The Development of Digital Book of European History to Shape the Students’ Democratic Values

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Abstract—This study aims to develop digital book based on sigil on the material of European history in growing the values of Pancasila democracy. This book is aimed to give an alternative of learning material by using ICT to reach the aims of learning. The book should follow the standardized test to ensure the digital book could be used in teaching and learning process at History Department, State University of Malang. This study tended to used research and development approach. We used eight Sadiman’s model of (1) identification of needs; (2) composing aims; (3) material development; (4) development of evaluation tool; (5) writing a draft; (6) validation; (7) revision; (8) production. Based on data analysis, this study found that the book could be used without any major revision. The percentage of questionnaire result from media expert was 90.48 % and from material expert was at 96.75 %. To short, the digital book has filled the requirement of book standardization. Therefore, the digital book based on sigil could be used as learning source for the module of European History.

Keywords—Digital book, European History, teaching of history, sigil

1 Introduction

The development of technology, information, and communication shapes the students’ ways of thinking in gaining knowledge. Today, they live in digital era and are easily to find the related information that they want to search through digital media. They want the learning circumstance providing them to collaborate each other [1]. The digital generation tends to curious to construct their own knowledge [2]. Therefore, the lecturer should be able to follow the development of students’ characteristic in developing various interactive learning media based on ICT.

Learning is not a goal but a process to reach a certain aim [3]. The engagement of media in the process of learning is hoped to shape the student’s lesson learnt and its aims that would be achieved in its learning. This aim of historical teaching is to introduce the national characteristic and identity in the framework of shaping nation and character building and be a source of inspiration or the growing base of sense of pride and sense of obligation to their nation and state. The historical teaching and learning will direct student to have their own nationalism [4].
Therefore, teaching of history should be developed concerning the digital base. The digital learning should help student to reconstruct their direct experience through meaningful learning. This argument is in line with constructivist theory proposed by [5]. He believes that teaching is an active activity where the students could construct their own knowledge. They could know what is meaning and value from what they learn.

It is intriguing to courage the researchers to develop teaching and learning of history based on digital book. This study could be developed based on some assumptions that the prospective teachers have been able to operate computer, have owned gadget to open the digital book and to understand the work of internet. In addition, the digital book is rare to be used and developed in supporting the teaching and learning for European History module.

The implementation of meaningful teaching is applied in the curriculum and the display of modules at History Department. The principle of curriculum development has been arranged based on Indonesian national qualification framework. There are two profiles of department’s alumnus. Those are history teacher and junior researcher. Based on those profiles, professional history teacher becomes a main aim. The students are forced to master historical substance and its teaching method. In addition, they are also asked to shape national character [6].

The profile is represented by the additional certificate, well-known as SKPI. The stakeholders will consider the alumnus’ profiles such as their skills, knowledge, and attitude. Those profiles could be grasped by various activities during studying in the campus. Students as the prospective history teacher, are also equipped by a competence to develop innovative and creative teaching. Meaningful teaching will appear if teacher could take the values from every event as well as spread the related values in teaching and learning of history. This will be placed in the area’s history, especially European History.

A text-book could also be a source of learning. [7] places the text-book as a main reference to learn. The text-book is absolutely not the only one source of learning. We could develop various alternatives of historical learning. This should be done to repair the bad image of historical teaching. [8] explains that history is a group of subjects that is worried because of its slow to respond the change. The weakness of creative ideas to package the interesting historical material contributes the image of boring subject. If the history lecturer could be maintaining the attractive learning, we could erase the claim of “history is not important” or “no enlightenment from history”.

This description leads the researcher to develop the teaching of history with updating technology that is development of digital book. This is based on the assumption that the prospective teachers, the students, could be able to operate the computer, have the compatible gadget to open digital book, and understand to work on internet. In addition, there is few books not only printed books but also digital books developed to support the teaching and learning process, especially for the module of European History. The students taking the module of European History are at the first year. They are still seemed to adapt on the lecture climate which sounds different with their previous experience at school. The process of adaptation should be
directed by lecturer in order they could know how to develop their skills and personalities.

The lack of printed book in the library is often to make student looking some references in the internet. However, they read any available documents without considering the scientific standardization. The students also are often to be trapped in the plagiaristic action. When they are asked to bring a reference, they show their gadget with their online material. This is in line with Prensky’s account. The recent students are the first generation growing in the digital world. Mobile phone, computer game, instant messaging, and iPod are their everyday wares. They are often called as digital natives [9].

The development of digital book for the module of European History could use the application in mobile phone, gadget, laptop, and computer owned by students. [10] argues that teaching is a process of communication. This media could be a bridge to support students’ understanding. [11] reveals that teaching media is anything used to bridge a message and to stimulate a thought, feeling, attention, and interest of student, therefore it could courage the process of learning.

This digital book could be a bridge to train and to grow the democratic values to student. The digital book with material of European history displays various events that are rich of democratic values. In addition, some uniqueness in this subject is not found in other subject, such as: the patterns of events in Europe are often influencing the world society and various thoughts shape the recent global structure.

In the journey of Indonesian democracy, the term of democracy is often understood as a credo from, by, and to people. Its logical consequence tends to force the people to understand the system and people also face a difficulty to understand the essence of democracy so that this tendency still shows the authoritarian characteristic to ride the political will. [12] believes that democracy should be understood deliberatively that is democratization or democracy in in the process of making in order to shape the well-established democratic society. In addition, the building of democratic society are needed to plant the democratic values in every citizens. The first minister of education, Ki Hajar Dewantara spreads his ideas on three main elements of national education. Those are to build the capable and good human beings; to shape the democratic society; and to nurture the responsible people [13].

The researchers want to arrange a media of history teaching. This media could be used by students autonomously. This digital book could also be used to learn and to follow the recent development of ICT. The digital book could be developed by using sigil software that is easier student in learning and understanding the material. [14] states that the digital book is a technology using computer to display the information in the short and dynamic form. Digital book could integrate the sound, graphic, picture, animation, or movie therefore the displayed information is richer that the previous book. The function and the aim of digital book is

• To be a learning media that could improve the learning productivity
• To be a helping tool to convince the effectiveness and efficiency of learning hours.

The level of student’s reading capacity could improve by digital book. They are not forced to bring the bulk of books. The digital book could be easily brought as a circuit
library. The Sigil software is needed to develop the media of digital book. Sigil is a free editing content and open-source in the EPUB format. This is arranged to be used easily by the developer. Sigil is not only useful to convert the conventional book into the EPUB format but also important to edit it. Its software could also include the multiplatform of Windows, Mac, and Linux. Sigil also has a benefit to import document in the form of EPUB, HTML file, picture, and CSS. To short, this article wants to focus on how to develop digital book of European History based on Sigil software.

2 Method

This study used Sadiman’s [15] model of research and development. This model was chosen because of its simplicity and its suitable model for digital book development. The eight model of Sadiman was

- Identification of needs
- Composing aims
- Material development
- Development of evaluation tool
- Writing a draft
- Validation
- Revision
- Production

After product was developed, the product should be validated. The media or the product was validated by a questionnaire that was developed based on learning theories. The validators were two people who re-read and evaluate the product based on their expertizing, that was learning sources or media. The gained data were quantitative and qualitative. The quantitative data were gained from validators’ questionnaire and qualitative data were the validators’ responses to the media. This study also used percentage analysis to convince that the product was good to be used in teaching and learning process.

2.1 Result and discussion

The produced product in this study is the digital book based on Sigil. Armstrong, [16] argue that e-book is “any piece of electronic text regardless of size or composition (a digital object), but excluding journal publications, made available electronically (or optically) for any device (handheld or desk-bound) that includes a screen”. E-book provides every electronic text, separated from its size or other composition, but it is not included the journal publication, which is available electronically to each software included in the monitor.

The digital book could be understood not only as a source of learning for material or a certain subject but also as a window of information as well as an effort to plant the certain moral values. The arranged digital book should refer to the national
educational aims. One of the aims is to create the democratic society. It is clear that the developed digital book will be one of the democratic society’s chain from its substance, model, to teaching method [17].

The development of product has faced the process of planning, production, and testing then be revised based on material and media experts’ suggestion. The result is on the digital book of European history based on sigil. The uniqueness of the book gives the alternative for student to understand the Pancasila democracy from European history. The digital book will give the whole description of ancient to modern European history and its values to grow the democratic values for students. It is hoped that the student will have not only theoretical frameworks but also democratic values actualization through this book.

The government need to fill the state of nature for every student comprising the right to have a life, health, freedom, and property. However, every citizen should do their obligations, for example paying the tax. By the bi-cooperation, the civilized society with the good governance will be appeared. Every man should aware on the essence of democracy from the family, school, and society. Logical and mature thinking of person is an absolute price for each person in democratic society. Western democracy is really different with Pancasila democracy. The later tends to stick on the governmental management-based Pancasila values.

This research could give a clear model for student to compose the various innovative teaching material. The innovative one should be developed based on the substance and based not on the procedure or packaging. The student should be creative to develop various materials in using ICT based on sigil software or other software.

The digital book is composed systematically in order to reach teaching’s aim. The developed material with various forms is packaged by sigil. The teaching material based on sigil software on the European history is equipped by text, video on world war, and some questions to evaluate and to reflect. In addition, the strength of this book, based on Heiland, is the application is composed to make digital book easily using the EPUB format. Sigil is used to the personal interest or a professional editor in a book publisher in some platforms comprising Windows, Mac, and Linux.

Sigil is used to form and package the printed books becoming EPUB in order to be a similar book like the conventional one but the new one has various popular features and is available in the free sigil software. This application could be used to add data supported by EPUB specification in making the content outline of the arranged digital book.

Moreover, [18] states that digital book is a technology using computer to display the multimedia information in the short and dynamic form. Digital book is able to integrate sound, graphic, animation, or movie so that the displayed information is richer than the conventional book. The use of learning media based on sigil could improve the productivity of learning and the learning media could be a helping tool to make effectiveness and efficiency of learning. The students need to only install the readium application. Readium is a plug in which is available in the Google Chrome. Besides, using the computer, the digital book could be opened by the android-based
To open the file using the phone, the first step is to install the ideal reader in the play store. The packaging of digital book based on sigil is displayed in various forms, which could be useful to bridge students in order to choose the appropriate material based on their style of learning. Learning with digital book could be done autonomously, every time, and anywhere. The student could choose the certain material that is not fully understood. The appearance of figures and videos could be hoped to deliver the concrete description on the related material. In addition, the student’s motivation could also be a stimulus to explore the material deeply.

Teaching of history using digital book based on sigil could contribute to the meaningful description upon the past on the European history. According to Rowse [19], the past could be known easily by its traces. In line, [20] argues that the continuity of history should be identified by the artifacts, fossils, customs, way of life, ideology, or governmental system. In order to have the comprehensive understanding, the digital book should equip by various topics on European history, based on the aims of teaching. Those are:

- Material on ancient European history
- Material on medieval European history
- Material on modern European history
- Values universalism of Pancasila democracy.

The digital book is also equipped by the questions which are enable us to reflect the values of Pancasila democracy.

The used material for composing digital book based on sigil should be firstly validated. Based on material expert’s questionnaire, the digital book is valid as seen in:

![Material Expert’s Validation](https://www.i-jet.org)

**Fig. 1.** The graph of percentage from material expert’s questionnaire

Based on the chart, there are five indicators in validating learning material on the digital book based on sigil. It seems that the gained score from material expert’s validation is 85 with the percentage of 96.75%. To short, the digital book is valid
without any major revision. Moreover, the used material for composing digital book based on sigil should be secondly validated. Based on media expert’s questionnaire, the digital book is valid as seen in:

![Graph](image)

**Fig. 2.** The graph of percentage from media expert questionnaire

Based on the graph, there are seven indicators in validating digital book based on sigil. It seems that the gained score from media expert’s validation is 72 with the percentage of 90.48%. To short, the digital book is valid without any major revision.

3 Conclusion

This study aims to contribute into the world of education especially the related information on the development of European societies and its contribution in the process of Indonesian democracy. This research and development should be also placed in the essential base that is its material and not focused on its packaging. Therefore, the development of digital book should be developed after exploring the substance.

4 References


5 Authors

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