CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides some points of discussion such as background of study, statement of problem, purpose of study, significance of study, scope and limitations, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Study

Technology has developed rapidly, the development of technology makes people agree to take with it, one of the technologies which is used by many people in the world is internet. Internet becomes very important for people today especially for the students of University because through internet the students can get more information and learn many things from many sources of knowledge. Therefore, Internet can be accepted well because of its potential as a learning tool. Internet can be used as a learning resources in teaching and learning language and as a basic of communication in distance education (Klimici, 2010, as cited in Brandstrom, 2011).

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is more effective and help students to learn, especially when ICT is integrated in educational process (Lonn & Teasley, 2009, as cited in Suorsa & Eskillson, 2014). Many students consider that ICT tools are very helpful for them because it helps them to do their assignments. Moreover, by using ICT students can increase their own knowledge in education, they can share other information, and also be more active in learning process.
A most popular trend in higher education that has been carried out is Learning Management System (LMS). It is a software application or web-based technology that has become a powerful tool for conducting an e-learning environment. This software provides direct instruction that makes e-learning become effective (Busaidi, 2011). This system allows educational institutions to offer a larger number of full online or face to face courses. LMS shows that both traditional class and online class can be combined in a teaching learning activities. The application of LMS in higher education can increase students’ motivation, assessment, and communication. University of Muhammadiyah Malang (UMM) has used this application to support their teaching and learning. As the result, the students are comfortable to use this application because the learning process become more effective and students can improve their motivation to study any knowledge in their courses. A study conducted by Hussein (2011) shows that the use of LMS improves the overall teaching and learning process, as well as improving students’ attitudes and motivation. LMS provides the students and teacher with a complete tool for increase the learning outcomes.

According to Soursa & Eskilsson (2014) LMS is an important part to get a communication between students and teacher and also handling their assignments, it means that by using LMS communication one of them not only occurring in the class, it can be held in outside the class by using LMS. As we know, learning process occurring in the class by face-to-face with the lecturers. However, by using LMS, learning process easier than before since it can help lecturers and students to get in touch.
However, according to Srichanyachon (2014) the students agree that the LMS is useful for receiving news and communicating with people. They seem that the LMS can make English learning more convenient, nevertheless, the student do not totally agree that it has been accepted as a learning tool. They also think that LMS is a useful device that can support their English learning in many ways. Yet, they still resist that traditional face-to-face instruction is more useful. In other words, LMS is a good tool to help student and lectures, through combining LMS and face-to-face instruction the learning can effective and more comfortable.

An example of learning management system platforms is Schoology, which is an online learning session, classroom management, and social networking platform that improve learning become interesting (Luaran, 2012). Schoology provides educational tool to bolster up teaching and learning in this era. Through this software lecturer creates dynamic educational support for their students and makes collaborative learning environment and provides cognitive challenges.

However, at digital library in UMM, there is still few research on LMS, particularly discussing the students’ perception. Therefore, this fact serves as the research urgency for this study.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background of study above, the statement of the problem of this study is:

What is students’ perception about Schoology in Evaluasi Pembelajaran subject at fourth-semester students of English Language Education Department University of Muhammadiyah Malang?
1.3 Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study is formulated to answer the research question. The purpose is described as follows:

To investigate how the students’ perception about Schoology in *Evaluasi Pembelajaran* subject at the fourth-semester students English Language Department University of Muhammadiyah Malang.

1.4 Significance of Study

For students: the researcher expected that the students should be aware of Schoology, since it can help them to create the learning more interesting.

For the lecturers: the researcher expected that the lecturers should be aware of Schoology since it makes the learning more effective.

For research in the field: the researcher hopes through this research the further researcher could enrich their references to conduct the research.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

Based on the statement of problem above, the researcher considers to make scope and limitation. The research only focuses on the students’ perception about Schoology. The researcher limits of this research only in *Evaluasi Pembelajaran* subject in IVB class at fourth-semester students of English Language Department.
1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding the meaning of the terms used in this research, the definition key term is presented. Those terms are:

1. Student’s perception is the experience about object, event, or getting correlation by summarizing information and interpreting instruction. (Rachmawati, 2005)

2. Schoology is an online learning, classroom management, social networking platform that tries to improve learning more interesting, classroom motivation, and make easier to access the content. (Biswas, 2013)

3. Evaluasi Pembelajaran is a subject that is given to the at fourth semester students of English Language Education Department University of Muhammadiyah Malang.