

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

English has an important role in communication since the development of information, science and technology spreads widely in this globalization era. Therefore, as a global communication tool, English must be mastered by everyone around the world. One of the countries who pay attention highly to English is Indonesia. Indonesian students find many difficulties in learning English. This happens because in the learners' environment, English is not used as a daily language. No wonder that nowadays students are required to master English because in the competitive job market it is necessary to speak English and it also helps in communicating with people from different countries as an international language. Therefore, students should learn English whether it is at school or outside the classroom. The process of language learning is the time when the language learners make error, as pointed out by Dulay et al, (1982) "*People cannot learn language without first systematically committing error.*" The error is natural, but errors made by the learners and native speakers are different. The structure differences between Indonesian and English could make learners produce some errors.

Nowadays, technology has transformed education sectors evenly. Students can learn anytime and anywhere. It defeats the distance barriers, time and physical presence. Distance learning is assisted by technology in various types including

telephone conferencing, video conferencing, email correspondence, web-based distance learning via internet and online discussion forum. There has been a significant improvement in the availability of software to assist the development of online teaching platforms to facilitate the increasing use of information and communication technologies in the teaching and learning process. These technologies often come with many interesting features that attract and inspire learners to engage constructively and productively. As reported that today the pandemic of COVID-19 is not over yet, the government prohibited students to come to school. Thus, the learning process should be conducted through e-learning activities. The use of appropriate educational technologies increases accessibility to the learning resources and multiple learning approaches to meet the need of diverse learners. One of the methods of using technology in educational purpose is Online Discussion Forum (ODFs).

In learning a foreign language, learners are involved in the process of systems: the language learner system and the target language system. These systems are the reasons why errors occur. Errors indicated in students' written responses posted in the online discussion forums and to analyze errors, errors analysis is needed. According to Corder (1981) Error analysis is a method to investigate the language learning process. Meanwhile, Dulay et. al (1982) say that error analysis is a method to analyze the flawed side of learner errors in speech or writing. It is further stated that errors has four types, they are linguistic category, surface category (omission, addition, misformation and misordering), comparative analysis and communicative effect.

This research focuses to analyze students' written responses posted during the online discussion forum (ODFs) in one of the learning platform that called as Canvas. The object of the research is second semester students' in guided writing class of English Education Program. During the pandemic the teaching and learning process conducted online through Canvas. Canvas is one of LMS that provide some features that give some possibilities for teacher to create, manage, and share the learning contents and sources in an application. In analyzing the errors, the writer uses Dulay's Surface Strategy Taxonomy.

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background of the research above, the writer formulates the problem as follows:

1. What are students' common errors in posting their responses in Canvas?
2. What strategy used by students to correct their errors in their responses posted in Canvas?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

The purpose of this research are as follows:

1. To know students' common errors in posting their responses in Canvas
2. To know students' strategy in correcting their errors in their responses posted in Canvas

1.4 Significances of the Research

The writer hopes that the findings of this research can give contribution to the English teaching and learning. It has two major significances, they are theoretical and practical significances:

1.4.1 Theoretical Significance

This research could strengthen Dulay's theory found in the online discussion forum

1.4.2 Practical Significance

This research helps the reader to supplement references so as not to make the same errors while on the online discussion forum.

1.5 Scope of the Research

This research identifies one of the online discussion forums in one of the learning platforms that called as Canvas. The writer focused on students' responses posted in Canvas based on the instruction given by the lecturer.

1.6 Operational Definition of the Research

The definition of this study operationally aims to give guidance related to understanding the concept of this study. It is done to avoid misinterpretation or ambiguity of the terms used between the writer and the readers. The terms that are necessary to be defined are as follows:

1.6.1 Written Responses

Written responses means students' responses to the lecturer's instruction posted in Canvas. It might be both short and long posts in the discussion.

1.6.2 Canvas

Canvas is a Web/Apps based technology used to plan, implement and assess a specific learning process. Canvas provides some features that give some possibilities for teacher to create, manage, and share the learning contents and sources in an application. In addition, the teacher can use the features to interact to the students whether inside or outside of classroom. In Canvas, students can have more interaction with their friends during the discussion.

1.6.3 Error Analysis

Analyzing the errors on students' written responses posted in Canvas based on Dulay's theory. In analyzing the errors, the writer focused on the grammatical errors.