

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Educational system has been influenced by a rapid change in technology as it is increasingly used in teaching and learning. With the development of technologies, computer has evolved as a tool that can improve the accuracy and efficiency of tests. In that case, we cannot close the possibility that you ever unconsciously experienced it. Furthermore, the use of online Computer-based assessment is increasing in developed countries. As a consequence, the assessment that usually done conventionally using Paper-based assessment little by little began to be replaced with Computer-based assessment or commonly abbreviated into CBA.

“E-assessment, online assessment, computer assisted or aided assessment; computerized assessment or computer based assessment is any assessment activity which involves the use of computers.”¹

In simply definition, CBA means the practice of giving quizzes and tests on the computer by online instead of using pencil and paper. Computer-based assessments and online assessments already used widely in many different environments and may be wave of the future. Since the past few years, developments in the use of CBA

¹Bull, J, *Computer Assisted Assessment: Impact on Higher Education Institutions*. (Educational Technology & Society, 2(3), 1999), 123.

In *ProProfs*' website more than one million pieces of content provided in about seventy languages; and it is online training and assessment or testing with the world's largest library of professional tests and quizzes. *ProProfs* was founded by Sammer Bhatia on the vision that knowledge should be freely available to people from all walks of life.

The software allows teachers to not only create online tests but also helps them in automatically grading test papers and managing the reports of students. Some over plus of this website are: the question shows randomly when it is open by each students so that they cannot cheating, the testing schedule decided by the creator (like how long the quiz test is activate and how long the time to answer the question), Each item will tell the students it is weight or point of each question display in the screen, the students directly know their score at the end of the test, the availability of a certificate of achievement, and the teacher directly know the score of their students by looked to their *ProProfs* website account without face to face with the students. Using the software, teachers could create and assign test to students who could access them on the go from several devices such as laptops, tablets and even Smartphone.

ProProfs has been used for the first time in Education Department Faculty and Teacher Training at the State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya (UINSA) by one of lecturer there. Since the *ProProfs* online Computer-based Assessment is

novel for students at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, pros and cons arose regarding this assessment model. The researcher conducted this research to know “students’ perception and the result score towards the use of *ProProfs* online CBA Software as an assessment tool that provided in online website”. The reasons to chose *ProProfs* for this research was because rather than others software, *ProProfs* gives more advantages. Like the availability of various template types to make questions for the exams or tests, the availability of a certificate of achievement, teachers can receive detailed reports and notifications, the tests can be accessed from a range of devices such as tablets, smartphones and laptops making anytime, anywhere learning possible, etcetera.

This research was based on the preliminary research on January, 2016. By interviewing the Students, it was reported that the use of online CBA as an assessment tool at English education department was extremely sparse. So they have many and varied opinion regarding the use of online CBA. In this case, this research was very important to know. Certainly, the finding of this research can give better way in assessing. In this case, this research was very important to know. Certainly, the finding of this research could give better way in assessing. Also, the conclusion of this study could give evaluation for the lecturer who uses *ProProfs*. In addition, the suggestion could give advice for better way in planning assessment.

Despitefully, *ProProfs* Software used by one of the lecturer to assess students regarding what students have learned in their educational environments. It was very important to do a research according this topic. The assessment conducted for their Mid-term exams, which often make up a large part of a student's grade in the course. The Mid-term exam is one of the Summative assessment types. It was used as a measure of how well students have achieved the desired learning objectives after the learning has occurred. Assessment model like this is one of interesting issues to examine as novel assessment model for the students. As a matter of fact, no others lecturer in The State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya has been used this model until today, especially in English Education and Teacher Training Program. In some universities around the world, educators are getting understand that how the online CBA is better and efficient than offline or Paper-based assessment. Thus, if this kind of assessment or test can engage the student to the course, it could be benefits to the learning process. In addition this kind of assessment would use continually.

Besides, the use of online CBA is the one development created by the lecturer of English Education and Teacher Training at UINSA. It was also the proven that UINSA is one of the developed universities in Indonesia. It was also supported by the accreditation of English education department that got "A" marked. The English language education program began unveiled for the first time through "A" mark of accreditation. Starting the academic year in 2005/2006 the Faculty of English

Education and Teacher Training give an effort to improve the quality, accreditation was done through the National Accreditation Board (BAN - Badan Akreditasi Nasional).

By examine the issue of “*ProProfs* online CBA Software as an assessment tool” it would however be beneficial for all people splash around the educational world especially in UINSA. Until this research carried out, we do not know yet about students’ perception and the result score towards *ProProfs* online Computer-based Assessment Software. Unfortunately not much research about *ProProfs* has been published. Although there was no research that take up *ProProfs* as the main topic at research but there are some international journal and thesis which mentioned *ProProfs* in their research. For instance, a research with the title “Information Technology of Easy English for Children (Blog Education)” by Pandu Seto Dewo Prabowo and Arido Laksono, S.S, M.Hum. The writer creates interactive materials to learn English by using blog as a medium that can be accessed through the internet. The writer provides this blog with some interesting features like Figures and videos so students will not get bored to learn English through blog. Then, the writer also provides online exercise to help students see their understanding about the material preserved. In this research, *ProProfs* used to provide the online exercise.

In summary, the writer believes that this research would give new contribution in education world it is also beneficial for E-learning (In essence, e-learning is a

