THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ONLINE DISCUSSION BY USING A LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (www.nicenet.org) IN THE LITERATURE COURSE ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM OF UM METRO

by

Lilis Sholihah
lilisvivo148@gmail.com

PBI FKIP Universitas Muhammadiyah Metro

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. Nevertheles, the idea of internet based teaching has been renowned all over the world, at least teachers and lecturers shouls 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 explain the implementation of Online Discussion by using www.nicenet.org in the Literature course especially Prose subject of English Study Program UM Metro. This study used analysis method by explaining the process of online discussion done by sixth semester students of English department of UM Metro. The result of the study showed that the students could follow the instruction of the course by giving some comments on discussion forum. Based on the questionnaire distributed to the students showed that learning by using online discussion is very fun and can improve students’ writing ability.

Key words: Online Discussion, www.nicenet.org, Literature
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. Using the internet in learning has several advantages such as making the class more lively or ALIVE (Warsauer, 2000, p.2). 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 classroom situation. In an online situation, the researcher implemented online discussion for the students of Literature class. The students are learned to apply English language learning bu using online forum in specific websites namely www.nicenet.org. This website is learning management system which is free without any charge. The researcher conducted the process of learning by registering into the websites and invite the students by giving the class key. So, every students who want to be the member of the forum should know the class key and register into the website.

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 effective used for literature class. Referring to the above, the author feels it is important to do research with the title “The Implementation of Online Discussion by Using www.nicenet.org in the literature class English study program of Muhammadiyah University of Metro

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). Literature is a human activity that is unique, come from a desire to understand, express and share the experiences (Pickering, 2000, p.1). Literature refers to the work of imaginative can be poetry, drama, fiction and nonfiction. There are several reasons why we should learn literature (Prayogo, 2009, p.2). 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.

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, 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 (Cystal, 2001, p. 3).

Online discussion is a discussion system that uses an electronic message database in a website where people can sign and write messages or posts (Wang & Gearhart, 2007, p.73). 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. Some important points noted when doing online discussion that the instructor must declare and explain the purpose and ensure that they are being evaluated in the discussion forum (Zhang, 2007, p.625). In this research, the students are asked to join to the forum in order they are trained to have critical writing ability. The researcher register to the specific websites which is free of charge namely www.nicenet.org. This is one of learning management systems that provide online learning. There are many kinds of mearning management system such as aimoo, wordpress, edmodo, mooddle,etc. The researcher chose it for some considerations such as: 1) it is free of charge; 2) It is simple to use, only register and you get class key; 3) it is interesting with simple templates; 4) it can be accessed easily, since some of free online learning have troublesome in connection sometimes.

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
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.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses an analysis of implementing of Online discussion by using www.nicenet.org. The subject of the research was the sixth semester of English department of Muhammadiyah University of Metro especially students who take Prose subject in academic year 2015/2016. The college is located at Jl. Ki Hajar Dewantara 116 Iringmulyo Metro East. The number of the students was 40 students.

The procedure of the research can be explained as follows:
1. The students are asked to read some short stories and poetry. They are asked to choose the favorite short story and poetry.
2. Before conducting online discussion, the lecturer teach them about how to analyze short story and poetry. Besides they must know the kinds of short story ad types of poetry.
3. They are guided to learn the parts which build a short story such as plot, setting, point of view, character, symbol, tone, theme, message.
4. Teach them how to register in your forum by fill in the identity in the online forum.
5. The researcher give them the class key in order the students can register succesfully and enter the online class.
6. The students are asked to read one of the short story and they try to analyze that story.
7. They should give comments on their classmates’ writing.
8. They give appreciation by the leacturer while doing online activity.
9. The lecturer should give feedback by commenting on their writing.
10. The other process will be same as face to face discussion in the class, the differences is only in the form of writing instead of speaking.

The research instruments are including:
1. 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.
2. Observation
   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.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The objective of the research is to analyze the implementation of Online Discussion by using www.nicenet.org.

Furthermore, the students have different opinion while using online 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.

Here are the examples of some writing of the students from the implementation process of poetry analysis, as follows:
Conferencing Topic: To My Mother by Edgar Allan Poe

[Post Message to "To My Mother by Edgar Allan Poe": Create New Topic]

- Date Limit: View All
- Message Layout: New Summaries Only
- Sort Order: Newest on Top

FROM: Jdub Shoekoh (6/13/16 23:21 PM PST) [Send a personal message to Jdub Shoekoh]
SUBJECT: Analysis of elements of poetry

After you read the author's analysis of the elements of poetry in Edgar Allan Poe's "To My Mother," you should analyze it from the elements of poetry includes poetic devices and poetic vision. Don't forget to give comments on your classmates' writing.

Thank you

REPLIES (4):

- FROM: Jdub Shoekoh (6/13/16 23:40 AM PST) [Send a personal message to Jdub Shoekoh]
  SUBJECT: RE: Analysis of elements of poetry
this is about his mother for of whom died when he was only two years old, he writes this as he is having tough times with his foster parents and is wishing yet remembering his mother to come back to be his again, but yet he knows she is watching down on him as she is the best mother in the world...to him

- FROM: rukayah fit hamra  
  (04/14/16 12:42 AM PST)  
  [Send a personal message to rukayah fit hamra]  
  SUBJECT: RE: Analysis elements of poetry

In this poem he described that his aunt is like his own mother, moreover he described she was the only one that he love so dearly. Based our assumption mother is the only one who love us so dearly, but in this case he was orphan at his age of two. He got love of mother from his aunt. And many cases we found an orphan lived without his/her real parent, but they still love him/her. Women are believed to have certain

characteristics and attitudes which are inferior to those of men such as emotional, docile, motherly, weak and beautiful, while men are strong, rational, brave, etc (Trisnadi Handayani and Sagari, 2002: 8). According to this statement motherly is the nature character of women, they take care of everything and sensitive. So, women are created to care.

- FROM: faith Chan  
  (04/14/16 12:48 AM PST)  
  [Send a personal message to faith Chan]  
  SUBJECT: RE: Analysis elements of poetry

in my opinion this is very interesting poem by great poet Edgar Allen Poe  
I think in my best understanding he wanted to compare the love he owe to his mother and his dear wife who died at her young age.

- FROM: Deva Apriliana  
  (04/14/16 1:52 AM PST)  
  [Send a personal message to Deva Apriliana]  
  SUBJECT: RE: Analysis elements of poetry

The theme of this poem is love and family. The rhyme scheme A-B-C-D. The stanza confirms the fact that this poem about Virginia's mother not his own. When reading this poem, you can clearly tell that this poem is written for Virginia's mother Maria. I think he wrote it for her because she was the mother of the one he loved. Also, he lost his own mother very early on. So, Maria was probably the mother figure in his life.

And this poem is focuses in what was Edgar Allen Poe described women as a human who is created full of dearness. He wrote his poems based on his experience and imagination. This poem was made after his young wife was death. He was inspired from his aunt or his mother in law. It is clearly stated in the words of the poem that he felt her dearer than his own mother because she was the mother of the one he loved, his wife, Virginia. Because, he got love of mother from his aunt. Beside that he didn't know his real mother, he couldn't feel the dearness of his own mother.

[Reply]

FROM: evpuspita san  
(04/14/16 2:44 AM PST)  
[Send a personal message to evpuspita san]  
SUBJECT: To My Mother by Edgar Allen Poe
[Reply]

In the Poem “To My Mother” written by Edgar Allen Poe includes many poetic devices there are rhyme, there are many type of rhyme related a-b-a-b, c-d-c-d, e-f-c-f, p-g this poem uses sound Which he loved more than his real mother who died early, to describe about his step mother dying. Another type is Stanza in this poem is sonnet (fourteen lines with the last two lines forming a rhyming couplet) in this poem uses denotation meaning because in this poem he show truly meaning of the message, clearly he describe about step mother dying.

[Reply]
The above implementation process is the students are learned to analyze poetry from Edgar Allan Poe. He is the renowned poet in his era. The students can enhance their critical thinking in this process. Besides they can learn from their classmates of course they have different opinion. The second implementation process is how to analyze the short story as follows:
What do you mean about the function of "help" itself, jellia? You can relate to your life.

• FROM: Jelina Nur Rehman (03/24/16 7:07 PM PST) [Send a personal message to Jelina Nur Rehman]
  SUBJECT: RE: The ant and the dove

Sometimes people misinterpretation about it. I'm with people who say that help can be used when other people do not have effort or something like power to do anymore. But, sometimes they use "help" without any efforts. They make other people to help them. Moreover, they are blaming each other for getting a help.

[Reply]

FROM: Muhamad darwip (03/21/16 5:44 PM PST) [Send a personal message to Muhamad darwip]
SUBJECT: The ant and the grasshopper
[Reply]

Great story ma'm. Love it so much

[Reply]

FROM: nidhi phila (03/21/16 6:22 PM PST) [Send a personal message to nidhi phila]
SUBJECT: the ant and the grasshopper
[Reply]

I love this story because in this story we can learn from the ant, before you do or face something in future, make sure that you have prepare well.

REPLIES (2): [Hide Replies]

• FROM: Lili Shodihah (03/23/16 9:15 AM PST) [Send a personal message to Lili Shodihah]
  SUBJECT: RE: the ant and the grasshopper

I do agree nidi. The ant has good characteristics and men should follow him. What do you think about the grasshopper’s characteristics?

• FROM: Lili Shodihah (03/23/16 9:15 AM PST) [Send a personal message to Lili Shodihah]
  SUBJECT: RE: the ant and the grasshopper

I do agree nidi. The ant has good characteristics and men should follow him. What do you think about the grasshopper’s characteristics?

[Reply]

FROM: kanti widagdo (03/21/16 6:56 PM PST) [Send a personal message to kanti widagdo]
SUBJECT: the story about ant and grasshopper
[Reply]

The story is good, I like the story because in this text many moral value for many people...

REPLIES (1): [Hide Replies]

• FROM: Lili Shodihah (03/23/16 9:58 AM PST) [Send a personal message to Lili Shodihah]
  SUBJECT: RE: the story about ant and grasshopper

Great, kanti. You should mention what kind of moral value are they?

[Reply]

FROM: Nur Ottaviani (03/21/16 7:03 PM PST) [Send a personal message to Nur Ottaviani]
SUBJECT: The ant and the grasshopper
[Reply]

I like this statement. And we can learn from it! "It is best to prepare for the days of necessity" And do be like the grasshopper who very arrogant.
Good comment okta, don’t be like the grasshopper you mean. Please tell us about the theme of the story.

FROM: yenny nawawi (03/21/16 7:03 AM PST)  [Send a personal message to yenny nawawi]
SUBJECT: The characteristic of Grasshopper

In my view the grasshopper is arrogant, stupid, and careless. Point that we can get is don’t ever selling the hard work of others and prepare yourself for things that will happen in the future. I love this story especially of moral value.

REPLIES (3): [Hide Replies]

- FROM: Lili Shohibah (03/23/16 9:55 AM PST)  [Send a personal message to Lili Shohibah]
  SUBJECT: RE: The characteristic of Grasshopper

Excellent yenny. What do you think about the point of view in this story?

FROM: yenny nawawi (07/24/16 5:29 AM PST)  [Send a personal message to yenny nawawi]
SUBJECT: RE: The characteristic of Grasshopper

Thank you Mann.
It is best to prepare for the days of necessity. We have to learn from the Ant.

REPLIES (3): [Hide Replies]

- FROM: Fauz - Chann (03/21/16 7:04 PM PST)  [Send a personal message to Fauz - Chann]
  SUBJECT: grammar
  [Reply]

the grammar usage in this story is proper with the theme or genre of the story. it uses past tense.

REPLIES (3): [Hide Replies]

- FROM: Lili Shohibah (03/23/16 9:58 AM PST)  [Send a personal message to Lili Shohibah]
  SUBJECT: RE: grammar

So, what is the proper theme itself really? You can share with us.

REPLIES (1): [Hide Replies]

- FROM: rukoyah fi hitsa (03/21/16 7:04 PM PST)  [Send a personal message to rukoyah fi hitsa]
  SUBJECT: Message and Character
  [Reply]

The story about "the ant and the dove" tells us about persistence, and how to manage our time as best as possible.

Chapter:
Ant = persistent, discipline,
Dove = lazy, underestimate

REPLIES (1): [Hide Replies]

- FROM: Lili Shohibah (03/23/16 10:05 AM PST)  [Send a personal message to Lili Shohibah]
  SUBJECT: RE: Message and Character

Good comment rukoyah. The story about the ant and the grasshopper right? It's mistyping in mentioning the character.

REPLIES (1): [Hide Replies]

- FROM: Deni Aplinir (03/21/16 9:34 PM PST)  [Send a personal message to Deni Aplinir]
  SUBJECT: message and character
  [Reply]

I think the story is good and has good message too. The grasshopper has arrogant attitude. And the ant is the good character, because he always prepare everything before.
There are many examples of the activity. Here, the researcher only attach a few pieces of writing. In this forum, you are free to give comments, to write your suggestion or additional information. You can see not only your writing but also your lecturer and classmates’ writing. The students can participate to this forum. Every member of the forum it means every student has the same chance to participate or publish anything related to the course.

**CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION**

Online learning gives us many chances to conduct learning in different situations. One that should be remembered that every lecturer must have creativeness and appropriate teaching media to improve their students’ learning. Online discussion will be one appropriate media and also method in conducting learning process. The students can enhance their critical thinking. Besides they are guided to express their idea in the form of writing comments and suggestion. Since one of the course objectives of literature is analyzing short story and poetry, in fact they are able to achieve it in meaningful situation. Hopefully this research will be beneficial for lecturer, other researcher and also for the students generally.

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 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.

REFERENCES