

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of Study

Corona virus was first detected on March 2, 2020, in Indonesia, this virus spread quickly. This pandemic is causing health, social, economic crises and also impacting our education. All people in the wide world feel the impact of this pandemic. Due to the spread of Covid-19 in Indonesia, all students in Indonesia are required to learn online at home. The Islamic University of North Sumatra is one of the universities that implements online learning using the Zoom meeting application. Zoom cloud meeting is one of the media frequently used in online learning at UINSU. UINSU also conducting lectures online, lectures conducted by online methods, and using e-learning system through e-learning uinsu applications or other applications such as Zoom meeting, Whatsapp, Email, Google meeting, Telegram, Google classroom, Hangouts meet, and video conference. Before pandemic, the student can learning in person to exercise their speaking with their classmate and lecture. So, the student can express and show their full-body language when they speak and doing many creativities to make improve their speaking skill, such as drama, public speaking with the gestures, talkshow and more. But this pandemic makes distancing for every student, this is why the researcher is excited and wants to explore more about students' perception about using zoom for speaking lessons. Many studies show the difficulties of mastering english speaking skill. Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves the production, reception, and processing of information. Some of the factors that cause problems in speaking to students, first are poor reading habits, unequal participation and practice of english both inside and outside the classroom, and confusion in the application of grammar rules.¹

¹ Rifai Baron, 2020, Students' Perception on Online Application in Speaking Skill, Vol. 4, No. 2

The online class by using many applications such as Zoom, Google meet, and Whatsapp, are very challenging in the educational sector, it is very relevant to discuss. Lestianawati & Widyantoro in their research found some problems faced by the teacher in conducting online learning system during the Covid-19 pandemic, such as teachers' disability in accessing technology, school facilities in supporting online learning, the difficulties in explaining the material, students' limitation in accessing the internet and many more. These are challenges for the digital transformation of the world of education for both teachers and students in conducting the learning process. Furthermore, investigating students' perception of teaching strategies is important to be considered. Sometimes teachers do not consider whether their teaching strategies are effective or not. Through this research about students' perception on Zoom meeting application as media in speaking class, the teacher will be able to know what students need for learning.²

However, not only because of the strategies used for the learning process are appropriate or not, the intensity of online meeting by using video calls almost every day makes some people claim to feel fatigued and exhausted. This fatigue is known as Zoom fatigue. Gianpiero Petriglieri a professor at INSEAD, who explores sustainable learning and development in the workplace, and Marissa Shuffler; a professor at Clemson University, who studies workplace well-being and the effectiveness of teamwork. They argue that making a video call requires more focus than face-to-face speech. Video meeting, means it is necessary to work harder to process non-verbal such as facial expressions, tone, and body language.³ This demand for more focus consumes a lot of energy. There are also other factors, such as the pauses that occur between conversations. Silence creates a natural rhythm in real-life conversation. However, when that happens in a video call, the user of Zoom becomes anxious, the condition also makes people uncomfortable. The study by German academics 2014 showed that phone delays

²Andi Mangnguntungi Sudirman et al, 2021, Students' Perception on the Teacher's Teaching Strategies in English Online Learning During Covid-19 Pandemic at Second Grade Student of SMA Negeri 3 Palopo, Vol. 10, No. 3.

³Jawahir Gustav Rizal, 2020, Zoom Fatigue penyebab kelelahan akibat terlalu sering video call, apa itu? <https://fadlan90.wordpress.com/2017/04/21/speaking-skill-dalam-bahasa-inggris/>

or conference systems can shape our view of people negatively. Even a 1 or 2-second delay makes people view respondents as less friendly or less focused. In this phenomenon, many people feel exhausted when they use Zoom or other video conferences for work or study.⁴

By conducting this study, the researcher intends to investigate the significant effect of video calls for speaking lessons. The researcher also intends to introduce students' perception more, so the student and especially for the teacher/lecturer can prepare the appropriate methods and techniques for speaking lesson that use Zoom meeting applications. Based on the exposure of the facts described above, the researcher will researches students' perception on Zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class at english education department UINSU.

B. The Identification of Study

Based on the background stated previously, the problems of this study are:

1. Limitations in expressing speech during practice and a less conducive home atmosphere during practice, like a classroom.
2. Students experience the change of online learning system: weak internet network in rural areas, the lack of knowledge of teachers about technology or clueless (technologically illiterate), especially teachers of the baby boomer generation (born in < 1960), Limited access to technology, such as networks, equipment, and not all students are ready to operate the online learning system quickly, including preparing digital material.

C. The Limitation of Study

Based on the identification of the study, the research limits and focus in this research about the student's of six semester perception on zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class at English education department UINSU.

⁴Vignesh Ramachandran, 2021, Stanford researchers identify four causes for 'Zoom fatigue' and their simple fixes, California: Stanford University.

D. The Research Question

Based on the problem identification, the formulation of the study were:

1. What are students' perceptions on zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class?
2. Why does the students have those perceptions on zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class?

E. The Objective of Study

Based on the formulation of research above, the objective of the study were:

1. To find out the students' perceptions on zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class.
2. To elaborate students' perceptions on zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class.

F. Significances of the Study

The findings of this study are expect to give contribution to a teacher, students, and researchers.

1. Teacher:

The result of the study will enrich teachers' knowledge about students' perception on Zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class. So the teacher can prepare what method should be used during learning speaking skills by using Zoom meeting application after understand the student perceptions.

2. Student:

The result of this study is expect can give a lot of beneficial references to the students and also the result of the study will inform the student about other students' perception on Zoom meeting application as a media in speaking class, and as a consideration for students if in the future they are faced with the option to learn speaking in classroom or using Zoom meeting application.