

Mobile-Based Language Learning (MALL) in Rural Indonesia: Ongoing Analysis and Unexpected Development

Abstract

In recent decades, the utilisation of educational technology has been of major interest in terms of its potential for improving the quality of education in rural areas of Indonesia. transportation, connectivity, and infrastructure for better education have been improved significantly, the development of education in rural area remains relatively slow. In this case, mobile based language learning can be a valuable approach for teachers and students to advance their teaching learning activity. This research investigates the experience and attitudes of teachers and students in using mobile-assisted language learning (MALL) for English language teaching and learning in senior secondary schools of rural Lampung, Indonesia. It aims to reveal the barriers and enablers for teachers and students in using MALL in rural areas of Lampung. The study uses a mixed-methods approach, combining surveys and interviews toward selected teachers and students in Pesisir Barat, a rural district area of Indonesia. Recent analysis shows unexpected finding that the teachers' readiness in using MALL was quite low while the students' acceptance was relatively high. Moreover, the predominant barriers were mostly from socio-cultural and policy-making aspects rather than technical challenges associated with mobile technology interfaces. At this stage, research analysis also highlights the need to expand the research from an educational perspective toward socio-cultural and policy dimensions of analysis.