

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter reveals the discussion related to this study, it includes the background of the study, research questions, purpose of the study, the scope of the study, and the significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the study

In today's era of technology and Web-based learning make the educational environment has changed. It is providing educators with opportunities to create a variety of effective learning environments. Online learning satiate the need for education, because this field is going to make available tremendous resources of knowledge that only find on Web or the internet. Hence, there is no doubt that the future of online learning in the field of education is certainly bright (Subhash, 2012, p. 9). In the era in which the plethora of services and information is easily accessible with computers and the internet, both speed and flexibility are vital for any organization to survive and grow. The use of online learning in education means tremendous addition in our knowledge or information. The main role of universities in supporting online learning system is establishing a comprehensive model include essential technical equipment for developing online learning system (Sara and Khatoon, 2013, p.2).

Traditional learning is limited by time, age, space, money and area. Physical presence of a student is regulation for the whole time of study. Traditional

education provides interactive relationship between students. The interaction promotes better understanding of the contents and opportunities to learning with peers. To provide the students with opportunities to learn in a flexible and easy way, the concept of online learning was introduced. The most advanced generation of online learning which is Computer and Web Based - learning. The existence of online learning technology, some universities facing the challenges of acquiring and implementing IT skills in learning activities. The needs of learners requires instructors and administrators to rethink delivery strategies and instructional methods. Many organizations are turning to distance education, because of its effectiveness, to help learners develop and improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

The new concepts introduced by online learning such as a content, e-book, e-training, distance learning, virtual classroom and so on. Online learning technologies are fostering the means used to deliver and share knowledge progressively. They can play a major role in modernizing the educational system by overcoming the limitations of distance and time required to access and deliver knowledge. The benefits of using online learning tools in education are tremendous that it can provide immediate access to information, increase the speed of locating and retrieving information. In addition, the use of Internet in education can provide learners with continuously updated information, as well as student-teacher online interaction (Assaf et al., 2007, p. 15).

According to Rosenberg (2006, p. 22) online learning as the use of Internet technologies to create and deliver a rich learning environment that includes a

broad array of instruction and information resources and solutions, to enhance individual and organizational performance. Online learning in the context of education can be defined as the use of technology to enable students to learn anytime, anywhere, its makes the learning materials available to the learner 24 hours. Tomasegovic et al. (2011, p. 198) stated that through online learning a new educational environment can be set and an environment can be constructed in the direction of interaction, processing information, researching and problem-solving. Moreover, the findings of Tomasegovic's et al. (2011, p. 200) study revealed that online learning provides direct students' involvement in planning and development of the class; enables students to learn and memorize up to 80% more information than they do when just reading or listening since online learning includes video materials and lots of practical exercise, and at the same time online learning gives the students an opportunity to make their own schedule of managing given assignments.

This study was adapted the previous study from Azad (2009) investigated about perceptions of students and the teachers the use of e-learning / sharing portal in METU Development Foundation School. This study examined three aspects of effects on students' perceived motivation, the ease of use and usefulness. The findings of the study indicated that the students and the teachers perceived that e-learning / sharing portal technology is a useful and also easy to use technology. While, for the challenge study was adapted from Muilenburg & Berge (2005) about exploratory factor analysis study that determined the underlying constructs that comprise student barriers to online learning. The eight

factors found and Independent variables that significantly affected student ratings of these barrier factors included: gender, age, ethnicity, type of learning institution, self-rating of online learning skills, effectiveness of learning online, online learning enjoyment, prejudicial treatment in traditional classes, and the number of online courses completed. As a result of this study, the single most important challenge to students learning online was a lack of social interaction with mean score was 2.36.

The rapid expansion of Web as the powerful course delivery platform, has created a significant motivation for universities to develop online programs. Every higher educational should have an online learning platform as facilitate. But, only several universities apply and develop their online platform as a tool for learning activities. Internet is a perfect tool of learning that offers flexibility and expediency to learners at the same time offering endless opportunities for innovate teaching (Islam et al. 2015, p.2). Therefore, it should develop insight of investigate a phenomenon in using online learning. While, the researcher interest to conduct the study related to online learning environment. The researcher was investigated the students' perceptions in using online learning as the tool their learning in university. The researcher was examined the aspect of motivation and challenge in online learning in one of university which were applied and developed the online platform.

1.2 Research questions

Based on the background of study above, the research questions are:

1. What are students' perceptions on motivations in using online learning?
2. What are students' perceptions on challenges in using online learning?

1.3 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to investigate the perceptions of students' motivations and challenges in using online learning, which involved students of English Literature Programme in a Private University in South Tangerang. This study was conducted to measure their learning motivation and challenges in online learning.

1.4 Scope of the study

This study only focuses on students' perceptions in their learning motivation and their challenges in using online learning.

1.5 Significance of the study

The researcher hopes this topic could be enriched the studies about online learning, which is concern with students' motivations and challenges. This study can inspire them to conduct further researches about students' motivation and challenges in online learning or other topics related to online learning to enrich the existing study.