

**THE ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' PERCEPTION IN THE USE OF
SOCIAL MEDIA BY TEACHERS AS LEARNING TOOLS FOR
ENGLISH LEARNING DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF *KURIKULUM MERDEKA*
(The Descriptive Research at the Seventh Grade of SMPN 5 Solok
in 2022/2023 Academic Year)**

THESIS

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ABSTRAK

Jerikka Pratiwi. 2023. Analisis Persepsi Siswa dalam Penggunaan Social Media oleh Guru Sebagai Sarana Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris Selama Implementasi Kurikulum Merdeka pada Siswa Kelas VII di SMPN 5 Solok Tahun Ajaran 2022/2023. Skripsi. Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris. FKIP UMMY Solok.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa dalam penggunaan social media oleh guru sebagai sarana pembelajaran bahasa Inggris selama implementasi kurikulum merdeka. Latar belakang penelitian ini didasarkan pada masalah yang diangkat dari siswa dalam belajar Bahasa Inggris menggunakan sosial media dalam penerapan Kurikulum Merdeka. Subjek penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas tujuh sebanyak 32 siswa dikelas VII.5 di SMPN 5 Solok pada tahun ajaran 2022/2023.

Penelitian ini dilakukan menggunakan metode deskriptif kuantitatif. Dalam mengumpulkan data, peneliti menggunakan angket. Angket dibagikan kepada siswa untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa, mereka merespon dengan memberikan tanda (√) pada kolom yang tersedia dengan pilihan 'sangat setuju', 'setuju', 'ragu-ragu', 'tidak setuju' dan 'sangat tidak setuju'. Dalam hal ini peneliti menggunakan 28 item dalam bentuk pernyataan dengan waktu mengerjakan selama 30 menit.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa persepsi siswa dalam penggunaan social media oleh guru sebagai sarana pembelajaran bahasa Inggris selama implementasi kurikulum merdeka adalah baik dengan persentasi total 57,5 % pada level setuju yang dikategorikan dalam kriteria baik sesuai dengan tabel klasifikasi interval. Berdasarkan hasil tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa persepsi siswa dalam penggunaan social media oleh guru sebagai sarana pembelajaran bahasa Inggris selama implementasi kurikulum merdeka adalah baik pada tahun ajaran 2022/2023. Oleh karena itu, penulis berharap agar siswa lebih meningkatkan pengetahuannya dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris melalui sosial media dan bisa lebih termotivasi untuk belajar bahasa Inggris. Selanjutnya, peneliti menyarankan guru untuk meningkatkan penggunaan jenis sosial media yang lebih beragam untuk membantu siswa dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris.

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Kurikulum Merdeka is the latest curriculum that aims to identify students' interests and talents that focus on the material, character development of *Pancasila* students' profiles, and students' competencies. There are six characteristics of *Pancasila* students' profiles they are, having faith, fearing God almighty and having noble character, global diversity, mutual cooperation, independence, critical thinking, and creativity. These *Pancasila* students' profiles are applied when students learn everything at school.

The implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* in schools is one of the government's efforts to restore learning after the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia. This is related to a circular letter from the Minister of Education, Culture, Research and Technology on February 11th, 2022, to prepare for the implementation of the Decree of the Minister of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic Indonesia Number 56/M/2022 concerning guidelines for implementing curriculum in the context of learning recovery, especially the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* which has been affected in the 2022/2023 academic year. The application of *Kurikulum Merdeka* also supports the process of English learning at school.

The process of language learning especially English in *Kurikulum Merdeka* is based on learning achievement. In addition to that, several elements can be adapted to the content of the material to be taught in the achievement of English learning. These elements are listening-speaking, reading-viewing, and writing-presenting.

Moreover, there is a method that can be used in the process of English learning in *Kurikulum Merdeka* which is the blended learning method. Blended learning is a method that combines offline and online teaching methods by using social media as supporting media. The concept of blended learning aims to develop students' learning opportunities to be able to take advantage of the digital transformation in education through social media. Students can learn directly in the classroom using creative media and they are also supported by flexible learning through social media.

Social media is a form of communication via the internet. Many people around the world use social media to share information and build relationships, starting from young generation to old ones. Technology as a media of communication which is used daily can support the process of language learning especially English. Nowadays, social media can support the learning process in schools to be more flexible.

There are many benefits of social media for teachers and students in language learning. Social media allow teachers to have conversations with students and get feedback on teaching materials. Social media can help teachers to interact with their students to discuss English subject matter. For

example, teachers can share some information with students about the material in a WhatsApp group. Then, through social media, teachers can get a lot of teaching materials such as various English subject matter on YouTube. In other words, teachers can improve students' understanding of the material in English through social media.

Moreover, students can do a lot of things through social media in English learning. Students can increase their knowledge through social media such as when reading English captions or viewing English videos on Instagram. Usually, students also look for English subject matter on YouTube such as watching videos about introducing themselves and others or simply increasing English vocabulary through videos on YouTube. In other words, students can use several kinds of social media to learn English.

There are several kinds of social media which are often used by students to support the process of language learning in English such as Instagram, YouTube, or WhatsApp. These kinds of social media can be used so that learning can run efficiently and effectively without space and time limits. These are suitable with the use of social media in realizing the introduction and strengthening of the character profile of *Pancasila* students in *Kurikulum Merdeka*.

The characteristics of students at school are described through the individual qualities of students in terms of interests, learning motivation, learning styles and ability to think about English learning. Therefore, the use of social media by teacher to learn English supports students' characteristics to

develop further. Various kinds of students' perception can arise in English learning through social media by teachers in school.

Students' perception is the student's view of information in an object being observed or based on the student's experience. The main factors influencing students' perceptions are their learning environment including curriculum content, teaching style and handling of educational atmosphere. *Kurikulum Merdeka* in this case supports students' perceptions of the types of social media used by teachers in English learning.

Student perception is a student's point of view or understanding of material or information that has been received by students during teaching and learning activities. Student perceptions arise when phenomena occurs at school also involves students. This occurrence rise to different perceptions from one student to another. Therefore, there are several types of student perceptions in their learning environment. For examples the self-confidence that arises in understanding English subjects at school or students' understanding of the material increases in the use of social media, etc.

Based on the observation of the school environment at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok on August 3rd, 2022 in the 2022/2023 academic year, the researcher looked at the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* in teaching English use WhatsApp, Instagram and YouTube as parts of social media. This was accordance with an interview with one of the English teacher, Mam Dewi Sartika, S.Pd, it was found that English teachers especially for seventh grade also usually use these types of social media. The teacher makes

a WhatsApp group about English subjects based on each class which are useful for sharing information related to school, sharing subject matter, assignments and exercises. Therefore, in terms of digitalizing learning media, it can be used in the form of visual power points, learning videos from YouTube and others. Usually, an English learning video is shared by the teacher to the WhatsApp group and then the teacher asks students to understand the material in the learning video. However, teachers were less clear in giving directions to students through social media. Many students doubted in understanding the teacher's directions and they also doubted whether they only have to watch learning videos in English material or they also have to write the video given.

Moreover, the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* in English teaching concentrates on developing flexible learning through social media with internet access. The smoothness of online learning as a form of implementing the blended learning method is determined by digital and internet access owned by teachers and also students. This makes the use of technology for internet access even stronger. However, access to the internet is still not evenly distributed. There were still difficulties with the internet network. Many teachers and students still found it difficult to reach the internet properly because of the regional factors or the internet network used.

Lastly, the use of social media in implementing the *Kurikulum Merdeka* was still limited. Teachers used WhatsApp groups more often than other social media. This depends on the material being taught. If in material

there was a practice of making videos, the teacher suggested that students could upload it to each student's YouTube account. Then, students can share the video link to the WhatsApp group for English class. However, based on the facts in the field, it was found that the limitations of using social media were due to the lack of teacher creativity in using social media as a tool to support online learning.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher analyzed students' perception in the use of social media by teachers as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in the 2022/2023 academic year.

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, the researcher identified some problems faced by the students' perception on the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka*. First, many students doubted understanding the teacher's directions on social media. Second, access to the internet was still not evenly distributed, there were still difficulties with the internet network. Third, the lack of teacher's creativity in using social media as a tool to support online learning.

Based on the problems above, this research was conducted to analyze students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for

English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in the 2022/2023 academic year.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, this research was limited on the students' perception in the use of WhatsApp, Instagram and Youtube as parts of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year.

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, this research was formulated as following questions: "how is students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year?"

E. Research Questions

To be able to answer the questions in the formulation of the problems above, the research questions were clarified :

1. How was students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year?

2. How was students' perception in English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year?
3. What kind of students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year?

F. Purpose of the Research

Based on the research questions above, the purpose of the research were to know:

1. Students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year.
2. Students' perception in English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year.
3. Kind of students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year.

G. Significance of the Research

In this research, there are two kinds of significance. Theoretical and practical significances. First, the theoretical significance of this research is to enrich the theories on the use social media as learning tools for teachers in language teaching during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka*. This study is also expected to provide insight to further researchers about the importance of using social media as learning tools in teaching English as the implementation of the blended learning method in the *Kurikulum Merdeka*.

Second, the practical significance of this research is also to provide an understanding of students' perception of the use of social media as learning tools by teacher during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka*. The results of students' perceptions of the use of social media as a learning tool by teachers in the *Kurikulum Merdeka* will provide understanding to teachers to improve the quality of learning English through the use of social media as a modern learning tool. Teachers can understand the use of various kinds of social media as material for consideration to improve the quality of teaching in classroom management.

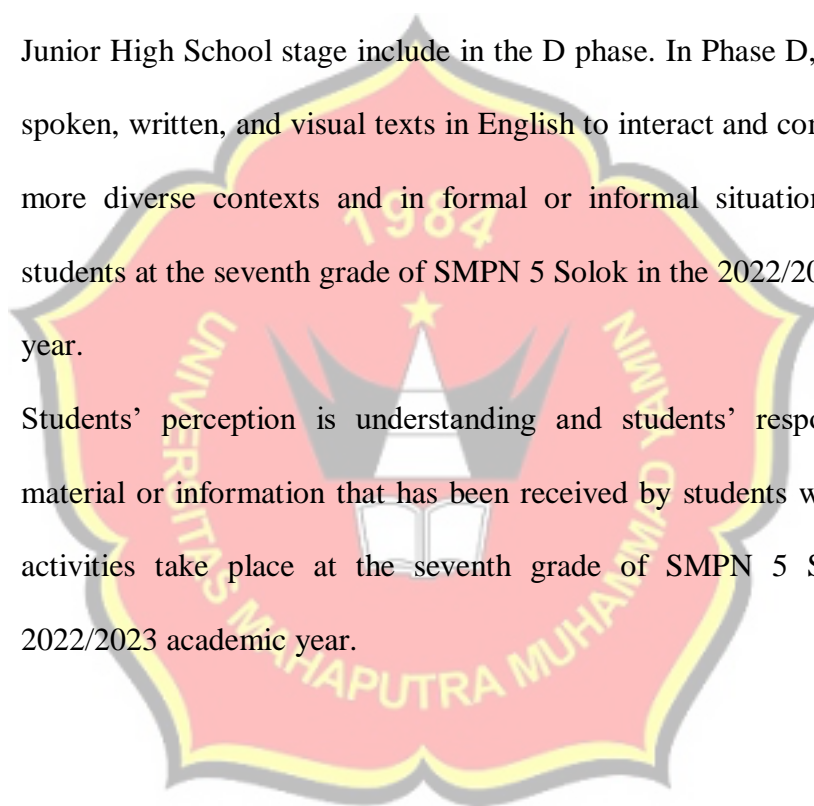
H. Definition of the Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding of this research, there are two key terms as follows:

1. Social media is one of the tools used as teaching media that supports the process of implementing the blended learning method during the

implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in the 2022/2023 academic year.

2. *Kurikulum Merdeka* is a new curriculum that aims to identify children's interests and talents that focus on the material, character development of *Pancasila* students' profiles, and students' competencies. The form of *Kurikulum Merdeka* is divided into several phases, namely A-F phase, in Junior High School stage include in the D phase. In Phase D, students use spoken, written, and visual texts in English to interact and communicate in more diverse contexts and in formal or informal situations especially students at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in the 2022/2023 academic year.
3. Students' perception is understanding and students' responses to the material or information that has been received by students when learning activities take place at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in the 2022/2023 academic year.



CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

The purpose of this research was to know students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year. Based on the finding of the research on chapter four, it can be concluded as follow:

1. Students' perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year was good based on the interval of frequency and classification level of students' perception. The researcher concluded that it was classified in good classification. In other words, the use of social media by teachers as learning tools for English learning was good.
2. Students' perception in English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka* at the seventh grade of SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year was good based on the interval of frequency and classification level of students' perception. The researcher concluded that it was classified in good classification. It means that there was good result.
3. Kind of students perception in the use of social media by teacher as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of

Kurikulum Merdeka was external perception. In the level agree in good criteria based on the interval of frequency and classification level of students' perception consist of external perception higher than self-perception. The researcher concluded that there was higher result in the kind of students' perception especially in external perception at SMPN 5 Solok in 2022/2023 academic year.

B. Suggestion

This research offers some suggestions, they are expected to give positive inputs in giving information about students' perception in the use of social media by teachers as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka*. According to the result of this research, the researcher suggested:

1. For students, it is hoped that this could increase their ability in English learning especially in the use of social media by teachers.
2. For the next researchers, it is suggested that the next researchers can continue this research in the future, because the other researchers can develop next research relate with students' perception in the use of social media by teachers as learning tools for English learning during the implementation of *Kurikulum Merdeka*.
3. For teachers, it is suggested to increase the use of social media as learning tools for English learning so the students could be more active and the teacher will be confident in teaching learning process.

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