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# THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ONLINE DISCUSSION AND FACE TO FACE DISCUSSION IN THE LITERATURE COURSE ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM OF UM METRO

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## ABSTRACT

Rapid technological changes, making language learning does not recognize the time and places. This means that language learning can be done everywhere and everytime without face-to-face environment. Teaching and learning process without conducting in a face to face environment are rarely happen. One of the way learning can be doing in an online situation by using internet facilities. Nevertheless, the idea of internet based teaching has been renowned all over the world, at least teachers and lecturers should be familiar with it. However, most of the lecturers in Indonesia have not applied online learning without because learning with media technology is not yet a common practice. There are several reasons why online learning (internet based teaching) have not been carried out, such as lack of knowledge of lecturers in the use of internet facilities, second, classroom learning is still considered more effective than learning by using internet media. Third, limited internet access at home. Referring to this, the authors felt it was important to conduct research on technology-based learning or Internet-based teaching. The title of the research is the effectiveness of online discussion and face to face discussion in the Literature class in English education study program of Muhammadiyah University of Metro. The purpose of this research is to know the effectiveness of the methods of online discussion compared with the method of face to face discussion. This study used quantitative methods with experimental design. The students will be divided into two classes, namely the experimental class and control class. The experimental class will be given treatment by using online discussion and the control class by using face to face discussion. The results of this study indicated that the method of online discussion is more effective than face to face discussion. Based on the questionnaire distributed to the students shows that learning by using online discussion more fun and innovative than the method of face to face discussion.

**Keywords:** *Online Discussion, Face to face Discussion, Literature*

## INTRODUCTION

Rapid technological changes, making language learning does not recognize the time and places. This means that language learning can be done everywhere and everytime without face-

to-face environment. Teaching and learning process without conducting in a face to face environment are rarely happen. One of the way learning can be doing in an online situation by using internet facilities. Nevertheless, the idea of internet based teaching has been renowned all over the world, at least teachers and lecturers should be familiar with it. However, most of the lecturers in Indonesia have not applied online learning without face to face because learning with media technology is not yet a common practice. There are several reasons why online learning (internet based teaching) have not been carried out, such as lack of knowledge of lecturers in the use of internet facilities, second, classroom learning is still considered more effective than learning by using internet media. Third, limited internet access at home. Whereas, the classroom learning has some limitations and one of those is the lack of activity or learning process.

With the limited time of face to face class, the lecturer should have other alternatives in teaching students. One of the alternatives here is learning by using internet media. There are several advantages that can be obtained by the learners who use internet media. Warsauer (2000: 2) states that using the internet in learning has several advantages such as making the class more lively or ALIVE. ALIVE word stands for authenticity, Literacy, Interaction, Vitality and Empowerment. Authenticity means that the authenticity or natural process. ALIVE word stands for authenticity, Literacy, Interaction, Vitality and Empowerment. Authenticity means that the authenticity or natural process, literacy means the students can further develop the ability to read and write, interaction is the internet provides the opportunity for students to interact 24 hours with native or non-native speakers, vitality means learning using the Internet media can motivate students and empowerment means internet media can make the students become independent learners.

This research is focused on the use of internet media as a tools for conducting learning process. The researcher choose the strategies that can be used in online situation and classroom situation. In an online situation, the researcher implemented online discussion for the students of Literature class. Whereas the other class of literature received the treatment by using face to face discussion. The researcher wants to know the differences of using online discussion and face to face discussion in the learning process of Literature class.

When the discussion is done in the class by using face to face, of course, the students must have the ability to speak (speaking). In contrast, in the Online Discussion, students should submit their ideas in writing. However, the process remains the same, because they should use logical thinking systematically. The differences is only on the point that using media. Of course, there are some advantages and disadvantages between the two. However, the authors wanted to determine whether the use of internet by using Online Discussion will have a positive impact for the students and whether the Online Discussion is more effective than classroom discussion. Referring to the above, the author feels it is important to do research with the title of the effectiveness of online discussion and face to face discussion in the literature lectures at the English Education Department.

Based on the research background above, the problem formulations in this research as follows:

1. Does the literature course by using the online discussion is more effective than using face to face discussion?
2. Is there any difference effects on the students while using Online discussion and face to face discussion?

## **THEORETICAL BASIS**

Literature is one of the extra subjects in English education department. Even so, students are required to take the course on the basis that the English language cannot be separated from both literature and literary elements in literature because actually literature is the origin of culture in English. Because of that, students are expected to understand the forms of literary well and also know the elements that exist in the literature, moreover, able to give a critique of literature known as the critical review on the literature (literary criticism). Pickering (2000: 1) states that literature is a human activity that is unique, come from a desire to understand, express and share the experiences. Literature refers to the work of imaginative can be poetry, drama, fiction and nonfiction. According to Prayogo (2009: 2) there are several reasons why we should learn literature. The first reason is by studying the literary, men are expected to sharpen their feelings to be more sensitive to the environment, to have empathy for other people in their environment. A further reason is to know the problems experienced by humans. Literary can be used as a mirror of life. Readers can take a lesson from the experience of others through reading literary works in the form of short stories, novels and poetry.

The Internet is one of the technological advances that have been achieved by human. The use of internet is so prevalent nowadays not only among young people but also used in the learning process. The understanding of the Internet itself according Cystal (2001: 3), The Internet is a computer network that usually able to convey messages from a central computer in a network to a central computer on the other network.

Wang and Gearhart (2007: 73) state that the online discussion is a discussion system that uses an electronic message database in a website where people can sign and write messages or posts. This method is very effectively done in a forum especially for students to exchange views and share experiences. Effective online discussion requires clarification, elaboration, exploration, negotiation, reflection and revision. In other words, online discussion is an activity to post a message posted in a discussion forum known as the discussion forum, or discussion board where learners / students can exchange the views and experiences. Zhang (2007: 625) noted some important points when doing online discussion that the instructor must declare and explain the purpose and ensure that they are being evaluated in the discussion forum.

In short, the procedure of conducting online discussion in the literature class can be described as follows:

1. The students register their names to the discussion forum by using [www.nicenet.org](http://www.nicenet.org)
2. The lecturer gives them class key to participate discussion, posting and publish something on that forum.
3. When they are able to access to that forum, they are asked to participate the discussion by giving comments, question and suggestion.

4. The students are asked to read one of the literary work which exist on that forum and criticize about the elements of literary work.

On the other hand, face to face discussion which is known as classroom discussion has several definitions. According Sudjana (2004: 79), the discussion basically is exchange of information, opinions, and the elements of experience on a regular basis with a view to get a clearer understanding and more conscientious about something, or to prepare and finalize a joint decision. Generally there are two types of discussions are usually done in the learning process.

- a. Group Discussion or class discussions. The problems presented by the lecture, solved by the class as a whole. The one who set the course of the discussion is the lecture itself.
- b. Small group discussions. In this discussion the students are divided into several groups. Each group consists of 3-7 people. In the discussion process the lecturer presents problems with several sub-problems, each group solves every sub-problem given by lecturers.

Moreover, in the face to face discussion, the process of learning can be explained as follows:

1. Divide students into some groups. Ask them to present the anlysis of elements of literary work.
2. The groups present and the audience ask the questions. Then, the discussion will run as usual.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses quantitative approach with experimental research design. Ary (2006: 315) explains that when there is difficulty in determining the subject randomly, the author is advised to use the quasi-experimental without scrambles the control group. Ary, et al (2006: 341) states that a quasi-experimental research designs that manipulate the independent variable, but in this case the determination of research subjects are not arranged randomly. Therefore, the author determines immediately the two groups as experimental class and control class by taking on an existing class without scrambled it to make up the new class. The population of this research is the sixth semester students of English education study program Muhammadiyah University of Metro Lampung in academic year 2015/2016. The college is located at Jl. Ki Hajar Dewantara 116 Iringmulyo Metro East.

The sampling techniques used is using cluster random sampling, in which the researchers will choose two classes, one class will be used as the experimental class and the other class will be used as the control class and choose it by the draw. Researcher will write the names of class on a paper sheet, then taken two classes randomly. For example the A class as an experimental class and class B as the control class. The research instruments are including:

1. Tests

In this research, researcher uses the instrument in the form of analysis test of literary works in the form of short stories and poetry. Where students are required to provide comments and criticism to literature that includes the analysis of the elements of literature.

## 2. Questionnaire

The questionnaire will be used as a support tool to know the effectiveness of the Online Discussion method and Face-to-face discussion in the Literature lectures. The Indicators of the Questionnaire is student comments toward the using of online discussion and face to face discussions in the Literature lectures.

## 3. Observation and Documentation

Observation sheet will be used to examine the implementation of Literature lectures by using Online Discussion and Face to Face Discussion by explaining the process or procedure in detail.

To determine the effectiveness of online discussion and face to face discussion in Literature course, the researcher uses independent t test to compare the average of the two groups (experimental group and control group). The formula of independent t-test as follows:

$$t = \frac{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2}{\sqrt{\frac{SD_1^2}{N_1} + \frac{SD_2^2}{N_2}}}$$

Note:

- $\bar{X}_1$  : mean of experimental group
- $\bar{X}_2$  : mean of control group
- $SD_1$  : standard deviation of experimental group
- $SD_2$  : standard deviation of contro group
- $N$  : The number of the students

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The objective of the research is to determine the effectiveness of teaching methods by using online discussion and face to face discussion in the literature course. Researcher analyzed the result of t- test that is used to calculate for pre-test and post test in experimental and control group.

Hypothesis test is used to identify assumption of the researcher, whether or not the the temporal hypothesis can be received. To know the result, the researcher used independent t- test formula. T test is used to compare two test which has similarity of two different means. In this research the researcher compare two kind of tests which is implemented in the class.

Testing creation 1: the similarity of two mean

$H_0$  is rejected if  $t_{hit} > t_{table}$

On significance level ( $\alpha$ )=5%, obtained:  $t_{daf} = 2.00$

By looking at G table, it can be found the value for  $\alpha=1\%$

$$t_{daf} = 2.66$$

According to the data analyzing above, the results finds  $t_{hit} = 2,10$  either on significance level  $\alpha= 1\%$  is gotten  $-t_{daf} < t_{hit} < t_{daf}$ ,  $H_0$  is accepted and  $H_1$  is rejected.

Testing Creation 2: The Difference Testing Of Two Mean

Testing criteria: accepted  $H_0$  if  $t_{hit} < t_{(1-\alpha)(n_1+n_2-2)}$

On significance level ( $\hat{\alpha}$ )=5%, got:

$$T_{\text{daf}} = 2,00$$

on significance level ( $\hat{\alpha}$ )=1%, achieved:

$$t_{\text{daf}} = 2,66$$

Based on the accounting above, the result find that  $t_{\text{hit}} = 2,10$  moreover the reseacher looks  $t_{\text{daf}}$  for ( $\alpha :5\%$ )= 2,00. It means that  $t_{\text{hit}} > t_{\text{daf}}$ . so,  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_1$  is accepted.

Based on the calculation results, giving pre-test and post-test is given for each class namely experimental class and control class and have a normal distribution list. It can be concluded that there is any different effect between online discussion and face to face discussion in the literature subject. The result of post test is bigger than the result of pre test while using online discussion. So, online discussion is more effective applied in literature class than face to face discussion.

Furthermore, the students have different opinion while using online discussion and face to face discussion in the Literature class. It is about 80% of the students felt enthusiastic while using online discussion. 80% students like internet media for learning process. 75% of the students actively involve the process of online discussion. It is about 80% of the students think that online discussion can improve their writing skill. 70% of the students found easier to analyze the elements of literary work after implementing online discussion. It is about 70 % of the students said that they were more critical than before while applying online discussion.

In contrast, the face to face discussion create different effect on the students. It is about 75% of the students felt enthusiastic while using face to face discussion, about 75% students like face to face discussion for learning process, 50% of the students actively involve the process of face to face discussion. It is about 80% of the students think that face to face discussion can improve their speaking skill. 55% of the students found easier to analyze the elements of literary work after impelemeting face to face discussion. 55% of the students said that they were more critical than before while applying face to face discussion.

## CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

There is any differences of the result while using online discussion and face to face discussion. The differences is online discussion can make the students learn in enjoyable situation. It can be seen from the level significance 5% and t ratio is bigger than t table. It means that hypothesis null is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted. In the experimental class, the score has significance level compared with control class. It shows that in normality distribution online discussion is more effective than face to face discussion.

Based on the result above, the researcher would like to recommend some suggestions as follows:

For other researcher who want to investigate the same research about internet based teaching, you should pay attention the crucial things such as: The first, you should ensure the network will be run well or not. If there is any trouble with internet connection you can anticipate another option. Then, the researcher should prepare the students by explaining the procedure

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or steps how to use online discussion and give the class key or the password to enter the class. Don't forget to give them guidance about registering process because it is very crucial. Online discussion can be an alternative teaching method that is best used for creating enjoyable situation and increase their critical thinking, and good for writing activities. Besides, face to face discussion can be implemented too in order to improve their speaking skill.

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