The Effectiveness of Learning English Using LMS Google Classroom during Covid-19 Pandemic

Muhammad Taufik¹, Andi Samsu Rijal², Dahniar³, Eka Apriani⁴

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Abstract

This study aimed to determine how Google Classroom enhanced English language learning in students’ English at the Faculty of Literature and Humanities in the online learning system during the Covid-19 pandemic. This research was a classroom action research (CAR) conducted from March to July 2020. Classroom action research consists of four stages: planning, actions, observation, and reflection. It is better to fix this section as follows: The stage; teacher planning (preparation and pre-test), action (teaching by using Google Classroom), observation (Classroom observation), and reflection (personal reflection and post-test). The features of LMS Google Classroom promote the development of independent learners in which students can be triggered to access the information in any place and time. This research shows that the LMS Google Classroom learning model is considered an effective learning model to enhance independent learning. Data of the Speaking test has described in finding that there is significance increasing from pre-test to post-test. The score increased from 1103 in the pre-test to 1618 in the post-test. It shows an increase in mean score from 36.7667 in the pre-test to 54.1467 in the post-test. E-Learning is running well, especially for speaking classes. By using LMS Google Classroom in English teaching can help students to improve their English skills. Teaching English by implementing Learning Management System Google Classroom at the university can effectively improve students’ English competency, where almost all students agree to this point. Twenty-five students agreed that this learning model could improve the students’ competencies, and only one student disagrees. For speaking teaching that some of the students disagree with using LMS Google Classroom, six students gave a negative response, and 24 agreed. The analysis results showed that the English Literature Study Program students at the Islamic University of Makassar responded well when their lecturer used LMS Google Classroom in the learning process.

Keywords:
Covid-19; English Learning; Google Classroom; Learning Management System

Kata kunci: Covid-19; Pembelajaran Bahasa Ingris; Google Classroom; Sistem Manajemen Pembelajaran

¹ UIM Makassar, Sulawesi Selatan, Indonesia
Email: muhammadtaufik.dty@uim-makassar.ac.id
² UIM Makassar, Sulawesi Selatan, Indonesia
Email: andisamsurjial.dty@uim-makassar.ac.id
³ UIM Makassar, Sulawesi Selatan, Indonesia
Email: dahniar.dty@uim-makassar.ac.id
⁴ IAIN Curup, Bengkulu, Indonesia
Email: eka.apriani@iaincurup.ac.id

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INTRODUCTION

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia, through the Minister of Education and Culture, has issued circular number 4 of 2020 concerning the implementation of education in the emergency period of the spread of Covid-19. The teaching and learning process is carried out from home or online teaching (Nusantari, Sumarwati, & Anindyarini, 2020). The implementation of online teaching or E-Learning has created a new model of communication and interaction by utilizing technological media (Oliveira et al., 2016). So far, online teaching at tertiary institutions in Indonesia has been going.

The online teaching and learning activities have been run for three semesters. But in this online teaching, students face various obstacles, both in terms of the readiness of facilities and infrastructure, learning achievement, and students’ attitudes. According to Kuntarto E. (2017), there are differences in students' perceptions and attitudes in implementing E-Learning in higher education, especially since this learning method is relatively new in Indonesia. Furthermore, Bellou et al. (2018) portray that these perceptions and attitudes are caused by different learning outcomes, teaching materials, teaching methods, and learning technologies implemented.

Language teaching using the E-Learning method requires strategies, appropriate materials, learning tools, and different levels of competency achievement. In the Covid-19 pandemic, this greatly impacts the social situation of the community, such as social restrictions, maintaining distance, and requiring work from home (Abdullah, 2020). This social situation complicates language teaching patterns, not only on competence but also on material realization points, which is very different when done with offline learning. The presence of various learning facilities such as the Learning Management System (LMS) makes it easy for teachers with various meeting facilities, student monitoring, and online communication processes so that face-to-face online learning can take place (Abushawar & Al-Sadi, 2010). According to Cavus (2015), his experience (2015) in applying LMS to distance teaching, communication between teachers and students can run well because LMS already has various features supporting teaching. LMS does not replace traditional classroom systems, but they supplement the classroom with course content accessed from the Internet. According to Bradford (2011), the various educational software applications have substantially enhanced student motivation and have encouraged feedback. Currently, most learning
facilities utilize the LMS as a tool for instruction delivery in traditional classroom setups. The software applications also provide students with additional information since they incorporate numerous learning resources that might not be available in traditional educational materials.

Furthermore, Bradford, G. R. (2011) explains a relationship study of student satisfaction with learning online and cognitive load: Initial r Learning management system (LMS) is software designed to create, distribute, and organize learning content. This system can help teachers plan and create a syllabus, manage learning materials, manage students’ learning activities, manage grades, emulate students’ attendance, display transcripts of grades, and manage e-learning views.

Google Classroom is a learning management system that can provide teaching materials and integrated assessment tests. In contrast to other learning media, the advantages of google classroom media are a matter of effectiveness and efficiency in learning. Google Classroom is a google product that connects with Gmail, drive, hangout, YouTube, and calendar events. The many facilities provided by google classroom will make it easier for teachers to carry out learning activities. The learning in question is not only in the classroom but also outside the classroom because students can do learning anywhere and anytime by accessing google classroom. This application can operate effectively, assisting lecturers and students enrolled in English language education study programs in carrying out the learning process more intensely.

METHODS

This research used mixed methods. Mixed methods is a research approach whereby researchers collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data within the same study. Mixed methods research requires a purposeful mixing of data collection, analysis, and interpretation of the evidence.

A questionnaire for students need analysis

The questionnaire is used to carry out students’ need analysis in order to get information or data from students about their opinion on the present situation of general English course existing materials used by their teachers and to identify the students’ needs and expectations toward the material of English speaking course in an online class by google classroom that in line with their needs.

A questionnaire for students’ opinion toward learning English through web-based instruction

The questionnaire is used to find out students’ perceptions and opinions and comment on the effectiveness of the speaking materials that learn by google classroom to promote students’ independent learning performance. The researcher provided an evaluation form for the lecturers to determine their responses toward the prototype draft of the web-based instructional materials that the researcher had developed. There are 4 (four) indicators with each component: the appropriateness of contents, language, presentation, and graphics.

Data analyzed in this study were the results of the English teaching test using the LMS Google Classroom method and the results of a questionnaire distributed to 30 respondents as a sample. The test results in question compare the pre-test scores before the trial of teaching English using the LMS Google Classroom with the post-test scores after teaching English using the LMS Google Classroom.

The design of this study was quantitative research. The researchers collected data by disseminating questionnaires to 30 students of the English Department of the Islamic University of Makassar, Indonesia, who participated by snowball sampling technique. The research collected data by employing a questionnaire in Google form and sharing it through Whatsapp. The descriptive statistics analyzed the data.

According to Creswell (2014), exploration activities in research attempt to understand the meaning of individuals and groups. This research is applied research that seeks to solve teaching problems, and student needs in learning English and implement appropriate strategies in applying E-Learning with LMS in the English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Literatures and
Humanities (FSH), Islamic University of Makassar. This study uses a contextual learning approach while implementing the LMS Google Classroom adopts a theoretical framework conceptualized by Lewis and Whitlock (Abubakar & Hassan, 2013). In the concept developed by Lewis and Whitlock, the first step that must be taken is to identify E-Learners (Mathar, Akbar, & Arifin, 2020). A classroom action research, Classroom Action Research (CAR), is research conducted by a teacher (educator) in a classroom or place where he teaches focused on improving the learning process and action. Class Action Research serves as a tool to solve problems that arise in the classroom and also as a tool for in-service training, where teachers use new skills and methods and sharpen their analytical abilities. Furthermore, as a tool to create innovative learning, as a tool to improve communication between teachers and scientific researchers, and a tool that provides alternatives to problems that occur in the classroom. CAR is conducted through a cycle consisting of four stages: action planning, learning actions and observation activities, and reflection to analyze data obtained through action.

Classroom Action Research is a method of finding out what works best in your own classroom to improve student learning. We know a great deal about good teaching in general (e.g., McKeachie, 1999; Chickering and Gamson, 1987; Weimer, 1996), but every teaching situation is unique in terms of content, level, student skills and learning styles, teacher skills, and teaching styles, and many other factors. To maximize student learning, a teacher must find out what works best in a particular situation.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

The LMS Google Classroom learning model was implemented to implement the teaching and learning process during the Covid-19 pandemic. The emergence of E-Learning has a significant impact on education, including the English teaching and learning process. The various stages in this research include preparing teaching materials, determining the test class and respondent, pre-test, implementing English teaching using the LMS Google Classroom model, class observation, post-test, giving questionnaires, data collection, and data analysis.

From the results of teaching English with the LMS Google Classroom, several lecturers who teach courses included Listening Comprehension I, Speaking I, Grammar & Structure I, and Reading Comprehension I, and Writing I courses. Throughout the semester, you will be learning, practicing, and developing two skill components: speaking skill components and pronunciation skill components. Speaking skill components include basic communicative skills in English such as greeting, self-introduction, and saying goodbye. Meanwhile, pronunciation skill components consist of basic pronunciation patterns of English, such as word stress and sentence intonation courses, and so on are practical courses with an online system. The average duration of online meetings is 10-12 grade face-to-face and 4 X face-to-face, then assignments and exams. The time efficiency used is 100 minutes, including preparation for login, attendance, lecture materials, and discussions. The implementation of LMS Google Classroom in English teaching at the English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Islamic University of Makassar, is running effectively, despite obstacles in E-Learning.

The method stages of this research include the preparation of teaching materials, the readiness of teaching facilities and infrastructure, the readiness of participants (students) both in terms of learning facilities such as laptops, cell phones, Internet access, and the LMS Google Classroom application device. The test results show an increase from the pre-test to the post-test results even though the increase is not so significant. The teaching materials via google classroom week by week. The participant/student may also download the materials via Google Drive. To avoid the student cellphone data charges, we use a Wi-Fi connection available for free on campus or coffee shops to download the materials.
The weekly teaching materials for the Speaking and Pronunciation components will consist of Audio and Text/Transcript items. The following table shows the score of students’ pre-test before treatment.

**Table 1. The Students’ pre-test score in Speaking I Class before Treatment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>80-100</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>83,4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1. The students’ pre-test score**

The table and figure above show students’ pre-test score before treatment, in which there was 1 (3.3 %) in a good score, 3 (10 %) fair score, 1 (3.3 %) poor score, and 25 (83.4%) very poor score. It can be seen from these pre-test results that students’ mean score of pre-test result was in the very poor category.

**Table 2. The Students post-test Score in Teaching Speaking I using LMS Google Classroom**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Average Score</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>80-100</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>26,7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100, 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Effectiveness of Learning English Language Using LMS Google Classroom During Covid 19 Pandemic

Figure 2. The students’ post-test score

The table and figure above show the frequencies of students' scores after treatment increased even though no student got good to excellent (very good) score. There were 4 (13.3%) of respondents who got a good score, 7 (23.3%) of respondents got a fairly good (acceptable) score, 11 (36.7%) of respondents got a poor score, and 8 (26.7 %) of respondents got the very poor score.

Table 3. The Overall of Students’ Score in Teaching Speaking I using LMS Google Classroom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre Test</th>
<th>Post Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Score</td>
<td>1103</td>
<td>1618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Score</td>
<td>36.7667</td>
<td>54.1467</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The tables and the diagrams above indicate an improvement for speaking class by applying LMS Google Classroom from pre-test to post-test. The score increased from 1103 in the pre-test to 1618 in the post-test. The overall students’ score increased mean score from 36.7667 in the pre-test to 54.1467 in the post-test.

Table 4. The students score in teaching English using LMS Google Classroom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject/Test</th>
<th>Pre-Test Average</th>
<th>Post-Test Average</th>
<th>Increasing the average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speaking I Average Values</td>
<td>46.00</td>
<td>75.62</td>
<td>29.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening Comprehension I</td>
<td>48.00</td>
<td>50.54</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Comprehension I</td>
<td>50.25</td>
<td>70.56</td>
<td>20.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Writing I</td>
<td>48.02</td>
<td>61.09</td>
<td>13.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Structure I</td>
<td>52.12</td>
<td>68.42</td>
<td>16.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data above indicates that teaching English using Google Classroom LMS was quite effective. However, there are various technical obstacles and student complaints, such as limited internet access, internet quota, learning facilities. The evaluation results found that of the entire English Literature study program, students who attended lectures in the network (online) used a smartphone, and most of the learning locations were in free Wi-Fi coffee shops.

The test results show an increase in student scores in learning English through the implementation of the LMS Google Classroom. Although this value is not a significant increase, it was certain that the implementation of the LMS Google Classroom could provide positive benefits in the continuity of the teaching and learning process in the Literature Study Program at the Faculty of
Literatures and Humanities Islamic University of Makassar. Especially in the current pandemic, tactical steps are needed to anticipate the ineffective teaching and learning process problems.

Speaking I course, there is a significant increase compared to other courses. This is influenced by the creative ability of students in doing practice speaking freely and innovatively. During E-Learning, students are given space to practice speaking through electronic learning models, and features such as; online presentations, free open books/online dictionaries, and facilities for Google translate, YouTube, social media, chat, etc. Likewise, data from the results of questionnaires and interviews showed that students were not fully ready to take part in the online learning process.

The students’ attitudes can be known from the distribution of questionnaires. There were 12 statements given to 30 respondents from the English Literature Study Program at the Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Islamic University of Makassar. These statements’ specific aim was to know the student’s attitude and perspective after joining an English online class during pandemic Covid-19. The students’ answers, especially in the main statement “Teaching English by implementing Learning Management System Google Classroom at the University can effectively improve students’ English competency,” almost all students agree to this point. Twenty-five students agreed that this learning model could improve the students’ competencies, and only one student disagrees. For TOEFL and Listening teaching, some of the students disagreed with using LMS Google Classroom, 6 students gave a negative response, and 24 agreed.

**Discussion**

Teaching English in the English Literature study program, Faculty of Literatures and Humanities, Islamic University of Makassar, has defined learning with an online model since the large-scale social restrictions (PSBB in Bahasa) in March 2020. Therefore, the teaching and learning process at the Faculty of Literatures has also been carried out using an online model. Technically, online learning models and tools are handed over to the lecturer who teaches the subject concerned. The test is used to measure the effectiveness of LMS Google Classroom in teaching English. A pre-test is applied before treatment, and a post-test is applied after treatment. The questionnaire is given to the participant to understand the student’s voice about implementing LMS Google Classroom in teaching English.

The teaching of English is not only focused on one subject, but there are several basic subjects such as vocabulary, speaking, syntax, phonology, morphology, grammar, reading, listening, and writing. Data of the Speaking test has described in finding that there is significance increasing from pre-test to post-test as the tables, and the diagrams indicate an improvement for speaking class by applying LMS Google Classroom. The score increased from 1103 in the pre-test to 1618 in the post-test. It shows an increase in mean score from 36.7667 in the pre-test to 54.1467 in the post-test. E-Learning is running well, especially for speaking classes. By using LMS Google Classroom in English teaching can help students to improve their English skills.

Based on Richards, (2001) approach about communicative language teaching can work well by using LMS Google Classroom in English teaching in university. Speaking class as the sample subject showed the significances score. Even though other subjects did not show the higher significances, but can be assumed that LMS Google Classroom is receptive in using as an alternative education platform in the pandemic era. Nowadays, the existence of information technology (IT) affects the education sector because teachers and students can use those techniques in communicative teaching. In the current digital era, where teaching requires using technology, including LMS, is very effective for technology class and language class (Cavus, 2015).

Teaching speaking through technological use and their features are adaptive. Speaking practice can apply not only in a conventional way like face to face in a classroom situation but also can apply in LMS Google Classroom and social media. The students can make a simple presentation class, interview job via LMS Google Classroom, discussion, debate, and many more ways of speaking.
practice. It is different from other subjects such as grammar, writing, or listening; not only online practice but these subjects maybe need some extra tutoring.

The students’ attitude by implementing LMS Google Classroom in English teaching in university that almost students receptive well even though around 5-6 give a negative response. The variation of students’ responses indicates their attitude toward online learning in university, and the teacher proposes the LMS Google Classroom. Some reasons rise from the students doing the online class out of the questionnaire statements such as the connectivity of internet access, miss the offline class, cannot focus if join the online class and time limit. It is difficult to change our culture from offline learning become online learning. It is happening to some students in the Islamic University of Makassar, for this situation need the government policy, institution policy, and teachers creativity in handling the online class.

The study results indicate an urgent role for the teacher in the continuity of teaching. In the previous conventional class, the teacher was only prepared to teach material and delivers it in the classroom. Meanwhile, in this online classroom situation, where the teacher has to prepare very adaptive material so that students easily accept it because it is only controlled through a monitor screen, the lecturer has a dual role in the sustainability of the class because he must ensure that all participants are ready both materially and psychologically. The teacher must be able to convince and support students in following lectures well. From the observations made, it was found that not all students accepted a learning situation like this, even though they accepted it at the end of the lecture under various conditions.

CONCLUSION
The online lecture model conducted at the Islamic University of Makassar with the LMS Google Classroom is a distance learning system. Students and lecturers do not need to meet face to face directly. The online learning system or E-Learning in English learning through the LMS Google Classroom has positively contributed to the continuity of the teaching and learning process during the Covid-19 pandemic. The students’ score based on the post-test indicated that online class in teaching English using LMS Google Classroom could improve the student’s competencies, and also from the questionnaire has given to the respondents show the positive attitude, it means that LMS Google Classroom can adopt in university especially in teaching English for all subjects.

It can be concluded that the LMS Google Classroom is effective in learning English in universities, especially in learning English. Nevertheless, of course, not all courses are relevant to this method. Theoretically, with the constructivism approach in this research, it can be described that there is a change in the level of student productivity that appears in the completion of course assignments, test results, and student progress in creating and innovating. These works and innovations include several students who can work independently, such as their participation in online English debates, KTI, PKM, and independent work during the lecture process with the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

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The Effectiveness of Learning English Language Using LMS Google Classroom During Covid 19 Pandemic


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