

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

All countries are experiencing the pandemic of COVID-19, including Indonesia. This causes all activities carried out outside the home to be stopped and activities are only allowed in the house, even if you leave the house you have to wear a mask to prevent COVID-19. This also causes a very big impact on the economy, employment, education, etc. where the impact causes disruption of activities that are usually carried out outside the home face-to-face now can only be done online.

This is in accordance with the opinion Gusty, et al., (2020, p. 1) states that, The existence of the Corona virus that has plagued almost evenly throughout the world, there are approximately 215 countries including Indonesia, which is the reason the WHO has made the Corona Virus a Global Pandemic. The Corona Virus pandemic which is more familiarly called COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019) has an impact on all sectors including education. One of these is being followed up by the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia through Circular no. 4 of 2020 which contains the implementation of the teaching and learning process to be carried out from home or what is often referred to as distance / online learning, in order to break the chain of spreading the corona virus. Likewise, what is contained in the activities of the teaching and learning process in Higher Education which must

be carried out through online lectures (In Network) which were previously carried out face-to-face or conventional. This condition has greatly benefited from the 4.0 Era which has brought people closer to Digital Technology. So that it can facilitate the transformation phase from Conventional to Online. So it can be said that the method or form of learning that utilizes digital technology is online learning which is a solution to the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Gusty, et al., (2020, p. 2) said that Online learning has its own strengths, challenges and obstacles. Online learning is learning that uses internet networks with accessibility, connectivity, flexibility, and the ability to generate various types of learning interactions, although it cannot be denied that it still brings positive and negative impacts.

MTsN Barito Selatan is located at Jl. Padat Karya No. 12A Kab. Barito Selatan (Buntok) Prov. Kalimantan Tengah. Teacher and student conditions during distance learning are particularly difficult in terms of internet signals and electronic goods students use.

The problems appear due to the pandemic. Not all the learners have complete and good facilities at home to help them to learn during Large-Scale Social Restriction (PSBB). Moreover, some of them do not have complete and good facilities. Because there are still many parents are unable to provide good facilities for their children. If there are power cut and heavy rain, the signal will be loss.

Parents may not always control, help, and motivate them all the time in doing assignments from school. because many parents here are busy with their work. In this buntok area, to find a comfortable signal, to find internet quota, there are many people that selling quota. However, if they live outside Buntok, the signal may be difficult, not to smooth, and the quota can still be obtained easily.

The challenge that must be faced by a teacher at this time is how the ability to adapt to the current global era, where technological progress is greatly improved especially at the time of the pandemic of COVID-19. Which is the teacher or student must communicate through an online application using the internet network.

The opportunity for a teacher at the moment is to show the professionalism of the teacher, to teach creativity in teaching students through online applications using the internet network during the pandemic of COVID-19.

According to RI Law 14 of 2005, the teacher is a professional educator with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, assessing, and evaluating students in early childhood education through formal channels of basic education and secondary education.

According to Olyanasab & Chavoshi, (2020, p. 335) the teacher plays a very important role in terms of education. Where a teacher becomes our role model in terms of seeking knowledge. The importance of the teacher is also mentioned in the Holy Quran verse 124 Al – Baqarah as follow :

وَ إِذِ ابْتَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ رَبُّهُ بِكَلِمَاتٍ فَأَتَمَّهُنَّ قَالَ إِنِّي جَاعِلُكَ لِلنَّاسِ إِمَامًا قَالَ وَ مِنْ

ذُرِّيَّتِي قَالَ لَا يَنَالُ عَهْدِي الظَّالِمِينَ

Based on the sentences above, it means that Allah “Priest” for being a role model, which will guide humanity to the path Allah and lead them to goodness. So, making a teacher a role model in the field of learning is very important.

Before the pandemic, the teacher taught in the school environment and in the real classroom. However, recently, teaching and learning have been stopped and recommended by the government to study at home using online-based teaching. Why did that happen? because now all over the world is experiencing a disease/COVID-19 that can cause humans to die from the disease. Through this reason, the Indonesian government appealed to its people to carry out activities at home, such as working using online applications for workers such as teachers.

Rusman in Prasetyaningtyas (2020, p. 88) States that electronic technology is widely used for example the internet, intranet, video or audiotape, broadcasting via satellite, interactive television, and CD-ROM. By using online teaching methods, teachers and students face challenges to develop their talents/potential and provide opportunities for teachers to show their creativity and professionalism in teaching students online.

Based on the above explanation, researchers are interested in researching on the challenges and opportunities for teachers in teaching English online during the COVID-19. To know more closely about it the researcher conducts research titled: **“The Challenge and Opportunities of Teaching English Online During The Pandemic of COVID-19 in MTsN BARITO SELATAN”**

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the study above, the problem of the study is as follow :

What are the challenges and opportunities of teaching English online during the pandemic of COVID-19 in MTsN Barito Selatan ?

C. The Objective of The Study

Based on the problem of the research the objective of this study with the stated problem is :

To describe the challenge and opportunities of teaching English online during the pandemic of COVID-19 in MTsN Barito Selatan.

D. Significance of The Study

The benefit expected the result of study terms of both theoretical and practical, that is to the challenges and opportunities of teaching English online during the pandemic of COVID-19 in MTsN Barito Selatan, it can provide inspiration for all English teachers so they can understand and know-how and to describe the challenges and opportunities for teaching English online during

the pandemic of COVID-19 and how to deal with them. For this reason, teachers are expected to be more alert in acting using applications used to teach students and teachers must be wiser to their students when providing English language teaching materials online during the pandemic of COVID-19.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Teacher

According to RI Law 14 of 2005, the teacher is a professional educator with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, assessing, and evaluating students in early childhood education through formal channels of basic education and secondary. So, the teacher plays a very important role in terms of education. Where a teacher becomes our role model in terms of seeking knowledge. The teacher referred to in this study is an English teacher in MTsN Barito Selatan. The four English teachers at MTsN Barito Selatan have the same opinion regarding the understanding of teachers. The teacher's main task is to guide, direct, train, assess, and evaluate students. during the pandemic of COVID-19, the meaning of teachers could not be implemented perfectly because of the obstruction of various disturbances when teaching began.

Basically the main task of the teacher is to educate, teach, guide, direct, train, assess, and evaluate students in early childhood education, formal education, primary education and secondary education. "In the series of main tasks, the very first thing is called is educating. But with the current situation, which is only through online mode, the teacher is only able to become a teacher,

deliver material, give assignments and assessments, without being able to guide directly or maintain and provide training (teachings, guidance, leadership) regarding morals and intelligence. What is certain is not in accordance with the true meaning of the teacher.

2. Challenge and Opportunities

The challenges are a little complicated when compared to the WA group, complicated E-Learning has too much room compared to the WA group, the difficulty of internet interference from the application, Using this application is rather difficult in terms of adapting to teaching that is different from conventional methods and when dealing with students, sometimes when learning English begins they only go into attendance and do not open learning materials and some are late in sending assignments given by the teacher for various reasons. The challenge that must be faced by a teacher at this time is how the ability to adapt to the current global era, where technological progress is greatly improved especially at the time of the pandemic of COVID-19.

The opportunities that teachers can learn in online learning are as follows: teachers can make teaching materials in the form of instructional videos, be creative as much as possible so that students are more interested and teachers can learn more about several kinds of online learning techniques from various applications. The opportunity for a teacher at the moment is to show the professionalism of a teacher, to teach creativity in teaching students through online applications using the internet network during the pandemic of COVID-19.

3. Teaching English Online

Teaching English online is teaching English based online through an internet connection and has provided an online application that students can use to communicate with their teacher. Regarding online-based English teaching which uses an internet connection and an online-based application where English teachers in MTsN Barito Selatan use the E-Learning application. By using this application the teachers easily supervise the activities of the students when learning begins. Rusman in Prasetyaningtyas (2020, p. 88), electronic technology is widely used for example the internet, intranet, video or audiotape, broadcasting via satellite, interactive television, and CD-ROM.