

THE 1st SEMESTER STUDENTS` OPINION ON USE DIGITAL MEDIA DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstrack

Covid-19 has seen big impact in various fields, including in the field of education, many schools have been closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Because of this situation, the government through the Ministry of Education regulation to moved learning from face-to-face to online learning. In this technology era, there are much digital media that can help teacher to conduct online classes so that the student can get study from their home and dont missed the lesson. This study was conducted to determine students' perceptions in digital media for online learning ranging from the use of digital media, students' perceptions of digital media, the frequency of using digital media, and the benefits of digital media. This research conduct in English Study Program of Baturaja University with the sample are 21 student of 1st semester student at English Study Program. Also, the data from the questionnaire support by the interview which the reasearcher ask the questions with 5 student as sample. The method of this research is descriptive qualitative research. Technical analysis of data using descriptive technical analysis, the result showed that WhatsApp Group is the most application that used in online classes, the teacher often to use the digital media. Also, the digital media is very easy to use by the student because it is simple and not boring for them. The digital media has the impact for student in receiving lesson from their teacher and has much benefits for them.

Keyword- Covid-19, digital media, student perceptions.

Introduction

The spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has affected all the elements of the global citizens, including the Indonesian people and the academic community in it. COVID-19 has been stipulated as a world pandemic, referring to the WHO's decision as stated in Khatri et al. (2020), that the cases spread beyond Wuhan city and on 30th Jan 2020, World Health Organization (WHO) declared the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak as Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). The Indonesia government take a place to force down all the units including in Education to restricted the mobility of citizen to prevent the spread of Covid 19 disease because the virus is dangerous to the health especially in breathing system which cause death if suspect doesnt get to hospital directly.

To prevent the covid 19, the government create the policy to decreasing Covid 19 spread such as 5M policy (wash hand, decreasing mobility, using mask, prevent the crowd, and keep the distance). Because of the policy, all the activity which do in workplace have to change to work from home. On education, the students have to study in their home and using the digital media to learn the material, collect the assignment, take the discussion between teacher and the students. With this policy, all people have to obey with the policy to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

In this technology era, there are so much using digital media to help the teacher teach and share the material to their student. Acording to Widiyono (2020), the digital media which interesting and fun which can help to decreasing the feel of bored from the students. Besides of that, the digital media have to support with the creativity from the teacher. Moreover, Anggeraini (2020) digital technology can motivate the learners in English learning.

In line with that matter, Sari (2015) stated that online learning is an alternative that can be applied in the era of technology and communication that is overgrowing now. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the need to use online models and applications to achieve the learning goals

(Schneider & Council, 2020; Verawardina et al., 2020). As a result, the innovation in learning is important to develop the education. Innovation in education encourages students and teachers for research, explore, and use all the tools to uncover something new. Innovation involves a different way of looking at problems and solving them. It also improves education because it compels students to use a higher level of thinking to solve complex problems.

From various previous studies that the author has explored, there are several relevant studies including. Afandi, Saputri (2020) stated that Google Classroom is effective to increase the students' participation in online discussions. With the features provided in the online platform, the students build up more enthusiasm, motivation, attention and support to share comments and ideas during online discussions. Then Halil (2020) mentioned that online learning using Edmodo at FKIP USN Kolaka has been carried out effectively. Then, Atikah et al. (2021) stated on their research that the learning process is carried out well using Google classroom. This is because online learning through Google classroom in learning activities can be easily accessed by both teachers/educators and students according to the needs of learning activities. Then, Nurmayanti et al. (2021) mentioned that there was an increase in student scores when compared to the semester before the pandemic occurred by using learning media. Then, Salsabila et al. (2020) stated that with the existence of information and communication technology which is now developing very rapidly, it is able to be used as a support in the implementation of the teaching and learning process remotely. Because technology has a role that is able to make the learning process effective and able to continue running well during this pandemic.

From the research that has been done previously which is mentioned above, the writer concludes that digital media has a very good impact on online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic so that this is the reason for researchers to examine this research to find out what students' perceptions of digital media and which are the most widely used in class.

Methodology

This research is a qualitative research. According to Creswell (2012), qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social human problem. The process of research involves emerging questions and procedures; collecting data in the participants setting; analyzing the data inductively, building from particulars to general themes; and making interpretations of the meaning of data. The final written report has a flexible writing structure. In this research, researchers tried to obtain valid information and data by using a questionnaire as the primary data that utilizes google forms which adapt and modify from Masruroh (2012) with the thesis title “Media Pembelajaran dan Metode Mengajar Guru terhadap Prestasi Belajar” and the researcher also used interview as secondary data to support the data from the questionnaire which adopt and modify by researcher from Lestari (2021) with the title “Pemanfaatan WhatsApp sebagai Media Pembelajaran dalam Jaringan Masa Pandemi Covid-19 kelas VI di Sekolah Dasar”, the interview conducted by the researcher in virtual on November 16th until November 23rd by using WhatsApp because of Covid-19 condition. The population of this research is Baturaja University students in the study program and the sample is 21 students of 1st semester English Study Program student. The Student may fill the questionnaire about the most digital media that their use, the benefits, the using, and the frequent of use the digital media. Also, the student interview by researcher to get the data which support the result from the questionnaire.

Findings and Discussion

a. The Research

The research was conducted by researcher on Sunday, October 17th 2021 until October 27th 2021 with the instrument of questionnaires through Google Form to know the students'

perception about “The Using of Digital Media, Student Perception about the using digital media, the frequence of using digital learning media, the benefits of using digital media”. From 21 student, there are 17 student fill the questionnaire. Based on students' respond, they used many applications for learning English although there are some different applications such as WhatsApp Group, Google Classroom, Edmodo, and Youtube, but they widely to use WhatsApp Group in Online Learning because it is simple to use and most of the students have WhatsApp on their smartphone. Also, the data from questionnaire support by the data from the interview who the researcher ask the 5 student of 1st semester student on November 22nd until November 23rd 2021.

b. WhatsApp

WhatsApp Messenger is a messaging application for smartphones. WhatsApp Messenger is a cross-platform messaging application that allows us to exchange messages without credit, because WhatsApp Messenger uses internet data packages. The WhatsApp Messenger application uses a 3G, 4G or WiFi internet connection for data communication. By using WhatsApp, we can have online chats, share files, exchange photos, and much more. WhatsApp application is a communication application that is used by people to contact each other. One of the features of this application is WhatsApp Group which this feature allows people to create a group to discuss together about something so this application is widely used for online classes because it is easy to use. by various groups.

c. The Result of Student Perception Questionnaire

After collecting the data from the questionnaire, the researcher analyzed the data it by using Microsoft Excel to know the answer of the students.

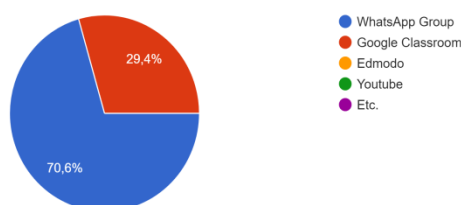


Diagram 1. What the digital media are widely to use in your class:

Based on the diagram 1 about the statement “What the digital media are widely to use in your class”. There are 12 student are use WhatsApp Group as digital media in learning (70,6%) and 5 student are use Google Classroom as digital media in learning.

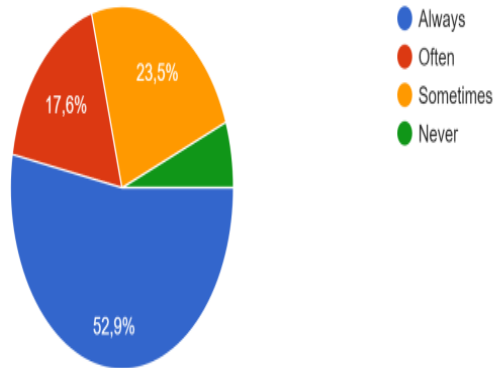


Diagram 2. The teachers use digital media during the online class.

Based on the diagram 2 about the statement “The teacher use digital media during the online class”. There are 9 students are answer the teacher always use digital media during the online class (52,9%), 3 student are said often (17,6%), 4 student are answer sometimes (23,5%), and 1 answer never (5,9%) about the statement.

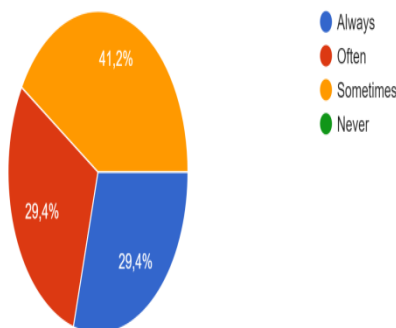


Diagram 3. Teachers use a variety of learning media when during online class.

Based on the diagram 3 about the statement “Teachers use a variety of learning media when during online class”. There are 5 students are answer that teachers always use a variety of learning media when during online class (29,4%), 5 student are said often (29,4%), 7 student are answer sometimes (41,2%) about the statement.

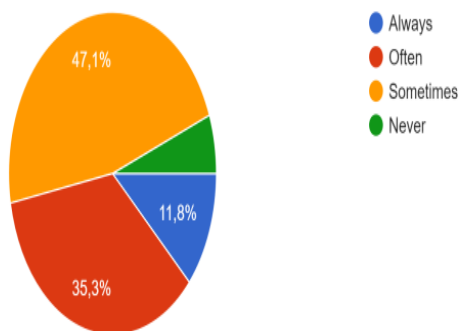


Diagram 4. Every time teaching the online classes, teachers use other learning media than e-books.

Based on the diagram 4 about the statement “Every time teaching the online classes, teachers use other learning media than e-books”. There are 2 students are answer that every time the online classes be held, teachers always use other learning media than e-books (11,8%), 6 student are said often (35,3%), 8 student are answer sometimes (47,1%), and 1 answer never (5,9%) about the statement.

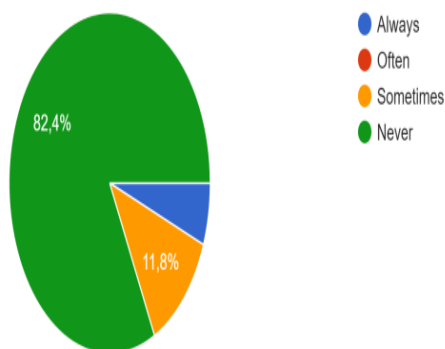


Diagram 5. Teachers use learning media which not suitable with the subject matter when online class.

Based on the diagram 5 about the statement “Teachers use learning media which not suitable with the subject matter when online

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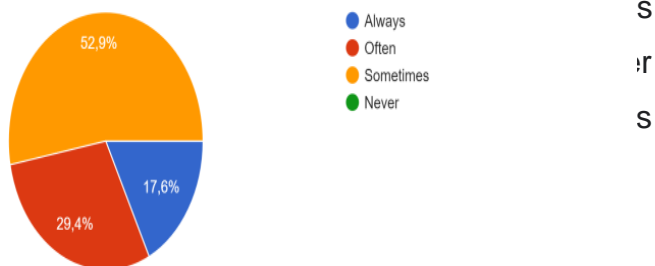


Diagram 6. I easily understand the lessons after teachers use digital media

Based on the diagram 6 about the statement “I easily understand the lessons after teachers use digital media”. There are 3 student answer that I always easily understand the lessons after teachers use digital media. (17,6%), 5 student are said often (29,4%), and 9 student are answer sometimes (52,9%) about the statement.

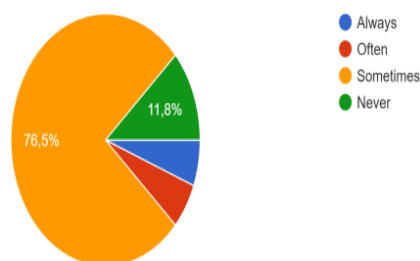


Diagram 7. I feel bored when the online class, the teacher don't use digital media.

Based on the diagram 7 about the statement “I feel bored when the online class, the teacher don't use digital media”. There are 1 student answer that I always feel bored when the online class, the teacher don't use digital media (5,9%), 1 student answer often (5,9%), and 13 student are answer sometimes (76,5%) and 2 student answer never (11,8%) about the statement.

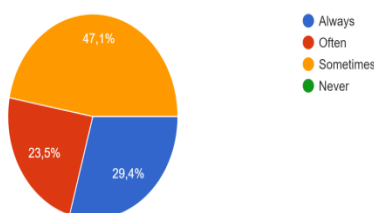


Diagram 8. The use of digital media has a very big impact in receiving lessons.

Based on the diagram 8 about the statement “The use of digital media has a very big impact in receiving lessons”. There are 5 student answer that The use of digital media always has a very big impact in receiving lessons (29,4%), 4 student are said often (23,5%), and 8 student are answer sometimes (47,1%) about the statement.

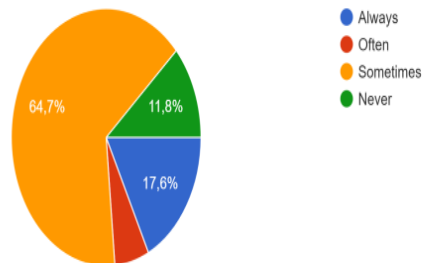


Diagram 9. I'm more excited to follow the class using digital media.

Based on the diagram 9 about the statement I'm more excited to follow the class using digital media”. There are 3 student answer that I'm always excited to follow the class using digital media (17,6%), 1 student answer often (5,9%). 11 student answer sometimes (64,7%), and 2 student answer never (11,8%) about the statement.

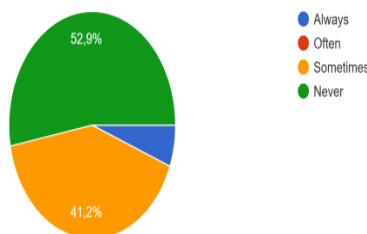


Diagram 10. I feel afraid during online learning activities.

Based on the diagram 10 about the statement "I feel afraid during online learning activities”. There is 1 student answer that I feel afraid during online learning activities (5,9%), 7 student are

answer sometimes (41,2%) about the statement, and 9 student are answer never (52.9%) about the statement.

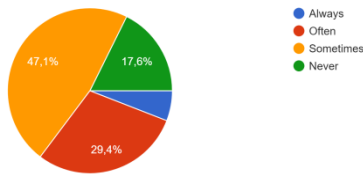


Diagram 11. The use of digital media in online class is only a variation of the teacher's teaching during the pandemic, but in fact the material that I catch is the same as not in offline class.

Based on the diagram 11 about the statement "The use of digital media in online class is only a variation of the teacher's teaching during the pandemic, but in fact the material that I catch is the same as not in offline class". There is 1 student answer that I feel afraid during online learning activities (5,9%), 5 student answer often (29,4%), 8 student answer sometimes (47,1%), and 3 student answer never (17,6%) about the statement.

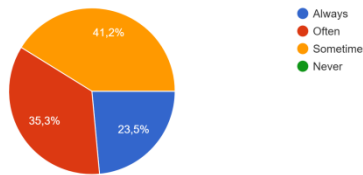


Diagram 12. Teachers use digital media only at certain times.

Based on the diagram 12 about the statement "Teachers use digital media only at certain times". There are 4 student answer that Teachers always use digital media only at certain times (23,5%), 6 student are answer often (35,3%), 7 student are answer sometimes (41,2%) about the statement.

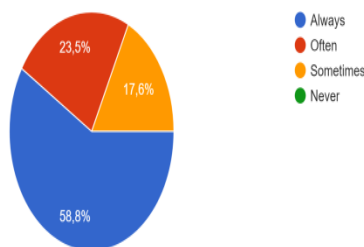


Diagram 13. Every time teaching, the teacher uses digital media to conduct the online class.

Based on the diagram 13 about the statement "Every time teaching, the teacher uses digital media to conduct the online class.". There are 10 student answer that Every time teaching, the teacher uses digital media to conduct the online class" (58,8%), 4 student are answer often (23,5%), 3 student are answer sometimes (17,6%) about the statement.

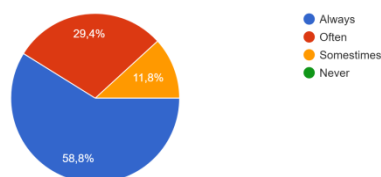


Diagram 14. If there is an assignment, the teacher uses digital media to share and collect it.

Based on the diagram 14 about the statement "If there is an assignment, the teacher uses digital media to share and collect it". There are 10 student answer that If there is an assignment, the teacher always using digital media to share and collect it (58,8%), 5 student are answer often (29,4%), 2 student are answer sometimes (11,8%) about the statement.

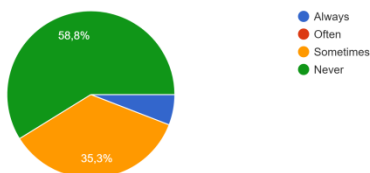


Diagram 15. The teacher can't operate the digital media optimally.

Based on the diagram 15 about the statement "The teacher can't operate the digital media optimally". There is 1 student answer that The teacher always can't operate the digital media optimally (5,8%), 6 student are answer sometimes (35,3%), and 10 student are answer never (58,8%) about the statement.

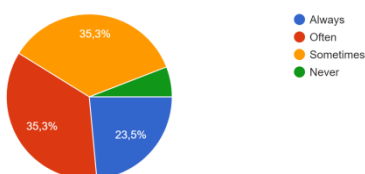


Diagram 16. I can feel the benefits of using learning media.

Based on the diagram 16 about the statement "I can feel the benefits of using learning media". There are 4 student answer that I always can feel the benefits of using learning media (23,5%), 6 student are answer often (35,3%), 6 student are answer sometimes (35,3%) about the statement, and 1 student answer never (5,9%).

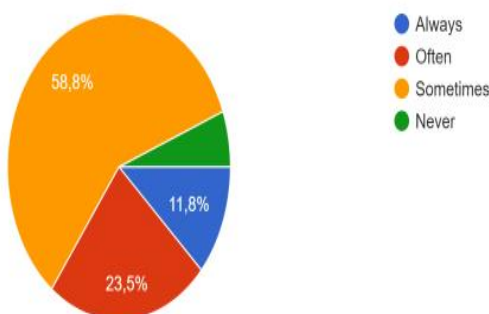


Diagram 17. It is easier for me to understand lessons without using digital media.

Based on the diagram 17 about the statement "It is easier for me to understand lessons without using digital media". There are 2 student answer that It is always easier for me to understand lessons without using digital media (11,8%), 4 student are answer often (23,5%), 10 student are answer sometimes (58,8%) about the statement, and 1 student answer never (5,9%).

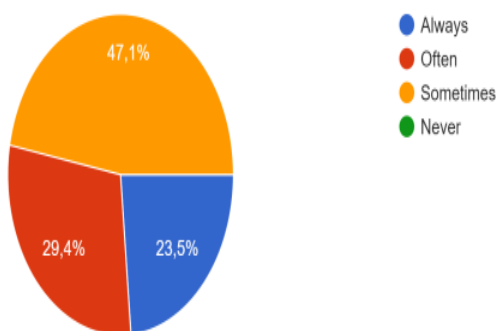


Diagram 18. It easier to understand the subject matter after the teacher uses digital media.

Based on the diagram 18 about the statement "It easier to understand the subject matter after the teacher uses digital media". There are 4 student answer that It easier to understand the subject matter after the teacher uses digital media (23,5%), 5 student are answer often (29,4%), 8 student are answer sometimes (47,1%) about the statement.

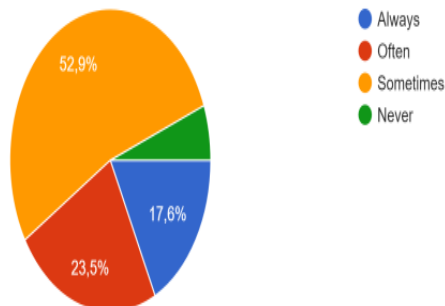


Diagram 19. I feel diligent for study because digital media makes me study more.

Based on the diagram 19 about the statement "I feel diligent for study because digital media makes me study more". There are 3 student answer that I feel diligent for study because digital media makes me study more (17,6%), 4 student are answer often (23,5%), 9 student are answer sometimes (52,9%) about the statement, and 1 student answer never (5,9%).

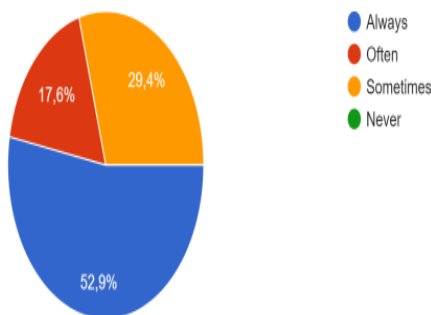


Diagram 20. Digital media makes me no longer afraid of lessons during the pandemic.

Based on the diagram 20 about the statement "Digital media makes me no longer afraid of lessons during the pandemic". There are 9 student answer that Digital media always makes me no longer afraid of lessons during the pandemic (52,9%), 3

student are answer often (17,6%), 5 student are answer sometimes (29,4%) about the statement.

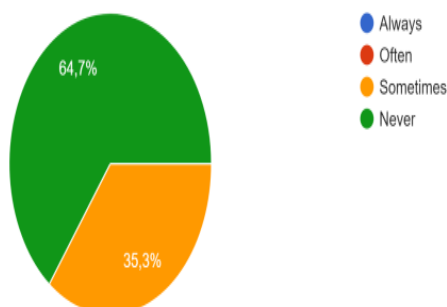


Diagram 22. I don't feel the benefits of digital media.

Based on the diagram 2 about the statement "I don't feel the benefits of digital media". There are 11 student answer that I don't feel the benefits of digital media (64,7%), 6 student are answer sometimes (35,3%) about the statement.

d. The Result of Interview

Based on the interviews that have been conducted on November 22nd until November 23rd 2021, the authors can describe the online media learning that are used in online classroom. In this study, the authors obtained results regarding the use of online learning media.

On the first question which it asked what are the media that often used by teacher in online class, Al Fahri as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“The media that using in many class in 1st semester used WhatApp. In other lesson, the teacher using Google Classroom, Zoom Meeting, etc, But, WhatsApp Group is the most online media that used by teacher.”

Based on Al Fahri statement, majority teacher using WhatsApp as online learning media. Al Fahri Statement support by 4 other student which also interviewed by the researcher.

On the second question which it asked How is the learning system using this online learning media, Nadya Kurnia as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“At the begining, the teacher shared the attendance list trough Google Form. Then the teacher share the material of lesson (it can be video, ppt, etc). Then, the teacher allow the student ask about the material and it followed the assignment which it shared by the teacher at the end of the lesson.”

Based on Nadya Kurnia statement, the teacher do the online class like it do in real classroom but with different media and the system. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the third question which it asked The frequence of the student access online learning media for online class, Andre Agustian as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Sometimes it tooks one/two hour in one lesson using online learning media”

Based on Andre Agustian statement, one lesson can allow the student used online learning media for about one/two hour. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the fourth question which it asked their perception on using online learning media for online class, Ayu Gestia Wati as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Well, it depend the teacher. If the teacher make the creative media, the students feel no bored to follow the lesson.”

Based on Ayu Gestia Wati statement, the students doesnt feel bored if the teacher make creative media in online class. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the fifth question which it asked the advantages of using online learning media for online class, Vinari Fasfuri as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Yes, It is. the online learning media easy to use by the student and teachers. It has the feature that can help us to operate it. Also it can be used in everywhere.”

Based on Vinari Fasfuri statement, the online learning media has advantages which it can be easy operate and it can be used in anywhere. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the sixth question which it asked the teacher and student can operate online learning media, Nadya Kurnia as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Yes, the teacher and the student can operate online learning media.”

On that statement, we can know that the teacher and student can operate online learning media very well. But there is different statement from other student. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Sometimes, the teacher doesnt know the function of online learning media such as Google Classroom, the teacher doesnt make a page to submit the assignment so the student submit i ton homepage of Google Classroom.”

On the other student statement, we can know that the teacher cant operate online learning media very well.

On the seventh question which it asked the benefits of online learning media, Vinari Fasfuri as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“The online learning media make easier for student to learn in pandemic condition.”

Based on Vinari Fasfuri statement, the online learning media has benefits which it easier the student to get the lesson in pandemic condition and it can be used in anywhere. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the eighth question which it asked feel the student follow the learning process with online learning media, Al Fahri

as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Sometimes I feel exited to follow the lesson. It depend from the teacher which conduct the lesson.”

Based on Al Fahri statement, the lesson is exited to follow by them depend to their teacher in using media in online class. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the ninth question which it asked feel the obstacle in using online learning media, Ayu Gestia Wati as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“There are some obstacles like signal connection, internet quota, and power outage that sometimes happen.”

Based on Ayu Gestia Wati statement, there some obstacles in using media in online class. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

On the last question which it how to solve the problem in using online learning media, Andre Agustian as one of the student told to the researcher about it. The following is the narrative of the interview.

“Sometimes i see the tutorial on Youtube. Also i ask to my friend to help me solve the problem.”

Based on Andre Agustian statement, the student search in internet how to solve the problem on using online learning media. The majority of the student who interviewed by the researcher give the similiarity answer.

Conclusion

Based on the result of research, the researcher conclude that digital media has many advantages for the student and teacher on the online class, it has benefits that easier the student to receiving the lesson from the teacher. But, Sometimes there are obstacle in using digital media such as nature factor (rainy with storm that cause internet connection error) and human factor (the teacher and student cant operate digital media very well).

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