A Comparative Study between Urban and Rural Areas: A Case of EFL Online Learning

A THESIS

by

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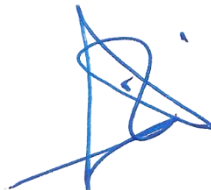
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis entitled **"A Comparative Study between Urban and Rural Areas: A Case of EFL Online Learning"** represents my own work which has been done after registration for the degree of Master of Education at Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, and has not been previously included in a thesis or dissertation submitted to this or any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualifications. Except where otherwise indicated, this thesis is my own work.

Bandung, January 2021

Muhammad Irfan Ferlanda

PREFACE

All the praises and thanks be to Allah, the greatest and merciful One who has granted the blessing, joy, and peace upon us. May Allah SWT also bless His Messenger, the last Prophet Muhammad SAW, his families, his companions, and those who followed him until the end of the day.

This thesis entitled "A Comparative Study between Urban and Rural Areas: A Case of EFL Online Learning " is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master of English Language Education Degree of the Faculty of Language and Literature Education of Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia.

This thesis is organized into five chapters. Chapter 1 consists of the introduction of this thesis, which includes background of the research, research questions, the purpose of the research, aims of the research, the significance of the research, clarification of key terms, and organization of the thesis. Chapter 2 provides the literature related to this research. Chapter 3 focuses on methodological aspects which includes research design, subject of the research, data collection technique, and data analysis. Chapter 4 discusses the findings and discussions. Last, Chapter 5 presents conclusions and suggestions.

The researcher is well aware that this thesis is not even close to the perfection. Therefore, the constructive comments, critics, and suggestions are welcomed in order to improve this thesis. Hopefully, this thesis can give significance to the readers and the other researchers who are interested in conduction a research related to this field of study.

Bandung, January 2022

Muhammad Irfan Ferlanda

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A Comparative Study between Urban and Rural Areas: A Case of EFL Online Learning

ABSTRACT

Online learning has been swiftly applied during the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) in educational systems worldwide, including Indonesia. Such a sudden change to online platforms raises pedagogical challenges to many schools. This research aims at finding out how teachers in urban and rural areas conduct online learning using connectivism theory, aspects considered challenging or facilitating by EFL teachers in conducting online learning, and students' perceptions regarding the application of online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. This research employed interviews with two EFL teachers and questionnaires distributed online throughout Indonesia using Google Form. This research found that the teacher in the rural area tend to be more flexible in preparing the materials. In addition, there were more challenges faced in conducting online learning in the rural area than in the urban area. Furthermore, it was found that there were more students from rural areas than from urban areas who used mobile phones as a sole tool for accessing online learning, which might be detrimental because mobile phones were not as powerful as computers.

Keywords: COVID-19, Online Learning, Rural Areas, Urban Areas

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