Proceedings

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ICEL 2013

The First International Conference on Education and Language (ICEL)

28,29,30 January 2013
Bandar Lampung University（UBL）
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The First International Conference on Education and Language

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PREFACE

The activities of the International Conference is in line and very appropriate with the vision and mission of Bandar Lampung University (UBL) to promote training and education as well as research in these areas.

On behalf of the First International Conference of Education and Language (ICEL 2013) organizing committee, we are very pleased with the very good responses especially from the keynote speakers and from the participants. It is noteworthy to point out that about 80 technical papers were received for this conference

The participants of the conference come from many well known universities, among others:
University of Wollongong, NSW Australia, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kyoto University (Temple University (Osaka), Japan - Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India - West Visayas State University College of Agriculture and Forestry, Lambunao, Iloilo, Philipine - Bahcesehir University, Istanbul, Turkey - The Higher Institute of Modern Languages, Tunisia - University of Baku, Azerbaijan - Sarhad University, KPK, Pakistan - Medical Sciences English Language Teacher Foundation Program, Ministry of Health, Oman - Faculty School of Arts and Sciences, Banga, Aklan Philippines - Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa, Banten, - Pelita Harapan University, Jakarta - STIBA Saraswati Denpasar, Bali - University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta - Ahmad Dahlan University Yogyakarta - Sriwijaya University, Palembang - Islamic University of Malang - IAIN Raden Fatah Palembang - Universitas Diponegoro, Semarang, Indonesia - Universitas Haluoleo Kendari - State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati, Bandung - Tadulako University, Central Sulawesi - Sanata Dharma University - Lampung University and Open University,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the International Advisory Board members, sponsors and also to all keynote speakers and all participants. I am also grateful to all organizing committee and all of the reviewers who contribute to the high standard of the conference. Also I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Rector of Bandar Lampung University (UBL) who gives us endless support to these activities, so that the conference can be administrated on time.

Bandar Lampung, 30 January 2013

Mustofa Usman, Ph.D
lCEL 2013 Chairman

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(ICEL 2013)
BANDAR LAMPUNG UNIVERSITY
Bandar Lampung, Indonesia
January 28, 29, 30, 2013

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FACEBOOK BASE WRITING LEARNING FOR TEACHING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

A. Alfian Cahyo Budiardi[1,*] , B. Baity Anggraeni[1]

[1] Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Muhammadiyah Malang, Indonesia

*Corresponding email: alfian.cahyo@gmail.com

Abstract

Technology is something which cannot be avoided in our daily lives. It reaches many sectors of life; one of them is education especially in teaching writing. Recently, many teachers are still use a conventional method and approach to teach their students. On the other hands, students are familiar with Facebook. They use it almost every day in their spare time. There a lot of menu on it that is usually used with its own function. So, it is important to create a new effective way in teaching by taking some advantages from the development of the technology especially Facebook.

This Facebook Base Writing Learning is a new innovation in teaching writing in which the teacher uses Facebook as the media in teaching it. The teacher applies it in Facebook's group where the members of the group are the students of writing class who are taught by the teacher. The students are asked to post their works in that group and having a peer evaluation in that group to make it better. Then, the teacher asks them to revise their works based on the comments given by their friends.

In evaluating the students, the teacher is not only focus on the final result of the students' works but also considering the students' activities during in the classroom including the students' participation and how the students' develop their skills. Teacher also gives materials in the class.

To apply this method and approach, teacher needs to make a group in Facebook and let their students join it. Then, students are playing their roles on this phase to develop their skills by having practices in the group which will be evaluated by peer evaluators with teacher's guidance.

Keywords: FBWL, teaching, TEFL, writing, English

1. INTRODUCTION

Technology is not a taboo one in this globalization era and it has being a part of our daily lives. To solve a problem, we need communication and information to provide solutions to any problems. There is nothing wrong with the technology which has been widely applied in all formal and an informal institution. It has more effects in guiding people to solve their problem.

It inspires and leads people to make a new thing for certain purpose. People are helped by the technology to develop their old and ancient things. One of the results and the effects of the technology is Social Network. There are many kinds of social network in this world. To come up with, Boyd and Ellison (2007) define social networking sites (SNSs) as web-based services that have three main functions; (1) to make up a public profile within a 'bounded system', (2) to articulate a list of other users with whom they share connection, and (3) to view and to traverse their lists connection made by others within their system. Some social networking sites are Friendster, Twitter, Linkedin, Facebook, and MySpace. Most users use social networks for several reasons; (1) business matters, (2) build interpersonal relation, (3) sharing information, and (4) learning. For the first reason, people may use it as a business media because by them we can communicate and interact with others so it is potentially inviting customers. It also provides a media for businessman to have coordination with their employees. It may also increase people's relation. They may get a lot of new friends even finding their old friend because of the social media. The other reasons of using social media are to provide a media to share with others and also to learn and increase people's knowledge. Although it seems that people access them for different needs, there is still one shared characteristic of social networks which is online interaction and communication between people by which most of the interaction is established through the written language. Another characteristic is

proposed by Gross and Acquisti (2005) that the most common model of it is based on the presentation of the participant's profile and the visualization of network based on relation to others. One of the favorite sites is Facebook. Facebook is a social media or people usually called it as social network. It is a site on internet which has capability to make people know each other by having their own profile by registering a private account. Facebook is firstly founded by Mark Zuckenberg eight years ago with his college roommates. It was firstly used as a media to make a network between his college's students but some years after the launching, he initiated to make the network broader to many other universities and finally it is open for public. All of people may use it freely anywhere and anytime now.

Generally, technology is needed to provide an easy, efficient and innovative solution. It however reaches many sectors of live. People are difficult to avoid its effects. People will be left behind by others if do not follow the development of the technology. It can bring many advantages and changes to a certain aspect like education. For education, technology helps to make a new media, method, and approach in a certain subject.

In teaching English, there are many things taught to the student include the general knowledge about English and also the skill in using English. It needs a certain method and treatment to teach it in order to make the transformation of the knowledge can run well. One of the skills which is often considered as a difficult thing to be mastered is writing skill because we need to master other skills in English first such as listening, reading, and speaking. Writing combines all those skills to make it better. In Indonesia in which English is taught as a foreign language need a certain approach to teach it. By the development of the technology, it is important to make innovation in teaching it.

1.1 Phenomena

Nowadays, Facebook become a popular site around the world. Almost all of people in the world have Facebook account. Its users is not only adult people but also other levels of age like elementary students', junior high school students', senior high school students', and college students'. Mostly, they use it as a media to communicate with his or her friends and family. They may send a message or chat with their relation without any limitation of time and place. They just need internet connection and a gadget to use it. It provides many menus for the users which make users comfortable and make them open their account every day. As a result, Facebook become a famous site in the world that almost all of the people use it every day and continue to growth rapidly.

In this modern era, Facebook also become a trendsetter in the teenager's lives. In Indonesia, they thought that people will be considered as a modern person if he or she has an up do Dae Facebook account. It seems that they have an "informal competition" to be the most up to date person by having a good, attractive, and colorful profile on their Facebook account and also being active on it. Indirectly, the "competition" will make teenagers are motivated to go online and waste many times. Consequently, it may disturb their main activities because they are too concern on their Facebook.

Based on a survey, people may stay on their computer or gadget at least four hours per day. It indicates that technology especially Facebook takes an important thing in people's lives. From that fact, we can know that Facebook has influence for people lives. Facebook is one of the most accessed social networks in Indonesia. For instance, Socialbakers (2012) reports that Indonesia is the third biggest Facebook users in the world with its 45.523.750 users and increases by more than 4.231.720 users in the last six months in 2012.
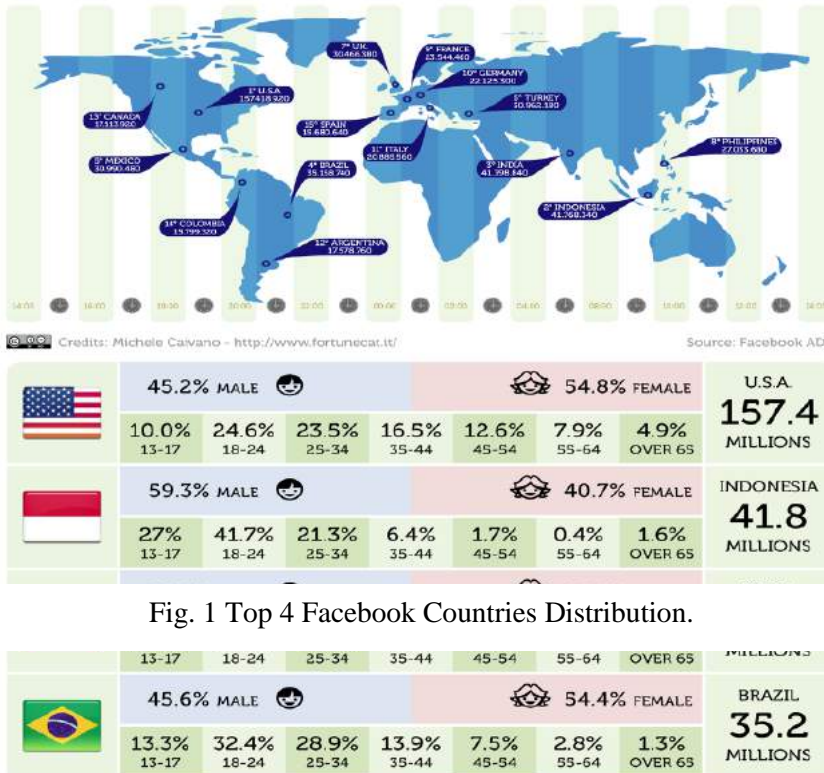

Fig. 1 Top 4 Facebook Countries Distribution.

Figure 1 above shows the statistical data on January 2012 about top four the biggest Facebook users in the world. Based on that data, Indonesia has very big numbers of users and it is indicated from the rank that is in

second position with forty one point eight millions (41.8 millions) under United States of America with one hundred fifty seven point four millions.

On the other hands, the students' interest in reading and studying is getting worst in line with the increasing of the number of social network users. Based on that condition, it is important to create a new innovative method and approach in teaching writing in a country in which English is taught as a foreign language based on the thing in which students interested.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Teaching Approach

In teaching English, there is a special treatment which is usually used by teacher in Indonesia in term of method and approach. TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) is a knowledge on the development of language teaching, particularly English, that of the activity done by teachers in order to meet the language teaching goals. In teaching writing, the teacher should concern in some cases like the spelling and the grammar or the text structure; consequently, there are a lot of teachers prefer to use grammar translation method principles to teach it. As we all know, grammar translation method is so emphasizing in the use of grammar that sometimes can make the students bored because they just facing many kinds of text or making a text and paragraph without any variation. Before starting practice to write any kinds of text, the teacher may deliver some materials related to the topic. That condition leads the class to the bored situation where the teacher tells the students about the materials more which is called as teacher centred. Absolutely, that method is not completely effective because the teacher will more focus on the result of the student without any consideration about the students' development process.

In this modern era, it will be better that the teacher is not only look at the result of the study of the students but also the students' development process itself so it will be very objective evaluation. Based on what psychology about motivation said that someone will be easier to receive a new thing on their mind if they feel comfort. Reviews to the phenomena, students are interested in social network and they waste many times for it.

Tell me and I forget,
Teach me and I remember,
Involve me and I lear*n.*
(Benjamin Franklin)

As Benjamin Franklin said above, it is stated that in the learning process, the teacher is not only need to tell and teach the student but also involving them in order to make them learn more. His statement is supported by Burner (1966:33) who said that learners are not only listening but also being active in learning process. It is clearly explain that in learning process students are not only being the object but also being the subject in the learning process to apply student centred approach. "The teacher, on this view, is concerned with understanding what the child thinks ... understanding is fostered through discussion and collaboration…" (Bruner, 1996: 56). In that statement, it is clear that to make the students understand and comprehend the materials, they need to involve in a discussion that require them to collaborate each other for sharing their ideas and opinions.

To teach effectively, Brown (1988) asserts that effective teaching requires the teacher to consider what the students know, to communicate clearly to them, and to stimulate them to learn, think, communicate, and perhaps in their turn, to stimulate their teachers. To come up with, he adds that in short, to teach effectively you must know your subject, know how your students learn, and how to teach. Teacher however should identify what the students want in teaching process in order to the students feel comfort and enjoying to their study so the knowledge will be transformed effectively.

2.2 Facebook Utilization in Writing Class

Looking at recent condition that students are interested in internet utilization so much such as Social Network Sites (SNSs), it indirectly encourages us to innovate a new methodology and approach for teaching in a class especially for teaching English as a foreign language. Haman and Wilson in Munoz (2009) find that students who are engaged in a web-enhanced class might perform well than those students in a traditional lecture format. It is implied that we need an innovation in teaching methodologies in this globalization era when the technology has reached many sectors of life. There is no other option to develop the methodologies in line with the technology development. The students have accustomed to live side by side with technology in their lives. Consequently, Marc Prensky calls them as digital native students. He states that because they have grown up with digital technology, digital natives are more comfortable with it than the generations that did not. "But this doesn't mean they know everything about it or want to." Interpreting further from his statement, the students tend to use technology more than the previous generation like the teachers have. But not all of the students prefer for it.

There are some types of students who do not like that kind of lifestyle because of their own principle or their personality.

Derives from that condition, Facebook can be a solution to make an innovation in the way of teaching English especially in writing class. In using it, we use one of the facilities in Facebook named group. By making a group, we can categorize the members of the group by ourselves so we can communicate only to whom we discuss. We can set the type of the group as a private or close group. However, we just need to invite them to the group so everything which is published in that group is only known by the members of the group. Consequently, the discussion in that group will be more focus and exclusive to the topic without any disturbs from other Facebook users.

In starting the teaching process, teacher may give some materials in the classroom as brainstorming to the students. It can be the way of organizing idea in a paragraph or even an essay and also the rules in academic or scientific writing. Next, by those materials, the teacher stimulates them to develop and enrich their knowledge about it and give them an assignment as reinforcement for students. In classroom activities, teacher may guide the students' study process and create student centered approach. They should stimulate students to have independent learning and being active during the learning activities in the classroom. Teacher has an important role in this approach to direct and guide the students to avoid unexpected thing.

Fig. 2 The sample of student's work in making mind mapping.

Furthermore, students' roles are started when they should do and finish their homework. In writing, they may be asked to make a paragraph even an essay. In doing that kinds of assignment, students should finish it before the deadline that has been agreed in the class. In this phase, Facebook has its roles. The students' should post their works in the group of their class in Facebook. Then, they will have peer evaluation to their works. Every student have responsibilities to correct and evaluate their friends' works. They do it by giving comments in every post which is made by their friends. The evaluation includes many criteria such as diction, grammar, text organization, and punctuation. Here, the active students can be considered as a psycho-motoric capability and being one of the indicators to give students' final score because by this approach the teacher should concern more in the process. It is important because by this approach the students' progress and efforts will be more appreciated than just judge it from a final test.

Because in this approach we use students' process oriented, it needs chronological order in doing the tasks. In the other words, the students have to think systematically so they will not find any difficulties in the process. Students are better to start their works by making a mind mapping first. It is meant to help students in organizing their ideas before expanding and writing it into a paragraph or an essay. Consequently, the students just need to develop a paragraph easily based on what they have arranged in mind mapping. In order to have a good essay, it is a must for each student to make a good mind mapping. To realize it, peer evaluation is started from this step in the Facebook group.

As the figure 2 above shows us that from friends' comments, students can revise their mind mapping to be better one. Moreover, it could also be a solution when they are lack of ideas to be developed. Their friends may

have many interesting suggestions and ideas related to their topic so they can take and give each other to reach nearly perfect products of writing. In addition, teacher keeps guiding the students in having peer evaluations so the suggestion and the criticism which are given to their friends can be guaranteed as a correct one. These mechanisms are used for the next learning process such as arranging a paragraph until constructing a full essay.

2.3 Results

At the end of the semester, the assignment as the evaluation is used to measure the students' ability. It needs to be taken because the teacher should know the improvement of the students' ability. The final assessment will be compared to the students' ability when they are still in the earlier of the semester. It requires also the students' feedback about their feeling and opinions about learning process that they have had for about one semester. As a result, it can be in form of diagram or table so that teacher can make some improvements for the next opportunity.

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