

Chapter one

Introduction

This chapter is divided into five headings and they are; the background of the study, statement of the problem, research questions, the objective of the research, significance of the research, and organization of the research. The researcher elaborated some literature related to the background of the study. Several phenomena were identified in order to seek the focus of the problem. After finding the focus, it would be transformed in the form of research questions to create more clear goals about this study.

Background of the Study

To study and to live outside the country is a dream for some people. Since the globalization term exists it also brought a new term in the educational field which is study abroad (SA) (Falk & Kanach, 2015). As time goes by, globalization opens a wider chance for those who really want to study in other countries. From the year 2000 to 2010 the growth of study abroad increased, as can be seen from this statistic below (“The numbers of internationally mobile students”, 2018)

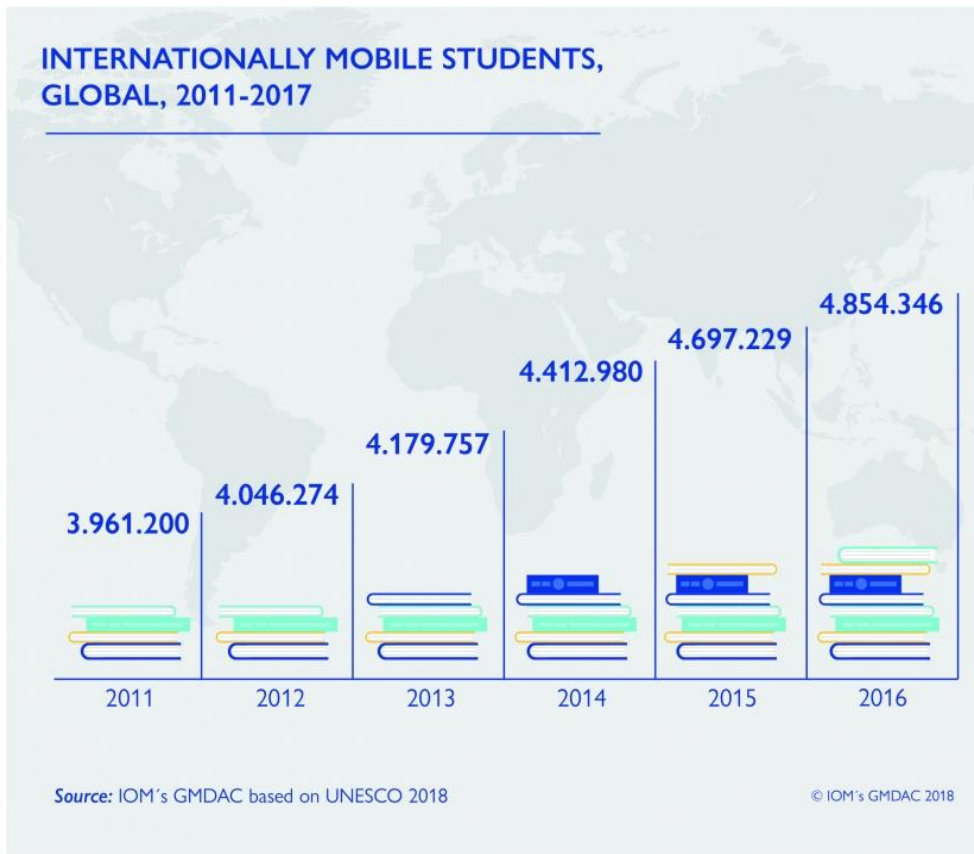


Figure 1 Internationally Mobile Students Global 2011 - 2017

Every country has its own specialties, characteristics, and values. Based on the table below, it showed the differences between Australia, China, Egypt, and Indonesia in several dimensions. The six dimensions are power, individualism, masculinity, uncertainty avoidance, long term orientation, and indulgence. Power is related to the government inequalities amongst the citizen. Individualism is about the level of interdependence in a society. Masculinity shows about competition in daily activities. Uncertainty avoidance has to do with what is the perspective from the people related to the future. Long term orientation deal with how people keep contact with the past. The last points talks about the desire which is an indulgence. From this, it reflects how one country differs between countries (“Hofstede Insight”, n.d).

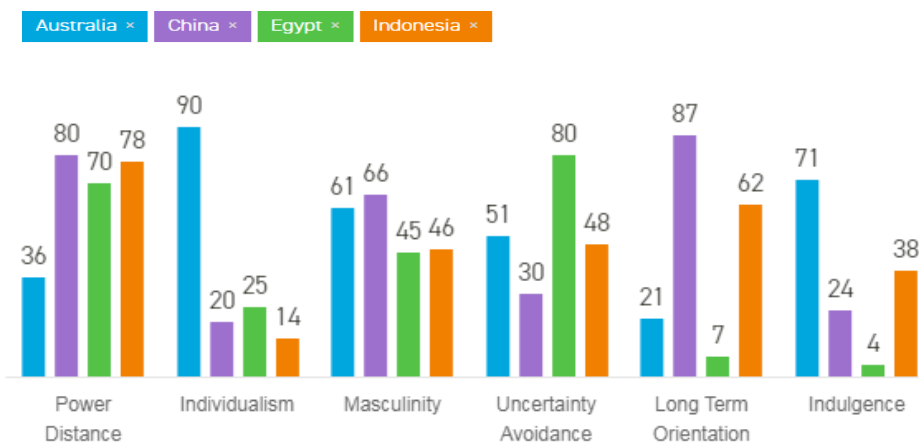


Figure 2 Cultural Differences between Australia, China, Egypt, and Indonesia

Sam and Berry (2010) stated that when two or more cultures are encountered in one place this can be referred to as acculturation. Several people tend to find themselves struggling in adapting to new cultures when some cultures meet in one place (Sam & Berry, 2010). In definition, acculturation is a process that involves the development of cultural and psychological terms that require the meeting of cultures (Sam & Berry, 2010). Acculturation is closely linked to the adaptation. Sam and Berry considered the adaptation as a consequence from the acculturation. This circumstance might happen in an exchange program, knowing that the local culture and the international students' culture are different in some ways. In this occasion, adaptation has a major role in facing the acculturation.

Acculturation has several impacts on the people who faced it. Jia, Gottardo, Koh, and Pasquarella (2018) mentioned that acculturation which belongs in socio-cultural factors could affect the students' language achievement. The previous study also identified the factors of acculturation and stress. Hansen,

Shneyderman, McNamara, and Grace (2018) addressed different ideology in the social society, social characteristics, and adjustment to the new environment are the factors from acculturation and stress.

In addition, feeling isolated, academic, social, and cultural adjustment are the outcomes of acculturation (Hansen, Sheyderman, McNamara, & Grace, 2018). During the exchange program, there will be cross-cultural that usually causes stress. The previous study from Yu, Chen, Shiyue, and Jacques-Tiura (2014) indicated that a specific form of stress is acculturative stress. Every international student that ever faced a new alien environment might have a higher chance to face culture shock and social differences. The form of culture shock that the students usually faced are when they have to deal with the food, clothes, and behavior that are different from the local's students culture (Dellinger, 2014). It can be concluded that the cause of acculturation is a culture shock, which is the main topic of this research. The more the international students suffer the acculturative stress, it is likely for them to become depressed and would not focus on their goals to follow study abroad, which is to gain more knowledge and new experiences.

In Indonesia alone, there are many institutions that receive international students from all around the world to study and stay in Indonesia for a particular time. Especially in Yogyakarta, the city is well-known as the city for the students in Indonesia. There are many international students that stay and study in Yogyakarta. Unfortunately, due to cultural differences with the host and home culture, some of the international students have to face culture shock during the

program. The culture shock that the students faced exists when they have miscommunication with the local people, having trouble to find food due to different taste, and having problems in making friends with the local students.

Zakeer (2016) showed that the culture gap that existed between international students and the social behavior in Indonesia create challenges for them. This study aimed to find out the sources of culture shock faced by the students who come to join the international program in one of the Islamic private universities in Yogyakarta and follow some courses to study for one semester. Not only the challenges the researcher tries to investigate, but also how they manage or adapt in order to handle their problem during their exchange program.

Statement of the Problem

From all the problems mentioned in the background, the researcher only focused on the students' perspective after they have been through some culture shocks. In addition, the researcher wants to know how international students are able to manage their emotion in dealing with culture shock. Also, the researcher will only focus on the international students who study in one of the private Islamic University English Language

Research Questions

The main point of this study focused on the perspective of the international students in one of the Islamic Private Universities' International program in Yogyakarta. According to the statement of the problem, the researcher defined two research questions. The research questions of this study are:

1. What are the sources of culture shock that are faced by international students studying at one private Islamic University in Yogyakarta?
2. What are the strategies that are used by international students to overcome culture shock?

The Objectives of the Research

After defining the research questions, the researcher decided the objective of this study based on the research questions above.

1. Investigating the perspective of the international students related to the sources of culture shock during their exchange program
2. Investigating the perspective of the international students related to how they able to overcome the challenges during their exchange program.

The Significance of the Research

This study provided several advantages to several parties. The research divided the advantage for some categories; here are the categories of benefits in this research

Future International Students. From this study, they might be able to know what kinds of challenges of the culture shock faced by their senior in the university. Also, future international students would be more prepared before they follow the exchange program.

Lecturers who teach international students. This study will help the lecturer to know what kinds of challenges faced by international students. After

knowing the challenges, the lecturer could adjust teaching methodologies applied in the classroom with the international students' challenges that usually occur in class.

Institution. This study can be considered as a way to evaluate the institution's program. In this study, the researcher will show what kind of culture shock struggle that the international students deal with. Therefore, the institution can aware of the students' problem. They can also adjust the international students' problem with their program by observing the international students' progress.

Other researchers. This study could become one of the other researcher's references if they want to study culture shock on international students. This study can be used as a reference because it will give other researchers an overview related to culture shock, especially in the Indonesian context.

Organization of the Research

Chapter one. The first chapter discussed the background of this study. In the background of the study the researcher elaborated on the importance of the topic. There is an explanation about the limitation of the problem, objective of the research, and the significance of the research.

Chapter two. The first part is about explaining the literature review, namely culture shock, causes of culture shock, factors that help culture shock to happen, and cultural differences. The cultural differences are divided into two main parts and they are academic and life basis.

Chapter three. Chapter three explained the methods and procedures employed in order to answer the research questions and analyze the data. Chapter three discussed the research design, research participant and setting, data collection method, data collection procedure, and data analysis.

Chapter four. Chapter four is about findings and discussion. All the findings were taken based on the steps on chapter three. Chapter four explained about the finding and connect it with the literature review from chapter two.

Chapter five. This chapter is about the conclusion and recommendation. After getting all the findings and discussion, the researcher can find conclusion. Not only conclusion, but the researcher gave recommendation for all significance of this research.