# THE USE OF E-BOOK IN TEACHING ENGLISH FOR COMPUTER STUDENTS

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## Abstract

*This research deals with the use of E-book in teaching English for computer students. The objectives of this research is to know how English is taught in computer at Harapan University of Medan. This research conducted qualitative method by using R&D (Research and Development) approach. And the data used was observation among English lecturer and students. The use of E-book for computer students contains reading materials, grammar and language functions. The result shows that the use of E-book in teaching learning process for computer students is quite interesting for teachers and students. The teachers can interact with students and students can interact with other students without having to looked. The students can access E-book from their gadgets, it is user friendly. The use of E-book in teaching learning English for computer students is hoped that the lecturer can share the knowledge well also the students can be motivated in learning English, especially English for computer in order to improve the students' achievement.*

**Keywords:** *E-book, Teaching English, Computer Students*

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## A. Introduction

Nowadays, the use of technology plays an important role in education because it provides several technological tools that can make the teaching learning process more effective. Technology has impacted the teaching learning process especially in teaching learning English.

In Indonesia where English is as Foreign Language and taught from elementary to high school, the goal of learning English, especially for Senior high School student based on The Teacher Training Material for Implementation of the 2013 Curriculum in year 2015; English Subject is, "The purpose of learning English language in high schools is to develop the potential of students to have communicative competencies the text, transactional and functional discourses, by using various spoken and written English texts coherently using accurate and acceptable linguistic elements, and various factual and procedural knowledge, and instill the noble values of the nation's character, in the context of life in the home, school and community environment " (Rohim, 2015).

English is one of the subjects included in the curriculum in university, but theoritically the proccess of learning English still cannot achieve the results as expected. This can be evidenced by the fact that there are still many students in the university who are still unable to communicate using English even though they have learned it from entering basic school (SD) to university. The condition needs active and creative lecturer to find and choose the most suitable learning strategies to achieve the learning objectives especially for computer students. One of the aspects to solve learning problems is by developing E-book as a source of learning.

E-learning is one of the educational media that has surfaced from the development of ICT (Information and Communication Technology). E-learning is the electronic support of learning, whereby, in terms of implementation, particular focus lies on the specific didactic preparation and production of learning content for delivery through electronic media, as well as the underlying (up-to-date) software and technical platforms (Sitzmann, 2015). Its general concept is essentially learning which involves the usage of any electronic device, from computers to mobile phones. In

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developing E-learning for computer students, the lecturer must know the need of the students. In Harapan University of Medan, the English lecturers use printed materials in teaching English for computer students. It can be problem when they forget bringing their learning material when they have English class. They sometimes say that the material is wet or broken. One of solving problem can be designed is E-book which can be used in teaching learning English for computer students at Harapan University of Medan.

E-book is an interactive tool that could be used to address this issue, as it could activate and increase computer students' language skills as they are exposed to the language outside the classroom and work independently on improving their language skills. The key definition of e-Book varies due to its nature and extent. The Oxford Advanced Learner's dictionary (2011) defines an E-book as a book that is displayed on a computer screen or on an electronic device that is held in the hand, instead of being printed on paper.

This research will show how to use the E-book to improve computer students' language skills and activate their learning.

## B. Method

This research conducted qualitative method with R&D (Research and Development) approach. The data were obtained from the observation and interview. The data collected were analyzed by applying interactive model of Miles and Huberman. The location of this research was Harapan University of Medan.

## C. Research Finding

The conclusion from observation and interview both lecturer and students were some topics needes by the computer students like reading, grammar and speaking. The Use of E-book in teaching English for computer students firstly designed application of *E-book* English for computer students by using *Adode Dreamweaver 8.* The application was used on the basis of *web*. In analyzing of system was used *UML(Unified*

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*Modeling Language)* to describe the need of E-book. The application consists of some user interface features. Every interface has a role to perform the learning materials. The display can be seen below.
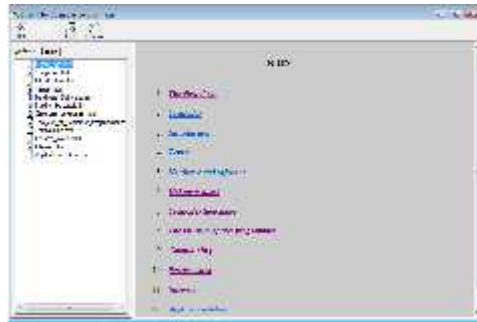

Figure 1 Main Menu

Main menu is user interface display from E-book. It consists of 12 topics from English for computer materials such as reading, grammar, listening and language functions. This main menu has 4 bar menu dan 2 tab menu. The next is contents and index menu, the display can be seen below.
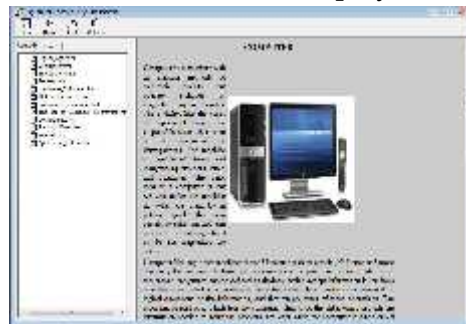

Figure 2 Contents and Index Menu

The user can access learning materials by contents menu and *index link*. Pada tampilan *contents* dan *index*, the user can access the topic which related to *english for computer*. When the lecture askes to open the topic 'Computer' as reading text, the students can choose the topic in index tab. Beside reading, the material can be printed. The display of print Menu can be seen below.
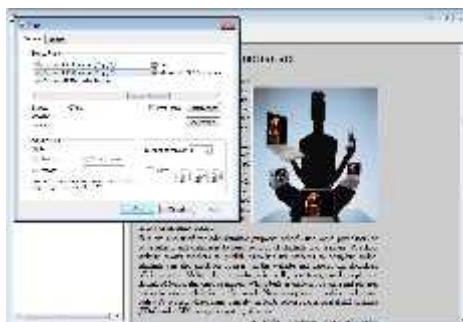
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Figure 3 *Print Topic* Menu

P*rint* menu is the display used by the user to produce learning material about *english for computer* in *hard copy*. Before printing in *print* menu, it will perform user interface of *print topic.* It will give information to the user about the topic will be printed.

## D. Discussion

E-book is a learning material to be used both lecturer and students. It can be accessed by using laptops and handphones. the application was easy and interactive to use, so that the students is interested and motivated to learn English. The interaction of teaching learning English by using E-book can be seen below.



Figure 4 Learning English by Using E-book

From the figure 4 it can be concluded that the students accessed E-book by using their laptops and handphone. It means that the students can access the application of E-book anytime and anywhere.

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In using E-book they must be open the application of E-book which consist of the materil tobe learned such as reading, grammar, listening and language function.

In learning reading comprehension, first the lecturer asked the students to read the text consisting of computer items. While student read the text, the lecturer corrected the students' pronunciaton and then ask the students to translate the text. After translating, the lecturer asked them to answer the questions which were related to the text.

In learning grammar firstly the lecturer gave definition of the topic learned by the students and then the lecturer explained the formula of the topic. After knowing the formula, the lecturer gave exemple by making the sentences using the formula or translated the sentences from Bahasa to English. When the students had understood the topic, then the lecturer asked the students to do some exercises.

## E. Conclusion

Based on the result and discussion, it can be concluded that application of E-*book* was user friendly and interactive leaning material.. It meant that it was easy to use and understand for the user especially computer students. The students can access E-book anywhere and anytime. It means that they can learn English not only in the class but also every places. The lecturer taught the English materials for computer students by reading, explaining, giving examples, practicing and doing exercises.

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