



The Model of Open – Distance Learning for Teaching Indonesian through Sociocultural Approach and Psychological Aspects to Students of Indonesian for Foreign

Endry Boeriswati

State University of Jakarta (Indonesia)

eboeriswati@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The number of institutions that hold the teaching of Indonesian to speakers of foreign formally abroad is increasing, there are now 203 institutions and 84 of which are run as study programs in the universities. Most of Indonesian lecturers abroad come from various educational backgrounds. This affects the quality of learning Indonesian as a foreign language. The teaching of Indonesian for foreign speakers in Indonesia is different from that of abroad. This difference is particularly visible on the external instrumental aspect. Those aspects are (1) the number of dialects of Indonesian, (2) the diversity of Indonesian speakers, whether viewed from the dimension of ethnographic, geographic, or social, and (3) Indonesian conditions associated with Indonesia socio-culture. Psychologically foreign language learners often lack self-confidence, fear in the use of foreign languages, and lack of courage and risk decision making. These all are related to the psychology of learning a foreign language. This is a difficult learning presented in the Indonesian language for foreign speakers who study abroad. The advantage of the model of Open-Distance Learning in the teaching of Indonesian to speakers of foreign students abroad is students are able to manage the learning needs independently with the authentic teaching materials that present the existence of Indonesia's socioculture. This model is expected to overcome the limitations of the teaching of Indonesian as a foreign language at universities abroad which are not just for communication purposes, but also for academic purposes.

The model of Open-Distance Learning has the potential and noted some problems and advantages of applying the e-learning model to the teaching of Indonesian. Typical general distance learning systems do not have installed systems to support synchronous and asynchronous communication, and such as they are not quite suitable for foreign language learning. By using additional tools such as Google Talk, Skype, various forums, multimedia presentations, and, in particular, enhance interactivity. We believe that by applying the combination of pedagogical insights and modern technologies it is possible to realize a successful foreign language course of open-distance learning. The model of Open-Distance Learning is in the form of e-learning accessible to students on their own, but students can still interact directly with teachers in certain parts and can provide feedback to the students, so students are capable of speaking properly. In a broader sense, fairness is related to other things, including a culture that is always inherent in the substance of language. Therefore, in addition to issues of personal characteristics of learners, cultural issues are also involved in the creation of learning the Indonesian language for foreign speakers. The model is to help the Indonesian government in promoting the Indonesian language as an international language.