

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

With the effects of Covid-19, there are a lot of problems with the teaching process in this world. Although at this time technology has almost spread throughout the world, online learning systems are still very rarely applied in schools. Sumardi and Nugrahani (2021) said that many teachers and educators are not yet prepared to adjust to sudden changes during the pandemic. In the middle of this situation, there is a software system that has often been used by several teachers, namely the Learning Management System (LMS).

LMS or Learning Management System is a platform or system that provides a range of features for education providers or instructors to create, manage, and deliver learning content to students via the internet. Online learning can be done more structured, efficiently, and effectively by using LMS, and it no longer depends on offline classes (face-to-face). It can also be done outside of the classroom (Al Khoeri et al., 2021). LMS provides a range of features and functions that support the online learning process, facilitate interaction between instructors and participants, and provide wider accessibility for achieving education or training.

Online learning is defined as learning that takes place over the internet and is aided by electronic devices such as tablets, smartphones, laptops, and PCs (González, Arturo; Covián 2015). With the help of electronic objects and the internet, online learning can be done very easily. LMS is one of the most valuable solutions in online learning environments for both students and teachers (Al Khoeri et al., 2021). Almost all teachers in Indonesia use various online platforms to learn

easier methods to teach their students today. Some platforms were used during online learning to help teachers manage the learning process effectively, such as Quiziz, Edmodo, Google Classroom, and Whiteboard.fi.

Whiteboard.fi is an online whiteboard that can be used like a real whiteboard and controlled directly by the person who set it up, so it allows teachers and students to collaborate in real time. The interactive whiteboard is one of the new innovation steps in using the whiteboard that we usually see, but using whiteboard.fi is more practical and easier for users to use. Slay, Siebo, and Hodgkinson-Williams (2008); Wall, Higgins, and Smith (2005) said the interactive whiteboard is a new-generation board that has been recognized as a valuable technology that improves student learning and motivation while also assisting in teaching. Whiteboard.fi can be used as an additional tool/media for distance learning or even in a physical classroom. By using it, the learning system becomes more interesting and efficient because teachers and students can interact online through a real time whiteboard. This media also allows students to think creatively, critically, independently and reduce the level of cheating in learning, as well as improve students' ability to use technology. "Whiteboard.fi is a simple tool that can be used instantly. Create a class and let your students join, using a link, room code, or QR code." This site offers many features, such as the ability to write, draw, listen to audio, and much more. Then this can be combined with other online learning methods such as Quiziz, Kahoot!, Google Meet, and many more.

Whiteboard.fi has been utilized used in a Junior High Schools in Tasikmalaya. This school uses a variety of learning media, such as PowerPoint, Photos, Videos, Google Classroom, Padlet, Quiziz, and the last one, Whiteboard.fi. One of the school's English teachers uses whiteboard.fi in her teaching. She knew about this website from a student who was an intern at his school, so she felt that this method was very effective in the current situation.

In this situation, new innovations in classroom learning technology bring impact and change for teachers and students. Technology helps the teachers create innovative teaching strategies by providing interesting activities that help the students improve their competence (Fatimah & Santiana 2017). One of the most popular and widely used LMS in the world of education is Moodle (Gutami 2022). In research conducted by Subramanian et al., (2014) Moodle was chosen as a Learning Management System (LMS) because it provides an excellent platform for communication resources and tools that has several privileged features, namely: discussion forums, file exchange, notification dashboards, progress reviews, in-page search, courses, and modules, and an optimized architecture compared to other e-learning systems. According to that statement, there are many benefits to using one of these learning media. Teachers are also victims of technological changes in learning. Teachers are challenged to be able to keep up with current developments because many new and different perceptions emerge for each teacher. An explanation from this point of view provides a lot of information about changes from the offline to the online learning system and can help get opinions about the use of the whiteboard.fi website in learning activities.

Therefore, it is interesting to investigate teachers' perceptions of using the whiteboard.fi website in the classroom so that the findings on this research can be used as suggestions to improve the use of innovative Learning Management System (LMS) at junior high school in EFL classrooms.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

Based on background, this research focuses on answering the question, "What are the benefits of whiteboard.fi in an EFL classroom based on teacher's perceptions?"

1.3 Operational Definitions

1.3.1 Learning Management System (LMS)

Learning Management System (LMS) is software made to organize and facilitate learning activities. Learning Management System (LMS) will help teachers easier in the online learning process, because several features can help teachers, such as discussion forums to grading and reporting.

1.3.2 Teacher's Perception

Teacher perception is a subjective opinion, a teacher's perception of learning progress, assessment, and learning methods. In this research, the teacher must have perceptions about online learning and responses regarding the use of the whiteboard.fi website because this is very new in the world of education.

1.3.3 Whiteboard.fi

Whiteboard.fi is a website for using online whiteboards and can be accessed by students utilizing the site. Whiteboard.fi is an online whiteboard service specially designed for teachers and classrooms. Through this platform, the teacher gains instant visibility into the students' boards, and likewise, students promptly observe the teacher's actions, simplifying the teacher's task of presenting the material.

1.4 Aim of the Research

This research is to find out how the teacher's perception and the benefits from using the whiteboard.fi website, and also this research can be

useful in the future if there are teachers who want to use new methods in the learning process and not only in English.

1.5 Significances of the Study

1.5.1 Theoretical Uses: This research is to give theoretical information and knowledge to the next researchers about teachers' perceptions toward the use of the website whiteboard.fi in the EFL classroom.

1.5.2 Practical Uses: After knowing the function of using the whiteboard.fi website in the online learning process and the perceptions of teachers who apply it, this research will help teachers in the future to know that there are techniques that are unique and new and can bring up new combinations in online and offline learning

1.5.3 Empirical Uses: This research will offer empirical insight and understanding for the researcher dealing with the benefits of using website whiteboard.fi EFL by the teacher's perceptions.