

Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher provides the background of the study. The researcher also explains identification and statement of the problems. Limitation of the problems, research questions, purposes of the research, and significances of the research are also included in this chapter.

Background of the Study

Online learning is not something new, and the internet may become the number one resource now. When students get an assignment from the lecturer, they will open the internet as their resources to do the assignment. Internet requires them to read while they look for something. According to Dao (2014), there are authentic and interesting materials provided by the internet. It gives advantages for the students because its materials generate greater interest among teacher and student. It may increase the students' interest or motivation because they will find something different by learning using online resources than learning through books.

Unlike few years ago when students have to come to the class for a face to face learning with the teacher, online learning requires the learners to have tools to access it. It requires new learning environment that is different from learning in the classroom. The students must have the equipment to access online resources such as computer, laptop, and smartphone and the internet connection. Especially for reading, there are many reading materials that the students may find when the

access online resources using their equipment. So, they need to have good reading skills because it is important skill for them in English.

Reading skill plays an important role for the students. Erfort (2010) states that “reading is one of the most important activities in your life as students” (p.1). He further explains that without having reading skills, the students would not be able to acquire knowledge that is fundamental to students’ intellectual growth. By mastering reading skill, the students will master other skills easily because if the students master reading skills such as skimming, scanning, comprehension, vocabulary skills, it will be easier for them to learn other English skills (Erfort 2010). Similar to what Erfort (2010) has stated, Healy (2002) also stated that in school, reading plays an important role as the most critical skill for success in their lives. Healy (2002) further explained that there are two reasons why reading plays an important role for the students. First, students with proper use of the information is not only learning to read but also reading to learn. Second, students who have necessary reading skills can develop their writing and language skills for academic and professional success. By mastering reading skill, students are able to learn and master the other English skills such as writing skill. Therefore, reading skill gives an impact to all of skills in English, and it proves that reading plays an important role for the students in their study.

As the development of technology, students have already known and used technology as their tools in their lives. They have a laptop, smartphone, and a computer to access the internet. They use it not only for communication or

entertainment but also for their learning. Moreover, the development of technology may give an impact to the frequency of the usage of online resources. Learning through online resources provide much information which can be accessed by students anytime and anywhere.

Many studies have been done around students' perception in learning with technology. Moyle, Wijngaards, and Owen (2012) found the information about the way young learners deal with the use of technology. A study done by Al Said (2015) about students' perception of Edmodo and mobile learning (M Learning), explored around students' view in learning with technology, but most of the studies did not specifically talk about students' perception on the use of online resources toward their reading skill. Also, there is few study which use pre-service teachers as the participants of the study. In this current study, the students of English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta are pre-service teachers and they have passed all the technology courses such as Digital Technology in Education, ICT in Language Teaching, Computer Literacy 2 (online computer), and Innovative Technology. Moreover, this current study does not only focus on those categories above, but also focuses on the kind of online resources that the students usually access, and the contribution or advantages and disadvantage on the use of online resources.

The phenomenon regarding the use of online resources that happens in ELED of one of private universities in Yogyakarta is its usage as one of resources in learning English. Because ELED of one of private universities in Yogyakarta

engages the students to learn using technology, it makes the students know what types of online resources that can be used as their references in order to improve their skills in English. In addition, the researcher has observed the use of online resources among the students of ELED of one of private universities in Yogyakarta and many students use it as one of their resources in learning English.

Therefore, the researcher is interested in investigating the students' perception about online resources by doing this research. The researcher has observed in ELED of one of private universities in Yogyakarta that many students use online resources as one of their resources in learning English. The researcher also examines the kinds of online resources which the students use in learning English.

Identification of the Problems

Online resources are sources which provide many contents. There are some issues related to online resources and reading skill. It could be the advantages and disadvantages of online resources toward reading skill. It is because not all of contents that students access in online resources have advantages for the students. Leino (2006) has finished his study about the students' perception about the advantages and disadvantages of internet. Leino classified the categories and the relation from the students' perception among the advantages and disadvantages of internet. The advantages of internet were that it is a library of the whole world; it is easy to find information; it can be used as a chatting tools; and it provides availability of services and other activities. On the

contrary, the disadvantages of internet were inappropriate contents such as pornography sites and sites containing propaganda, swindling, a danger viruses and crackers, and slowness, high salary, health.

Another issue is skills to use technology and kinds of online resources that the students use. There are many technical skills regarding the use of technology. For example is the use of Ctrl + F to directly find sentence or word that students are looking for, Ctrl + C and Ctrl + V to copy and paste, or Ctrl + T to straight add a new tab in Google Chrome. Moreover, there are so many kinds of online resources that the students can easily find in internet.

The other issues are the tools or equipment in accessing online resources. When the students do not have the equipment to access online resources, it will raise new problem. In addition, the tools are not only computer, laptop, and smartphone but also the network or the internet connection.

Delimitation of the Problems

Based on the statement of the problems, there are many issues related to the use of online resources. Because of the time constraint and the intention to get deeper analysis of this study, the researcher will only focus on three things. These are advantages, kinds, and disadvantages regarding the use of English online resources toward their skill.

This current research focuses on the kind of English online resources, advantages on the use of English online resources toward reading skills, and

disadvantages of the use of online resources in learning English, especially for reading skills. These are social media, online media, search engine, and news site. Those sites contain information related to learning and teaching English language. The information which exist on online resources is mostly a fact, a knowledge about English skills, and a positive information. So, those four kinds of online resources above have been considerably chosen by the researcher. However, if the students mention the other kinds of English online resources which is out from those four kind of online resources above, it will be the additional information for this current study.

Research Questions

Based on the background, statement and limitation of the problems, the research questions are:

1. What are the online resources that Pre-service teachers of English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta usually use in their learning?
2. What is pre-service teachers' perception on the advantages on the use of English online resources toward their reading skills at English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta?
3. What is pre-service teachers' perception on the disadvantages on the use of English online resources at English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta?

The Purposes of the Study

Based on the research questions, the purposes of the study are:

1. To find out the online resources that are used by Pre-service teachers of English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta.
2. To find out the perception of English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta Pre-service teachers on the advantages of online resources toward their reading skill.
3. To find out the perception of English Language Education Department of one of private universities in Yogyakarta Pre-service teachers on the disadvantages regarding the use of online resources.

The Significance of the Study

This current study is expected to be beneficial for:

For the researcher. By doing this research, the researcher knows the contribution of online resources in learning English especially on the reading skills. So, it is important for the researcher as a pre-service teacher to use the finding of this research as the consideration to design teaching materials.

For the lecturers. This research provides students' perception and contribution of online resources toward the students' reading skill. Thus, the lecturers can use the finding of the study for their evaluation and reflection in designing their materials in teaching in order to improve the students' reading

skill.

For the students. It is important for the students to know the finding of this study because it contains information about the use of online resources in learning English, especially for learning reading. This study explains what kind of online resources which students usually use. There are many types of online resources which the students can use as their references to improve their reading skill. Hopefully, the finding of this research is useful to be their guidance in learning English.

For other researchers. This study presents the students' perception about English online resources and some theories related to the study. It can give other researchers information or explanation if they want to conduct a study related to English online resources.

Outline of the Study

This thesis consists of five chapters. In chapter one, the researcher provides the background of the study. There are also the statement and limitation of the problems. This chapter also explains the research questions, the purposes, and the significant of the study.

Chapter two provides the literature review to support the research. This chapter explains more about English online resources, the content of English online resources, advantages and disadvantages of English online resources, and reading skill. In addition, this chapter also explains some related studies about

online resources. The researcher does not forget to put the conceptual framework in order to make this current study qualified.

The third chapter focuses on methodology of the research. This chapter presents the research design, the data collection method, and the data analysis. Here, the researcher presents how to collect and analyse the data.

Chapter four provides the findings and discussion of this research. Here, the researcher explains the findings from the interview that have already done. The researcher also discusses the findings with reliable theories.

The chapter five describes the conclusion of this research and recommendation for the next research that maybe have the same topic. In the conclusion, the researcher concludes the result of this current research. Otherwise, in recommendation, the researcher recommends this the research to students, lecturers, or other researchers.