

Students' Perceptions toward The Usage of Technology As Medium For T & L of Qiraat During Covid-19: A Case Study on Undergraduate Students At Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia

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Abstract

Today, the whole world has been tested with the Covid-19 outbreak which has been a while. In addition, it lead to the economy affected and also has a clear impact on the education sectors. The teaching and learning method for Qiraat course traditionally face -to face is converted online teaching and learning (T&L). Therefore, this study aims to explore students' dimensions on use of the medium of technology of Qiraat course during Covid-19. This study is a qualitative study using case study in University Islamic Sciences Malaysia (USIM). The results show that the technology medium used by USIM students for learning Qiraat is Microsoff Teams. There were 60 % students agreed that the advantage of using the technology for Qiraat T&L made the course easier and flexible, 80% students mentioned main constraints of this T&L is internet coverage. Meanwhile, 20% said the main problem the challenges in implementing lesson revision and lecturers could not monitor students. Therefore, this study has important implications for the universities and institution of tahfiz studies in Malaysia towards formation of a more powerful and quality Quranic generation.

Keywords: Technology Medium, Qiraat, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia.

Introduction

Technology is one of the intermediate mediums with each other for communicating information. This media technology can serve as a tool for teaching lecturers in public universities that are effective in improving the quality of learning and performance of students. The study by Kop (2011) explains that one of the largest contributions to Internet

technology in the education world is in terms of spreading borderless learning content. The use of technology in education needs to be enhanced especially in the delivery of information in the current learning system to students at public universities by educators. These needs are important to be in line with the progress of the present era of the digital era where students tend to be more creative and innovative (Aziz, 2019).

Information and Multimedia technology in 21st century education has been widely used among educators as it can affect the quality of PdP. Today's students have a variety of ways to interact in an environment created through digital technologies such as computer games, mobile phones and virtual worlds. Early childhood use studies show that exposure to multimedia computers can stimulate and encourage children to learn better, quickly and effectively (Burnett, 2010; Nor & Azman, 2011).

According to Fariza Puteh: "The use of higher education technology is not something new in our country. It has been widely discussed since 2013. However, the presence of the Covid-19 virus seems to be in the world including Malaysia towards a more comprehensive use of digital technology that indirectly causes a digital spike in Malaysia ". (Fariza, 2021)

The greatest miracle conferred to the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. and his people is al-Quran al-Karim. Al-Quran, which was revealed to humankind, has a variety of recitations. These recitation variances hold a certain level of degree as well as validity. In a discipline known as *qiraat*, certain rigorous standards for admitting or rejecting a form of recitation have been specified. The knowledge of *qiraat* was discussed as early as during the life of Rasulullah s.a.w. However, the difference arises because some companions took only one *wajh* of *qiraat*. On the other hand, there were also companions who took recitations from Rasulullah s.a.w. with two *wajh* of *qiraat*, as well as companions who took recitations by adding more than two *wajh* of *qiraat*(Al-Jazariy, T.th).

One of type for perserving Qiraat during covid-19 is using technology. Therefore, educators and students can take advantage of new teaching and learning from traditional methods to the latest in the sophistication of information technology. The focus of this study is to investige at the dimensions of students in the use of technology as medium for T&L during Covid-19 case study from USIM students. The integration of traditional learning systems with the latest technology is expected to have a positive impact on USIM students in addressing the level of mastery of Qiraat among students. It is also hoped that it will provide new add-ons in the T&L of Qiraat and make it easier for the community to use technology applications and introduce information that has a positive impact on the current education system.

Objective

The objective of this study is to examine the students' perceptions toward the usage of technology as medium for t&l of qiraat during covid-19: a case study on undergraduate students at universiti sains islam malaysia

Methodology

This study is a qualitative study in the form of a case study. Case studies were selected because it could explain a particular case or phenomenon, which is the use of technology among students participating in the Bachelor Program at the University of Islamic Sciences

Malaysia. The sampling technique used is the purpose of sampling that the selected sample can provide a lot of information and help answer the research questions (Patton, 1987). The selected sample consisted of undergraduate program students at the University of Islamic Sciences Malaysia. A total of 10 students were involved as study participants who could help provide a lot of information about this study (Creswell, 2003).

Data Collection

Qualitative research has its own form of data that is different from quantitative research. The qualitative data used in this study were the forms of interviews and field observations.

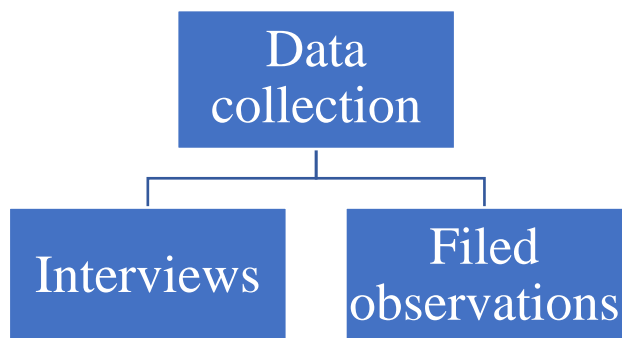


Figure 1: Data Collection

Interview

Interviews in this study using Focus Group Interview (FGD). FGD is a good data collection technique in qualitative research. FGD discussion method is a popular qualitative method. In this study, FGD was conducted to 10 informants among the students using *Google Form*. The questions design using open ended questions while informants. The informants take between 5 and 10 minutes to answer the questions. Data analysis start with data coding as follows:

- i. Each interview session will be encoded as (TB),
- ii. Informant Code (PQU1-10) sample from Bachelor of Qiraat at FPQS, USIM
- iii. Lecturer FPQS USIM,
- iv. Time frame: during Pandemic Covid-19
- v. Teaching and learning code (PdP).

Observation

This study also used observation as method for collecting data. This method of observation is divided into two parts: direct observation and observation through participant-observation. This study involves direct observation in calculation of the number of students take Qiraat Course at USIM. This technique usually does not involve communication with humans. The method of observation through involvement comes from the field of anthropology (a study of community life). Meanwhile, researchers will be involved with the lecturers who teach Qiraat Course at USIM.

Data Analysis

The researcher will use thematic analysis to identify the theme contained in the interview transcription (Width, 2009). To identify the theme for this study, the researcher will determine based on the interview questions raised to the study participants. A qualitative specialist in the field of Qiraat appointed to verify and interater thematic in this study.

Discussion on Findings

This analysis and discussion featured the findings interview using Focus Group Discussion (FGD) conducted on 10 informants. This finding has been transcribed from questions, identified the themes in the interviews and reports based on the data obtained. There are four themes which are fundamental to the analysis in this study:

1. Teaching Medium: Microsoff Teams

Based on the FGD on PQU1 to PQU10, all of them stated that online learning is the most flexible medium was used in T&L Qiraat courses at FPQS, USIM during Covid-19 was through the technology medium. The use of technology in education is a very important issue. Once upon a time, teachers were more dependent on the materials taken from textbooks, newspapers, magazines, reference books and various printed materials to assist them in the teaching and learning process but now technology has changed the teaching techniques of the classroom (Vaughan, 2008; Zaiton, 2006). This is because today's students have not only been exposed to a variety of sophisticated modern technologies but also rely on modern technology in their daily lives. All students state that the technology medium used in the Qiraat course at FPQS, USIM during Covid-19 is using platform Microsoff Teams.

2. Advantages of Technology in Teaching and Learning (T&L)

Based on interviews conducted on 10 students, they mentioned many advantages of using technology in the Qiraat programme in T&L at FPQS, USIM. Usage of Microsoff Teams as platform for T&L during Covid-19 give advantages to student. This feedback is categorized based on the advantages of the technology stated by the students are as follows: [i] Simple [ii] Review on subject

i. Easy and simple

Students of the Qiraat Program at FPQS, USIM feel the T&L Qiraat using Microsoff Teams makes this course easy to learn. They also say that using the technology, all the information related to this course is easy to find. For example

PQU1: *Easy.*

PQU2: *Easily learning sessions.*

Students also said on online T&L facilitates learning. This statement is supported by the findings of the interview as stated by:

PQU10: *facilitating learning*

PQU6: *Can study everywhere, especially with strong internet*

ii. Review on subject

Students of the Qiraat Program at FPQS, USIM believe that the T&L on Qiraat Course with Microsoff Teams makes it easy for them to review the course. This statement was stated by

PQU4: *Can repeat the lesson because there is a class recording*

PQU8: *Can repeat T&L records for review*

They also say that using this technology makes it easier to re-watch the video. This statement is supported by

PQU4: *can see the recording of the classroom session*

Meanwhile, students also mentioned that there are live qiraat programs on social media.

3. Technology constraints in Teaching and Learning

Based on the interviews conducted on 10 students all the study participants stated that there were some constraints that they had to face when the Qiraat course was taught using the current medium of technology Covid-19. The theme of this technology constraint is based on the students' response to the interviews conducted. This data is categorized based on some of the constraints as follows: [i] Internet problems [ii] Limited understanding.

i. Internet Problems

Based on the students' responses to the Qiraat program at USIM to statements on the use of technology use in the T&L Qiraat Course at USIM through the technology medium, most students agree with the statement that they mentioned that the implementation of this online T&L is simple and effective. However, they acknowledge that there are still obstacles required to be addressed, especially issues related to internet access. Most students face the same constraints as internet access issues. For example:

PQU2: *Internet online problems make it difficult for learning.*

PQU5: *the internet sometimes does not cooperate.*

This statement is supported by FGD's findings with follows:

PQU6: *weak internet*

PQU9: *Qiraat T&L through the medium of technology made the qiraat reading unclear, it like sound of robot.*

ii. Limited understanding on subject

Based on the students' the Qiraat program at USIM responses to statements on the use of technology this T&L using technology medium, most students agree with the statement that about the implementation of online T&L is simple and effective. They mentioned about the constraints they face during T&L the program is limited understanding and less helpful to master the subject. For example:

PQU4: *lack of understanding and attention in the classroom*

Some students also feel that online T&L makes it difficult to interact with other students and difficulty to understand the content. This statement is supported by PQU7 and PQU8.

4. Effectiveness of Technology Medium in Teaching and Learning

Based on the interviews conducted on 10 students, most students stated that the effectiveness using technology in the T&L Qiraat program at during Covid-19 pandemic was helping them learn the subject. This statement is supported by the response given by PQU2 *yes help.*

PQU4: *Yes. It's a bit helpful.*

PQU6: *help especially to listen he reading of the Qiraat*

Although most students said that the usage of technology in the T&L Qiraat at DQ through the Google Meet during Covid-19 helps them learn this course, there are also students who respond that T&L through the medium of technology does not help them learn and mastering the subject. This statement is supported by the findings of the interview as stated by

PQU7: *less*

PQU10: *no.*

PQU1 it is "45% better face to face@talaqqi musyafahah".

The use of technology as medium for T&L during Covid-19 USIM conducted through Microsoft Teams. All students agree to the use of technology in T&L as medium during Covid-19 is

flexible. The students also agree that the use of technology as mediums in T&L has advantages and constraints. There are four main themes that are fundamental to the analysis of technological use among students at USIM during Covid-19. All students agree Microsoft Teams as medium for T&L of Qiraat program during Covid-19. This statement were supported by the findings of the FDG as stated 100% respondents mentioned technology medium used at USIM for the Covid-19 qiraat course is a Microsoft Teams medium.

Most students agree that T&L Qiraat program using technology medium has many advantages. They said that using Microsoft Teams makes T&L Qiraat easier to review the subject. This statement is supported by the findings in FDG as stated by 3 out of 10 students, representing 30% saying it is easy. A total of 7 people representing 70% said they could review through recordings using Microsoft Teams. Based on the students' responses to the Qiraat program at USIM on T&L Qiraat program, there are some constraints they have to face. This statement is supported by FGD findings with students there are 7 out of 10 students, representing 70% saying that the main constraints of online T&L is internet problems. As for the remaining students of 3 people represent 30% say the main problem of T&L Qiraat using the technology makes them less understanding to the subject and difficult to interact with students. They recommend for T&L of Qiraat program using face to face.

In addition, most students agree that the effectiveness of the use of technology in the T&L Qiraat program is to help them for mastering the subject. This statement is supported by the findings of FGD with 7 out of 10 students, representing 70% in response that learning technology as medium T&L can helps them in this qiraat program. There are only a few students who feel that the T&L using Microsoft Teams does not help them for mastering this subject which is 2 students represented 20% of the total number of students. There is only one student who expresses that face -to -face qiraat courses are more effective than online T&L.

Based on interviews conducted on 10 students as informants on this research, they suggested using technology as medium for T&L of Qiraat program should be improved. First on foremost, good and stable internet access needs to be improved. Internet access should be at very optimal level to ensure T&L activities run smoothly. There are variety of technology can be used as mediums for T&L such as video, link sharing or internet web that contains information on Qiraat. Diversities on sources of T&L could make this course more interesting.

Conclusion

In conclusion, there are advantages and disadvantages using technology as medium for teaching and learning (T&L) for the Qiraat program offered at USIM. Among the advantages in using this technology as medium for T&L is to make the Qiraat program easier to learn and easy to review the subject. The most important factors that faced by students is internet problems and limited to understand the subject because of there is no interactions between students in online classes. This issue needs to be resolved wisely. Implementation of T&L using technology as medium is requires high patience from students, lecturers, and parents. Continuous implementation of T&L needs to be implemented with a variety of alternatives sources. Therefore, no matter what the situation occurred, all parties have to ensure that the T&L Qiraat program could done. This process requires the cooperation from all parties; students, lecturers, and parents. The usage of technology as mediums for T&L should be seen

from a positive point of view because the T&L of Qiraat is required discipline in order to master it.

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