

Chapter Two

Literature Review

This chapter presents the definition of Edmodo, features in Edmodo, the activities provided in Edmodo that support language learning, and the language skills that can be increased by the use of Edmodo.

Definition of Edmodo

There are many educational activities that can be done in web-based learning environment such as online assignments, discussions, and other tasks. This website is a free and secure learning platform designed by Jeff O'Hara and Nick Borg in 2008 for teachers, students, parents, schools, and districts, and is available at *www.edmodo.com* (Kongchan, 2013). Edmodo is free to access by everyone that wants share ideas, searching for educational materials, and need a supporting tool in learning activity. According to Cauley (2012), "Edmodo is an educational website that takes the ideas of a social network and refines them and makes it appropriate for a classroom. Using Edmodo, students and teachers can reach out to one another and connect by sharing ideas, problems, and helpful tips". Edmodo is one kind of web-based learning that provides some features of learning environment. Edmodo is a simple tool using to present the lesson contents; it provides useful tools for students and teachers to interact online (Hourdequin, 2014). He also mentions that the appearance of Edmodo and the function are closely being similar to Facebook.

The activity of teaching and learning can be done in outside classroom by the use of Edmodo, teachers can give assignment or announcement every time if needed. According to Bahrami Shams-Abadi et al (2015), "Students use Edmodo to communicate with their teachers to

ask questions about lessons and homework, and collaborate with other classmates on activities and project ideas”. Edmodo can help students and teachers reach out to one another and can connect by sharing ideas, problems, and helpful tips.

Features in Edmodo

Edmodo is simple web that provide some feature that can help students learning activity. According to Kongchan (2013) “The site provides a simple way for teachers and students in a virtual class to connect and collaborate”.Edmodo provides a lot of convenient features to practically aid teachers and students to conduct and organize teaching in classroom sessions or students’ individual learning (Lara, 2013).Some features in Edmodo can make teachers easy to doing the teaching activity. For example, teachers can give the students quizzes and assignments, give feedback, receive completed assignments students send, assign grades of students work, save and share content in whether in files or links type, maintain a class, and conduct polls, the teachers also can send notes and send alerts to individual students or the entire class(Al-Kathiri, 2015). Anywhere the teachers want, they can teach their students by using Edmodo, because features in Edmodo provide a place that teachers and students can discuss about the subject without face to face method, they also liked studyinghow to write and edit the work from the teacher’s feedback online very much (Kongchan, 2013).

There are many features that provide in Edmodo that teacher or students can use as teaching and learning tools. According to Cauley (2013) from “A Guide to Explain it All” (IT Babble.com), “Edmodo is very simple to set up and use”. Means that teacher and student can easily understand and use all the features in Edmodo. The next are the explanations of each features:

Home. Home bar or it is also called as the wall when the users sign in their account Edmodo. Mostly like Facebook, the users of Edmodo can choose what notification to see or something else provided in Edmodo.

Progress. This feature is used to see the result of students' achievement in the lesson, basically this feature is looked from the assignment.

Library. Library makes the users easy to find back their files such as document, picture, video, and so on.

Search box. It is used to search any post, other users and group, and more.

Edmodo spotlight. For teacher this feature makes them can share teaching resources, lesson plans, and worksheets through Edmodo Global educator network.

Notification. Like a Facebook, this feature provides a quick announcement if the users have any new messages, assignments or alerts.

Account. This feature provides Invitation, setting, profile, help, and logout.

Planner. It is like calendar. Every assignments are automatically added to this calendar both teachers and students.

Groups. It is like a class that students join. For teacher this feature can be used to create a group.

Communities. Communities allow the users to connect to other users around the world. It help the users to share their thought to others, the users also can join the discussion of others.

Posting. The Edmodo users can post in the group. There are some features of posting that teachers can use like note, assignment, quiz, alert, and poll (Cauley, 2012). The features in posting have their own purpose. Note feature allows teacher and students post and respond like they have discussion in the class. Teacher can leave assignment with assignment feature to

students; teacher can put assignment by attaching their assignment to their students. It can be video, document, and audio. Edmodo allows teacher to make an online quiz by using quiz feature, like in paper based quiz. Teacher can set the time limitation and what kind of quiz that will be used. There are 4 types of quiz; multiple choice quiz, true false quiz, short answer quiz, and fill in the blank. Having online quizzes could help students to practice English outside classes (Zuraina, 2015). Alert is same with note, but it can be sent to all of the students personally or group as an important messages. Polls allow the teacher to maximize their understanding of students' thoughts and opinions through the vote (Cauley, 2012).

The Activities Provided in Edmodo that Support Language Learning

Edmodo provides some activities that can support students learning activity. Dowlings (2011) examined the effect of using Edmodo in the course is both easy to use and interesting. The Note menu which is used during the writing process apparently facilitates the students with interactivity and meaningful writing tasks (Purnawarman, Susilawati, and Sundayana, 2016). Second is assignment, with this feature the students can see their grade of their assignment as soon as the teacher review their work. The students can also see whether they have feedback or not. The next is quiz, the best activity that provided by Edmodo is quiz. Teachers can make quizzes easily with Edmodo and it can be managed as teacher want, teacher can choose whether they want to make multiple choices, true or false, and so on. The times of the quiz can be set as teacher want, and they can attach file there. Supported by Edmodo, questions were posted on class home page which was fairly eye-catching (Giang, and Minh, 2014). The last is poll, for teachers it can help collecting the vote for what teachers ask to their students in Edmodo. Besides using the feature that provided in Edmodo, teachers can make speaking class

by sending video toward Edmodo. To be more specific, in speaking class, the students were talk about the same topic that they had discussed earlier, use their own personal laptops to record them, and upload them onto the Edmodo class system (Giang, and Minh, 2014).

The Use of Edmodo in Language Learning

The use of Edmodo in language learning is commonly increasing by the time. The teachers realize that they can easily have their own method to teach their students by the use of Edmodo. Edmodo, as a form of technological development for educational purposes, is believed to assist teachers in language classrooms.

The use of Edmodo for teacher. Teacher can post slideshows, videos, worksheets, and notes on Edmodo so students will always have learning materials when they cannot join the class. Then, Teachers can have a place to interact with coworkers, share ideas, and provide support. Planning committees can also meet online – teachers, students, parents and administrators can join (Marcolini, and Smith, 2014).

The use of Edmodo for students. In the English language learning the use of Edmodo is very useful for learning language. Al-Okaily (2013) found that the use of Edmodo via mobile devices could support students to collaborate in an intensive English program. In the specific area, Edmodo can help students to discuss more about course outside the class. Dowling (2011) found that Edmodo allowed students and teachers to connect with each other in the learning process to discuss specific course content. Enriquez (2014) found that the collaboration provided in Edmodo enabled students to improve their online work quality, for example Edmodo can build an online learning conversation with students outside the class. Students can respond other students work in Edmodo and have discussion in the comment box. The Edmodo.com platform

provided the right atmosphere for students to begin responding to one another's work (Holland, and Muilenburg, 2011).

Language skills that can be increased by the use of Edmodo

As the current generations of students are using new technologies, the application of these recent technologies in classes might be useful such as Edmodo. The use of Edmodo can enhance students language skills. It seems that Edmodo acted positively to support the writing ability (Shams-Abadi, Ahmadi and Mehrdad, 2015). Al-Okaily (2013), found that the platform of Edmodo could facilitate students in developing reading and listening skills.

The use of Edmodo as supporting tool can enhance students writing skill. If Edmodo is used in writing class; it provides opportunities for the students to hand their written work directly on the virtual classroom (Shams-Abadi et al., 2015). When students send their work to Edmodo, other student can also see and comment each other, they can discuss their work to others so they can notice whether their writing is correct or not, before the teachers check it and give feedback. It seems that using Edmodo as a technology tool has acted positively to support the writing ability (Bahrami Shams-Abadi et al., 2015)

In Edmodo, reading skill can be improved by uploading some materials or online materials and make questions based on the material. Edmodo has an opportunity to upload the reading and listening materials in Library as well as to upload the topics they should speak or write about (Kumelashvili, 2016). Moreover, according to Ekmeci (2016), "some specific grammar structures, vocabulary, reading and listening comprehension skills can be assessed by means of easily created quizzes".

Feature in Edmodo makes teachers and students easily upload video onto Edmodo. This feature can enhance students speaking skill, for example, teachers decide a topic for speaking exam, then students can use their own laptops to record their speaking performance, and upload them onto the Edmodo, after that other students and the teacher can give comment about the performance. Giang and Minh (2014) stated that “by giving comments in terms of fluency, pronunciation, facial expressions, etc, the teacher could enhance much progress of the students’ performances in Edmodo, which could hardly be done in traditional large-sized classes”.