

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

In our modern world, technology and internet are crucial to our daily lives. This is due to the fact that technology makes our jobs much easier and less time consuming. The impact of technology can be felt in any field, one of which is education (Raja et al., 2018).

The advancement of information and communication technology is currently accelerating, as is the discovery and development of knowledge in the field of information and communication in order to create tools that support the advancement of information technology, ranging from communication systems to unidirectional and two-way (interactive) communication tools.

This progress has provided facilities and welfare for human life as well as a means for human perfection as servants of God. Because God has bestowed the gift of enjoyment on humans that are complementary, namely the gift of religion and the enjoyment of technology. One of the implied words of Allah in the Qur'an Surah Ar-Rahman Verse 33:

يَمْعَشَرَ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِنِ اسْتَطَعْتُمْ أَنْ تَنْفُذُوا مِنْ أَقْطَارِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ فَانْفُذُوا لَا تَنْفُذُونَ إِلَّا بِسُلْطَنٍ

Technology and the internet greatly facilitate the teaching and learning process, even learning materials can be obtained easily by students and teachers.

According to Raharjo, as quoted by Sutirman (2006), the benefits of the internet for education are to facilitate access to information and access to resource persons. This technological advancement has led to the rise of a variety of new media that provide their users with a variety of conveniences, One of them is the ease of individually learning English through a variety of new media tools.

In education, there are lots of media that can be accessed by students via the internet, for example useful websites on Google and also applications for watching videos such as YouTube. Although they have a different appearance, they still have the same benefits. Websites usually only contain text, explanations and pictures. The website also provides learning materials and practice questions that students can follow to improve their abilities.

While YouTube usually contains a variety of interesting videos that do not have a duration limit. YouTube users can even share their videos easily. They use various techniques to present information, such as listening to songs, movies, animations, meme images, and short videos in English. Both websites and YouTube are very useful media for our education system, especially in terms of language learning.

There are so many digital resources today that provide language learning even for students who want to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). According to Thariq et al. (2021), nowadays, most of universities in the world which are the destination of students to continue their education, definitely ask for TOEFL or IELTS test results with a high standard of value as one of the

requirements to be accepted. Not only universities, institutions which provide the scholarship will also ask for TOEFL test results to see if someone is eligible or not to receive the scholarship that they manage. In fact, many companies make TOEFL as a registration requirement in their employee recruitment. It means that TOEFL plays an important role for students in terms of education or their careers later.

In Indonesia too, many universities have begun to test their students' English skills as one of the requirements that must be met before they carry out their final thesis defense or before they declared graduated. Their ability is seen from the TOEFL score they get. It is emphasizes further that students who master English in the current era of globalization is not something that can be underestimated.

In Antasari State Islamic University, especially in the English Education department, students must achieve a TOEFL score of 500 as a graduation requirement. To get a TOEFL certificate, students must take the TOEFL on campus, linguistic institutions or official institutions that provide TOEFL exam services. Of course, TOEFL exam participants will be charged an exam fee. These factors make students who want to take the TOEFL test must prepare everything carefully.

Based on this observations, the author presented several free digital resources that students can use for preparing TOEFL. The author divides these digital resources into three types, namely website, YouTube channel and smartphone application. First, the author found free websites that can be used,

ExamEnglish.com and GrammarBank.com. The second is YouTube channels, such as BenPinter, Andrian Permadi and Yanto Tanjung. The third is smartphone application. There are 2 kind of smartphone application that can be used are *Soal TOEFL Structure dan Pembahasan* and English Grammar Book. All of these digital resources can be accessed free of charge, at no cost. For this reason, this research is entitled "An Analysis of Digital Resources to Learn English Grammar (Structure) For Toefl Preparation"

## **B. Definition of Key Term**

To minimize misunderstandings, the following crucial concepts are defined in this study:

### 1. Digital Resources

This refers to digital learning materials that can be easily accessed by students. This digital resource focuses on some websites, YouTube channels and also mobile applications that provide TOEFL structure material.

### 2. Learning Grammar in TOEFL

This refers to students who want to prepare for TOEFL and focuses on grammar structure lessons.

## **C. Research Question**

According to the background of the study in the preceding discussion, the following research question is formulated:

What are the contents of digital resources that can be used to learn English grammar (structure) for preparing TOEFL?

#### **D. Objective of the Study**

According to the research question, the research objectives to be achieved are:

To explain the contents of digital resources that can enhance English grammar skill in preparing TOEFL.

#### **E. Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to provide benefits for all people who are involved in the world of education, especially those who are preparing for the TOEFL test. these benefits such as:

1. For the learner

Not only students who want to prepare for TOEFL, but also all students who want to improve their grammar skills. This research will be very useful for them to find learning materials from digital sources, especially from website and YouTube videos.

2. For the teacher

For teachers who want to add innovation in terms of teaching materials, this research will certainly be very useful to help develop teaching materials and not just fixate on books.

3. For the researcher

This research is expected to be used as a reference for researchers who want to research about digital resources.