

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

In the current digital era, learning English as a foreign language (English as a Foreign Language or EFL) is increasingly important in Indonesia. The Minister of Education and Culture, Nadiem Makarim, emphasized the importance of English as a vital component in education to prepare students to face global competition, (Permendikbudristek Number 12 of 2024). One of the main challenges in EFL learning is increasing student motivation, because motivation is a key factor in successful language learning. The importance of learning English is in line with QS. Al-hujurat verse 13:

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَىٰكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ۝

From here we know that learning a foreign language is sunnatullah, considering that humans are created differently and from various nations, tribes and languages. The use of social media has become an integral part of everyday life and shows great potential as an effective learning tool. Fitria (2021) social media can increase students' motivation in learning English by facilitating cross-cultural interactions and the use of the target language in real-world contexts, as well as expanding the learning space outside the classroom (Sarosa, Kusumawardani, Suyono & Sari, 2020). TikTok, as a popular social media

platform, offers varied and interesting content, which can be used for educational purposes, including English language learning (Yovita & Purmaningsih, 2022).

TikTok provides various advantages as a learning medium. One of them is an interactive and entertaining short video format, which can attract students' attention. Wahyuningsih (2014) stated that audiovisual media can increase student motivation and achievement because it is able to clarify the message or information conveyed. With TikTok, students can learn through videos that are relevant to their lives, which can increase their engagement and motivation in learning English (Rama, 2022).

Education has an important role for the future of individuals and society. Apart from providing knowledge and skills, education also helps in building character, increasing employment opportunities, empowering individuals, and creating a more advanced and harmonious society (Helmiana, 2023). Pursuing knowledge is an important thing, as stated in the hadith of Bukhari Muslim which states the benefits of seeking knowledge:

"مَنْ أَرَادَ الدُّنْيَا فَعَلَيْهِ بِالْعِلْمِ، وَمَنْ أَرَادَ الْآخِرَةَ فَعَلَيْهِ بِالْعِلْمِ، وَمَنْ أَرَادَهُمَا فَعَلَيْهِ بِالْعِلْمِ."

However, in Indonesia, students' use of social media is often directed more for entertainment than for educational purposes (Ashaf, 2018). Many students spend time on social media for entertainment content, which can reduce their time and motivation to learn English effectively (Mulianti, 2023). This excessive focus on entertainment content can result in a decline in students'

motivation and learning skills, creating a gap between social media's potential as a learning tool and its actual use.

Therefore, it is important to conduct this research to determine students' perceptions of using TikTok as a medium to increase motivation in learning English. This research also aims to identify the advantages and disadvantages of using TikTok as an English language learning medium, so that it can provide relevant recommendations for educators in utilizing social media effectively in the English language learning process.-

## **B. Definition of Key Terms**

### 1. Perception

Perception refers to the process of gaining knowledge about objects, events, or relationships by inferring information and interpreting messages. The perception referred to in this research is the student perception or opinion of students majoring in English Education Department, class of 2020 at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin who use TikTok as a English learning medium.

### 2. TikTok as media

TikTok is a social networking application, and video music platform where users can create, edit and share short video clips complete with filters and music to support them. Tiktok in this research is how the social media application is used as a learning media outside of school which is used by

students majoring in English Education Department, class of 2020 at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin to study English.

### 3. EFL Students

EFL is the abbreviation of English as a Foreign Language. An EFL student is a non-native English speaker who learns the language in an environment where it is not the primary language used in everyday life. In this research, the EFL students referred to are students of the 2020 English Education Department at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin

### 4. Students motivation

Student Motivation refers to the intrinsic and extrinsic factors that stimulate students' desire and energy to continue to be interested in, and committed to, learning and achieving academic success. Student motivation in this research is internal and external encouragement that encourages students to be active in the learning process and achieve academic goals, especially students majoring in English education department at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin

### 5. English skills

English skills refer to an individual's ability to use English effectively in various communication contexts. This ability includes four main skills:

listening, speaking, reading and writing. Listening is the ability to understand spoken English, speaking is the ability to express ideas clearly orally, reading is the ability to understand written text, and writing is the ability to compose text with a good structure. These skills are mutually supportive and essential for international, academic, and professional communication. In this research, English skills are an English language skill learned by students majoring in English education department, class of 2020, at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin.

### **C. Research Questions**

1. What are students' perceptions of TikTok as a media to increase EFL students' motivation in learning English?
2. How can TikTok motivate students to learn English?

### **D. Objectives of Study**

- 1.To find out students' perceptions about TikTok as a media for learning English
- 2.To find out how TikTok can motivate students to learn English

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

This study was designed to provide some significance. The meaning is as follows:

1. For students. The results of this research will help students who want to learn English using TikTok media.
2. For lecturers. The results of this research will help lectures using TikTok as a medium to increase EFL students' learning motivation in learning English.