

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, identification of the problem, statement of the problem, the objective of the study, significance of the study, the urgency of study, the definition of key terms, and practical explanation.

1.1 Background of the Study

English is a significant subject for students as in this globalization era students are required to master English well. All students learn English since they are in elementary to high school level. Particularly, in the vocational high school curriculum, English is appointed as one of the significant subjects that can support the students' insight to be more well-informed in their expertise program. It indicates that the students required specific English materials (listening, speaking, reading writing) which can help them to cope with their future workplace. However, vocational students are given general English that is similar to the senior high school students.

Learning materials are an essential aspect of teaching and learning a foreign language since it is the main source of students' learning. Particular English materials that concentrate on vocational high school students' skill programs are necessary for them. Once they are given general English materials that are similar to Senior High School, then the materials are not supported by their major or department. Afterward, it does not bring any valuable impact when they go to their real workplace.

Considering the importance of specific learning material for English subject in SMKN Bali Mandara, based on the syllabus used by the teacher, it was found that all the materials were in general English. As a result, the researcher developed supplementary learning materials for the tenth grade of Architecture Engineering Department students with some topics that connected with their expertise program. To generate a supplementary materials design, it needed research about the students' needs and analyses about the existing material. The outcome of the need analysis was utilized as guidance in developing the supplementary material. This study was a Research and Development (R&D) that required the researcher to conduct several steps to achieve the research objectives. This research was done to create E-learning based English materials for supporting the learning process of the tenth grade of Architecture Engineering Department students of SMKN Bali Mandara.

According to Kemendikbud (2012), Information and Communication Technology (ICT) becomes a medium of learning and it is integrated into all subjects. Hence, all teachers including English teachers need to integrate ICT in their learning process. The integration of using ICT in the learning process is applied by using mobile devices as teaching aids. Nowadays, ICT has become a part of human life in the digital world. It has affected all aspects of human life including education. It is supported by the result of the observation conducted in SMKN Bali Mandara that 95% of the students have already gotten their electronic devices such as mobile phones, tablets, or laptops. The existence of ICT is believed to give a great contribution to assist students' learning. Therefore, ESP

materials for vocational high school students in the form of e-learning can accommodate the students' learning needs.

According to Srivastava and Agarwa (2013), e-learning pertains to the utilization of electronic media, information, and communication technologies (ICT) in education or the internship field. Besides, e-learning means describing the learning process with electronic devices on the internet (Condruz-Bacescu, 2014). By using e-learning, any materials which are needed by the students are prepared by the teacher virtually. Consequently, the learning materials that are prepared by the teacher are available on the internet called e-learning platform. Henceforth, e-learning helps learners to reach personal objectives by using a device or electronic technology.

E-learning materials offer several benefits for the students namely; they possibly access the material for free instead of spending a lot of money to buy books or to print out the hard copy of materials. Besides, Condruz-Bacescu (2014) conveyed the benefits of e-learning materials that the students become more excited about the lesson as it becomes more attractive. The combination of sound, image, and movement can attract students' attention, the use of e-learning can save cost spent by the students because the cost of educational software and e-learning are affordable as students can access it freely from the internet, e-learning can help students to learn individually as each student has different assimilation and different background knowledge. By using e-learning, it offers students mobility because they can get the e-learning in more flexible time and place depends on their availability as long as the devices are connected to the internet.

Based on the pre-observation result, it can be concluded that SMA Bali Mandara needs supplementary English material by using e-learning, especially for the Architecture Engineering department as one of the departments in SMKN Bali Mandara. The students are prepared to do a training session overseas which means that the students need to master English to be able to speak fluently. The students should be prepared with good communication skill, especially communicate with the English language to face ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), because they have to face the real workplace and become the member of a global citizen.

By considering the needs of Engineering Departments students in SMKN Bali Mandara toward English materials which can support them to be competent in their English learning process. This study conducted to develop supplementary e-learning-based English materials for teaching the tenth grade of Architecture Engineering Department students of SMKN Bali Mandara in the form of electronic materials as 95% of the students have already gotten their mobile devices. By having some supplementary e-learning-based English material, it is expected that the architecture engineering department students of SMKN Bali Mandara have suitable learning materials which are concentrated on the four English language skills (listening, speaking, writing, as well as reading). It is thoroughly useful for them when they have their training session or face the real work field in the future.

The tenth-grade students were selected as the subject of the research because the earlier students learn the language the better. Furthermore, the students of SMKN Bali Mandara would have their training program, especially for the eleventh grade. Before starting the training program, the architecture

engineering department students should be ready with adequate English skills to help them go through the training program. Nevertheless, the twelfth-grade students would be hectic with the preparation of the national exam. Therefore, they would concentrate their learning on the material that was prepared by the teachers and assessed in the national examination.

SMKN Bali Mandara was selected because it was one of the reputable vocational high schools in Singaraja. Based on the pre-research that had been conducted, it is compulsory for SMKN Bali Mandara students to use English in their daily conversation at school. Therefore, English has an important role in students' daily life at school. In SMKN Bali Mandara, English is not merely a learning subject that ought to be taken by the students, yet it is used as a medium of directions or instructions given at school. Hence, the school needs to master English higher than other senior high schools in Singaraja. In addition, according to the syllabus of the English subject that is implemented at school, the teacher does not provide the students with suitable learning material based on the students' expertise program. However, since the students mostly master general English, the researcher has designed supplementary materials with some topics related to the architectural engineering department in the form of e-learning. Additionally, SMKN Bali Mandara is capable to facilitate the students with e-learning as they are provided language laboratory with computers and WIFI at school.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

In view of the background of the study that has been explained previously, the statement of the problems can be figured as follows

- a) What kind of English materials which are needed by the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students at SMKN Bali Mandara?
- b) How is the design of English materials for teaching the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students at SMKN Bali Mandara?
- c) What is the quality of English materials for teaching the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students at SMKN Bali Mandara?

1.3 The Objectives of the study

In accordance with the problems of the study, the purposes of the study are:

- a) To identify kinds of English materials are needed by the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students at SMKN Bali Mandara.
- b) To design the English materials for teaching the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students at SMKN Bali Mandara.
- c) To measure the English materials for teaching the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students at SMKN Bali Mandara.

1.4 The Significances of the Study

This result of this research is expected to be able to give some significance both theoretically and practically, as explained below:

1.4.1 Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this research can enrich references in teaching English especially in developing materials for vocational school for interior building modelling design.

1.4.2 Practical Significance

a) The Researcher

This study can help the researcher to improve her ability as an English teacher, especially in developing e-learning based English material for a vocational school. Besides, the study can also be used by the researcher as guidance to develop learning exercises for other language skills. Moreover, since the study is aimed at developing e-learning based English material for vocational school, it also can assist the researcher in integrating the teaching and learning process with the utilization of ICT.

b) The students of SMKN Bali Mandara

The result of the study is as e-learning based English material that is needed for architecture engineering department students. The materials are in general English with some topics based on their need. The students are expected to use English both spoken and written well in order they can follow their training overseas and can speak with people when they are in their workplace later.

c) English Teachers of SMKN Bali Mandara

E-learning based on English materials is also beneficial for the teacher of SMKN Bali Mandara because the teacher can facilitate their students' variety of English material based on their needs and still in the accordance with the learning objectives.

d) **Other Researchers**

The study is also very beneficial for those researchers who were interested in similar since they can use it as an empirical review, the other researcher also can follow the steps that will be used for conducting similar study.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

This stage explains definition of of certain terms utilized in this study. To give clarity and avoid misunderstanding toward some terms used, they are explained conceptually and operationally.

1.5.1 Conceptual Explanation

This part explains about some definitions which were referred to the use of concept which defined a term in academic discipline. Some terms definition in this study taken from some experts.

a) Information Communication Technology (ICT)

ICT becomes a medium of learning and integrated in all subjects. For this reason, all of teachers including English teacher are needed to integrate ICT in their teaching and learning process (*Kemendikbud, 2012*)

b) E-learning

According to Srivastava and Agarwa (2013) e-learning alludes to the usage of electronic media and information and communication technologies (ICT) in education or in the internship place.

c) English Materials

According to Lewis (1999), English materials are a collection of materials whether or not materials with some medias such as pictures, animations, audios or

videos, that an English teacher may use in teaching and learning process to help students achieve their learning objectives.

1.5.2 Operational Definition

The operational definition bears an illustration of how the process of the conceptual definition used in material development. It was explained as follows:

a) Information Communication Technology (ICT)

In this study, ICT is an important tool to support the learning process; it can be incorporated by mobile devices such as computers, handphones, and tablets.

b) E-learning

E-learning is an approach that uses mobile devices as the media to facilitate the learning process. In this study, the researcher develops e-learning based English material that is integrated with the use of mobile devices to maximize the teaching and learning process for architecture engineering department students of SMKN Bali Mandara.

c) English Materials

Content of English integrated with the use of mobile devices to maximize the teaching and learning process for architecture engineering department students of SMKN Bali Mandara.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The research of developing e-learning-based English material for teaching the tenth grade of the architectural engineering department at SMKN Bali Mandara aims at generating English material based on students' needs. The e-

learning materials were created dependent on the need analysis conducted for the tenth grade of architecture engineering department students. In this vocational school, students are taught general English by the teacher and it is not in line with students' needs. The developments of the supplementary e-learning based materials were assessed by utilizing formative evaluation. The formative evaluation used in order to identify the teachers' and students' opinions toward the product. This formative evaluation is made only for architecture engineering department students so that this product is not applicable to other departments.

