

Digital Literacy with The Use of Blog Media for Learning to Read Articles in Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Students

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Abstract

Digital literacy is a skill that humans must have in the millennial era. Skills in terms of digital are certainly a must in the field of education. Internet network facilities are increasingly progressively used in Madrasah. However, not all Madrasahs can make the most of internet network facilities. Skills in digital literacy must be maximized to be taught. One of them can be through the medium of blogs for the skills of reading articles. In addition to teaching students how to read articles technically, through digital literacy, they will also be taught to select and sort out reading articles intelligently so that students can filter which readings are useful to them. In other words, directly through digital literacy, blog media teaches students to be more critical in choosing articles that are facts or hoaxes. There are still often conventional learning processes and the learning resources used are also text-based. Therefore, to maximize the use of these facilities, an e-learning learning process is needed. One of them is to use the page. This page-based learning can be applied at an extra-curricular level to make it more interesting and innovative.

Keywords: page, online media, extracurriculars, digital age

1. Introduction

In this digital era, computerization has triggered a shift in the world of education, from conventional face-to-face education towards more open education. Education is flexible and flexible, open, and accessible to anyone who wants it regardless of age, type, and previous educational experience. Future education will be more determined by information networks that allow us to interact and collaborate. According to Uno and Lamatenggo (2011:61), there are three trends in the world of education in Indonesia in the future.

First, the development of open education with a distance learning mode. Open and distance education needs to be included as a key strategy. Second, sharing shared resources between educational institutions/exercises in a network of libraries and other educational instruments (teachers, laboratories) turned into a source of information rather than just a bookshelf. Thirdly, the use of interactive information technology devices, such as multimedia CD-ROMs, in education is gradually replacing television and video. The development of information technology in the field of education, allows the process of distance learning to occur by using internet media to connect students with their doses or teachers with their students, seeing grades online, checking finances, viewing lecture schedules, send assignment files given by teachers or lecturers, and so on.

Forms of materials, exams, and quizzes can be applied on the internet which is then downloaded by students. This is also a form of applying internet media healthily by students. Currently, the internet has become a tool that is widely known by all levels of society. A healthy Internet can be categorized in a narrow sense and a broad sense (Hernita, 2011:3). Narrowly speaking, a healthy internet means in the view that the situation when users surf in cyberspace, or when users use the internet to browse, download files, play online games, or just do social activities. Healthy internet in a broad and more specific sense is everything related to accessing the internet that has positive values for internet users to always provide the best benefits for themselves, as well as others. E-learning-based learning is also one way to realize healthy use of the internet,

both in a narrow and broad sense. This is because e-learning is a form of educational use of information and communication technology media. The use of e-learning, especially the media page in extracurricular activities is needed to make it easier for teachers and students to absorb the material in extracurricular activities. The use of page media for extracurricular coaching does not mean that teachers can eliminate learning in the classroom. Cisco (2001:5) revealed that e-learning does not mean replacing conventional learning in the classroom, but strengthening learning through the development of educational technology.

Previous research that also uses pages as learning media is the research of Widyartono with the title *Development of Indonesian Language Teaching Materials with Interactive Web* (2010). This research produces a product in the form of an Indonesian language teaching material page. All materials related to Indonesian are presented on this page.

1.1. Page Elements

Wardhani (2006) divides the page element into four. First, the domain name. The domain name is also referred to as the Uniform Resource Locator (URL). This name aims to identify a page or page address used in the internet network. The name of the page is traded on the internet to get the right to use it. Users simply pay a rental fee per year. Windaryanto (2010), found eight names of Indonesian local extension pages, namely (1) .co.id used for companies that have legal entities, (2) .ac.id used for educational institutions, (3) .go.id used for government institutions of the Republic of Indonesia, (4) .mil.id used for military institutions of the Republic of Indonesia, (5) .or.id used for all kinds of organizations that are not included in the category of "ac. id", "co. id", "go. id", "mil. id", etc., (6) .war.net.id used for the internet café industry (internet café) in Indonesia, (7) .sch.id is used for educational institutions that provide education such as elementary / mi, junior high schools, or high schools, and (8) .web.id used for organizational or individual business entities that carry out activities in The World Wide Web (WWW).

Second, web hosts (web hosting). A web host is a room contained in a hard disk. A hard disk is a place to store a variety of file data ranging from images, documents, and all other forms of file formats that will be displayed on the page. The capacity of the web host depends on the amount of data you want to enter. In addition, the amount of rental costs per year also affects the size of this web host. The size determining the size of a web host is mega or gigabytes.

Third, the language of the program. The programming language is the code used to translate each command in the page to be accessed. The language on this page affects the interactive level of the web. Some examples of program languages on the web are HTML, ASP, PHP, JSP, Java Scripts, Java Applets, and so on. The supporting languages on the website are ASP, JSP, and PHP. While the basic language used in the site is HTML. The purpose of the programming language is to build news portals, articles, e-mails, discussion forums, guest books, and all other forms of interaction that require updating at all times.

Fourth, page design. The page design can be referred to as exposure determines the quality and appearance of a page. The attractiveness of the page design affects the interest of visitors to visit the page that has been created. The software that is usually used to design pages is also diverse, including Microsoft Frontpage, Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Photoshop, and Macromedia Firework. In general, there are two main options for creating a page design, namely manual creation and instant creation. The creation of page designs manually is done using programming languages. Creating page designs is instantly done by building a site builder with the Learning Management System (LMS) program.

The four elements of the page by Saputro (2007) are equipped with two more elements. First, the data transfer program to the data center. This program aims to make it easier for page designers to design pages on their computers without having to be connected to the internet network. This method can be reached through a local provider (local host) which is integrated with the internet browser. For the page to be accessible worldwide, the files on the page must be transferred to the web hosting. The software tools used are diverse, ranging from Adobe Dreamweaver, WS FTP, and Smart FTP, to Cute FTP. Second, the publication of the page. The page that is created needs to be published so that it is better known by the public. There are two ways to do this, namely registering pages on search engines such as Google, MSN, Yahoo, Altavista, Bing, Search Indonesia, and search engine. The next way is to pay so that the site is quickly recognized by visitors.

1.2. Types of Pages

Based on the classification carried out by Windaryanto (2010), the pages are classified into three. First, a static page. A static page is a page whose page has not changed. If the page owner wants to change the appearance, then the change can be made manually by editing the code that is the structure of the page. Second, dynamic pages. Dynamic pages are pages that can be constantly updated. This is because the structure of this page allows it to be updated. In addition, this page also allows for editing of its contents. Dynamic pages are deliberately reserved for users who are engaged in journalistic news. News portals often use this type of page to make it easier to present their news. Third, interactive pages. This type of page allows interaction between the user and the content provider of the page. The forms of interaction vary, from giving a like, answering a question or questionnaire, to asking questions directly with the page content provider. This type of page requires super strict scrutiny so that input from page users remains directed and does not go out of the main topic of the page.

1.3. Page Features

Before discussing the features of the page, it would be nice to first get to know the internet features used in learning. According to Windaryanto (2010), internet features are categorized into two things, namely based on direct and indirect internet connections. Internet-based sites are directly carried out online. Activities that can be done through this site are browsing activities, downloading interesting videos, writing notes, writing electronic mail, opening electronic news sites, and forming learning social networks. Network-based sites. The activity carried out through this site is to download everything that has been previously downloaded online. The files that have been downloaded vary, ranging from learning devices, learning videos, and teaching materials, to electronic books.

Media pages use internet-based features directly. This type of feature is predominantly used in page creation. Features that can be activated on the page after being connected to the internet, can be categorized into ten main features. First, electronic mail. This feature enables interaction between users and page service providers. Page users can comment on-page content and page forms or even add information that is not provided by page users. The forms of this e-mail vary, ranging from short messages (chat) to long messages (e-mail). Users can also form discussion group forums based on topics submitted by the page provider. The tendency that often arises is that these users often form their discussion forums based on topics that have been conveyed or provided by users of page services.

Second, the file-moving protocol. This protocol is often referred to as the File Transfer Protocol (FTP). FTP is a protocol that allows users to interact with other groups connected to the internet network. The application provides the facility to electronically copy files from one computer to another. Through this facility, various research files and journals can be widely disseminated with an affordable budget.

Third, internet telecommunications. This feature allows users to contact other computers that are on the internet network. Telnet makes the user appear to be on the same computer as the other user's computer that is being contacted.

Fourth, the board service bulletin service. This service can be abbreviated as BBS. The service provides specific information from different fields. Customers are given the facility to download and place other usage files.

Fifth, multi-media services. This service is the feature that is most in demand by both providers and users of the page. This is because, through this service, various multimedia sources can be presented. These sources include sound, images, videos, and animations so that this application becomes an interactive means of knowledge. This service is linked to various pages integrated within the page. The concept of integrating it is called hypertext. Hypertext forms are basically like ordinary words but when connected they can connect. This hypertext feature was developed into hypermedia so that the connected media can connect in a page provided.

1.4. Desain Laman Word Press

Word Press is a free Page service founded by Matt Mullenweg (Juju, 2010: 5). At first Word Press was created only as a web page. WordPress is a page application that makes it easy to create pages for free and without the need for in-depth knowledge of pages (Budiarto, 2010: 1). This is because Word Press functions as a page application. WordPress exists on the rented web hosting server. WordPress is a page that is free and easy to use and has a variety of special features.

According to Zaki (2009:2), there are eleven advantages of Word Press, namely: (1) the file size is compact, (2) it has a template system so that it is easy to modify its appearance, (3) the existence of widgets in templates, making it easier when you want to insert special code into certain parts of the Page, (4) open source, so that it can be updated as needed, (5) adding links to other sites is also easy, because it is accommodated using link management features, (6) The URL used is search engine friendly so that it can invite more traffic, (7) it can accommodate multilevel categories, (8) it can include tags for articles and posts, (9) automatic formatting that will correct Html code errors, (10) it supports trackbacks and pingbacks that will display links to other sites related to posts or articles and can accommodate plugins.

1.5. Layout

Layouts can be described as the layout of design elements of a field in a particular medium to support the concept of the message it carries (Rustan, 2008:1). The layout process is a stage of work in design. It can be analogous that if the design is the architect, then the layout is the job. In its development, the definition of layout is equated with the definition of design, so there is a distortion that layouting is the same as designing. There are four things to note in the page layout.

First, the title. The title is a short word to start an article. Titles are usually bolded with a larger size to attract the reader's attention and distinguish them from other layout elements. The choice of the typeface in the title is also considered to attract attention and create an aesthetic impression. Each typeface certainly has properties that can give their impressions variously to each other. A certain typeface would be nice to adjust to the sound of the title, to clarify its meaning.

Second, a photo or an image. Photos or images presented on the page must certainly have high credibility so that they can give the impression of being trustworthy. According to research by the Poynter Institute (a Journalism Madrasa in

America), it states that people are more interested in color photos than in black and white. Color photos receive 20% more attention than black-and-white photos (Rustan, 2008:55).

Third, color. Color plays a huge role in determining a person's decision to choose something. Research conducted by the Institute for Color Research in America (a research institute on color) found that a person can make decisions about other people, the environment, or products in just 90 seconds and is 90% influenced by color (Rustan, 2009: 72). Choosing the right color is very important in a design, including page design. Color determines the visual identity. The background color of the page certainly also reflects the visual identity of the page.

Fourth, the width of the paragraphs on the page. The paragraph width of each page's content must be considered because it is a factor that determines the level of comfort in reading the manuscript. Too long a line will exhaust the eye and make it difficult for the reader to find the next line. Many theories can be used as a reference in determining the width of a paragraph, some suggest eight to twelve words per line, and some say fifty to eighty characters per line. Josef Muller-Brockmann put forward the theory of seven to ten words per line. David Ogilvy proposed thirty-five to forty-five characters per line. Timothy Samara, in his book, proposes a formula: if the lowercase letters (of the typeface to be used) are lined from a to z without spaces, then the size of that length is multiplied by one and a half, then the result is the ideal paragraph width for the typeface (in Rustan, 2008:21). From some of these theories it can be concluded that the width of the paragraph is determined by the size of the letter. For small font sizes, it can be used in a narrow paragraph width, on the contrary, when using a larger letter size, the paragraph width must be increased. To deepen the theory about letters, is discussed in the next discussion, namely typography.

1.6. Typography

The typographical elements in the layout serve as a communication messenger and have an impact on the layout space (Rustan, 2008:17). Discussing typography means discussing a text, which is the most important element in a layout. Two important things will be reviewed regarding typography.

First, legibility. In typographic design, legibility has the meaning of the quality of a letter or manuscript in its degree of ease of reading. This level of readability depends on the appearance of the physical shape of the letter, which is judged by its size and arrangement in a manuscript. Space intervals between letters or between words have an impact on legibility. A very tight arrangement of letters can obscure the shape of the letters, while a very tenuous arrangement of letters can affect the speed of reading. The spacing interval between the lines seems to also need to be considered because it can help speed and comfort reading. If the space interval between these lines is too narrow or too large, it will take longer for the eye to find or connect the lines of the next word.

Second, readability. Readability is the level of readability of a text. Some of the things that affect readability are contrast and connotations. Contrast is a thin bold comparison of letters or a comparison of the shapes of letters side by side in a block of text. While the connotation of meaning is the content of meaning or other additional understandings in a sign (Rustan, 2011: 23).

2. Conclusion

Advances in digital technology are increasingly inevitable. Education is also inseparable from these advances. Almost every Madrasa has internet access with a very stable connection. But unfortunately, the utilization of this facility is not completely perfect. Therefore, learning resources are needed in the form of pages that can be used by teachers in delivering their learning materials. The types of pages do vary, but the easiest way is with Word Press. WordPress pages have three advantages, namely typography, layout, and appearance.

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