

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, scope of research, and, operational definition of research.

1.1. Background of the Research

Information and communication technology (ICT) is increasingly becoming a bigger and more important part of students' everyday life (Lonn & Teasley, 2009). With the help of ICT students and teachers can more easily handle assignment and communicate across time and space (Chen, 2011). a significant trend in schools has been to implement so called learning management system (LMS), which are used as a common platform where students and teachers can interact digitaly.

Learning Management System is one of the e-platforms that provides an online learning. LMS are seen as information systems that are focused on the processes of communication, collaboration, and educational purposes. LMS can be used as a tool to conduct learning outside the classroom. Using the LMS can help a teacher to deliver material, give homework and others. Moreover, LMS can also do the learning process if a teacher is not able to attend to teach in the classroom. With this LMS teachers can make the process of teaching and learning to students outside the class by using LMS features that have been available.

So far several digital platforms can be used as a tool of the learning process. These platforms are packaged as a system called a learning management system (LMS). (Ouadoud et al., 2018) stated that LMS is a technology that provides a variety of tools to help lectures manage their courses. The collection of provided tools in the LMS represents some of these resources that help manage the teaching and learning

process and user engagement, such as communication access control resources and user management service. As for some examples of learning management system platforms include Google Classroom, Quipper, Edmodo, Canvas, and many more. These examples of platforms can help the learning process that is easier and more interesting with the features available on each platform that can be accessed via handphone, pc, laptop, etc. The use of platforms during the pandemic is needed to facilitate the teacher delivering the material to students.

The application of LMS in education has become a solution that can improve students' performance in evaluating the learning outcomes (Oguguo et al., 2021). The benefits of LMS in education can facilitate the achievement of learning objectives based on targets. Moreover, in today's virtual learning environment, understanding and interactive learning facilitate are the primary keys to the sustainability of online learning (Chang & Kuo, 2021).

(Gilbert et al., 2015) noted that online learning enables students to work at a time and place suitable to their learning needs. The benefit of e-learning in education today are they provide option in term of time and place to access materials from lecturers. Students do not need to go to where materials are taught by the lecturers. E-learning provides an opportunity for students to independently monitor the success of learning. Students are free to determine when they will start, finish, and which part of a module they want to learn first. A variety of studies performed by researchers on the performance of online learning platform. (IGAW Yuliantari & Cakrawati, Laxmi Mustika Kusumawati Sudirman P.I, 2017) showed that students who took part in the study see online learning platforms as a user friendly learning resource that allows them to communicate with their lecturers and friend outside the classroom.

Several educational institutions have taken adaptive steps in dealing with the current pandemic shocks through e-learning system by maximizing the role of information technology (ICT). One of them is SMK Muhammadiyah Kudus, one of

schools which was closed around pandemic. Since then, the teaching and learning process at SMK Muhammadiyah Kudus has been carried out online using Learning Management System called “FRESCO”. There are various features to support teaching and learning including the provision of material, collection of assignment, video meetings, etc. Teachers and students are given ID and Password to log in to the FRESCO. This LMS can be accessed anytime and anywhere.

Based on the author’s research, in Computer Network Engineering (Teknik Komputer dan Jaringan) students, the researcher found various problems then arise in online learning using FRESCO. Online learning makes students not understand optimally with what is being taught. Online learning makes students feel bored quickly, and a lot of homework is given during online learning. Not all students have facilities and infrastructure needed in its implementation. Besides that, poor connection is a common problem during online class.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher was interested in exploring students’ perspectives in learning process through FRESCO as media on online learning.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the research above, the researcher formulated question as follows:

1. What are students’ perspectives on FRESCO as a Learning Management System of online english learning at SMK Muhammadiyah Kudus in the academic year 2021/2022?

1.3. Objective of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objectives of the research can be formulated as follows:

- 1.1 To find out students' perspectives on FRESTO as a Learning Management System of online english learning at SMK Muhammadiyah Kudus in the academic year 2021/2022.

1.4. Significance of the Research

The results of this research are expected to provide benefits for all people who are related in this research, both theorittical and practical benefits as follows:

1. The theoretical benefit

This research can be useful as a source of reference for relevant research on online learning in the Covid-19 pandemic in senior high school, To know the advantage and disadvantage of FRESTO on students' learning, and to know students' perspectives on using FRESTO.

2. The practical benefit

The researcher expects that this research can be useful for the teacher, the researcher and the students.

- a. The teacher can be implement an online learning model that can make it efficient for learning process, and help facilitate students to improve learning outcomes.
- b. The students can add the knowledge about online learning in the Covid-19 pandemic.

1.5. Scope of the Research

This research focuses on Students' perspectives on FRESTO as a Learning Management System. Students' perspectives here is the process of preferential treatment of students toward information they get from an object about how something is learned based on students' experience.

The participants of this research will be students of the eleventh grade of Computer Network Engineering (Teknik Komputer dan Jaringan) students at SMK Muhammadiyah Kudus in 2021/2022 academic year.

1.6. Operational Definition

The researcher will describe the terms used in this research, those are:

1. Students' Perspectives

Students' perspectives is opinion about how something that learned based on students' learning experience using FRESTO.

2. FRESTO as a Learning Management System

FRESTO is a media that is created and used by SMK Muhammadiyah Kudus to carry out online learning and teaching activities.

3. Online English Learning

Online English Learning is learning system conducted over the internet and can be accessed anytime and anywhere.

