning process, especially in learning English.

1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in this research, the researcher provides some definitions of terms used in the study. Those are:

1. Perception

   Perception is someone's interpretation about something based on theirs previous experience.

2. Google Classroom

   Google Classroom is a one of social network that is designed for a tool which facilities students and teacher in teaching and learning process to make them connect each other and do collaboration.

3. E-learning

   E-learning is learning that used electronic media or technology-driven media to access educational curriculum and support teaching or learning process delivered online.