



Analysis of the Use of Google Meet as a Student Learning Facility in Economics Education during the Covid-19 Pandemic

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Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis penggunaan Google Meet sebagai sarana belajar siswa dalam pendidikan ekonomi di masa pandemi COVID-19. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dan naratif. Populasi dalam penelitian ini adalah Siswa Sekolah Menengah Atas Swasta Kota Medan tahun 2022. Karena data resmi Siswa Sekolah Menengah Atas Swasta Kota Medan tahun 2022 sulit dicari, maka sampel diambil secara acak. Jadi sampel dalam penelitian ini adalah 100 Siswa Sekolah Menengah Atas Swasta di Kota Medan. Teknik analisis data penelitian ini menggunakan teknik membaca dan mencatat. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa sebelum adanya pandemi COVID-19, kegiatan pembelajaran dilakukan seperti biasa, termasuk Sekolah Menengah Atas Swasta di Kota Medan. Guru dan siswa biasanya lebih sering melakukan kegiatan belajar tatap muka. Namun sejak diberlakukannya pembatasan sosial, kebijakan sekolah menyatakan bahwa kegiatan pembelajaran dilakukan secara daring atau berbasis *e-learning*. Sebagian besar sekolah di Indonesia memanfaatkan aplikasi Google Meet sebagai media pembelajaran yang digunakan.

Kata Kunci: *Google Meet, Pendidikan Ekonomi, Pandemi COVID-1*

Abstract

facility in economics education during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study uses qualitative and narrative research. Population in this study are Private High Schools Students in Medan City in 2022. Because the official data for Private High Schools Students in Medan City in 2022 is difficult to find, sample is taken randomly. So, sample in this study are 100 Private High Schools Students in Medan City. Data analysis technique of this research uses reading and note taking techniques. The research results show that before the COVID-19 pandemic, learning activities are carried out as usual, including Private High Schools in Medan City. Teachers and students usually complete face to face learning activities more frequently. However, since the imposition of social restrictions, school policy states that learning activities are carried out online or based on e-learning. Most schools in Indonesia utilize Google Meet application as the learning media used.

Keywords: *Google Meet, Education Economics, COVID-19 Pandemic*

Introduction

Since the outbreak of the corona virus or COVID-19 pandemic spread in Indonesia, the Indonesian government just announced the first case of COVID-19 on March 2, 2020, many policies and strategies have been made in order to prevent the transmission and significant consequences of this disease. One of the policies is large scale social restrictions. Since the implementation of large scale social restrictions, all activities have been carried out from home.

Initially, a number of schools and colleges only limited learning activities, but because of the spread of the virus, learning activities are changed from face to face to distance or online learning activities. This policy is contained in the Ministry of Education and Culture's circular letters Number 2 of 2020 and Number 3 of 2020 concerning the prevention and handling of COVID-19 requiring educational institutions to implement online learning. Nearly all schools and colleges are closed. Students are encouraged to study from home online or online using an application that can be downloaded via a smartphone or computer. Based on the Higher Education Law Number 12 of 2012, Article 31 concerning Distance Education is a teaching and learning process that is carried out remotely through the use of various communications.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on various sectors, from the economic sector, the social sector, the cultural sector and including the education sector (Tarigan, 1994). In education, the government makes a policy of learning from home or online learning. All schools and even tertiary institutions carry out online learning, one form of alternative learning that can be implemented during the COVID-19 emergency is learning online and this is a different challenge for the implementation of education in Indonesia in particular, felt by Private High Schools in Medan City from face to face learning to online learning. At present, lecturers must prepare various ways so that learning material can be conveyed and well received by students. Likewise their students need greater

effort, both in terms of material, energy, and psychological readiness. This is done so that students can receive learning material optimally.

In this case the ideal learning media should be interactive between students and educators, although not in the same place. Video conferencing is one of the media that can be implemented in distance learning. At this time, video conferencing is becoming increasingly popular, replacing face to face meetings due to online learning being implemented. Video conferencing applications can be used to interact effectively, communicate with colleagues, students and other people in virtual class meetings, as well as provide sophisticated video and audio quality, provide access to file sharing, and various other collaborative services (Liana, 2013). The use of meetings in this application can accommodate up to 1,000 participants together in one virtual meeting.

This Google Meet application can be downloaded for free, but is still functional, the features include telephone calls, webinars, presentations, and many others. This application is considered to have good quality, as evidenced by companies that have entered the Fortune 500 already using this service. This Google meet application has supporting features, such as the share screen feature so presenters can display their presentation slides through this feature, then the video feature can be used so lecturers can see students while studying, and audio features so lecturers and students can also interact through audio features.

Online learning is learning that uses an internet network with accessibility, connectivity, flexibility, and the ability to bring up various types of learning interactions (Astini, 2020). In today's modern era, communication and information are growing rapidly. The most used tools for online learning are social media and e-learning platforms such as WhatsApp Group, Ruang Guru, Google Education, Google Meet, and Zoom. The advantages of Google Meet application compared to other applications, such as the example of the Zoom application,

namely using the Zoom application, the duration is limited to only about 40 minutes and usage is quite complicated and must be paid if you use certain features, while Google Meet application is easier to use or user friendly and unlimited duration during meetings. Google Meet application is one of the most popular platforms used in online learning, is a premium feature of Google's video conferencing software. You can only use it by opening it via Google Chrome and logging in via email. Google Meet can be integrated directly into Google Classroom by entering the Classroom subject or course (Tarigan, 2008).

The purpose of this research is to analyze the use of Google Meet as a student learning facility in economics education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Method

This study uses qualitative and narrative research. Qualitative research is research that is used to examine the condition of natural objects, where the researcher is the key instrument (Octiva et al., 2018; Pandiangan, 2018; Pandiangan, 2022; Pandiangan et al., 2023). Qualitative research is also research that intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects such as behavior, perceptions, motivations, and actions, holistically, and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a specific context that naturally and by utilizing various natural methods. Narrative research is a narrative report that tells a detailed sequence of events. In narrative research, the researcher describes the lives of individuals, collects stories about people's lives, and writes stories of individual experiences (Asyraini et al., 2022; Octiva, 2018; Pandiangan, 2015; Sutagana et al., 2022).

Population is the entire research subject and variables related to the problem under study (Jibril et al., 2022; Pandiangan et al., 2018; Pandiangan, 2022). Population in this study are Private High Schools Students in Medan City in 2022. Because the official data for Private High Schools Students in Medan

City in 2022 is difficult to find, sample is taken randomly. So, sample in this study are 100 Private High Schools Students in Medan City.

Data analysis technique of this research uses reading and note taking techniques. Reading technique is a reading technique that aims to make the reader absorb the information read quickly and be able to understand the reading well (Pandiangan et al., 2022; Tobing et al., 2018; Sudirman et al., 2023). For effective reading, there are a number of techniques that readers can use. Note taking technique is a technique of collecting data by taking notes. Note taking technique is used to record sentences in short stories that contain deixis (Octiva et al., 2021; Pandiangan et al., 2021; Pandia et al., 2018).

Results and Discussion

Analysis of the Use of Google Meet as a Student Learning Facility in Economics during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The research results show that before the COVID-19 pandemic, learning activities are carried out as usual, including Private High Schools in Medan City. Teachers and students usually complete face to face learning activities more frequently. However, since the imposition of social restrictions, school policy states that learning activities are carried out online or based on e-learning. Most schools in Indonesia utilize Google Meet application as the learning media used.

Private High Schools in Medan City are the first to use Google Meet application for e-learning activities. However, it is not optimal to present and hear what the teacher says to students so that the teacher cannot follow up or explain the assignments given in detail. But on the other hand, the use of Google Meet application actually helps students to listen and to speak. There are students who have never been to class and suddenly become hyperactive and want to talk and give opinions. This allows students to develop two language skills at

once, namely the ability to listen and speak, giving rise to imagination, and ideas.

Basically, these two skills must be trained from an early age. Speaking and listening skills are important and closely related in learning Indonesian. Speaking and listening skills require special knowledge and skills. From the beginning, students must know the importance of speaking and listening. So they can express their thoughts well.

Google Meet application offers a feature that allows teachers as participants to share screens. In other words, being able to turn the main screen into the necessary files for learning. Teachers can present PowerPoint. Students and teachers can also share videos that they want to see, and students can listen to videos shared by teachers through Google Meet. Usually learning is in the classroom with teaching aids, such as PowerPoint slides by the teacher. This will allow students to better understand the material presented. Of course this is very useful for teachers and students.

Using technology certainly requires Internet access to use the application. Some of the students use laptops or mobile phones to enable them to join using Google Meet application. This app requires different specifications for each device. Internet access is only available if students and teachers have Wi-Fi or Internet quota. Of course all Internet access is paid. Especially to join a video call based application like the Google Meet consumes a lot of internet. This can be a burden for students who can not afford. Luckily, this problem is solved by schools offering tuition fees can be obtained from the school and students can now use Google Meet application for free without fear of spending money.

After conducting a survey on the use of Google Meet application as a medium for learning Indonesian in the field of Indonesian language skills, especially listening skills and online speaking skills during the COVID-19 pandemic at Private High Schools in Medan City, several benefits are obtained from Google Meet:

1. A student who is previously less active in asking and answering questions at school, is now more active. In fact, students find online or online learning more convenient for expressing their ideas. Studying at home reduces the psychological peer pressure that students often face when participating in face to face learning. The absence of the teacher's direct or physical involvement also allows students to freely express ideas. Unlimited space and time help students communicate more freely. In other words, online learning eliminates embarrassment and students finally ask questions and dare to speak freely expressing their opinions.
2. Teaching and learning activities are more flexible, can be done anytime, anywhere. Teachers can provide media and spreadsheets via chat applications such as WhatsApp and Gmail and access them anytime, anywhere. It has nothing to do with space and time.
3. Providing a learning experience more than through text, audio, video, and animation to convey information.

Online teaching and learning activities can be used to train students and will improve the teaching and learning system in the future. The benefits of Google Meet application include:

1. There is a whiteboard function which functions to explain something using pictures or numbers. Without explaining verbally.
2. Free to download, Google Meet application is available on the Play Store or App Store.
3. Video display is clearer with high definition (HD) video display and video display supported by other resolutions.
4. Simple and easy access.
5. Has a video encryption service that can prevent personal data stored in the application from being misused by data theft or exchange.
6. The display options are varied and attractive, the video display can be adjusted as needed, and displays the video layout and background changes.
7. By registering in Google Suite, you can invite up to 250 participants.

Conclusion

The research results show that before the COVID-19 pandemic, learning activities are carried out as usual, including Private High Schools in Medan City. Teachers and students usually complete face to face learning activities more frequently. However, since the imposition of social restrictions, school policy states that learning activities are carried out online or based on e-learning. Most schools in Indonesia utilize Google Meet application as the learning media used.

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