Students’ perception of English language online learning during the covid-19 pandemic: a survey study among pre-university students in Universiti Malaysia Sabah

ABSTRACT
The Covid-19 pandemic that lasted more than a year affected the smooth running of education around the world. Starting with the closure of all schools in China in March 2019, the starting point of the Covid-19 pandemic virus was followed by the closure of all schools in many countries for long periods of time, which certainly affected teaching and learning in most countries including Malaysia. The honorable mention includes the process of education which involves co-curriculum, physical education, and social skills. This study is a quantitative study to analyse students’ perception of learning the English language using online learning throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. SPSS statistical software was used to calculate and compare the mean of each variable in online learning and face-to-face learning consisting of knowledge acquisition, skills in language learning, social skills as well as their acceptance of online learning. In this survey study, it has been indicated that although there is a slightly different mean between online learning and face-to-face learning the perception of both learning strategies is positive. It also has been indicated that students found that online learning eased the access to online materials whilst it also bounded by technical problems that they encounter during online classes as well as their own disciplinary actions that have limited their online learning.