

**USING “EDMODO” EDUCATIONAL SOCIAL NETWORK IN
TEACHING ENGLISH FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Paper

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USING “EDMODO” EDUCATIONAL SOCIAL NETWORK IN TEACHING FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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ABSTRAK

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Makalah ini bertujuan untuk membahas tentang penggunaan Edmodo sebagai alat bantu pengajaran Bahasa Inggris bagi siswa SMU.. Edmodo adalah salah satu media jejaring sosial yang dapat diaplikasikan dalam pengajaran Bahasa Inggris untuk siswa SMU. Karena tampilan *Edmodo* ini mirip dengan jejaring sosial *Facebook*, penggunaan *Edmodo* akan sangat menarik bagi siswa yang senang menggunakan jejaring sosial. Sepintas *Edmodo* mirip dengan *Facebook*, tetapi *Edmodo* ini adalah *micro blog* untuk menghubungkan guru dan siswa dalam berinteraksi di luar pertemuan di kelas formal. Sebagai generasi yang sangat menyukai teknologi internet dan media jejaring sosial, penggunaan *Edmodo* dapat menarik minat siswa untuk belajar dan menggunakan Bahasa Inggris berupa *posting* status pada media ini yang biasa mereka lakukan pada website jejaring sosial, *Facebook*. *Edmodo* ini dapat digunakan sebagai media tambahan untuk belajar mandiri bagi para siswa. Penugasan berupa Tugas Rumah (PR) dapat dilakukan melalui media ini. Selain itu, siswa dapat ditugaskan untuk saling menyapa dan bercerita dalam bahasa Inggris di luar jam belajar di kelas. Untuk menggunakan Edmodo, baik guru maupun siswa mesti memiliki akun di website pendidikan ini. Cara menggunakan website ini akan dijabarkan lebih lengkap pada isi makalah ini. Diharapkan, dengan memanfaatkan ”educational micro blogging” ini akan semakin meningkatkan minat siswa terhadap Bahasa Inggris.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Indonesian curriculum (as seen in KTSP 2006) states that English as a foreign language should be mastered by students as one of the compulsory subjects. It is expected that students have to be able to understand English and use it actively. In relation to this, Indonesian curriculum (as seen in KTSP. 2006) administered that the purpose of learning English is to develop students' competence to communicate in English and also to apply it in daily life.

However, in the process of teaching and learning activities, many teachers feel disappointed because they have tried hard to teach the students but the students still cannot use the language actively in real communication. This phenomenon commonly happens in countries where English is taught as a foreign language like in Indonesia, even the students are afraid to use English.

Due to the tendency that English skills are still taught separately on the recent teaching, the writer assumes that it might be the cause why the purpose of developing students' competence to communicate in English and also to apply it in daily life as stated in the KTSP curriculum did not meet the expectation. This is the basic issue that the writer is concern about. She believes that in order to enable students to gain English as a foreign language, the four skills should be well taught to the students. The students have to study the integrated skills of language; reading, writing, speaking, and listening which have to be taught during the earlier

stages in the formal education in Indonesia. One of the ways to practice English integratively is by using Edmodo. Through Edmodo, they can enable students to do independent practices outside the classroom during their leisure time replacing the “Facebook session”. This is expected to help students practice their English integratedly by writing down the words into written works. It might be in form of spoken English in written media and so forth.

Edmodo is very useful in facilitating teaching – learning activities, because it can encourage social interaction, whereas student can interact directly with teacher through “wall” Edmodo, so that they are not afraid to express even to share their ideas, opinion, without being blamed. Teacher as an educational practitioner should not judge students in true – false opinion, but she/he has to open direct discussion forum in Edmodo. Instead the fascinating layout itself, Edmodo has file storage for teacher and also student (see “library”), they do not need to be afraid if their documents are seen by other students. All assignment and examination can not be accessed by those students who are not registered in Edmodo.

Beside it is beneficial for teaching, Edmodo has also private storage for keeping the secret. Students can write their personal information to whoever they want. Like Facebook, whereas people add the status and chat on separately, Edmodo can do the same. Just by writing everything on Edmodo wall, thus addressing them to their friends, students do not need to worry the in friend will read the posting wall. So, Edmodo keeps students privacy.

Edmodo may also keeps students in discipline by following the regulation made by the teacher. The teacher can post several assignment through Edmodo wall, and he provides deadline date (due date). If the students submit assignment over the date, their assignment will be expired and consequently they will lose the grade. The teacher then can calculate what monthly average grade has been collected by the students.

Students who are active in filling their Edmodo forum, will be appreciated with badges. It can be interesting because the more badges students collect, the happier they are. Giving badges as praises for their being active may motivate students to be more active. And they will never lost the chance. Not far from Facebook, student can upload their photo activities in classroom through Edmodo by choosing post type of document.

Using Edmodo in present teaching - learning is reasonable, because we are in Information Technology (as known as IT) era. It happens because Internet service has shortened border of time, thus microblog is one of the ways in facilitating learning – teaching process.

Based on the discussion above, we can conclude that there are many benefits in using Edmodo in teaching – learning activities. It can help the teacher and students in teaching – learning process more interactively. Based on that condition, this paper will discuss about how to apply Edmodo in teaching English language skill integratedly.

B. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the on the discussion above, this paper discuss about using Edmodo in teaching English for High School Students. Edmodo is an educational network that has been provided through Internet.

C. Formulation of the Paper

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the formulation of the problem is how to help teacher integrate the four language skills into their teaching and to provide better English learning process for High School students by using Edmodo.

D. Purpose of the Paper

The purpose of writing this paper is to explain the use of an educational social media, Edmodo as new way of teaching English. It is expected to be interactive, attractive, motivating, and convenience. Hopefully, improvement of technology can improve teacher's quality in teaching English as a Foreign Language.

E. Significance of the Paper

This paper is expected to give information in using new technology in teaching – learning activities. Its expected that using new technology in classroom and outside, students and teachers can maximally using English based technology approach. By using social media like Edmodo, teaching – learning activity is more practical.