

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is an international language and has become the most important language to people in many parts of the world. It is most widely used in many communicating in the world, as well as in educational field and everyday's real life situation. Therefore, English also becomes an important part in the science of education. English becomes a subject which is very important to study for everybody. Therefore, people who study English well get more information about many thing. People also can easily understand and communicate with others throughout the world.

Considering the importance of English, in Indonesia has implemented learning English as a graduation standard from Elementary School, Junior High School, Senior High School to College. This is certainly very useful to have ability in learning English. That means people have learned English since childhood. Thus, the learners need a teacher for teach them students to know English generally.

In teaching English, a teacher has an important role in the classroom. A teacher has a duty to teach the students and make the students understand the knowledge, as we know that English Language is not easy. It means that a teacher must be creative in designing an activity to interact and communicate with the students. For that reason, the teacher should be engaged the student well, keep

focus on the students attention and create the class keep conducive and fun. Thus, a teacher requires a process to students understand English well.

God in his Holy Qur'an surah An-Nahl verse 125 has also granted to the teaching and learning process as follow:

أُدْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحُكْمَةِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ وَجَادِلْهُمْ بِلَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ

Translations: *"Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction, and argue with them in a way that is best. Indeed, your Lord is most knowing of who has strayed from His way, and He is most knowing of who is [rightly] guided."*

In this verse, Allah Almighty commands in the sense of obliging Prophet Muhammad saw, and his people to learn and teach by using the method good learning (billatiy hiya ahsan).

It means that the concept of education contained in this verse is that in delivering lesson material it must be delivered in easily understood language by the students, therefore teachers must be creative in teaching.

Nowadays, teaching and learning process a little different from usual because of the factors COVID-19 pandemic. The students learn from home for online class because we have to physical distancing from other people. Thus, teachers should be creative, innovative, and also understand the Internet Technology. Creative and innovative, teacher are required to keep teaching to keep students informed or genuine education and teaching. Certainly, these online learning are a new habit that are still difficult to follow, as teachers and learners

must make sure the teaching learning activities go on, although they are at home. Thus, both teachers and students are expected to remain at home and still carry out their duties and responsibilities. But now online learning changes the student's learning patterns, how a student learns to the level of interest that it encounters. Rasulullah said the hadith as follow:

مَنْ سَلَكَ طَرِيقًا يَلْتَمِسُ فِيهِ عِلْمًا، سَهَّلَ اللَّهُ لَهُ بِهِ طَرِيقًا إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ

translations: *"Whoever takes a path upon which to obtain knowledge, Allah makes the path to heaven easy for him."* (Hadith by Muslim).

The hadith that the prophet claims are capable of inspiring the passion of learning that is within the students.

According to Purbo (2002), online learning is teaching and learning system which teachers (lecturers) and students do not need to be in the same place and the same time to carry out the lecture process, one way is to use the internet as a medium. In this pandemic situation, online learning should be made as if the students are like studying on the web, it is only that there is a shift from a simple framework to a computerized framework through the assistance of web innovation. Hence, online learning actually needs to adjust the components that generally occurs or clearly in regular classes. Furthermore the contribution of different components in the detailing is an absolute necessity for the production of an ideal framework for teachers, student and establishments.

According to the European Commision (2001) online learning as the use of new multimedia technologies and and the internet to increase learning quality by easing access to facilities and services as well as distant exchanges and

collaboration. According to Aras Bozkurt *et al* (2020), online learning with the time of pandemic is quite emergency remote education and this practice is completely different from planned practices like distance education, online learning or different derivations, however other countries survived to keep teaching and to learn throughout the COVID-19 pandemic

Pandemic is a global epidemic. The term pandemic, according to KBBI (*Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia*) is widespread (about disease) in an area, continent or around the world. Outbreaks of diseases that fall into the pandemic category are infectious diseases and have continuous infection line. So, if there are cases in other countries besides the country of origin, it will still be classified as a pandemic.

An ongoing outbreak is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This flu is like pandemic and can be contagious. COVID-19 started as an epidemic in Wuhan, China before it spread throughout the world in a matter of months and became a pandemic. COVID-19 can be transmitted from person to person through droplets from nose or mouth by cough, sneeze or talks, or after close contact with an infected patient. This outbreaks really dangerous.

According to Rothan and Byrareddy (2020), since the dangers posed are so great and are threatening to the rest of humanity, governments have created new policies or regulations such as obligating, the use of masks whereas outside the house, requiring to washing the hands with soap, keeping a secure distance, banned from gathering and overcrowding, lending only to the house, and ban on

travel when it is not urgent even the latest is a PSBB policy (large scale social restrictions) implemented in parts of Indonesia.

Recently, a series of public health measures have been taken to reduce the spread of the disease. People are required to social distancing. If there is no important thing people should stay at home. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2020), avoid being exposed to the virus is the best way to prevent illness. Next step is got vaccines that can protect ourselves, know how COVID-19 spreads that some infections can be spread by exposure to virus in small droplets and particles that can linger in the air for minutes to hours, maintaining a distance of approximately 6 feet from others in public places, washing hand frequently with soap and water, restrict the travel, wear a mask or face shield, watch for symptoms (fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or trouble breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea). Thus, adhere to health protocols, staying away from anyone who coughing or sneezing, bring handsanitizer when go to a place, drinking lots of water and consume vitamins.

There is previous study written by Muhammad Iqbal Batubara (2021), the English students of Education Study Program of UIN Antasari Banjarmasin, entitled "*Teacher Questioning Strategies in Classroom Interaction*". Aims of study is to find out the questioning strategies that used in the classroom. He conducted the research in UPB UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. To do this research the writer used descriptive qualitative research by doing observation, interview, and

documentation. Concerning the similarity and the differences between the previous study and the study of the writer that the similarity of both is same place in UPB UIN Antasari Banjarmasin and used descriptive qualitative research. Beside that, the previous and present study has the difference in topic, the previous study is about questioning strategies that teacher used in the classroom, while this present study is focus about online learning classes in COVID-19 era.

With the emergency of COVID-19 pandemic, the government instructs students learning activities only from home. The purpose of the instruction is to physical distancing intended to prevent the spread of the corona virus. Minimizing the transmission of infectious diseases, the public takes action to limit social distancing and also self-quarantine. According to Yuliana (2020), Social distancing is a term applied to certain actions that are taken by public health officials to stop or slow down the spread of a highly contagious disease. As a solution, conventional classroom learning is replaced by online learning. The teacher is required to master Internet Technology in order to follow of online learning. Online learning will provide new experiences for students because the class will be different from usual on offline learning. Thus, the researcher is interested to know the implementation of online learning such as platform used by the teacher and the students perception as the receiver of online learning in the era of COVID-19. Thus, the researcher interested to investigate **“ONLINE ENGLISH CLASSES IN THE ERA OF COVID-19 AT LANGUAGES DEVELOPMENT UNIT UIN ANTASARI BANJARMASIN”**.

B. Research Question

There are some questions for choosing this title, they are:

1. How is the implementation of online English classes in the era COVID-19 at Languages Development Unit UIN Antasari Banjarmasin?
2. What are the students' perception toward online English classes in the era COVID-19 at Languages Development Unit UIN Antasari Banjarmasin?

C. Objectives of Study

The result objectives of this are:

1. To investigate the implementation of online English classes in the era COVID-19 at Languages Development Unit UIN Antasari Banjarmasin
2. To find out what are students' perception toward online English classes in the era COVID-19 at Languages Development Unit UIN Antasari Banjarmasin

D. Significance of Study

This study is expected to give contribution for students and English teachers, this research can give information about implementation and the students perception of online learning. Results of this research can be the reference for teachers to apply the activities in teaching and learning process through online learning. Moreover, the researcher wanted to encourage and motivate students to be more active and participate in teaching and learning process through online learning.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Online Learning

According to OECD (2005) online learning (sometimes called e-learning) as a use of technology and information in various educational processes to repair and support learning in higher education institutions and includes the usage of information and communication technology as a complement to the traditional classroom, online learning or mixing the two modes.

2. Students' Perception

Students' perception in this research was the students' perception about the effectiveness about online learning, which platform students like, and also the students perception about the advantages and disadvantages of online learning.

3. COVID-19

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or release from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes (World Health Organization, 2020)

4. UPB (Languages Development Unit) UIN Antasari Banjarmasin

UPB is one of important part in UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. All of the freshman have to take UPB class. UPB means Languages Development Unit (*Unit Pengembangan Bahasa*). There are two kinds of Language taught of UPB UIN Antasari Banjarmasin that are Arabic and English Language. English language is taught three times a week for four months in the English Intensive Course held Languages Development Unit.

The Communicative Language Teaching approach is normally used and the teaching of language components such as grammar, vocabulary pronunciation and spelling are integrated in the four English Skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.