

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the context of the study, focus of the study, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

A. Context of the Study

The Covid-19 outbreak has created challenges for educational institutions. To combat Covid-19, the government has banned crowd gatherings, social distancing, and physical distancing, sporting masks and washing fingers at all times. According to Daniel (2020), Covid-19 is a huge challenge for the educational system. The coronavirus has caused changes in the educational system, specifically in Indonesia. The government has ordered universities to organize lectures or learning online and has banned them from conducting in-person (conventional) lectures through the Ministry of Education and Culture. The elementary, junior high, and high school levels of education are also covered by this rule. The learning system has been forced to move into online learning as a result of the spread of Covid-19. In order to transition to a new way of learning, schools are closed until further notice. Learning has transitioned from in-person instruction to online instruction at some point during this pandemic, which is based on gaining knowledge of technologies and applications. Online education is delivered

through computer networks using a variety of technologies, including the World Wide Web, chat, email, audio and video conferencing, new groups and texts, and chat. The ability to use technology or programs that facilitate learning and make it easier to accomplish learning objectives is a requirement for teachers. Applications like WhatsApp, Google Classroom, Zoom, Telegram, Google Meet, and Zoom Meeting can support online learning during this Covid-19 pandemic, among others.

Online learning is a new challenge for educators throughout the Covid-19, which calls for their ability to use online learning media. English is not an easy subject to teach for students, and the difficulty of online learning lies not only in the variety of supporting media that will be used, but also in how to design learning strategies to achieve desired learning outcomes. Therefore, educators are expected to be able to implement online learning and are expected to be able to improve their strategies during the learning process.

In an initial study, the researcher observed a few students who used online learning at MAN 3 Blitar. In the course of the observation, the researcher discovered that students at MAN 3 Blitar were felt unmotivated when doing online learning and even felt bored. The role of the teacher is critical in motivating students to participate in the learning process. In order to overcome all problems that arise during the learning process, the teacher must employ the appropriate methods and strategies. The researcher interviewed 3 students at MAN 3 Blitar related to this problem on 5 March 2022 which in interview I did online via WhatsApp. According to the researcher's findings from the

student interviews, it can be challenging for students to comprehend the lesson because it is not explained in detail, and students are also directly given assignments to do it. Because of the difficulty in understanding the lesson, students eventually feel bored and not enthusiastic in participating in learning process. Because of that, the researcher wants to know the teachers' strategies in creating interesting learning activities in online learning especially the strategy of the English teacher.

Because of the learning is done by online, it is going to be difficult for students to comprehend the course content and they bored or even lose of motivation while studying. In addition, the monotonous learning process also creates a boring atmosphere for students, which may make students lazy. Therefore, English teachers should improve their strategies in the learning process. A good strategy also leads to good learning outcomes as well. Therefore, online learning needs to be well designed. An innovative learner-centred approach, utilizing a variety of appropriate learning resources, it needs to be designed in an open, distributed and flexible learning environment (Khan, 2005).

The selection of learning strategies, Teachers need to consider the needs and characteristics of their students in accordance to relevant materials, and formulate a set of systematic and attractive learning strategies to achieve the expected competencies. The teachers' strategies to increase student learning activities can be implemented by focusing on appropriate, efficient, and effective teaching method. So, interesting learning activities need to be

provided through the teacher to make students active or energetic when they learning online.

Interesting Learning Activities can be done in various ways, techniques and methods. Moreover, the role of teacher in optimizing the learning process is very important. One way the teacher can create interesting learning activities is by making fun learning. According to Djamarah, (2010) cited in Layyinah (2017) states that Fun learning is learning that is designed in such a way that it provides an atmosphere full of fun, fun, and most importantly not monotonous. The process of fun teaching and learning activities is of course not only created, but the management should be designed by the teacher by designing suitable facilities. By creating interesting learning activities, it can make students more enthusiastic and interested in participating in the learning process. This will make it easier for students to understand the lesson. Therefore, the role of educators greatly determines the size of the outcome to be achieved, and whether or not the results will be maximal.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in further discussing about the strategies of teachers in creating interesting activities in online learning by raising entitled **“English Teachers’ Strategies in Creating Interesting Learning Activities in Online Learning at MAN 3 Blitar”**.

B. Focus of the Study

Based on the background above, this study focuses on Strategies Used by English Teacher in Creating Interesting Learning Activities in Online learning. The research question is formulated as follows:

- 1) What are interesting strategies used by English teacher in online learning activities?
- 2) What are learning activities used by English teacher in online learning?

C. Purpose of the Study

Based on the research question, the purpose of this study is formulated as follows:

- 1) To know the interesting strategies used by the English teacher in online learning activities.
- 2) To know the learning activities which English teacher used in online learning.

D. Significance of the Study

Theoretically and practically, the researcher expects that this research can be helpful for several parties as follows:

1. Theoretically

The result of this research are expected to be useful for educational institutions in improving the quality of education, and as a motivation for teachers to create and enhance creativity in learning, primarily in online teaching.

2. Practically

a. For teachers

This research can be used by English teachers to be more innovative and creative in creating interesting learning activities for their students through the application of online learning.

b. For students

The results of this research can be used to help students in respect of interesting learning activities, so that students can remain active in the learning process even though learning process is done online.

c. For the other researchers

This research can provide information to researchers as prospective educators, how the teachers' strategies in creating interesting online learning activities.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

In collecting the data for this study, the writer would restrict this study only focus on describing the strategies of English teachers in creating interesting learning activities in online learning. Several English teachers at MAN 3 Blitar served as the research subjects for this study.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. Teachers' Strategies

According to Brown (2001), strategies are fundamental solutions to a problem or task, operating strategies for achieving a specific purpose, prepared models for monitoring and for managing information.

2. Interesting Learning Activities

According to Beetham & Rhona (2007) defines that learning activity is a particular interaction between a learner and another person using particular tools and resources and aiming for particular results. The learning activities that the writer means in this research is a learning activities that are created interesting to be applied in online learning.

3. Online Learning

Online learning is defined as learning that takes place partially or entirely over the Internet (Means, 2009). According to Carliner (2004), online learning is access to learning experiences via some technology.