Students' Perception of Using Google Classroom in ELT During Pandemic

Rea Erlikasna Ginting[1], Sugeng Susilo Adi[2]
[1,2] Language Education Program, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya, Indonesia
reaginting@student.ub.ac.id sugengadi@ub.ac.id

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic had consequences in all fields, including education. This resulted in a switch from face-to-face learning to e-learning. One of the popular platforms among students is Google Classroom. The purpose of this study is to identify students' perceptions of using this platform during the pandemic, especially in English Language Teaching (ELT). This study used a quantitative survey design. The questionnaire was shared online with 100 eighth-grade junior high school students. Researchers looked at students' perceptions in three areas: usefulness, ease of use, and satisfaction with Google Classroom as a platform in ELT during the pandemic. The results of this study indicate that most students responded positively to using Google Classroom for learning English during the pandemic. 89.5% of students found Google Classroom useful for continuing their English learning during the pandemic. 96% of students found the features of Google Classroom easy to use, which facilitated their English learning during this period. Additionally, 90% of students were satisfied with using Google Classroom for learning English during the pandemic.

Keywords
English language teaching, ELT, google classroom, students' perception

1. INTRODUCTION

On March 11, 2020, WHO officially announced that Covid-19 was becoming a pandemic. Covid-19, which entered Indonesia on March 2, 2020, has implications for all fields, including education. This resulted in the learning carried out by students in Indonesia being changed from face-to-face to online. This is due to breaking the chain of the spread of covid-19. Many platforms can be used for online learning because of this pandemic. One of the popular platforms is Google Classroom. According to the article by Sudarsana et.al. (2019) Google classroom is a Learning Management System (LMS) offered by Google for teachers whose

application is central for teachers and students to communicate, ask questions, and create assignments. This application can be used on smart phones where lecturers and students can download it freely and log in easily.

Student interaction is common in offline classes and even the students can be brought to nature (Suprastayasa et.al., 2022), however online class handle it differently. Google Classroom allows teachers to create online classroom areas where they can manage all the documents students need. Google Classroom can be used as a facility to interact between teachers and students online (Liu & Chuang, 2016). In Google Classroom, teachers can freely share assessments and provide students with independent assessments, according to Wijaya (2016). Inoue & Pengnate (2018) say that Google Classroom also minimizes the cost of using cheaper stationery and other materials, and can minimize time spent on energy. Google Class users can spend less time and effort than usual. Google Classroom is very helpful for teachers and students in conducting distance learning due to a condition. Ketut Sudarsana et.al. (2019) also explains some of the benefits of using google classrooms in the implementation of education in Indonesia, namely to improve the quality of teachers and students in using technology wisely, especially for the learning process, save time, are environmentally friendly due to paperless, overcome distance to live, increase cooperation between students, timeless communication and secure document storage.

Reporting from the local Indonesian daily news, KOMPAS.com (July 2020), the Google Classroom platform has begun to be popular among educators and students since the beginning of 2020, to be precise since its required to learn from home due to the pandemic. Taking this background, this study identify the Students' perception of using Google Classroom during Pandemic. This study takes a student's point of view regarding learning English using Google Classroom during a pandemic. This study is to identify students perception of using Google Classroom in ELT during pandemic.

These findings can provide feedback for teachers in teaching online using Google Classroom, especially in ELT. Teachers can find out student perception and how students feel about learning English using Google Classroom during a pandemic and can maximize their future use. In addition, this study can be used as information or reference for future researchers regarding the use of Google Classroom during a pandemic

2. LITERATURE REVIEW
2.1 Perception

Every human being has different characteristics. Every human being also has a different perception of something. Walgito (2003, p. 87) defines that perception is a human thought process about a particular phenomenon. Students

'perceptions are students' views about something that happened according to their understanding. Teacher, lecturers, or educational institutions will definitely give their best in teaching students under any circumstances. They must provide comfort to students in obtaining education. In providing this comfort, teaching staff or educational institutions must look at the feelings or views of each student regarding the media, tools, etc. related to obtaining knowledge. Teachers and lecturers can analyze whether students' perceptions will give what has been given well or not. Chen (2003) explains that student perceptions are very important in evaluating the effectiveness of teaching. Therefore, students' perceptions are very important for teachers or lecturers in a better teaching and learning process.

2.2 E-Learning

Technology helps humans a lot, one example in the field of education is e-learning. E-learning is a learning system that utilizes technology in its implementation. Based on the explanation of Agarwal & Pandey (2012), in the learning and education process, e-learning focuses on the use of technology. On the other hand, Sangrà et.al (2012) defines that e-learning is a natural evolution in the world of education where technology is used as a structuring tool for distance learning. E-learning makes the learning process easier, such as sharing materials or files, submitting assignments, and taking quizzes. Many institutions have used E-learning, for example schools and universities, as according to Fry (2001) Technology-based e-learning includes the use of the internet and other important technologies that can produce learning materials, teach students, and also organize courses in an organization. Through e-learning, both teachers or lecturers and students can communicate easily and can provide feedback on assignments through an online classroom platform. According to Singh, O'donoghue & Worton (2005) E-learning provides benefits for students and lecturers. For students, online learning is a learning alternative that takes place outside of the classroom, forms independent learning, helps make learning a lifelong learning and encourages students to interact with one another.

4. METHOD

This study used a quantitative survey design that used a questionnaire as an instrument in collecting data. The questionnaire distributed online in the form of a Google Form to 100 students of 8th Grade Students in SMPN 10 Pontianak. Researchers used Microsoft Excel as a tool to help in analyzing data. The results of the questionnaire will be calculated using Microsoft Excel to find out the results of the answers of students and described the results that have been obtained

5. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After collecting the questionnaire, the researchers calculated the results of answers from students assisted using Microsoft Excell aplication. The total items in the questionnaire are 13 divided into 3 aspects of using Google Classroom on ELT during the pandemic, namely usefullness, ease of use, and satisfaction. Also there are 2 additional question : Device used and assisted or not by parents or families.
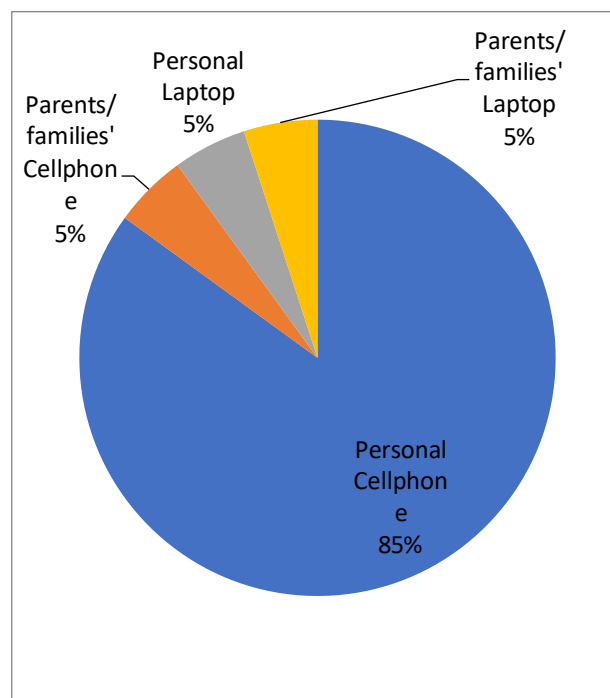
Additional Questions

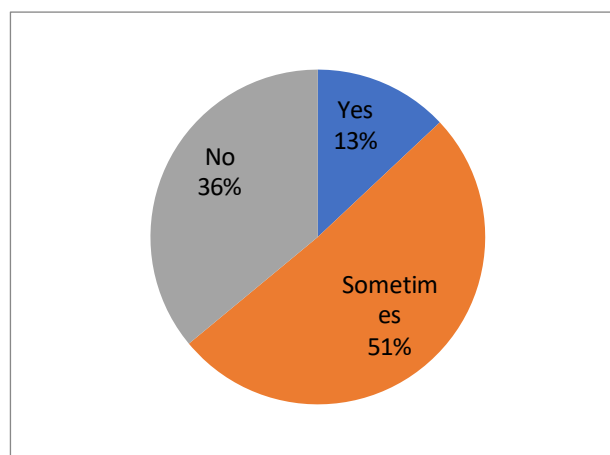
Figure 1. Types of devices used by students

Figure 2. Assistance received by students

From the two charts above, the total respondent is 100 students. Most students use personal cell phones to access Google Classroom, which is about 85% students. The rest, 5% students use their parents / families' cell phones, parents / families' laptops, and personal laptops to access Google Classroom. In using Google Classroom, 51% students are sometimes assisted by their parents / families, and 13% students answered that they were assisted by their parents / families in using Google Classroom. The rest, 36% students answered if they didn't need the help or asissted by their parents / families in using Google Classroom.

Table 1. The usefulness of Google Classroom

Items	SA	A	D	SD
1	20%	69%	10%	1%
2	26%	67%	7%	0
3	18%	65%	15%	2%
4	38%	55%	7%	0

Based on the result, 89% students agree that Google Classroom helps them to get English materials from teachers easily during the pandemic, while 11% students disagree. As many as 93% students agree that Google classroom helps to submit their English assignments on time, while 7% students disagree. 83% students answered agree that Google Classroom is an application that is suitable as a medium of interaction between them and the teacher in learning English during the pandemic through the comments column, while 17% or 17 students disagree with the statement. As many as 93% students answered agree with the statement that Google classroom helps them to continue learning English during the pandemic, while 7% or 7 students answered disagree with the statement.

During the pandemic, they are required to online learning, where they use Google Classroom as a learning platform during the pandemic. In this case, Google Classroom helps them to continue learning English during the pandemic. Google Classroom helps them to get English materials from teachers easily and submit English assignments on time during pandemic. Beside Whatsapp, Google Classroom is an application that is suitable as a medium of interaction with the teacher in English learning during the pandemic through the comments column. However, students interact more often with teachers via Whatsapp than Google Classroom. Therefore, if the teacher still wants to use Google Classroom as a medium of interaction with students, the teacher must be able to maximize the use

of Google Classroom as a medium of interaction with students so that students are comfortable when interacting with the teacher.

Table 2. The Ease of Use of Google Classroom

Items	SA	A	D	SD
5	34%	60%	6%	0
6	48%	48%	4%	0
7	28%	67%	5%	0
8	30%	66%	4%	0
9	38%	61%	1%	0

From the results, 94% students agree with the statement that The features in Google Classroom are clear and easy to understand, while as many as 6% students disagree. As many as 96% students agree that it is easy to use Google Classroom, while as many as 4% students disagree. 95% students are agree that english material files can be downloaded easily in Google Classroom, while 5% students disagree. For uploading English assignments can be done easily in Google Classroom, 96% students are agree, while 4% students disagree with this statements. 99% students agree that Google Classroom facilitates them with a link or class code to enter, while 1% student disagree.

Google Classroom facilitates the students with a link or class code to enter. So, students do not find it difficult to enter the classroom. Most of students agreed to find it easy for using Google Classroom such as downloading English material files and Uploading English assignments. Also, Students agreed that the features in Google Classroom are clear and easy to understand. However, there are some students who still find it difficult to operate the features in Google Classroom and the teacher can help to provide guidance to their students on how to use them and still provide assistance to their students on how to use them.

The Usefulness of Google Classroom

Items	SA	A	D	SD
10	24%	65%	10%	1%
11	22%	68%	10%	0
12	22%	69%	8%	1%
13	29%	61%	9%	1%

From the results 89% students agree that they are happy to use Google Classroom as a medium for learning English during the pandemic, while 11% students disagree. 90% students like the features found in Google Classroom, while 10% students disagree. As many as 91% students were satisfied using Google Classroom as a medium for learning English during the pandemic, while 9% students were disagree. The last, as many as 90% students agree to keep using Google Classroom as a medium for learning English if the pandemic is still ongoing, the remaining 10% students were disagree.

The result showed that most of students agreed that they feel satisfied using Google Classroom as a medium for learning English during the pandemic and they like the features found in Google Classroom. Students are Happy to use Google Classroom as a medium for learning English during the pandemic. Also, Most of them are agreed to keep using Google Classroom as a medium for learning English if the pandemic is still ongoing. However, teachers still have to maximize and be more creative in using Google Classroom as the main medium in learning English during the pandemic so that students feel happy learning and are not overwhelmed while learning English using Google Classroom during the pandemic. The teacher may be able to combine its use with other applications so that students don't feel bored but still have to consider the abilities and conditions of the students. The most important thing during a pandemic like this is to ensure the learning process continues, learning objectives can be achieved, by using any available online platform(Fitriani,2020).

5. CONCLUSION

In this study, most students responded positively to the use of Google Classroom used in learning English during the pandemic. Regarding the use of Google Classroom, most students felt that Google Classroom helped them to continue learning English during the pandemic. During a pandemic, they are required to do online learning, where they use Google Classroom as a learning platform during the pandemic. 89.5% of students felt Google Classroom was useful for them in continuing to carry out their English learning during the pandemic. 96% students felt using the features in Google Classroom was easy, it made it easier for them to learn English during the pandemic. During the course of learning English using Google Classroom media during the pandemic, 90% of students were satisfied with using it.

Based on the results and conclusions, the researcher would like to provide some recommendations for teachers and further researchers. For teachers, there are several things that the teacher needs to pay attention to. First, regarding students who open Google Classroom using gadgets such as cell-phones and others, the teacher is expected when providing information such as assignments or others to be

more specific, because written language is different from oral language when the teacher directly delivers it face-to-face, because Google Classroom is an asynchronous medium. Second, teachers are expected to maximize the use of Google Classroom and also be more enthusiastic in teaching material through it, and provide feedback to students so that students don't feel bored when learning during the pandemic. Third, because some students are still assisted in using Google Classroom, teachers are expected to pay more attention and help students to easily navigate the Google Classroom system. Thus, students will have a better understanding of the use of the Google Classroom platform in learning English.

For further researchers, because this study only focuses on the population Junior high school students, it is hoped that further research can continue this research in other Grade or schools by using other methods. Thus, more varied data can be obtained and can improve the application of e-learning in school students. And also expected to dig deeper into students' perceptions of using the platform used for teaching and learning other than Google Classroom. Therefore, this study can be used as a reference for further researchers.

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