

**AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' PERCEPTION IN USING WHATSAPP
AS MEDIA FOR LEARNING ENGLISH DURING COVID 19
PANDEMIC AT SMAN 1 KECAMATAN GUGUAK**

THESIS

*Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements to Obtain the Bachelor
of Education (B.Ed.) in English Language Education Program*



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ABSTRACT

This study aims to find out students' perceptions about the use of the Whatsapp application as media for learning English during the covid 19 pandemics in SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak. The sample of this study was the eleventh-grade students of SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak. The sample was carried out using the proportional random sampling method. The number of samples in this study was 177 students. Data was collected by means of a questionnaire and strengthened by interviews. This research is descriptive research with a quantitative approach. The results of this study indicate that students' perceptions of the use of WhatsApp as an English learning media are good. The average score of 3.72% evidence this, and the respondent's level of achievement is 92.90% in the good category.

Keywords: Students' perception; Whatsapp; media; learning English

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa tentang penggunaan aplikasi Whatsapp sebagai media pembelajaran bahasa Inggris pada masa pandemi covid 19 di SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak. Sampel penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas XI SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak. Pengambilan sampel dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode proportional random sampling. Jumlah sampel dalam penelitian ini adalah 177 siswa. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan kuesioner dan diperkuat dengan wawancara. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif dengan pendekatan kuantitatif. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa persepsi siswa terhadap penggunaan WhatsApp sebagai media pembelajaran bahasa Inggris adalah baik. Rata-rata skor 3,72% membuktikan hal tersebut, dan tingkat pencapaian responden adalah 92,90% dalam kategori baik.

Kata kunci: Persepsi siswa; WhatsApp; media; pembelajaran bahasa Inggris

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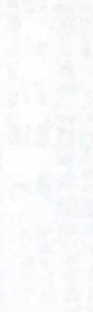
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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

As we know, almost the entire world is currently facing the coronavirus or the covid-19 pandemic. The virus that first appeared in Wuhan China, in August 2019 has spread across the globe, including Indonesia. The coronavirus which has been spread has affected various aspects of life, including education. The Ministry of Education, Culture, and Technology Research stated that the number of schools affected by Covid-19 in Indonesia was 407,000 schools, 3.4 million teachers, and 56 million students. The Head of the Center for Data and Information Technology of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Technology Research, M Hasan Chabibie, in a webinar with the theme "One Year Pandemic Education Don't Stop," said that there are not only Indonesia that felt the effect of Covid-19 but also at least 127 million schools in the world.

To reduce the spread of the coronavirus, the government implements social distancing or social interaction. As a result, all schools dismiss their students and replace offline learning with online learning activities. According to Munir (2009), online learning is a system that can facilitate learners to learn more broadly and in variety. Through the facilities provided by this system, learners can learn anytime and anywhere without being limited by distance, space, and time. The learning material studied is more varied in verbal form and visual, audio, and motion. Online learning requires learners and teachers to communicate interactively using information and communication technology,

such as computers with the internet, telephone, or fax. The use of this media depends on the structure of the learning material and the types of communication required. Therefore, for the implementation of online learning, devices are needed to help the teaching and learning process. Online learning is defined as a learning experience using different devices such as smartphones and laptops or other devices with internet access in a synchronous or asynchronous environment (Mathivanan et al., 2021).

At this time, smartphones and laptops are commonly used by students in their daily lives. Students are usually accessing social networking sites with their smartphones every day. Therefore, the use of devices such as smartphones and laptops with internet access is the most possible to be used for online learning and can be done anywhere. Technology offers many electronic tools inside and outside the classroom that can help the teaching and learning process. Teachers must manage the class to be more active and not boring by using media to increase student interest in learning. Learning media is very important to use in the learning process. The use of instructional media can help teachers explain material or provide understanding to students about teaching materials quickly, overcome the problem of limited space and time, and increase students' learning abilities and interests.

Online learning devices such as laptops and smartphones also requires online media that support the teaching and learning process. Online learning devices such as laptops and smartphones also require online media to support teaching and learning. According to Basilaia et al. (2020), in the current

situation, we need online media that supports (a) video conferencing with a large number of students, (b) discussions with students can be carried out to keep the class like an offline learning situation, (c) a good internet connection, (d) learning materials can be accessed on mobile as well and not only on laptop, (e) possibility of watching recorded lessons, and (f) feedback from students can be achieved and assignments can be retrieved. Examples of online media commonly used for online learning are YouTube, Google Classroom, Zoom Cloud Meeting, Quizzes, and WhatsApp. The material is given in the form of powerpoints, short videos, and reading materials.

One application that is often used in the online learning process today is WhatsApp. WhatsApp Messenger is a smartphone messaging application using an internet connection (3G, 4G or WiFi). On WhatsApp, there is group chat content which is in a group consisting of several people. Bouhnik and Deshen (2014) states that WhatsApp groups are used for four primary purposes: communicating with students, social atmosphere, creating dialogue and sharing among students, and as a learning platform. WhatsApp Messenger can send and receive messages, videos, images, and audio to individuals or groups easily and quickly (Napratilora et al., 2020).

The teaching and learning process can run as real; the teachers and students can communicate directly in the same group by using WhatsApp. In a short time, WhatsApp can reach a lot of students. Mbukusa (2018) states that students can easily communicate specific topics through this application because it directly responds to group members to join the chat to communicate

effectively. In other words, WhatsApp facilitates the teaching and learning process to get information quickly and easily.

There are several studies on the perception of using WhatsApp as a learning media. First, Mistar and Embi (2016) have researched students' perceptions of WhatsApp as a learning media in ESL classes at the university level. This study aimed to examine WhatsApp as a learning tool and help students improve their language learning. The research findings showed that WhatsApp was significant in assisting students in learning the language better and improving their proficiency in using English.

Second, Gasaymeh (2017) researched the use of WhatsApp and university students' perceptions regarding its possible integration into education. The participants were a group of students from one of the universities in Jordan. This study aimed to investigate the use of WhatsApp by first-year students for personal and educational purposes and examine their perceptions of the formal integration of WhatsApp into their education. The results showed that the participants found the integration of WhatsApp into their education easy, fun, and valuable. They have positive feelings and intentions to use WhatsApp in formal learning. .

Third, Bensulong et al. (2021) conducted research on the use of WhatsApp and Google Forms in learning Indonesian at SMK N 2 Sewon Bantul. The research instrument is related to the questionnaire, associated with the respondent's perception of WhatsApp and google form and the obstacles. The study results concluded that learning using WhatsApp was the most

effective media for the learning process with various factors in the situation of students' conditions. And also, Google form was an application that could be used as the most accessible learning evaluation with limited student conditions despite various obstacles.

Fourth, Hayati (2021) conducted research on students' perceptions of learning economics mathematics courses through WhatsApp group media. The purpose of this study was to determine students' perceptions of economic mathematics learning through the WhatsApp group. The descriptive data analysis result was that most students had a positive perception of learning Mathematics-Economics through WhatsApp Group.

From the previous research above, some researchers researched perceptions of the use of WhatsApp to students at the university level and conducted abroad and not on English subjects. For example, Mistar & Embi (2016) conducted a study on students' perceptions of the use of WhatsApp as a learning media in ESL classes at the university level. While the research will be conducted at the High School level at SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak. Gasaymeh (2017) conducted research on the use of WhatsApp and the perceptions of university students in Jordan. The difference with the research to be carried out is the sample, subjects and the place of research. The sample to be studied is students at SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak not college students, and the research location is in village. Bensulong et al (2021) conducted research on the use of WhatsApp and Google Forms in learning Indonesian at SMK N 2 Sewon Bantul. However, the research to be carried out on English subjects.

Fourth Hayati (2021) conducted research on students' perceptions of learning economics mathematics courses through WhatsApp group media. However, the research that will be conducted is on English subjects.

The use of WhatsApp has been used by SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak since the beginning of Covid-19. SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak is a school that has never done online learning before. But, due to the coronavirus outbreak now, SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak has to do online learning and use one of the media for online learning, WhatsApp. Based on observations made by the researcher that teachers at SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak only use WhatsApp as an online English learning medium during this coronavirus pandemic. Based on the background above, the researcher is interested in conducting a research entitled "An Analysis Of Students' Perception In Using Whatsapp As Media For Learning English During Covid 19 Pandemic At SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak". So it can be seen how students view WhatsApp as an online learning media in English subjects whether they have a positive or negative perception.

B. Identification of the problems

Based on the background of the research above, students' perceptions of the use of WhatsApp as a learning media can be studied at several levels, namely at the university and high school levels as well as abroad and in Indonesia. Previous research on students' perceptions of the use of WhatsApp was also conducted in various subjects such as Indonesian and Mathematics.

C. Limitation of the Research

In this research, the author limits the research on students' perceptions of using WhatsApp as learning media at SMAN 1 Guguak in English subjects.

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on background, this research focuses on answering the question, what are the student's perceptions on the use of Whatsapp application as media for learning English during Covid-19 pandemics in SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak.

E. Research Question

What are students' perceptions of using the WhatsApp application as media for learning English?

F. Purpose of the Research

To find out students' perceptions about the use of the Whatsapp application as media for learning English during covid 19 pandemics in SMAN 1 Kecamatan Guguak.

G. Significance of the Research

1. For Teachers

This research is expected to be useful for teachers as a media for evaluating students in the online teaching and learning process and seeing student activity and the suitability of the media used.

2. For Researchers

Hopefully, the results of this research can be useful for anyone and can be a reference in research related to this research. Increase the knowledge of writers in writing scientific papers and also as an effort to improve and develop personal skills as prospective educators.

H. Definition of the Key Term

To prevent misunderstandings in interpreting the terms used in this research, the researcher explained several operational definitions related to this research topic:

1. Students' Perceptions of using the WhatsApp application

This is the student's opinion on learning English using the WhatsApp application.

2. WhatsApp Application

It is an instant messaging application for smartphones and the web using an internet connection that allows users to exchange information using various media, including text, image, video, and audio messages. It is used to teach English in senior high schools during the Covid-19 pandemics.

3. Online Learning

Online learning is a teaching and learning process that utilizes the internet and digital media in delivering material. In online learning, teachers and students are not in the same place.