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Ebook Readility for Education Process in University

Kurniawaty Yusuf, M.Si

Paramadina University

kurniaway.yusuf@paramadina.ac.id

Dr Rini Sudarmanti

Paramadina University

rini.sudarmanti@paramadina.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The development of communication technology equipped with internet provides a new challenge for higher education in Indonesia. Involvement and utilization of the internet becomes an important element in the implementation of educational process. In higher education process the conventional model, which wants the presence of lecturers and students in the same locations, tends to no longer needed. In fact, current process of higher education can be done even though they are in long distance apart. Thus literature also no longer requires printing materials that require a lot of money.

Today reading materials or references can be obtained by using digital forms. The usage of digital forms or online references is increasingly in demand. Without having to go to the library, every student can get it easily. Many eBook and journal sites are available that can be accessed without additional fees. Surely this is an exciting experiences but this could be a challenge for quality education process.

The aim of this paper is discussing the opportunities of eBook utilization in the educational process at higher education such as universities. By understanding the advantages and disadvantages of using the eBook, lecturers and students can optimize their utilization for education success in future studies.

Keywords: eBook usage, education process, higher education

INTRODUCTION

In fact, the development of communication technology brings social changes. It sometimes causes changing culture and pattern of life style within society. APJII surveyed in 2017 noted that 54% Indonesia people has exposure by internet. Internet user has reached 143, 26 million people. It shows higher number than last year, which is 132.7 million people. Internet user's locations also expand not only within urban areas, but also in rural area

There is no significant amount between men and women internet user in Indonesia. There are 48.57% women and 51.43% men. Internet user is dominated by younger group which sometimes called as digital native society or millennial generation. About 49.52% of them have aged between 19-34 years old and 16.68% between 13-18 years old.

The usage of internet brings shifting many pattern of people's lifestyle. The internet presence makes almost people daily activities become easier. Mainly 89.35% internet access is used for social media activities. People do not have to meet each other in the same location. They can still interact within digital communities.

Internet is used not only for helping interaction through various social media applications but also to assist various other activities such as education, public services, economics etc. In the field of education, about 55.30% internet access is used to read articles from many journals, and view tutorial videos. About 50.26% utilization of internet access is used to read the news online version of newspapers or magazine.

The development of communication technology equipped with internet provides a new challenge for higher education in Indonesia. Printed books seemed e no longer needed. Research on eBook issues gets the attention of many researchers today (Kumbhar, 2018). Books in digital version or electronic book form tend to acknowledge used as reference documents or materials. Involvement and the usage of the internet becomes an important element in the implementation of educational process.

Higher education which is conducted with conventional model required the presence of lecturers and students in the same locations. Today, that such conditions tends to no longer needed. In fact, current process of higher education conducted in various ways and can be done even though they are in long distance apart, such as elearning or virtual elearning. Thus, literature also no longer

requires printing materials that require a lot of money. Reading materials or references can be obtained in digital form. Lecturer's presence also can be seen from documented video tutorials.

The usage of digital forms or online references, eBook or eJournals, is increasingly in demand. Without having to go to the library, every student can get it. Many eBook and ejournal sites are available. They can be accessed without any additional fees. However, Wu and Chen (2011) noted that graduate students indicate more traditional attitudes reading eBook than eJournals. Hwang et.al (2014) also found that the utilization of eBook online once or twice per month within less than 30 minutes reading time. Surely this is an exciting experiences but this could be a challenge for quality education process.
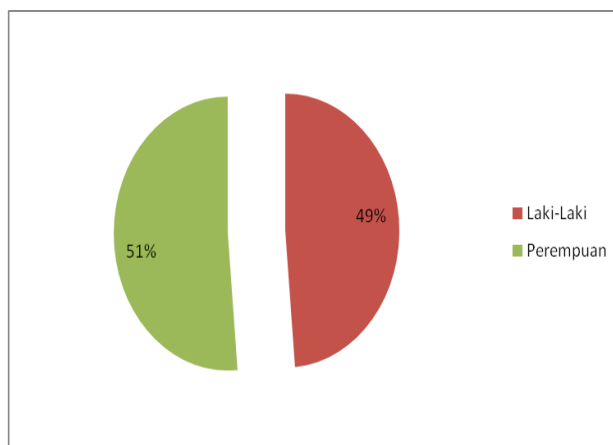

DISCUSSION

Communication is a process of sharing information through a system of symbols. Kim and Rubin (within Miller 2002; 244) emphasized that there are 3 (three) ways in which the audience is actively with the media for sharing information, "selectivity, attention and involvement." At the selectivity stage, a person will directly select kind of media information according to he or she needs. While at the stage of attention, everyone will call put their cognitive abilities to consume media that determines how people take advantage of the technology.

The aim of this paper is discussing the opportunities of eBook utilization in the educational sharing information process at higher education such as universities. By understanding the advantages and disadvantages of using the eBook, lecturers and students can optimize their utilization for education success in future studies.

This study was done by using a quantitative approach. We share questionnaires within to anonymous graduate and postgraduate students from different private higher university which is located in Jakarta without making certain conditions. Accidentally student who handed to questionnaires can answer it. About 37 among them collected. Then, we resume their answered within this discussion below.
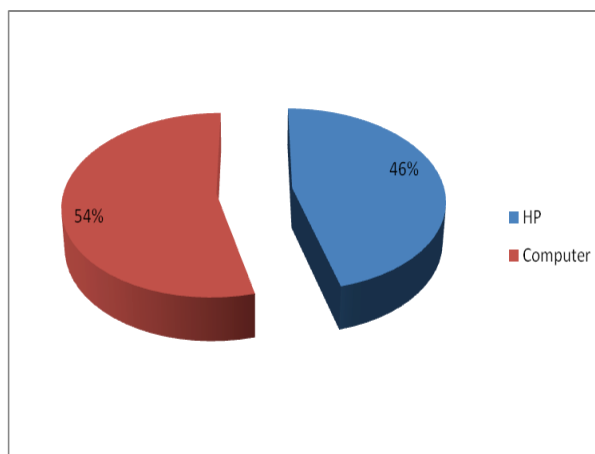
Picture 1. Gender

Respondents who filled the questionnaire were almost in the same amount between men and women. All of them claimed that they usually have read some eBooks. Generally they read one to two eBooks per month. However, only about 13% respondents who admitted that they usually read more than 3 (three) eBooks per month. Most of the readers are male.

It can be assume that men readers will more like eBook than women do. Interestingly, all respondents said that they did not read the eBook completely. Respondents only read partially or at a glance according to lecturer's instruction or certain needs only. Hwang et al (2014) also have similar findings from their research South Korea. There were not many students reading eBook per month with reasonable reading time.

From our data result, it can be seen that there are two patterns of eBook usage groups. There are those who read it only with mobile phones, and those who read it with computer devices. Mobile phone is preferred to use because according to them, it is easier to carry anywhere and anytime. It is not happened if they are carrying a computer device which requires a certain place to open it or bring a laptop. However, in terms of comfort reading, respondents clearly noted prefer to use the computer to read eBook because it provides more flexibility views to read.
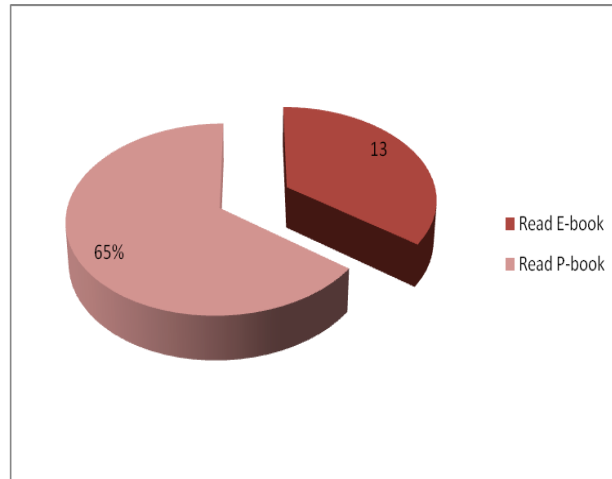
Picture 2. Using Internet Devices

From this above picture 2, the differences amount of respondents who are using Smartphone and computer was not significantly appeared. However, there are more respondents who are using computer equipment rather than using mobile phones to access the internet. About 54% respondent likes to use computer while 46% respondent likes to use their handphone. Some

respondents who using mobile phones stated that the device is used for reading nonfiction eBooks, such as novels or magazines. While computer devices are used to read articles from certain scientific journals. We can be learned and assumed that students in higher education usually used to activate Smartphone for informal or leisure purpose while computer are used for formal activities.

Most respondents downloaded eBooks directly from free eBook sites. Only about 15% among them did not do some effort getting eBook unless by copying it from others. This indicates that the students do not motivated or do not have more initiation to looking for eBooks which are need and desired.

Another interesting finding is as many as 65% respondents prefer print books rather than eBooks to complete lecture's task or completing thesis. Bratanek (2013) has found it previously, but until today, those conditions are still appeared.

Picture 3. Read E-book VS P-Book

The keywords function of the eBook makes the readers can easily find what they need. Wu and Chen (2011) also found similar finding in their research in Taiwan for graduate students. Respondent also acknowledged that the use of eBook in learning process could potentially trigger a copy paste behavior. EBook seem only gives an easer way in terms of simplicity of space and time. But still not comfortable to read, dizzying, especially not in the Indonesian language

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings it can be concluded that the presence of internet has really changed the reading patterns of students in higher the education process. Fortunately, data indicated that most respondents have adapted to the changes. The usage pattern between eBook and Print Book is almost the same. Nevertheless, Comfortable reading still should be concerned, because it cushioned could not be obtained by reading digital form such as eBooks. Respondent do not read the book thoroughly, only partially or glance. They potentially will miss the main knowledge context of the books. Besides that, all respondents prefer to use eBook which

visualization contents. Of course this condition will affect on the quality of the process of absorption and understanding of knowledge.

Recommendation: the use of eBook as a teaching material needs to be aligned with the efforts of creative learning from face to face communication. This creative learning cannot be achieved only by counted on learning or virtual learning process. However an electronic or digital book does not necessarily eliminate printed books. People still love and need printed material, Therefore digital books still needed to provide with a print version to meet the needs of its user reading group.

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Kurniawaty Yusuf. M.Si. is a lecturer in Communication Sciences Studies Program Paramadina University, Jakarta. to She finished her Magister Communication Study from University of Indonesia. Now, she is Director of Cooperation and Fellowship at University of Paramadina. She can be contacted at kurniawaty.yusuf@paramadina.ac.id

Dr. Rini Sudarmanti is a lecturer in Communication Sciences Studies Program Paramadina University, Jakarta. She granted URGE and for doctoral program at the University of Padjadjaran. Now she is the Head of Postgraduate Program of Communication Science Paramadina University. She can be reach at rini.sudarmanti@paramadina.ac.id

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