Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter introduce points such as background of the study, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, purposes of the research and significances of the research.

Background of the Study

As technology of computer and internet developed even further, new computer programs came more useful to create more interactive and interesting media and activities especially in education when previously computer programs were are not available in the traditional classrooms. One of the programs that have been used for creating language learning currently is called Web-based Language Learning (WBLL). Moreover, by intergrating internet in the language learning, WBLL offers a global database of authentic materials that can enhance language learning and teaching for both teacher and students (Felix, 1999).

Other major benefits to the learner and the teacher. Since it provides an integrative network tools to utilize in any teaching classroom (Gorjian, 2011) and could be used as an aid to presentation, reinforcement, or assessment of materials to be learned, consists a substantial interactive elements that has already provided in some programs (Graham, 1997, 2012).

Although WBLL is a beneficial program that could help the users especially for teachers to teach through computers and other electronic devices. There are some of demerits that the users or in this case EED students may find when doing WBLL. Those are; the technical problems and the cost from unmaintained computers and how the users present their instructional design. In Agarwal (2010), there are also disadvantages in using WBLL such as Internet resources have limitations regarding their memory, or the expensive cost to

computers and access to the internet. In addition, there is a great deal of additional equipment which is needed. This is especially to low budget educational institutions and low-income students usually cannot afford a computer. speed, methods of input and output.

Since the students of English Language Education Department (ELED) from University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY) have received lessons regarding the use of certain websites such as Padlets or Edmodo and learn on practicing how to make or join online classroom session from website such as Edmodo, and web exercise programs such as Hot Potatoes and others to create their own online learning instructions, sharing it through those websites, or difficulties in using or applying WBLL.

However, the researcher interested for the pre-service teachers or graduated ELED students instead because the researcher thought that the pre-services teachers or graduated students that have jobs as teachers or related to it may tried to use WBLL for their teaching lessons or materials to their own students or in any other similar situations, that is one of the reason why the researcher would like to know and other reason is to investigate the ELED pre-service teachers' own opinions toward the advantages and disadvantages of WBLL, from their experience in using and applying WBLL. Especially for ELED pre-service who may still had little experience or difficulties in using computers in general, or for pre-service teachers who still does not have any types of electronic devices.

Statement of Problem

Based on the background above, there are problems that ELED pre-service teachers may faced during their time when using WBLL programs or applications. The problems that researcher knows of are; problems in accessing websites when asked by lecturers for joining online classroom or similar assignments in areas with low internet connections, or someone who does not have the eletronic devices required such as computers therefore need to find places with computers and internet access such as local internet cafe, or problems when failed in submitting or uploading files due to corrupt data or unidentified executable data..

Based on the problems mentioned before, this research focused on finding out not only more advantages but also more disadvantages from the pre-service teachers and asking them their own solution or ideas to handle the problems.

Limitation of the Problem

This research on pre-service teachers' perception toward WBLL at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta was only limited to their perceptions based on the knowledge and understanding of WBLL and for additional information they may make their own suggestions or advices for the problems that they encountered.

Research Questions:

In this research, the researcher will examine the pre-services teachers about WBLL in:

1.   What are the advantages of using WBLL based on EED students' perception?
2.   What are the disadvantages of using WBLL based on EED students'

perception?

Purposes of Study are to:

In this study, the research aims at investigating WBLL in:

1.   Search and find advantages on WBLL as teaching method.
2.   Discover new problems from the research on WBLL as teaching method.

Significance of the Study

The research will have the necessary merits for students, lecturers, and other researcher, the following merits are;

Students. The research have the information about WBLL's advantages and disadvantages that students can learn, and knowing other online media or websites related to WBLL could entice students into using websites that could enable them to create or innovate media to share publicly or just for learning and searching other media that could help them learn and gain knowledge.

Lecturers. The lecturers could get more information from this research such as on discovering other websites that could be use for enhancing and addding more creativities on the lecturers' teaching methods. For example in making an online debate classroom for students through websites that enable face-cam video for interactions. This also encourage students on using websites for language learning.

Other Researchers. This research could be used as a reference for other researchers that may have similiar or related topic about WBLL. Other researcher can also expand or search some other issues related to WBLL whether studying the different perspective in using WBLL or the cause and effect on WBLL to others. Anything that other researchers can use from this research in their own research studies related to WBLL.