

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

God creates the human in this world and also creates many different languages. Thus, we can communicate with others every day in our life. We need to be thankful because our lives are the gift from God. Like a verse in Al-Qur'an Q.S. AR-Room 22, talks about the power of languages as following:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ
وَأَلْوَانِكُمْ ۚ إِنَّ فِي ذَٰلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

Language is crucial in life, specifically for communication. Language is basically a source or tool of communication and plays an important role in all walks of life (Irfan, 2016). By using language people can express their ideas and feeling.

There are a lot of languages around the world, and of course one of them is English. In Indonesia, English holds position as a foreign language. More specifically, it is as the first foreign language which is taught as a compulsory subject in Indonesian school, it is because English as an international language that is considered very important to learn. However, the use of English in

Indonesia is still limited. Most of Indonesian students learn English only when there is a teaching and learning process in classroom. Therefore, they have limited access for learning English outside the classroom. Presently, social media provides marvelous opportunities to the English learners to improve their skills in English.

In the Islamic perspective, it is important for using media as communication role. Existence of media to facilitate transfer knowledge, as well as a means of transmitting information to message recipients. As explained in QS. An-Naml (27) 28-30:

اَذْهَبْ بِكِتَابِي هَذَا فَاَلْقِهْ إِلَيْهِمْ ثُمَّ تَوَلَّ عَنْهُمْ فَانْظُرْ مَاذَا
إِنَّهُ مِنْ قَالَتْ يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَلَأُ إِنِّي أُلْقِيَ إِلَيَّ كِتَابٌ كَرِيمٌ يَرْجِعُونَ
سُلَيْمَانَ وَإِنَّهُ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

From this piece of the story of Prophet Sulaiman and the Queen of Balqis, there has been the development of communication technology at that time. The Prophet Sulaiman used Hud-Hud to deliver messages (letter) to the Queen of Balqis. The letters were sent well according to the intended purpose.

Related to the serves above, the development of information and communication technology is growing very rapidly in this era of globalization. Technology is very important in helping students to understand the lesson especially in English lesson.

Currently, many users have begun to adapt technology application as a way for teaching and learning process. The evolution of social media has cut across all facets of society with its positive and negative impacts. Examples of these social media platforms both on the web and mobile application include *Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Twitter, Blogs etc.* Then in this research, the researcher tends to focus on Instagram application which is a lot of users utilize it as learning media.

As one of social media platforms, Instagram becomes widely used by the students. It is common for the students to have an account in their Instagram and update every moment on their life such as sharing picture and video. Their followers may like and also comment from the picture/video.

Based on the statement above, the researcher entitled the research as “THE USE OF INSTAGRAM FOR LEARNING ENGLISH” for this study.

B. Research Questions

How do the students learn English through English learning account on Instagram?

C. Objectives of Study

Based on the research questions above, the objectives of this study is;

To describe how the students learn English through English learning account on Instagram.

D. Significance of Study

In order to face this modern era, the use of social media be one of the best tools in learning activities. Then, this research could be a good finding and be a new way to English learning process and give learners more benefits especially, to encourage them to learn and practice English outside the classroom.

E. Definition of Key Terms

Operational definitions in this study are conducted to avoid misunderstanding the title, so the author provides a discussion for the process clearer and more directed research, with a few terms referred to as follows:

1. Mobile Learning

Mobile learning is a way to access learning content using mobile devices. It is possible to learn whenever and wherever the learners want, as long as they have a modern mobile device which is connected to the Internet.

2. Social Media

Social media is internet based tool and platform that develop and share information, it can be a share of words, photos, videos, quotes, others. Social media is also called a tool of information and communication technology used by people to communicate online.

3. Instagram

Instagram is a social media platform that was launched in 2010, which its users can use it from a smartphone. Instagram is known by its photo and video sharing, followed by follow, comment, like, and many other features, in order to interact with other people.

4. English Learning accounts

English learning accounts in this research are the users of Instagram who created an accounts that provide English learning material contents. The owner of those accounts post some photos and videos about English language learning material. In this research there are 2 English language learning accounts that have been chosen @Gurukumrd.and @aarons.english