

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of background of the study, the formulation of research problem, research objective, significance of the research, the scope and limitation of the research, and the definition of key term.

#### **A. Research Context**

All activities outside the home must cease by the beginning of 2020. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, many people have lost their jobs, and students are unable to fulfill their obligations to study and socialize. Covid-19 is a virus from China that causes dizziness, flu, fever, coughing, and shortness of breath in all people who are exposed to it. This coronavirus claimed the lives of many people. This certainly makes people feel anxious, especially in Indonesia. Panic has also set in, so the government has decided to halt all activities that require people to leave their homes and interact with a large number of people. Many airlines and airports have been closed to keep others out, as well as Indonesia's territory caused by the spread of the virus. Education is the most affected in this situation because all schools had to cease teaching and learning activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This, of course, has an impact on language learning techniques, particularly English learning. Nurhayati (2020) also stated that Mid-March 2020, the world of education underwent a drastic change. The educational model that was originally classical has turned into online. Learning is no longer in classrooms, but has turned into virtual spaces. IAIN Tulungagung also does the

same thing. Class lectures turned into online lectures. The campus has shifted into a virtual campus.

During a pandemic, technology plays a critical role in life because it can keep people connected and assist them in the field without requiring them to leave their homes. Education is one of the closely related fields. The traditional doctrine is certainly not supported by the government during this time of pandemic, so the government emphasizes that teaching and learning activities are carried out online using technology, and learning the media is already available. Zoom, Google Meet, WhatsApp, Google Classroom, and other platforms can be used to carry out online learning activities. Nurhayati, et al. (2020) stated that Transition from face-to-face learning to learning the online system is not that simple. First of all is system used. Technology is developing so fast, but we are not always ready for such changes. This is where the challenge must be sought solutions. Possible the lecturer is ready with a certain system, but not for student. On the other hand, students who are ready but the lecturers not ready.

Further, students and teachers will find it easier to complete their tasks as technology advances. According to Graddol (in Shyamlee & Phil, 2012), technology is an important tool for driving social and language change because it can help students stay connected and learn the language, particularly English. According to Grab and Stoller (as cited in Ahmadi, 2017), language is one of the factors that influence communication activities, whether in daily life or on a global scale. Students can learn all aspects of English language skills such as listening,

speaking, reading, and writing in learning a language, particularly English. In this case, technology plays a critical role in helping students learn English.

Virtual learning also allowed students and teachers to receive emotional and moral support while remaining connected. Virtual learning has advantages and is effective in terms of interaction, flexibility, and student strengthening. As a result, virtual learning can be used anywhere. Furthermore, through virtual learning, you may use any device, such as a smartphone, laptop, or computer. As a result, during the COVID-19 pandemic, online learning could perhaps help to accelerate learning and strengthen students and teachers.

The online learning process will run smoothly through the use of virtual as a learning media. As a result, those students could also study independently at home by studying the material provided by the teacher and submitting assignments on time via Google Classroom, which can be accessed at any time and from any location. Teachers can also keep track of student attendance using virtual learning's online absence system, which is logged when students submit assignments. Virtual learning's critical significance in the English teaching and learning process 1) Having a feature that is directly related can make it easier for teachers to exchange links to English learning materials or English videos with students to help them receive more information or material to help them develop their English skills. 2) There is a feature that can provide space for students and teachers to communicate in their English.

Some previous studies related to the Virtual learning on the pandemic covid-19. A first previous study from Irhas Rahmat Syarif, the title "The

Implementation of Distance Learning in English Language Teaching at SMAN 1 Wangon”. The purpose of this research is to describe the implementation of distance learning in ELT and also find out some problems that arise during the implementation. The research method used is qualitative descriptive method. The result of this study, are: 1) There are 3 manjor taken by distance learning members consisting of administrators, teachers, and students. 2) The problems that arise in the implementation of distance learning.

A second previous study from Bagas Andika Putra by the title “English Teachers’ Perceptions on English Teaching Difficulties using Online Platform during Covid-19 Pandemic at SDIT Risalah Surakarta”. The purpose of this research is to find out that English teachers’ perceptions on English Teaching Difficulties using Online Platform during Covid-19 Pandemic. The data collection was interviewing the English Teacher. In this research, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative research. The result of this research, are: 1) The application used in teaching English during COVID-19 applied by the English teacher of SDIT Risalah Surakarta. 2) the teacher had some problems in teaching English by using online platform during COVID-19 at SDIT Risalah Surakarta.

Further both previous studies above discussed the use of online learning in pandemic Covid-19 era and its difficulties in learning English generally conducted in senior high school. More than that, the current research observes the online learning conducted in particular English subject through in-depth explanation, learning writing, conducted in advanced degree which is college degree. Then, the researcher uses a qualitative research design, especially descriptive qualitative. As

the explanation above the researcher conducting the research entitled “**Virtual Learning on The Pandemic Covid-19 in Learning Writing at Sixth Semester Students of English Department UIN Tulungagung**”

## **B. Formulation of Research Problem**

In line with the context of the study, this research problem is formulated as follows:

1. What are the applications used by lecturers to conduct virtual learning in learning Writing at sixth semester students of English Department UIN Tulungagung?
2. How are the applications used by the lecturer to conduct virtual learning in learning Writing at sixth semester students of English Department UIN Tulungagung?
3. How is the effect of the virtual learning in learning writing at sixth semester students of English Department UIN Tulungagung?

## **C. Objectives of the Research**

Based on the formulation of research problem, the objectives of this study as follows:

1. To find out the application are used by the lecturer to conduct virtual learning in sixth semester students of English Department UIN Tulungagung.
2. To know how the lecturers applied the online application lecturer to conduct virtual learning in sixth semester students of English Department UIN Tulungagung.

3. To find out the effect of virtual learning in sixth semester students of English Department UIN Tulungagung.

#### **D. Significance of the Research**

##### **1. Theoretically**

The result of this research is expected to give the contribution of understanding Virtual Learning on The Pandemic Covid-19 in the Sixth Semester Students of English Department UIN Tulungagung.

##### **2. Practically**

The result of the study is expected to be useful for:

###### **a. The teacher**

The teacher is able to know the use of Virtual Learning during pandemic Covid-19 and its effects towards the students.

###### **b. The students' University**

The researcher hopes that this study can be used as one reference in researching similar topics.

#### **E. Scope and Delimitation of the Research**

The subject is sixth semester students of the English department UIN Tulungagung. It is to make the study feasible for the writer, the researcher limits the Virtual Learning on The Pandemic Covid-19 in the Sixth Semester Students.

## **F. Definition of Key Term**

To avoid misunderstanding interpretation to the substance of the title, the researcher considers the key terms as follows:

### **1. Virtual Learning**

Virtual learning implies a learning process that uses electronics and technology as a learning medium. According to Purba (2002, stated that Virtual learning is a form of information technology that is applied in the field of education in the form of virtual schools.

### **2. Pandemic COVID-19**

The World Health Organization's Director-General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said on March 11, 2020, that the epidemic may be classified as a pandemic due to the rapid growth in the number of patients outside of China. A pandemic is described as "an epidemic that occurs worldwide, or across a very broad region, crossing international borders and typically impacting a huge number of people" (Kelly, 2011).

### **3. Writing Skill**

Writing is an activity that expresses feelings or ideas in the form of sentences in written language. According to Dwi (2016):" Writing skills help students improve independence, smoothness, and creativity in writing, mastering these writing skills will make students communicate better in a variety of ways so that others can understand their ideas".

#### 4. Virtual Learning Effect in Learning Writing

In this study, the researcher will not measure the effectiveness of virtual learning in learning writing. In terms of virtual learning effect, the researcher will describe how virtual learning has a positive impact, such as its ease of use to deliver and receive the tasks and material, increasing the motivation and skills of students in the learning writing process, or vice versa.