

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

According to Brown (2000, p.87), young learners are children from five or six years old who are in the first year of elementary schooling to twelve years old of age. They will get English lesson when they enter their first schools such as in elementary school. In this period some of them have gotten it when they are kindergarten, because it will be better to teach them earlier especially in English course to make them used to it and they will find less problem to master speaking, listening, writing and also reading skill in the future. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ gave an overview of how to apply the learning method especially for teaching children in the form of orders, habits, punishment /reward based on the following hadits below:

عَنْ عُمَرَ وَبْنِ أَبِيهِ عَنْ جَدِّهِ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ مُرُوا أَوْلَادَكُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَهُمْ أَبْنَاءُ سَبْعِ
سِنِينَ وَضَرِبُوا هُمْ عَلَيْهَا وَهُمْ أَبْنَاءُ عَشْرِ سِنِينَ وَفَرَّقُوا بَيْنَهُمْ فِي الْمَضَاجِعِ

From this hadits, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ explained about the importance to teach an individual since they are children such as doing the five times prayer. The purpose is to create a good habit and also make children be able to discipline themselves.

Imaniah and Nargis (2017, p. 5), it will be better to the teacher for understanding the cognitive and social processes of L2 (second language) acquisition especially to English for young learners.

In the other hand, the teachers should learn deeply about the young learner characteristics and also the learning style of English for young learners to achieve the learning goal. Those are several important aspect that should be considered to create a teaching and learning process actively, interesting and effectively to English young learners.

There is a difference between teaching children and teaching adults. To teach our children need the right media as described by Diyanti (2010, p.75), there are two big points of material used to teach English to children, first using authentic sources that are around us for example the teachers bring the real objects learning or images, audio and video that relate with the English topic, the second using free download material from the internet which is supporting materials that can be used for learning English for children, there are large number of interesting pictures and videos, stories and also the right songs for children can be used by the teachers.

Not only required to understand how the characteristics of the children and also what materials are suitable for use, teachers are also expected to be able to apply the right learning techniques. According to Shin (2006, p.3) there are several techniques that are prepared with attention to the characteristics of the children for example complement activities with visuals, realia, and movement, moving from activity to activity, teach in theme, and also using story or

familiar context to the children.

Nowadays, COVID 19 has spread out large and large each day and absolutely had footprints on education. The outbreak of this dangerous virus across the globe has forced educational institutions to shut down to control the spread of this virus. In this period, all of EYL teachers should blow their minds to determine the suitable way for keeping teaching and learning process to be held due to they cannot implement usual ways to teach English to children. They can no longer come face to face, develop materials and also learning techniques, they are required to find new steps. Bauer and Kenton (2005) as cited in Taghizadeh and Yourdshahi (2019, p. 2) concluded, e-learning is chosen to broaden educational opportunities.

According to Procter (2003) as cited in Al- Azawei, Parslow and Lundqvist (2016, p. 127), e-learning is a learning process using technological equipment can be used with internet connection or without using it, that facilitates and enhances the learning through and based on the computer and communication technology such as mobile phone, laptop and netbook. Bere (2012) as cited in Gon and Rawekar (2017, p.19) explained that not only about e-learning tools, the teachers should determine the easiest platforms to be used in teaching and learning process through e-learning. In this period, Whatsapp becomes very popular communication platform to be used in teaching and learning process especially for sending photos,

videos, audios and it can be used to cross platform engagement. In addition to Whatsapp, Telegram is also often used for online learning, another platform that supports learning by using video conferencing, namely Google Meeting and Zoom Meeting.

Implementing e-learning learning system is a very possible activity to do in this pandemic period. E-learning supports distance learning visually, verbally and contextually among the teachers and the students. Prestiadi (2019, p.47) conclude that all of the teachers and students must be able to adapt with the using a variety of electronic media to be used as learning media.

Nevertheless, in the implementation this switched method of learning English for children, there are challenges that must be faced. Kasmiran (2019, p.49) stated about two main issues being the challenges of using e- learning for young learners. The first, it will be limited the teachers and students creativity, the second is about the amount of media or tools that support e-learning. Taghizadeh and Yourdshahi (2019, p.2) added that there are many teachers that incompetence to apply e- learning and unavailability of workshop about the challenges of using e-learning should be held to makes the teachers prepare to face this situation. Rasmitadila (2020, p.92) mentioned that the challenges of using e-learning can be from the lack of parents involvement, the economic issues, the difficulties of conditioning students to participate in online learning, and the students

participation during e-learning. Hardware and software issues, connectivity, protection of personal information, the support staff unavailability, technical support, the lack of face to face interaction and psychological matters are the additional challenges should be face (Hoq, 2020, p.460).

The challenges outlined above are generally experienced by teachers and parents. They synergize each other to optimize children's learning process through e-learning. Teachers are forced to employ technology as a result of the shift from face-to-face to long-distance online learning. Not only do schools have facilities but they must also ensure that teachers have the necessary facilities and infrastructure to operate home learning, but they must also ensure that they have the necessary technical skills (Putri et al, 2020, p.4814).

To support e-learning process, parents are expected to facilitate their children during online learning such as providing children with gadgets and equipment as well as supporting e-learning media. However, sometimes parents have problems guiding their children through e-learning. Daniela and Rudolfa (2021, p.2) explained that parents feel stressed when parents had to consider supplying their children with technological devices, they also had to teach children who had never used them before, while continuing to do their work duties to ensure the continuity of their family life.

Over time teachers and parents begin to find solutions to the e-learning challenges they faced before. This allows them to face e-learning more preparedly. The solutions they have such: The optimization of authentic materials usage (Macwan, 2015, p.92), using video conferencing in e-learning (Gladovic et al, 2020, p.45), facilitating the children to English tutor (Nirmala, 2019, p.89), improving accessibility and connectivity (Omwenga, 2006, p.9), the optimizing assistance by the government (Wijaya et al, 2020, p.309), giving psychomotor assessment (Rasmitadila et al, 2020, p.97), support (Rasmitadila, 2020, p.100), creating a conducive and fun learning atmosphere (Kusmana, 2017, p.43), parent involvement in e-learning (Fauzi and Khusuma, 2020, p.67), conducting and refreshing (Nisa, 2013), and the last making saving space a habit (Colito, 2014, p.106).

This study will be conducted in one elementary school in Tanah Bumbu, they are SDN 1 Tungkaran Pangeran. The school is chosen as the research setting because the school having English as the course and also implement e-learning to keep the learning process in this pandemic. The researcher interests to find out the challenges they face when they choose using e-learning as problem solving in COVID 19 issues. From this study the researcher is expected to obtain the way they can handle this situation and prepare themselves.

To conduct this study, the researcher has learned about several studies related to this topic. The study came from Kasmiran in 2019 about the importance of technology that support e-learning, in this study Kasmiran also mentioned about the comparison between teaching using technology and not using technology. Then, the study that has been conducted by Rasmitadila et al., (2020) about the perceptions of primary school teachers of online learning during the COVID 19, in this study the researcher found several challenges in teaching and learning process in this pandemic period.

Based on short explanation of the previous studies that the researcher will use for furthermore research, the researcher are interested to conduct a study with the title “ **The Challenges of Teaching English Young Learners Through E-Learning In Covid-19 Time** “ to helps the teachers prepare themselves to deal with e-learning when they must be teaching young learners.

B. Research Questions

1. What are the challenges encountered by the teachers and parents due to English For Young Learners e-learning?
2. What are the solutions of the challenges encountered by the teachers and parents?

C. Objectives of Study

1. To find out the challenges of the EYL teachers and parents are faced when conducting teaching and learning process through e-

learning.

2. To find out the solutions to overcome the challenges of teaching EYL through e-learning during this pandemic period.

D. Significance of The Study

From this study, the researcher is expected to share contribution theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically, the researcher expects this research give the contribution about how to deal with the challenges to teach English young learners to make the students understand about the English topic easily however the teachers explain it without the real stuff like usual.

This study is very useful for English young learner teachers determine the right way to teach English through e-learning.

2. Practically, the researcher expects that this study will be able to help others people who want to learn more about teaching young learners by using e-learning appropriately. This study is also expected to be useful for the world of education in the future as a material to be able to deal with situations where teachers and students cannot meet for a long time to do the teaching and learning process.

E. Definitions of Key Terms

1. The Challenges

The challenges are the difficulties faced by teachers and parents when teaching English For Young Learners through E-learning such as hardware and software problems, connection, financial matters, etc.

2. Young Learners

The children which are the age span six to twelve years old that learn English as foreign language in the elementary school from the first grade until the sixth grade.

3. English For Young Learners

The teaching and learning process of English in elementary school provide pupils with English language competencies during the golden era, when youngsters can readily learn anything.

4. E-Learning

A media that included of hardware and also software that can be connected with the internet such as computer, netbook, mobile phone the function is to facilitate the teachers and also the students to make long distance learning.