

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

The use of instructional media is an important aspect of teaching English. Based on the preliminary study, it was found that teachers use various types of media in teaching English, such as visual media and audio-visual media. The teachers claim that the use of instructional media made it easy for them to facilitate the teaching process. Additionally, the students agree that the use of media by teachers enhances the learning experience. Furthermore, Diannita (2022) mentions that using appropriate and effective media may increase the quality of teaching English. Thus, it can be said that the use of instructional media in teaching English is essential and helpful for both teachers and students.

In addition, previous studies have indicated the benefit of utilizing instructional media in teaching English. Diannita (2022) claims that the use of instructional media helps in managing learning content so that it can be communicated in an orderly and comprehensible manner. Additionally, using instructional media may encourage students' ideas, feelings, and attention during learning to achieve learning objectives (Andriani et al., 2022). Along with its development, using instructional media in teaching English not only facilitates the delivery of content but also creates fun and interesting learning situations, increases motivation and participation, and supports student knowledge acquisition (Kapur, 2018). As a result, teachers need to use instructional media in teaching English, especially in the scope of English as a Foreign Language classroom.

There are various types of instructional media that can be used by teachers in teaching English. According to Asyhar & Syaiful (2012), instructional media is divided into four general kinds, such as visual media, audio media, audio-visual media, and multimedia. These media also cover several types of both traditional and technology-based media. On the other hand, based on the result of the preliminary study, it was found a phenomenon where the teachers in one of the

junior high schools in Tasikmalaya intend to use only technology-based media and enhance the principle of paperless teaching during their teaching and learning process. The teachers believe that using technology-based media, may help the students to become familiar with the development of IT as well as the main aim is to help them understand the learning material.

Previous researchers have investigated the phenomenon associated with the media utilized by teachers in teaching English. The one was conducted in Bali, Indonesia by Triananda, Padmadewi, and Dewi (2022). Through interviews, observations, and document analysis, it was discovered that the teachers used several media such as Course Book, Printed Pictures, PowerPoint, Canva, Powtoon, and PlotagonStory in teaching English. Furthermore, the research also indicated that teachers mainly utilize these media because the school adopts a hybrid learning technique, that is a combination of face-to-face and online learning. This is in contrast to what happens in a junior high school in Tasikmalaya, Indonesia, where the learning technique is completely done through a face-to-face method. Moreover, the previous researchers have not explicitly described how does the teachers use the media in teaching English at the junior high school level, which they suggest to be investigated in further research. To fill this gap, this study intended to provide insight into the media used by teachers and the process of the use of media in teaching English at the junior high school level.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

Based on the background above, the problem of the research was formulated in the following questions:

- 1) What kind of media do the teachers use in teaching English at the junior high school level?
- 2) How do the teachers use the media in teaching English at the junior high school level?

## **1.3 Operational Definitions**

To avoid misunderstanding the terms set in this study, the researcher provides two definitions related to this study as follows:

- 1.3.1 Instructional Media** : Tools or devices or materials used by the teachers to convey the learning materials to the students at the junior high school level.
- 1.3.2 EFL Teacher** : A person who has the qualifications to teach English in English as a Foreign Language classroom at the junior high school level.

#### **1.4 Aims of the Research**

This study aims to reveal the instructional media used by EFL teachers and how the teachers use the media in teaching English at the junior high school level.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

##### **1.5.1 Theoretical Contributions**

From a theoretical point of view, the results of this study can be used to find out the kinds of media that can be used by teachers in teaching English. In addition, this research can be the forerunner to the development of ideas in the use of media in learning. Furthermore, this research can be a comparative study for people who are interested in researching a similar topic. Then, through this research, readers can increase their knowledge regarding the application of media by teachers in teaching English.

##### **1.5.2 Practical Contributions**

From a practical perspective, the results of this study can be used by teachers as a reference or reflection on their ability to apply media in the teaching process. As for students, the results of this study can make them understand that the media used in learning English can help them improve learning outcomes and learning motivation. In addition, for student teachers, the results of this study can be used as background information in teaching English, especially for students majoring in the English Education Department who will participate in the teaching practicum program at school. This research offers a lot of information about the media used in teaching English and its application. Then, for the researcher, the results of this study are expected to increase understanding of the media used by teachers in teaching English.

### **1.5.3 Empirical Contributions**

This research will provide empirical insights into instructional media used by EFL teachers and how to implement them in teaching English.