CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is a widely used international language. Agustin, n.d. (2015) "English is the main communication medium for people in the world. It is the official language of many commonwealth countries and is understood and used widely in more countries than other languages. This language is also more widely used in person". As an international language, English is used to communicate between nations who have different languages. The difference in the first language will not prevent people from communicating like English. English is a communication tool that is used both orally and in writing. English is a foreign language that is often used in Indonesia and has even been taught in schools

English is an international language's essential role in education, and it is not enough if it is taught in schools, then this English lesson will become a profit institution such as tutoring that is currently developing. Besides specializing in studying English, tutoring institutions also have English materials with the curriculum taught in schools, such as helping solve English learning problems.

Nowadays online platform has set features to help the student to learn English quickly. "Online learning through online platforms is a system learning is done by not meeting face to face, but using a platform which can help the teaching and learning process that is carried out even though it is far away. The purpose of the existence of online learning is to provide quality learning services in a reliable network massive and open to reach more and more enthusiasts of the study room (Sofyana & Rozaq, 2019) . In addition to face-to-face English tutoring, application-based online tutoring is also very popular. The purpose of general guidance services is to help students get a reasonable adjustment in the learning situation to study efficiently according to their abilities, achieving optimal development.

According to Handari (2020), several applications can also help teaching and learning activities, such as WhatsApp, zoom, web blog, Edmodo, etc. The government also takes a role in addressing inequality in learning activities. According to the official website of the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture, there are 12 platforms or application active which student can access to study at home, namely *(1) Learning House, (2) Our Table, (3) I*

Can Do, (4) Indonesia, (5) Google for Education, (6) Smart Class, (7) Microsoft Office 365, (8) Quipper, (9), Ruangguru, (10), Your School, (11) Zenius, (12), Cisco Webex.

This research focused on an online platform from *Ruangguru*. Quoted by the website *Ruangguru* is a limited liability company engaged in non-formal education, which was established based on applicable laws in Indonesia and has obtained a Non-formal Education Unit Establishment Permit and an Operational Permit for Training Course Institutions with Number 3/A.5a/31.74. 01/-1,851,332/2018. One of the largest technology companies in Indonesia is *Ruangguru* that focuses on education-based survives. *Ruangguru* has more than 22.000.000 users and manages 300.000 teachers who offer services in more than 100 subjects' areas. *Ruangguru* develops various technology-based learning services, including virtual classroom services, online exam platforms, subscription learning videos, private tutoring marketplaces, and other educational content accesses via the *Ruangguru* web and application. We have also been trusted to partner with 32 (out of 34) Provincial Governments and 326 City and District Governments in Indonesia.

Ruangguru's mission is to provide and expand access to good quality education through technology for all students, anytime and anywhere. In 2019, *Ruangguru* had collaborated with 32 out of 43 provincial governments and more than 326 city governments and had more than 10 million users (elementary, junior high, and high school students) Kartosapoetro, (2019). Given the advancement of *Ruangguru*, application technology has a role in education, namely providing online tutoring. Students who use the *Ruangguru* application find it helpful to learn. The way to learn *Ruangguru* is to ask each student to complete the mission. Starting from doing the topic exercises at the beginning, followed by watching animated video lessons from the Master Teacher with a duration of no more than 10 minutes, then taking a short quiz and listening to the summary of the infographics that have been provided. The benefit of using *Ruangguru* is that students can use it anywhere and anytime. Those who are impeded by access problems and live-in areas without adequate educational facilities can take advantage of study space. In addition, learning to use technology can be an alternative for those who have to experience long treatment due to illness for a long time. Learning does not always depend on an existing internet connection with a system that uses an internet network, so this application cannot be accessed when offline.

This research purposed to investigate the senior high students in Central Java about their perspective on learning English using *Ruangguru* as alternative media. A positive and

significant result is expected in this research because if we understand how the student's perspective on using *Ruangguru* as an alternative media study, then the *Ruangguru* might help the student to learn English with the positive perspective about *Ruangguru* to learning English, *Ruangguru* can be considered more seriously as the alternative medium for learning English.

From the background above, the researcher is very interested in investigating the perception of senior high school students in central java. Moreover, the researcher decided to conduct the research entitled: " Learning English Through *Ruangguru* as an Alternative media to Study as a Foreign Language: Student Voice"

B. Problem of Study

Based on the research background, the researcher would like to answer the following questions:

1. Why do students choose to use the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English?
2. What are the favourite materials that students like using the online platform *Ruangguru* to learn English?
3. What is the benefit of using the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English?
4. What are the obstacles faced by students in using the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English?

C. The objectives of the Research

1. To explore the reason why students, choose to use the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English
2. To describe the favourites materials that students like in using the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English
3. To investigate the benefit of using the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English
4. To investigate the obstacles faced by students in using the online platform *Ruangguru* in learning English?

D. Significance of the Study

This Research is theoretically helpful and practical benefits in a manner. Theoretical in this Research can be a source of scientific information about the student's perspective on learning English through the online platform *Ruangguru:*

a. For Academic Benefit

The results of this Research expected to be able to contribute to learning English through online platforms. So, the information presented by *Ruangguru* reaches the reader. This study can also be used as a consideration that as reference for further Research.

b. For Student

It can improve students understanding of English lessons as information and consideration about alternative learning.

c. For Researcher

Can add insight and provide direct experience to researchers about the benefits of learning through online platforms.