THE EFFECT OF INTERACTIVE BLENDED-PROBLEM BASED LEARNING ASSISTED VIRTUAL CLASSROOM ON CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS OF STUDENTS OF THE SOCIETY ERA 5.0

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ABSTRACT

Students in 5.0 society education are directed to have adaptive and reactive response patterns to change through effective synergy as domain systems inaccessibility to technology in developing their skills actively and independently through critical thinking skills. Critical thinking skills as a cognitive domain in identifying, analyzing, and practical thinking and creative ways to solve problems are needed to survive in the era of global society 5.0. Therefore, teachers are required to design learning processes that can accommodate student competencies in the era of society 5.0, one of which is the implementation of the innovative Interactive Blended Problem-Based Learning (IBPBL) learning model. This study aims to determine the effect of Interactive Blended Problem-Based Learning (IBPBL) assisted by Virtual Classroom on students’ critical thinking skills. This type of research is a quasi-experimental study using a posttest-only control group design. The sample in this study used 72 students in class X IPS 2 (n = 36 control class) and X IPS 3 (n = 36 experimental class), Specializing in Social Sciences, SMAN 1 Tempeh, Lumajang Regency, East Java. The data analysis technique used the independent t-test hypothesis test to determine the significance value of the difference in the average treatment given to both the control and experimental classes. The results showed an effect of Interactive Blended Problem-Based Learning (IBPBL) assisted by Virtual Classroom on the critical thinking skills of students with Sig. (2-tailed) 0.000.

Keywords: Interactive Blended Problem-Based Learning, Virtual Classroom, Critical thinking skills

INTRODUCTION

The era of society 5.0 became the concept of a new order of life, integration of human-centered technology. Humans are not only objects but also subjects of controlling science (Wang et al., 2020) and technology-based integrated society life (Baszuk & Heath, 2020; Fu et al., 2020). The concept of society 5.0 as a solution to the turmoil of digital technology disruption impacts all aspects of life (Legido-Quigley et al., 2020; Shiroishi et al., 2018), including the education aspect.

In education, society 5.0 brought fundamental changes to the achievement of student competencies. Students are required to achieve the goals of the existing learning objectives (Duma & Monda, 2013), have competence in digital literacy, and be human-centered in the application of complex technological systems (Gladden, 2019). Based on macro-learning, students must have adaptive and reactive response patterns to change through effective synergy as domain systems are inaccessible to technology (Suzuki et al., 2021). Then in micro-learning, students are required to develop their skills actively and independently both in the affective, psychomotor, and cognitive aspects (Sajidan et
Critical thinking skills as a cognitive skill in identifying, analyzing, practical thinking and creative ways to solve problems are needed to develop in the era of a global society. Students need critical thinking skills in dealing with a super-smart society (Jahanian & Rajabi, 2016), which have an impact on developing the realm of competence and skills, including creativity (Rosa & Mujiaro, 2020), innovation (Short & Keller-Bell, 2020), problem-solving (Pereira, A. G., Lima, T. M., & Charrua-Santos, 2020), collaboration (Sugiyanto et al., 2021), and communication (Guo et al., 2020). Therefore, teachers as facilitators in the learning process are required to present a learning process that leads to the achievement of high-level cognitive (critical thinking skills), one of which is the application of appropriate instructional design through the Interactive Blended Problem-based Learning (IBPBL) model.

IBPBL, as an integration of instructional design, is an effective solution in achieving students' critical thinking skills. IBPBL has the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills through discovery learning activities, asking questions, articulations, descriptions, remembering, and responsible decision making (Effendi & Hendriyani, 2020). The integration of the two models has a positive influence on learning. Blended-based learning as a learning model emphasizing the applicative integration of technology accessibility helps students connect with the material contained in a complex and deep manner (Aquino & BuShell, 2020). Then, the Problem-based learning model gives students cognitive guidance so that they can solve problems comprehensively (Ural & Dadli, 2020). The emphasis of IBPBL lies in learning activities in the form of interactivity with effective feedback between teachers, students, learning materials, and technology. Improved practical domains and problem-solving abilities can be increased through the Blended Problem-based Learning model (Tsai & Tang, 2017) and integrated interactive technology (IBPBL). Then, implementing IBPBL can affect achievement by increasing students’ awareness of metacognition (Yuan et al., 2020) through acceleration-integration of digital technology in learning activities (Altuk et al., 2019). Therefore, instructional design becomes an essential domain in learning, and geography is no exception.

As the mother of science in the study of social sciences, Geography has unique characteristics in its position as a subject in learning. Geography as an integrative discipline (Oktavianto et al., 2017) which is location-oriented (Larsen & Harrington, 2018), based on a natural approach (Dolan et al., 2014), and prioritizes the environment as a learning resource (Prasetya, 2018) provides many contributions to optimizing the achievement of education and learning in the era of society 5.0.

The position of geography in education and learning in society 5.0 has a positive impact on the development of students' complex competencies and skills. The digital revolution provides a new ecosystem in knowledge in the form of geography (Geoknowledge) (Ratti, 2018). Then, furthermore, the Geography knowledge ecosystem has a unique domain in the reconstruction and actualization of the competency system in students (Mehren et al., 2018). Such a framework is necessary considering that the digital revolution is closely related to transcending distance, location, and geographical boundaries. Students with specialization in social sciences, including geography learning, have an excellent opportunity to obtain massive and complex information in improving critical thinking skills through implementing the global awareness curriculum (Tsang et al., 2020) so that they can reconstruct global based-competency (Harshman, 2016) in answering and solving global problems and issues, especially in the study of Geography. However, the implementation of such a learning process has various obstacles in the field.

The learning challenges of technological disruption have significant consequences for the science of Geography. The fulfillment and achievement of these learning experiences various obstacles, mainly
related to the broad characteristics of the material in Geography learning, are at significant risk in the acceptance and acquisition of biased material (Lee et al., 2021). Then, today, all learning subjects in Indonesia are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which can cause academic loss (Nugraha, M. S., Liow, R., & Evly, 2021), as a result of the reduced role of teachers in learning and the limitations of students in accessing relevant learning resources. Geography learning activities previously constructed with rote concepts impacted students' low critical thinking skills (Saptorini et al., 2021), both in academic demands and decision-making in overcoming students' independent learning problems. Therefore, it is necessary to have an instructional design, one of which is an innovative learning model in improving the quality of learning.

This research has an element of novelty, where researchers have not found similar research either to be applied to the subject of learning broadly or in the field of learning Geography. This research is a continuation of research conducted by (Effendi & Hendriyani, 2020), wherein in his research, he carried out conceptual and hypothetical modeling regarding Interactive Blended Problem-Based Learning (IBPBL). Based on the results of his research, IBPBL has enormous potential to be implemented in the learning process, including Geography. Considering that IBPBL can provide a fun and conducive learning atmosphere, flexibility, accessibility, and is oriented towards achieving high-level cognitive skills in students. Such learning models are very relevant to be applied now, especially massive technological disruption and the demands of ideal learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, this research has several objectives and benefits in the continuity of learning Geography optimally.

This study aims to determine the effect of Interactive Blended Problem-Based Learning (IBPBL) assisted by Virtual Classroom on students' critical thinking skills. Based on the research objectives, it was found that the benefits of research were (1) for teachers, providing an overview, insight, and new knowledge related to instructional design innovations and effective learning models that are relevant to the needs of integrated geography learning with technology; (2) For students, improving academic quality through improving skills in higher-order thinking; and (3) For schools, it becomes the basis for making policies on the technical implementation of effective educational and learning processes in instructional design innovations and learning models that are integrated with technology.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

This research belongs to the type of quasi-experimental research. This study aimed to determine the effect on research variables under controlled conditions (Sugiyono, 2016). Then, this study uses the Posttest Only Control Group Design research design, intending to avoid treatment that can affect the credibility of the posttest results in the research process (Jaedun, 2011). The research design is shown in table 1 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experiment</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>O₁</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>O₂</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Sugiyono (2016)*
Notes:
X : Interactive Blended Problem based Learning (IBPBL) model treatment
- : No treatment (conventional learning model)
O1 : Posttest critical thinking skills experimental group
O2 : Posttest critical thinking skill control group

Research Hypothesis
The hypotheses in this study (1) H0, there is no significant effect of IBPBL assisted by virtual classroom on critical thinking skills; (2) Ha, there is a significant effect of IBPBL assisted by virtual classroom on critical thinking skills.

Research Subject
The location of this research is SMAN 1 Tempeh, Lumajang Regency, East Java Province. The population in this study used class X (ten) students in the Social Sciences specialization with the academic year 2020/2021. The research sample selection used a simple random sampling technique so that the research sample of X IPS 2 (control class) was 36 students and X IPS 3 (experimental class) was 36 students. The scope of the material in this study is contained in KD. 3.6 Analyzing Atmospheric Dynamics and Its Impact on Life with a focus on the sub-material of The Effect of Global Climate Change on Life, in semester 1 2013 Curriculum (Revised Edition).

Research Procedure
This research was conducted in three (3) meetings at SMAN 1 Tempeh, either synchronously or asynchronously. Then, in carrying out the research using the Interactive Blended Problem Based Learning (IBPBL) model referring to (Effendi & Hendriyani, 2020) with five learning syntaxes including (1) Introduction; (2) Starting a New Problem; (3) Follow Up Problems; (4) Performance Presentation; and (5) After Conclusion Problem.

Assessment Technique Test and Statistical Test
The assessment in this study was packaged in the form of an essay with five questions. Items refer to the critical thinking skills variable indicator (Ennis, 1996), which consists of (1) formulating the problem; (2) Disclosing the facts; (3) Able to argue (logical, accurate, and relevant); (4) Able to present ideas from different perspectives; (5) Able to provide an overview of the decisions taken. Then, the statistical tests in this study were instrument tests, prerequisite tests, and hypothesis testing assisted by IBM SPSS Statistics 20.

In the instrument test to determine the validity and reliability of the instrument, the researcher tested 30 respondents (students) at SMAN 1 Tempeh. Based on the research instrument test, the research instrument was declared valid (<0.05) and reliable (>0.60). Then, based on the prerequisite test, the research data was declared normal (Kolmogorov-Smirnov method) in the control group (.200) and the experimental group (.176) by exceeding the probability level (> 0.05) and homogeneous (Levene method) with the test results exceeding probability level (> 0.05) with a value of .206. Then related to hypothesis testing, the researcher used a t-test with an independent t-test. The decision-making criteria for hypothesis testing are based on the value of sig. (2-tailed) < 0.05 (Ha accepted) and sig. (2-tailed) > 0.05 (Ha rejected).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
This research was conducted with X IPS 2 (control groups) and X IPS 3 (experimental groups). The control groups were given no treatment using the conventional learning model, and the experimental group was given treatment using the IBPBL model in the sub material of Effects of Global Climate Change on Life. Based on descriptive statistical data analysis, student achievement on critical thinking indicators has a significant difference (Table 2).
Table 2. Critical Thinking Indicator Frequency Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value (%)</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>86 – 100</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71 – 85</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 – 70</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 – 55</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 40</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data analysis (2021)

Table 2 shows the frequency of the influence of the IBPBL model on students' critical thinking skills in descriptive statistics. The frequency results show that the conventional learning model's control group has critical thinking skills in the medium range (71 – 85%) at n = 17 students. This condition is inversely proportional to the experimental class with the distribution of the frequency of critical thinking skills indicators of the IBPBL effect on the top average (71 – 85% and 86 – 100%) at n = 14, respectively.

Then, based on hypothesis testing in answering research questions, with H0, there is no significant effect of IBPBL's influence on critical thinking skills assisted by virtual classroom on critical thinking skills, and Ha, there is a significant influence of IBPBL's influence on critical thinking skills assisted by virtual classroom on critical thinking skills. The test results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Research Mean and Standard Deviation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value (%)</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experiment</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data analysis (2021)

Table 3 shows that descriptively statistically, there is an effect of IBPBL assisted by virtual classrooms on students' critical thinking skills, both in the experimental (0.000) and control (0.000) groups. The basis for decision making on hypothesis testing descriptively shows that the study results have a significant effect, with H0 being rejected and Ha is accepted. In addition, the results of significance can be seen in hypothesis testing through the results of the t-test (independent t-test), which are shown in table 4 as follows.

Table 4. Research Independent T-Test Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levene's test</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>t-test for Equality of Means</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal variances assumed</td>
<td>0.119</td>
<td>.731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equal variances not assumed</td>
<td>7.844</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data analysis (2021)
Table 4 shows that IBPBL assisted by virtual classrooms has a positive effect on students' critical thinking skills. The significance of the p-value (0.000) < 0.05 became the basis for H1a's decision, and H0 was rejected. This condition shows that critical thinking skill indicators can be improved with the right instructional design in IBPBL assisted by a virtual classroom.

Statistically descriptive (table 3), there is a difference (gain score) in the treatment between the experimental and control groups. The mean value of the experimental group (81) is higher than the mean value of the control group (76) as an implication of implementing the virtual classroom-assisted IBPBL learning model. Then, to find out the relationship between IBPBL-assisted virtual classroom indicators, the indicators can be shown in table 5 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Thinking Skills Indicators</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
<th>Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formulate the problem</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revealing facts</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give arguments</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give ideas from different points of view</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Able to provide an overview of the decisions taken</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data analysis (2021)

The results of the effect of the IBPBL model on students' critical thinking skills have results that are not much different between the experimental group and the control group. Such conditions have become research findings, mainly related to the online learning environment during the COVID-19 pandemic in influencing student learning activities. The IBPBL learning model with Blended Learning (BL) instructional design is oriented towards independent and student-centered learning (Bahri et al., 2020; Wong, 2013) and Problem-based Learning (PBL) with active learning activities (Oderinu et al., 2020) through asking questions, problem-solving and critical thinking (Nargundkar et al., 2014) have become student learning habits during the covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, critical thinking indicators in formulating problems, revealing facts, and providing arguments have no significant effect on both the experimental and control groups. Students' critical thinking skills develop rapidly during online learning (Carolina Torres Escobar, 2021). However, students' critical thinking skills can emerge continuously with the integration of technology in instructional design (Bloom & Doss, 2020). Such treatment was obtained in the experimental group in the implementation of the IBPBL model.

The IBPBL model effectively affects the indicators of students' critical thinking, namely providing ideas through different perspectives and providing an overview of the decisions taken. The IBPBL model can improve students' critical thinking through learning activities of finding, asking, elaborating, problem-solving, and reflection (Effendi & Hendriyani, 2020). Optimizing students' critical thinking skills can help problem-solving, systematic, and logical thinking (Zamroni et al., 2020). Such conditions also require the development of
critical thinking aspects of students, especially in providing an overview of the decisions that have been taken as a form of formulation of a problem (Sujanem et al., 2020). Then, the selection of the right material in the form of a sub material of the Effect of Global Climate Change on Life as one of the discussions in Geography in science learning by raising the context of real problems can support the optimization of students' critical thinking skills (Dinata et al., 2020). Geography prioritizes the learning process of critical thinking and solutions in the content of learning values so that it has an impact on the development of student's critical thinking skills (Rahmatia Rahmatia, Ahmad Yani, 2018). The relationship of the influence of the IBPBL model variable on students' critical thinking skills is shown in table 6.

Table 6. The relationship between the IBPBL model assisted by virtual classrooms and students' critical thinking skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>IBPBL Syntax</th>
<th>Critical Thinking Skills Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Formulate problems and understand problems, reveal facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students are given motivation and guidance to see, observe and read the material that has been uploaded in google classroom.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students are asked questions about the material</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Starting a New Problem</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The teacher invites students to find and collect relevant information related to the questions given by the educator.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Problem Follow Up</td>
<td>Giving arguments, giving ideas from different points of view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students present information that has been obtained from various sources, the teacher guides students to elaborate the concept of the material towards understanding the topic being taught.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students are given LKPD which contains the material</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students analyze and evaluate cases that have been described in the LKPD.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Performance Presentation</td>
<td>Able to provide an overview of the decisions taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students present the results of the analysis individually (appointed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>After Conclusion Problem</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Students do question and answer, at the time of question and answer students may express criticism, suggestions and comments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Teachers and students make conclusions about the things that have been learned related to the material
- Students are then given the opportunity to ask again things that have not been understood

Source: Data analysis (2021)

Based on table 5 shows that there is a relationship between the IBPBL model assisted by virtual classrooms and students' critical thinking skills. In the syntax of introduction and starting new problems, it impacts increasing students' critical thinking skills through sub-indicators of formulating problems and understanding problems, as well as revealing facts. The complexity of the access to technology in virtual classrooms in learning activities can help students organize information comprehensively (Fitri Rahmawati et al., 2020). Learning activities by providing an overview and basic questions can comprehensively provide students with an in-depth understanding (Musthofa & Sujadi, 2020).

Then, the second syntax related to the follow-up problem affects giving arguments, giving ideas from different points of view. Access to technology for Geography students can improve student experience (Lee, 2020) and be reduced to a new perspective in problem-solving (Hintermann et al., 2020). Such conditions are very relevant to be applied, considering that the current learning style of students is closely related to digital technology (Putra et al., 2021) so that new knowledge is formed through the synthesis of meaningful experiences in learning.

The third syntax, related to the integration of synthesizing knowledge with performance presentation and after conclusion problems, affects critical thinking skills to be able to provide an overview of the decisions taken. Responsible decision-making is a domain that must be mastered by students in science subjects (Chang et al., 2020). Educational technology with a virtual environment can improve students' critical thinking skills through learning activities of problem regulation and appropriate decision-making (Dexter et al., 2021). Then, through the model and selection of the right learning environment, critical thinking skills can emerge through organizing cognitive structures and thinking frameworks with learning activities showing authentic, logical-rational, and reliable evidence (Sari et al., 2021).

The era of society 5.0 had a massive impact on various aspects of human life, including the study of geography. The integration of technology as a domain in the learning process is shown in the appropriate instructional design. The IBPBL model assisted by virtual classrooms affects the development of students' critical thinking skills. IBPBL learning syntax includes: (1) Introduction; (2) Starting a New Problem; (3) Follow Up Problems; (4) Performance Presentation; and (5) After Conclusion Problems affect the critical thinking skill indicators in formulating problems, understanding problems, revealing facts, providing arguments, providing ideas from different perspectives, and being able to provide an overview of the decisions taken. The research findings show that the indicators of critical thinking in formulating problems, understanding problems, and revealing facts have no significant effect. This is because the online learning environment has shaped students' character and learning process actively and independently. Then, significant results were obtained on indicators providing ideas from different perspectives and providing an overview of decisions taken as a form of technology integration and selection of the suitable material. So that students can actualize critical thinking skills optimally.

Thus, such research has strong relevance to learning in the era of society 5.0 with students as locus control in the accessibility of complex technology.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for further research are related to the implementation of the IBPBL model in ideal learning situations. The COVID-19 pandemic provides several limitations in the learning process, mainly related to educational interactions between teachers and students. Considering that this research activity was carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic, it has several limitations in its implementation in the field.

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