

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Language is the main structure that be used to make an interaction, such as in form of gesture, speech, or writing in communicating. It is the most important thing in communication that used to deliver human's feelings and thoughts (Wibowo, 2001). Language is also used as a tool to get understanding towards what people need and intend to do. As a social creature, people communicated with others around them within language that can be the symbol of their personality, origin, and humanity (Syamsuddin, 1986). Moreover, understanding the system of a culture is needed to make an interaction with certain language (Ba'dulu, 2009). Therefore, many languages in the world that used according to the nation, such as English, Chinese, Spanish, Arabic, etc.

From the definition above that there are many languages are used in the world, but there is a language that called as a global language or international language. English is a global language, because it has a particular role towards each country in the world (Crystal, 1997) . Moreover, English which origin from England is a language that dominantly used in most countries in the world (Crystal, 2020). Many countries such as United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, even some countries in Asian continent such as Philippines and Singapore are using English as their main language. In those countries, English is used to communicate and deliver any messages and ideas in daily interaction.

Meanwhile, Indonesia recognized English as first foreign language. As an International language, that has to be mastered, English is learned by all students from Elementary level till Higher education level in Indonesia.

Language learning in school is not programmed in easy way to make learners mastered it quickly (Brown, 2007). Thus, language learning media that can be used easier is needed. Beside it, in this era many learning tool can be utilized by learners in language learning including in English. Moreover, English learning teaching is not only about study in the classroom, but social media can also be the tool in English learning (Faiza, 2020). That is because social media can help learners in developing their language skills, especially for Young Generation or such as High School students who has known so addict towards the technology.

In English learning, learners need strategies to make them understand English easier and more enjoy. That is called English Learning Strategies. Beside it, English Learning Strategies have four aspects, such as reading, speaking, listening, and writing (Hinkel, 2011). In a study, Twitter is the Social media which can include those four aspects at once (Lubis, 2020). Thus, that means Twitter can be used as the tool to help students in developing their English.

Twitter is a social media or SNS (Social Networking Service) from America which users can interact with other users through direct message and can post any photo or video with limited text that called "tweets". Twitter also let their users to be able to like and re-tweet another twitter users' tweet. In this platform, users can meet and talk to new people or their friends, promote any products,

share information, and many more (Faiza, 2020). This Social Media can be accessed in any kind of gadget, because Twitter is available as form of website and mobile application software (app). It shows how easy this platform is. Those conveniences in accessing Twitter might be one of the reason this platform to be the most used social platform in the world. According to Twitter's latest figures from the fourth quarter last year, the platform boasts 217 million daily active users with over 300 Million users (Twitter, 2022). Twitter is the best place to find out what is happening and trending in the world (Faiza, 2020). That is because Twitter is popular media to communicate breaking news. A quarter of all verified accounts in Twitter are journalists.

The researcher was interested in choosing this study because the researcher realized that English is the language used by the entire international community as a tool to communicate with each other. However, nowadays most students, especially students in Indonesia, always think that English is a difficult language to learn because they think that some formulas and rules in English are very difficult to remember and learn. Students must be more selective in adapting and understanding their background (Warouw, 2014). In the context of Indonesian education, teachers also must be more varied in creating new learning methods by following current developments when providing English language learning. Teachers also must involve themselves more in motivating students to create new ideas that more creative. So that students no longer think that learning English is a terrible thing to do.

However, nowadays most teachers and educational institutions in Indonesia are still fixated on the same learning system or method from time to time that learn and memorize English tenses through books. According to Khoiriyah & Safitri (2017), this is the main reason why English is still very difficult to learn by students. In this case, the Researcher think why do students not try to find other things or methods that can help them feel comfortable and motivated in learning English, which is the method that they often use in their daily activities. Therefore, the researcher chose Twitter as a social media as one of the ways or methods that can help students learn English. It is because Twitter is the one of Social Media that so popular in students' ages..

For another reason, the researcher chose Twitter as a media for learning English is because the researcher realized that Twitter is one of the social media that is widely used by people around the world today, as well as students who choose social media Twitter as a media they use as a tool for communicate. Besides it, Twitter has used English on the display they offer. There are several terms on Twitter that use English, such as mention, re-tweet, trending topic worldwide, hashtag, favourite, and share. Students can also use Twitter as a media to communicate with fellow Twitter users from various countries around the world. This is the reason that attracted the Researcher to do this research, with the aim that the Researcher can provide some information to students that Twitter can be one of the media that can be used by them in improving their English skills. Based on the explanation above, the Researcher conducted this study entitled "Students' Perception on the Use of Twitter to Learn English".

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of study, the researcher formulated the statement of the problem as follows:

How are students' perceptions on the use of Twitter to learn English?

1.3. Objective of the Study

Related to the problem mentioned above, the objective of the study could be stated below:

To describe students' perceptions on the use of Twitter to learn English

1.4. Significance of the Study

This research was directed to present theoretical and practical benefits.

1.4.1. Theoretical benefits

This result of this study was expected to give new knowledge to the readers about learn English via Social Media, especially via Twitter. This research gives theoretical benefit to the theory that Twitter can help language learners from a collaborative community and language skills.

1.4.2. Practical benefits

Practically, this research could be used as new alternative strategy which is fun and enjoyable in learning process. This research can be the reference to the future similar research.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study was focused on senior High School students in Indonesia, various ages 15-18 years old which used Twitter. The limitation of this

study is about describing Students' Perceptions on the use of twitter to learn English, including students' behaviours in using Twitter and the advantages of employing Twitter.

1.6. Operational Definition

The researcher defined some key terms used in this study. In order to avoid misunderstanding about those terms, there is the list of definition which has been conducted by the researcher.

1.6.1. Students' Perceptions

Perception is a biological process that takes place in the human's brain. It is a process that concerns about the entry of messages or information through five senses, namely sense of sight, sense of hearing, sense of smell, sense of taste, and sense of touch. Meanwhile, students' perception is the process of preferential treatment of students toward information they get from an object.

1.6.2. Twitter

Twitter is a social media or SNS (Social Networking Service) from America which users can interact with other users through direct message and can post any photo or video with limited text that called "tweets". This social media can be accessed in any kind of gadget, because Twitter is available as form of website and mobile application software (app).

1.6.3. English Learning Media

English Learning Media is any tools that can help and facilitate learners in learning English. English Learning Media is so important to help learners in getting new concept, skills, and language competences.