

# GEODETTIC ENGINEERING STUDENTS' PERCEPTION TOWARDS ENGLISH ONLINE LEARNING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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## Abstract

Nowadays, all countries across the globe face pandemic COVID -19. It creates many changes in all aspects of life, including education. Due to its contagious nature, all countries as well as Indonesia decided to shut down the education institutions. Then, online learning is seen as the perfect answer to minimize physical interaction between teacher and students, or among students themselves. Different from traditional classroom learning, the students are required to do all the tasks online, starting from understanding the material until doing the works. Since online learning is new, it is essential to know the students' perception towards it. Thus, this study focused on the students' involvement during English online learning, and some factors affecting their involvement. The method used is descriptive using by questionnaire. The questionnaire is shared online to the students. The subject of the study is geodetic engineering of National Institute of Technology Malang. The research is conducted for 1 semester. The findings of this study reveal positive perception of the students towards online learning conducted during the semester. This finding will surely help educators as well as the institution to provide online learning process in a better way.

Keyword: Online learning, students' perception, pandemic Covid-19

The Corona Virus (COVID-19) pandemic that hit the globe gives a big impact on various sectors, including the education sector. With this pandemic condition, teaching and learning activities at all levels of education are forced to be carried out online. This choice is intended to reduce and suppress the very massive spread of the virus.

During Covid-19 Pandemic, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia through the Ministry of Education and Culture also decided to conduct online learning. Online learning is the application of online distance education (Maulana, 2020). It is a type of learning that relies on an internet connection in the implementation of the learning process (Saragih, 2020). Online learning itself is an acronym for "in the network" (Mustafa, 2019). Which means that online lectures are one of the online learning methods or are carried out through the internet network.

As stated by (Mustafa, 2020) that this online method was developed by the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia through the Open and Integrated Indonesia Online Lecture Program (KDITT). The objectives of the Indonesian Open Integrated Online Lecture Program according to the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia are as follows:

1. Increase the availability of education services
2. Improving the affordability of education services
3. Improving the quality/quality and relevance of education services
4. Increase equality in obtaining quality education services, and
5. Increase the certainty/guarantee of getting good quality education services.

Unfortunately, online learning is said to have several problems in its implementation. There are several problems that often arise during online learning (Maulana, 2020). Those problems are including:

- a. The technological and economic abilities of each student are different. Not all students have facilities that support online learning activities.
- b. Inadequate internet connection, unsupported devices, and internet quota

Judging from some of the problems that appear in general above, it is very likely to happen among students of Geodetic Engineering at the National Institute of Technology Malang who are recorded to come from various circles and regions.

Since online learning is a new method to use in learning activities, it is believed that not all students are accustomed in the application. Thus, it needs to know their perception towards it. Perception is one of the most important things in encouraging students to participate in the online learning process. Human perception is defined as the result of different points of view in sensing (Saragih, 2020). There are those who perceive that something is good or positive or negative which will affect visible or real human actions. A good perception will lead to a positive relationship in learning, in which students will actively participate and interact during the learning period. Increasing the role and activity of students in the use of various media and technology for the success of online lectures is strongly influenced by perceptions (Zhafira, 2020). Perception is the process of interpreting the stimulus received by the five senses into an understanding. This perception will then move students to be able to organize and manage themselves in online lecture activities. Students need to have skills on how to learn, think processes, and motivate themselves to achieve learning goals. This ability is known as self-regulated learning, or self-regulated online learning (on online lectures).

This study is aimed to find out how much student involvement is in online English learning which is carried out during the Covid-19 pandemic, and to find out what factors affect the level of student involvement during online English learning which was carried out during the Covid-19 pandemic. By knowing the various problems that often arise, it is expected that the lecturers will be able to use methods to minimize the same obstacles that are very likely to occur in all courses given during the online teaching and learning process.

## **Methods**

The method used in this research is descriptive. The data was obtained from questionnaire sent through google form to the 65 students of geodetic engineering. The subjects in this study were all Geodetic Engineering students who were taking English courses at the Malang National Institute of Technology which were held online during the Covid-19 pandemic. The research was carried out in the odd semester of 2020/2021 academic year.

The data analysis technique that will be used is qualitative analysis consisting of data collection, data reduction, data study, and drawing conclusions. The questionnaire was arranged in 10 numbers in a form of multiple choices which each question has 5 options: SD: Strongly Disagree DA (1): Disagree (2), NS: Not Sure (3), A: Agreed (4) SA: Strongly Agree (5). From the questions, the researcher sum all of the answers to find the students' perception towards English online learning during 16 meetings in one semester.

## **Findings and Discussion**

In this study the researcher sent a questionnaire to the students consisting of 10 questions.

The data obtained are as follows:

No	Questions	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Not Sure (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1	Online learning according to the Covid-19 pandemic conditions.	50.7%	49.23%	-	-	-
2	Online learning helps the process of lectures running smoothly: It is obtained that 18.5% students said that they are strongly agree, and the rest 81.53 % said that they are agree.	18.5%	81.53%	-	-	-
3	I am burdened with internet packages for online lectures	-	24.6%	56.9%	18.5 %	-
4	Difficult in using online applications	-	3.07 %	30.8%	66.15 %	-
5	Signal Quality is holding me back from my online lectures	-	86.15 %	-	13.8 %	-
6	I understand the material provided by the lecturer during online lectures	32.30%	-	63.07%	4.61%	-
7	Difficulty communicating with lecturers during online lectures	-	-	-	10.76%	89.23%
8	Difficulty finding references or reading material during lectures online	1.53%	7.69%	12.30%	78.46%	-
9	Difficulty doing assignments during online lectures	-	3.07%	20%	76.92%	-
10	Trouble collecting assignments during online lectures	-	29.23%	16.92%	53.84%	-

From the data above, it can be concluded that the students have positive perception towards the English online learning because 50.7% said that they are strongly agree about this point, and the rest 49.23% said that they are agree that Online learning according to the Covid-19 pandemic conditions. It is clearly because they do not have any better choice to keep learning and prevent Covid-19 spread at the same time. The students also said that online learning helps them in the process of lectures to run smoothly. It is showed from the data obtained that 18.5% students said that they are strongly agree about this point, and the rest 81.53 % said that they are agree. Next, about whether the internet package is burdened them or not, the students gave more various opinion. It is obtained that 24.6% students said that they agree it is burdensome, 56.9% answered for not sure, and the rest 18.5 % said that they are disagree. Until now, the students are also receiving free internet data from the government in each month. Then, whether the signal quality is holding them back from their online lectures or not, it is obtained that 86.15 % students said that they agree, and the rest 13.8 % said that they disagree. This result can be happened as a result of the students of National Institute of Technology Malang are from many different islands of Indonesia. Some places are not too good in signal reception. Those in the cities tend to have no problem about the signal quality, and those in the village are having a big problem about it. The next point about difficulty in using online applications: It is obtained that 3.07 % students said that they agree that they got difficulty on it, 30.8% students said not sure, and the rest 66.15 % said that they disagree. The lecturers used some applications as: SPADA, Whatsapp, Zoom, and google meet. Mostly they have no any problem to use Whatsapp application because they use it on their daily life. Here, the students tend to have some difficulties in using SPADA. When the students come to the next point whether they understand the material provided by the lecturer during online lectures or not, 32.30% said that they strongly agree, 63.07% not sure, and 4.61% disagree. On the next point, 10.76% students disagree, and 89.23% of them

strongly disagree that they got difficulty communicating with lecturers during online lectures. This is as the effect of signal quality as well. Some of the students were suddenly out of the class when they were out of signal. Next in the difficulty finding references or reading material during lectures online point, 1.53% said strongly agree, 7.69% agree, 12.30% not sure, and 78.46% disagree. This result is in line with the point of difficulty doing assignments during online lectures where 3.07% said agree, 20% not sure, and 76.92% disagree. It can be seen that mostly the students have no any problems in doing the references and the assignment online. But these two last points were different from the last point. The students are still having trouble in collecting assignments during online lectures. 29.23% students agree, 16.92% not sure, and 53.84% disagree about this last questions. This result is not only because the type of the question, but it is more to the limitation of the time in doing the assignment.

From the results of the study above, it is expected that the lecturers or educators can concern more about the type of applications used for the online learning. Make sure it can put the students at ease in installment and usage. Moreover, because the students are from various cities or islands which can affect their signal quality, the lecturers are expected to sometimes loosen or manage their time limit in giving the assignments. The last, it is expected that this study can be used for other departments for the research in the future.

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