

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ONLINE CLASS ENGLISH FIRST COURSE FOR STUDENT AGED 18-22.

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to determine the effectiveness of online English tutoring or course on student aged 18-22 in Indonesia. This research was conducted on students of the EF Adult course located in West Jakarta. The average student starts at the age of 18-22 years, most of them want to master English because it will be an advantage for them when applying for a job. In today's modern era, English skills are indeed increasingly needed. As we all know, courses are one of the best alternatives to be able to master English. Not without reason, by taking the course, student will be accompanied by a professional teacher to achieve their goals. A course program that is currently in great demand by the public is an online course. Furthermore, the impact of COVID-19 has changed various human habits, including learning habits, onlines courses are also felt to provide many advantages. However, this online course guidance still causes debate among students, whether this online course guidance is really more effective than face-to-face courses. This research uses a literature study where researchers collect data from previous research books, articles, or journals by collecting data using library materials.

Keywords: EF Online course, English, Student aged 18-22 years old, effectiveness.

Introduction

As a means of global communication, English must be mastered actively both orally and in writing (Arnesti, 2015). Mastering English is very important, especially for students aged 18-22 who want to continue their studies abroad with scholarships or want to apply for jobs, but due to time constraints with class schedules and activities, most students rarely learn English so they lack English proficiency. Therefore, one good alternative to learning English is to take an English course first. English First is the largest English school in the world, has 33 years of experience in the field and has branches in 40 of the world's largest countries (Aida.N, 2010). However, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has changed our study habits, now more and more are interested in taking online courses. Undoubtedly, there are more advantages of online English classes compared to face-to-face learning. The demand for online courses stems from a drive "to provide quality education to all students, regardless of location and time" (Chaney, 2010).

Online education allows students to set their own pace of learning, with the added flexibility to adapt the schedule to suit each

individual's schedule. In this case it is very useful for students who of course have a busy class schedule so they can manage their time well. Another reason online courses appear more convenient is when the course format is adapted to students' learning styles and the need for academic support, such as virtual mentors and career counseling sessions. Online courses were found to be conducive for students who enjoy self-regulatory learning (You & Kang, 2014). Learning English Online can be a great way to improve our English, improve our skills and have confidence in our English skills. Self-regulation and motivation have been identified as critical success factors in online courses (Matuga, 2009).

In this era many online English course that student aged 18- 22 years can choose. One of the online course chosen by 18-22 years old students is the English first course. The 30 years English course in Indonesia has established an online program that allows 18-22 years old students to mastering English in their activities as 22 year old student or office worker. The student aged 18-22 years old choose online course because they think it more efficient than an offline course for their busy live.

By taking online courses, students can really concentrate on the subjects you are interested in, and choose from a variety of online courses and programs. One of them is the TOEFL course. This course concentrates on getting a high TOEFL score. This high TOEFL score will be an advantage for students to apply for jobs. In addition, the English First online course also offers an online Business English course, in this course students can learn to master all the necessary professional English skills to succeed in a career.

Therefore, this research will show how effective and efficient English First online course is for students aged 18-22 years.

Method

This journal was researched using a literature descriptive qualitative research method. Moleong (2007:6) who employs qualitative research as a purposeful study to understand phenomena experienced by the research subject. More appropriate and suitable are used to examine matters relating to the study of the subject's behavior, attitudes, motivations, perceptions, and actions. Hence, the use of qualitative methods is because the study use 18-22 years old students who feel the aim of an online course in English first. Many 18-22 years old students chose the online English first course to feel positive effects from the online course. This research will examine the role of the English First online course on the needs and activities of 18-22 year old students as a workers in the online course.

Result And Discussion

Online Class English First Course

English First is the largest English language school in the world, has 50 years of experience in its field and has branches in 40 of the largest countries around the world. English First uses teaching staff who are native speakers who have high quality and attend ongoing training on modern teaching methods. English First also has its own multimedia software division which combines text, video, images and sound which makes it easier for students to learn on their own like a private teacher. English First uses a teaching program with the fastest method. The rapid English method used by English First makes it easier for students to learn English because it combines books, tapes,

multimedia computers and the ability of the teacher in the class so that English First students can learn 40% faster. English First itself positions itself as "The faster way to learn English". Rapid English emphasizes communication and interaction, not memorization and repetition. To ensure rapid English remains the most modern method, English First is constantly revising it at English First's academic departments in Boston and London (Nur Aida & Chasan Azari). With more than 30 years of experience in Indonesia, English First has opened an online program that can be accessed at any time, which makes studying at home even easier. The programs English First have include the EF Standard Online Test (EFSET), EF Junior English Test, EF 24/7, EFolklore Youtube Series and EF Adventure to Letterland . With these various programs, English First helps student aged 18-22 years old continue to improve their English skills in a safe and healthy condition.

Online learning is a form of distance learning or distance education, which has long been a part of the American education system, and it has become the largest sector of distance learning in recent years (Bartley & Golek, 2004; Evans & Haase, 2001). Purely online courses are courses delivered entirely over the Internet, and hybrid or blended learning combines traditional face-to-face classes, learning over the Internet, and learning supported by other technologies (Bliuc, Goodyear, & Ellis, 2007; Hoic-Bozic, Mornar, & Boticki, 2009; Osguthorpe & Graham, 2003).

Online course absolutely will use e-learning tools for learning process. E-learning tools are devices that effectively direct a student without the direct participation of a teacher. Each student works at his own pace and there is no difference in acquiring knowledge among students because all the studying materials are always present on the display and available to be repeated at any time of the day and on any place of the world. Thus, students accumulate knowledge equally. For instance, the EF English Live (Education First) online platform. It is an online course and includes fully independent self-study programs and provides face-to-face online lessons with a group of students from different countries or private online lessons with expert teachers. Which means that students

study not only learning materials, they also get known with different nations at each lesson when they do group lessons (EF, 2020). There are 16 levels of English language proficiency with specific grammar rules and vocabulary limits in the EF program. It creates to students, international e-learning environments and flexibility. The platform is well designed, easy to use both for students and teachers. It allows students to plan their online lessons from a variety of schedules. In each unit, students learn new vocabulary, phrasal verbs and practice them by using grammar rules through listening and speaking activities in the group or private online lessons. Online teachers encourage students to ask questions to clarify any terms or new words they might not understand well. Students are also motivated to interact during the online lesson with each other and learn to listen to each other's opinion. According to the learned materials, students are required to use a target language and hold the speech bubble with their partners. They share their opinions on an illustrated topic. Online teachers ask students to raise their hands when they have a question. The group class lasts 45 minutes while private online lessons only 20 minutes. The group class or private class is a great opportunity to practice the English language, meet other students and get answers to their questions from one of the experienced teachers. There is no passive student in online lessons in comparison with a traditional one. Each student is encouraged to be proactive and practice knowledge accumulated from the self-independent online lessons. Both online lessons are recorded in video and sent back with the notes and feedback about their mistakes to the online system, the participants can view it after their classes are finished. Each student's knowledge and skills are evaluated and the corresponding scores are presented on the recorded page. Writing leads to self-improvement. Writing encourages students to think better and allows them to collect their thoughts and ideas, and channel them into a single beam of information. Along with listening and speaking skills, the EF English Live Platform develops the reading and writing skills of students. Students are given a variety of authentic videos and reading materials that are used for developing students' own writing skills. Grammar rules and active vocabulary are

presented in the context and trained during the online lesson. Students are introduced with core vocabulary at the beginning of each unit. These are further used to develop students' critical, analytical and cognitive skills. Students are required to be honest on themselves while completing their online writing task. Within 48 hours, the writing task is assessed by an online teacher and the feedback on mistakes is sent back to a student by e-mail and grammar rules are explained if a teacher thinks that it is necessary. According to recent research, in developing countries such as in Asian Regions, much research on the e-learning system is being done. This is becoming one of the challenges since the number of students and teachers in developing countries is bigger because of a big amount of population than in a developed ones. At that point, technology-based education becomes a vigorous phenomenon that needs to align with the present trends in modern society (O. B. Kenzhaliyev , G. K. Kassymova , B. M. Triyono , M. N. A. Azman , Zh. B. Ilmaliyev, 2020)

Online courses are revolutionizing formal education, and have opened a new genre of outreach on cultural and scientific topics. These courses deliver a series of lessons to a web browser or mobile device, to be conveniently accessed anytime, anyplace. With the development of online education over time, its definition has been evolved. Regarding the aspects of the conversion from face-to-face classrooms to online, McIsaac and Gunawardena with the development of online education over time, its definition has been evolved

The reason students aged 18-22 are still studying in online English first courses

By improving students English language skills, you can gain a head start in your career, travel abroad, pass an exam and much more (Susan Verner, 2018).

1. TOEFL preparation

TOEFL and IELTS are one of the requirements for continuing education and make it easier for job seekers to get a job if they already have a TOEFL or IELTS certificate. That's why students aged 18-22 and under choose online ef courses as their preparation for obtaining the certificate. Many students aged around 22 start by trying to prepare for the

TOEFL exam by studying on their own, perhaps with a book or a test, then they take the real TOEFL test. Many of them find that they are still far from their target and then they decide to enroll in a preparation course after seeing their TOEFL score. The TOEFL is a tough test meant for academics, and a specific training program can make a big difference. A good TOEFL preparation program will consist of lots of input on the test discussing how you can complete the different types of questions, how to manage your time, strategies when taking notes, etc, as well as taking one or more of the TOEFL test trials in a relaxed environment close to the real test environment. The teachers in the TOEFL preparation courses have a lot of experience with this exam and how to maximize your final score. There are many types of TOEFL preparation courses available. Three of the main types are: online TOEFL preparation courses, TOEFL preparation courses at a school near your home, and overseas TOEFL preparation courses. Also remember that most IELTS preparation courses are 2 months or longer, and that time will be considered effective in increasing your final TOEFL score.

2. For use in business

Business English students will want real, practical and purposeful English language instruction. While there is always benefit to be gained from traditional teaching methods and materials, business English students will appreciate hands on and practical uses for English. Business student aged 18-22 years wanna learn how to negotiate a contract in English, how to assign a business letter. These practical assignments will prepare students for how they will be expected to use their language skills. In language instruction, business english student will learn cultural expectations and appropriate behavior for business settings. Business english student want to learn using English in real settings with typical expectations so the students will be ready to put their language skills to the test in the real world.

3. For personal reason

Even though most of students aged 18-22 years old will be studying English for academic or business purposes, there are sure to be a few who are studying for purely personal reasons. For some, overseas English classes will be like a vacation, a way to see the world and learn

something in the process. Others may be studying to keep a visa current or to stay in the country legally. They may even already have superior language skills. For these students, a casual class with fun as a main ingredient will be most engaging. The student aged 18-22 years take this kind of course because their homework on the low side and class includes lots of discussion and creative activities.

Efficiency of online courses English First English

Efficient most often describes what is capable of producing desired results without wasting materials, time, or energy. While the word can be applied to both people and things, it is far more commonly applied to things, such as machines, systems, processes, and organizations. English First online course is the newest product from English First to learn English following global standards and English First's learning methodology that has been established and implemented for more than 50 years online through English First's special learning platform. Students will be taught directly by licensed native speaker teachers with 24x7 class access every day and self-learning media. English First online course certified modern methods online course. Learn English in a modern way using the SMART English system which has a Learn-Try-Apply learning cycle with a schedule that student can adjust theirself. Not only that, student will get an internationally recognized certificate at every level you have completed. English First online course also have interactive 24/7 online application. Learning experiences with English First online course technology range from speech recognition to practice English pronunciation techniques, to face-to-face online classes. Study materials can be accessed on PCs, Laptops, Tablets and Mobile Phones at any time. English First online course have international teachers. Students will get quality learning experience with international tutors. English First international teachers come from native English-speaking countries; England, Australia, America, New Zealand, Canada, and others. English First online course students will have friends with all the world. English First online course student connect to another student English First student all the world so it will make student English First online course english

learning experience more interesting by getting to know new friends from all over the world (O. B. Kenzhaliyev , G. K. Kassymova , B. M. Triyono , M. N. A. Azman , Zh. B. Ilmaliyev, 2020).

When asking “Why do we need distance education?” Moore and Kearsley (2012, p. 8) in their study identified the following reasons as to:

- Increase access to learning and training as a matter of equity
- Provide opportunities for updating skills of the workforce
- Improve the cost effectiveness of educational resources
- Improve the quality of existing educational structures
- Enhance the capacity of the educational system
- Balance inequalities between age groups
- Deliver educational campaigns to specific target audiences
- Provide emergency training for key target areas
- Expand the capacity for education in new subject areas
- Offer combination of education with work and family life
- Add an international dimension to the educational experience

Conclusion

In conclusion from studies above students aged 18-22 years of the online English First course prefers online classes because it feels more effective for their activities as job seekers or the employee. It effective for student 18-22 years old who is a workers because course provide opportunities for updating skills of the workforce. Improving work skills such as taking TOEFL preparation, this is one way to improve work skills or the ability for business. There are several benefits to learning English through the online system as a workers. First of all, we can stay healthy because we can do it everywhere by our cellphone or PC . During this pandemic, it is imperative that we not go out if there is no immediate interest. Secondly, we can save a lot of time. Of course, by taking English First classes sonline, student can save a lot of time because they don't need to go to English classes. Third, student have more time to explore learning materials.

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