CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

In this Modern Era, the internet is common for the people, from children to adults all use the internet. Fallows (2004) stated that, "Internet connection becomes very needed and difficult to inseparable in human life to help various activities ranging from economic, cultural, defense and so on.". Internet connection has become an inseparable part of modern life because it can help people carry out their activities more easily in many fields of work, including in education.

The Research Institute of America also mentioned that, "online learning has other benefits, namely to increase student retention rates (ability to survive) by 25-60% than face-to-face learning." Many practitioners and educational institutions make online learning to support their teaching and learning process. Example: Ruang Guru, Zenius, Cerebrum, etc. Online learning is also considered more practical to hold teaching and learning activities because it does not require classrooms to carry out these activities. So, college teacher and students can create classes from different places.

In 2020 the world is affected by Covid-19 viruses and Indonesia was one of the countries affected by this virus. Based on a circular letter from the Minister of Education and Culture (Circular of the Minister of Education and Culture Number 4 in 2020 March 24,2020) to prevent simultaneous transmission, many schools and universities give students time to study at home.

In the current situation online teaching and learning is the only choice that lecturers use to teach students. Because the current situation makes it impossible to conduct teaching and learning activities face to face in classroom. Therefore we need an application that can facilitate teaching and learning activities face to face but in the different place.

With COVID-19 successfully crippling almost the entire world, the Zoom application has become a communication tool for those who work from home to stay in touch and continue their daily workflows with minimal disruption.

At this time, after coronavirus was declared a world pandemic, people were encouraged to do social distance. In addition, Work From Home (WFH) is a suggestion from the government to minimize contact between communities. Zoom is an application that can conduct remote conferences by combining video conferencing, online meetings, chat, to mobile collaboration. This application is widely used as a medium of long distance communication. According to (https://tekno.kompas.com/read/2020/04/25/17160067/jumlah-pengguna-zoom-terus-naik-meskipun-ada-isu-keamanan), before the pandemic, Zoom focused on the communications business and only used 10 million people, mostly from workers or business people. On April 21, Zoom reported that 300 million people had used their platform to conduct teleconferences. an increase in the number from April 1, which only reached 200 million users.

From the goverment suggestion to minimize contact between communities the students of English Education Deparment must use a Work From Home (WFH) system. Not a few English Education Department students use Zoom as an online learning platform during pandemic Covid-19. The author only focuses on students of English Education Department who use zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic.

From the rationale above, the writer is going to explore the perseption of English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus toward using zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic. The writer only focuses on the student of English Education Department at Universitas Muria Kudus who using zoom as an optional learning online platform during Covid-19 pandemic.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the research, the writer determines the statement of the problem as follows:

How are the perception of English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus toward using zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic?

1.3 Object of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem, the writer determines the objectives of the research are:

To find out the perception of English Education Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus toward using zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic.

1.4 Significance of the Research

Besides this research will be significant for the writer, she hopes that the result of this research will be useful for:

1. The lecturers and the students. It can give information about the perception of using zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic.
2. The readers. It can be the next reference for those who want to conduct the same research about the perception of students toward using zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic.

1.5 Scope of the Research

The scope of this research is the writer focuses on the perception of English Eduction Department students of Universitas Muria Kudus toward using zoom as an online learning platform during Covid-19 pandemic. Zoom is an internet application that is able to facilitate educators and students to carry out teaching and learning activities face to face but different places.

1.6 Operational Definition

Based on the title of this research, the writer clarify the operational definition of each terminology as follows:

1. Perception of students means the students opinions based on the own perspectives toward using zoom as an online learning platform during covid-19 pandemic.

2. Zoom is an application that can make video calls more than four people so that it can facilitate the lecturer in teaching the material to be taught. Zoom can be downloaded from playstore for free. Zoom also has a premium version, in the premium version the zoom application has three types. this type is distinguished by the number of participants in a single meeting.