

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Some writers have researched students' perceptions on social media in writing class. The research has been conducted by Sakkir et al.,(2016).The findings of this study indicate that most of the students show a positive attitude and willingness to use social media to improve their writing skills. However, factors such as large classes, lack of training on Internet use, and lack of facilities can hinder the use of social media in the classroom or outside the classroom.

Social media has become the most important online platform that serves to help everyone connect and people use social media for different purposes. Meanwhile, students use social media extensively in their daily routines and learning activities including writing. Writing skill is one of the language skills that must be possessed by every language learner, including English language learners. Through mastering writing skills, students can communicate thoughts, ideas, emotions, and feelings to others in writing. For some people, communicating in writing is easier than communicating verbally. Those who have difficulty communicating their ideas and feelings verbally will be helped by written media.

In Indonesia, students are very familiar with social media because it is not only used as a tool of communication but also as a social need, for work and study. In emerging countries, many people have adopted the use of social media in the learning process. With the existence of social media, students can develop any knowledge, including their language skills, as well as assist students in their learning process. The

internet can be used to support the writing process as students develop various writing skills genres. Although the Internet is a naturally motivating tool and many young learners are getting used to it.

Social media is widely available and user-friendly. Social media tools offer excellent opportunities to take the pre-writing, drafting, peer-review, and revision steps of the writing process (Boas, 2011). Students may devote more attention and time to social media. In addition, the use of social media is widely believed to enhance teaching and learning at the course delivery level by providing students with interactive content and improved support services, including tutoring and feedback (Martínez, Alemán, A. M, Wartman, K. L, 2009 as cited in Mismara, 2019). Moreover, social media create another network where teachers and students do not have to impart methods for the conventional eye-to-eye classroom condition. Students use social media tools for a variety of purposes such as access to information, group discussions, resource sharing, and entertainment. In addition, social media is used as entertainment media, as expression media, as business promotion media, and so on. Social media interactions can have both positive and negative impacts on students. They can offer learning flexibility, stimulate innovative ideas, and improve interpersonal relationships between students and instructors. However, these tools can have a negative impact on students because they can distract them from the learning process, reduce their physical social interactions, and become addictive. This study sees the students' perceptions on the use of social media to improve writing skills.

1.2 FIELD OF THE STUDY

The field of this study is applied linguistics, especially writing.

1.3 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This research focuses on students' perception of the use of social media to improve writing skills.

1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The research question is:

What are students' perceptions of the use of social media to improve writing skills?

1.5 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this analysis is as follows:

To find out students' perception of the use of social media to improve writing skills

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The writer hopes this research can give a contribution to the study of writing. The writer expects to help the readers to get a better understanding to increase students' knowledge, especially for students who are interested to improve their writing skills based on social media.

1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. Writing

Writing is a form of communication to convey or express feelings through writing.(Harmer, 2001)

2. Social Media

By social media technology we mean digital platforms, services and applications built around the convergence of content sharing, public communication, and interpersonal connections. (Burgess, 2017).

3. Perception

The basics of the perception process are physical stimuli that people face in the environment by recognizing, regulating, and interpreting sensory information. Thus perception means the process of interpreting. (Ma'ruf et al., 2019).

