CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

The act of perceiving opinions, beliefs, attitudes, and judgments regarding anything in the environment is known as perception. Perception can be characterized in many different ways. According to some experts, perception is the act of receiving, organizing and interpreting sensory information. Consider the senses as passive experience channels, according to Gibson (1976, p.61); the reasons only transfer meaningless information from the 'outside' to the 'inside,' which are then processed to create perceptions. On the other hand, perception is a conscious sensory experience, according to Goldstein and Gibson (2007). It refers to the process of perceiving or comprehending something. According to Healey, perception is linked to the human senses, which provide environmental messages through sight, hearing, touching, smell, and taste. Human perception information could include an object's shapes, colours, noises, and other characteristics.

Rapid developments have characterized the twenty-first century in various domains, including the global economy, technology, culture, society, and education. The current coronavirus outbreak (Covid-19), which has affected over 200 nations throughout the world, has posed issues for educational institutions. Residents, including students and instructors, are required to stay at home and work, worship, and study (Jamaluddin, Ratnasih, Gunawan, & Paujiah, 2020).

This situation necessitates educational institutions to innovate in their teaching methods. Doing online learning is one type of innovation. For online learning, the internet has become the most crucial resource. The adoption of the internet as an instructional tool led teachers to reconsider how they delivered and administered instructions. Various areas have established home-based learning policies to protect school residents from the Covid-19 exposure. These policies range from preschoolers to higher education, both country and private.

It's not unexpected that many educational institutions adopt a virtual learning system or online learning because of its convenience and practicality. As a result, online learning can be done from anywhere and at any time, as long as professors and students agree (Adijaya&Santosa, 2018).

Teachers' perceptions of using e-learning/Google Classroom in educational activities were studied in this study. Some teachers have implemented the use of online learning platforms such as Google Classroom to integrate technology into the teaching and learning process in the classroom. As a result, teachers should focus on emphasizing deep understanding and connecting students with real-world data and technologies as part of the educational support system. Teachers should incorporate the use of supportive technologies, problem-based techniques, and higher-order thinking abilities into their teaching strategies. They should develop an environment that encourages online teaching and learning in the middle of Covid-19.

However according to the statement above there are some issues identified based on the informal interview with the teachers at SMP Negeri 37 Medan as follows :

1. The teachers have difficulty teaching students using the apps of Google Classroom

2. The teachers have difficulty delivering materials online using Microsoft word or Microsoft power point.

3. The teachers could not see and make sure the student directly, wheather the student understood the material being presented or not.

4. The teacher must make sure that teaching materials used in online learning are consistent with the needs of students.

The difficulty of delivering materials online especially English teachers requires teachers to have different and creative ways of delivering material to understand still the material being presented.

According to Fortune, Spielman, and Pangelinan (2011), various issues with online learning include instructional materials, learning interactions, and the learning environment. This study showed that there are several common problems or difficulties faced by teachers, such as having different nuances, different material delivery, and different teaching techniques.

Thus, researchers believe is important to research this topic because each teacher may have different problems delivering material online. Referring to previous sources and studies, the author is interested in examining the teacher's difficulty in delivering material online and nothing what factors are responsible for the difficulty in delivering material online.

From this phenomenon, the researcher is interested in conducting the study with the title, an analysis of teachers' perception of the e-learning platform at SMP Negeri 37 Medan.

1.2 The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the problem above, the problem of the study is formulated as the following :

What are the teachers' perceptions of using the E-learning platform at SMP Negeri 37 Medan?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

Based on the explanation stated above, this research is aimed to :

To describe the teachers' perception of using the E-learning platform at SMP Negeri 37 Medan.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

The scope of this study will be focused on the teachers' perception of using the E-learning platform at SMP Negeri 37 Medan by using the theory of Gibson. The researcher used the Top Down theory, which consists of five sensory experiences, but focused on hearing, touch, and vision from the five sensory experiences.

1.5 The Significances of the Study

This study is projected to produce two key outcomes, namely theoretical and practical benefits, as follows:

1. **Theoretical Significance**

   The study's findings are expected to add to the literature on teachers' perceptions of e-learning, mainly when using Google Classroom apps, and serve as a valuable reference for future research on teachers' perceptions of using Google Classroom apps in teaching and learning online classes.

2. **Practical Significance**

   a) For the teacher

   The result of the study is expected to give some advantage to the teacher in their process of teaching and learning online to apply the apps of Google Classroom to their students. And the result of this study is also expected to assist teachers in developing the students' problem-solving abilities in learning online, so it can be used signpost to further enhance and develop problem-solving skills in the process of learning online.

   b) For the other researcher

The resercher is expected to have knowledge about the teachers'

perception on the use E – Learning Platform and expect to provide

information as the starting point for the teachers' perception