

The Use of Sevima Edlink as Online Learning Media for Teaching and Learning Arabic in The Arabic Language Education Study Program Institut Agama Islam Badrus Sholeh Kediri

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ARTICLE INFORMATION	ABSTRACT
Article History: Received, 25-08-2024 Accepted, 09-10-2024 Published, 07-12-2024	<i>Sevima Edlink, as one of the popular online learning platforms in Indonesia, offers various features that can support the teaching and learning process including for Arabic language. The use of digital media such as Sevima Edlink can be an effective solution in dealing with time and space limitations and providing more flexible access to learning. This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of using Sevima Edlink as an online learning media in teaching and learning Arabic, the method used is qualitative research with a descriptive approach. Data were collected through interviews with lecturers and students who use Sevima Edlink as Arabic learning media. In addition, observations were made of learning activities on the platform, as well as document analysis. The results show that the use of Sevima Edlink as an online learning media provides a number of benefits, such as ease of access, flexibility of learning time, and integration of interactive features that support Arabic language learning, such as materials, assignments, interactive videos, interactive quizzes, and discussion forums. Nevertheless, this study also found some challenges, such as limitations in direct interaction between lecturers and students and limited internet access due to connection problems that hinder the online learning process.</i>
Keywords: <i>E-Learning; Sevima Edlink; Arabic Language</i>	

INTRODUCTION

In today's digital era, online learning has become an urgent need especially after the COVID-19 pandemic forced educational institutions to adopt distance learning methods. Edlink is a digital learning platform carefully designed to facilitate student and lecturer engagement in online learning activities. Currently, Edlink can be accessed on Android, iOS and web browsers. The developer of the Edlink product is PT SVU, an information technology development consulting company that focuses on the world of education and was established in 2004 (Evariani, Saputra, and Sutabri 2023). The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (Darwanto and Khasanah 2021) has led to an increase in the number of Edlink users, which previously Edlink users were only around 100 universities, currently used by more than 270 universities spread throughout Indonesia.

Edlink provides evaluation features such as online tests and assignments that help students know how well they understand the material. The platform allows students to coordinate and cooperate with classmates and lecturers on a single platform, helping them understand the material better. Edlink has a technical support team ready to assist students and lecturers in solving technical problems or answering questions related to the platform. Web-based learning is fundamentally linked to the emergence of various innovations. With the emergence of innovation and the technological advances that accompany it, it can facilitate all the needs in the learning process. The times are able to influence technological developments, so that many learning applications such as e-learning that can be used in online learning, for example edmodo, google classroom, learning house, moodle, sevima edlink and also learning applications in the form of video conferences such as zoom, cisco webex and google meet. The role of this media is to help lecturers if they are absent or have official duties that prevent them from attending class. They can provide material or quizzes remotely and they can also monitor student work. Of the many online learning media in circulation, it must be adjusted to the needs required by users of online learning media, so that users can explore teaching and learning activities through distance. By using online learning media, it is hoped that time efficiency for distance learning will be even better (Ikhsan and Muhajir 2022).

This research wants to evaluate the media for online-based Arabic learning activities in the Arabic Language Education Department of IAI Badrus Sholeh Kediri. Whether *Sevima Edlink* online learning media can accommodate for Arabic language learning, especially in distance learning. In addition, researchers want to see the features and basic usage that exist in the *Sevima Edlink* application for language learning, especially Arabic. The e-learning system has several benefits, namely (1) Flexibility of place and time, e-learning does not always require students to be present in class, but can be accessed anywhere and the time is not determined. (2) Independent learning, this e-learning system provides freedom from students themselves to control the learning outcomes they do. (3) Cost, e-learning is very low cost, the cost in question is transportation costs. (4) Flexibility of e-learning learning speed, this learning helps students to understand the material given by the lecturer if they do not understand, they can repeat it themselves until they understand. (5) Teaching effectiveness, e-learning can provide a simulation or cases by utilizing technology and animation to support learning. (6) Distribution speed, e-learning system can reach all corners of the place, e-learning users only need to prepare teaching materials and download the e-learning media. (7) On Demand Availability, e-learning system can be accessed anytime (Sari and Priatna 2020).

The difference between this research article and previous research is that it focuses more on the uses and benefits of *Sevima Edlink* learning media features for Arabic language learning and teaching activities in the Arabic language education study program at IAI Badrus Sholeh Kediri (Novandini and Luta 2018). Previous research from the article *The Use of E-Learning in Indonesian Language Learning at SMA Negeri Bali Mandara* written by I Putu Darmika et al in 2018 states that the use of e-learning media for Indonesian language lessons has several findings, namely (1) making it easier for teachers to teach, (2) the use of e-learning in schools, especially in class, has a very positive response (31.45%) with details there are 21 (47.72%) responding strongly agree and 23 (52.27%) responding agree. The above research is also supported by the article *Utilization of Sevima Edlink Virtual Classes to Motivate Mathematics Education Students Semester 1 Algebra and Trigonometry Subjects* written by Carolin Dwija Novandini and Margaretha D.W Luta in 2018 from Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta, which states that learning algebra and trigonometry courses runs properly even though it is assisted by Whatsapp

media to process data but students are enthusiastic about using Sevima Edlink for virtual learning activities.

Sevima Edlink online learning media can be found at <https://app.edlink.id/> or can be downloaded at playstore for free (Wibowo and Rahmayanti 2020). The general steps for using Edlink are: Account Registration (Visit the Edlink website, Click the option to register or create an account, fill in the requested information, Verify email address if required), Login to Account (Use the registered email and password to log in to the Edlink account), Creating a Class or Group (After logging in, navigate to the dashboard, Select the option to create a new class or group, Fill in the required information), Adding Students (Once created, You can add students by entering their email addresses, Make sure students have registered in Edlink to be able to join), Upload Learning Materials (In the classroom, you can upload learning materials, such as videos or links, Organize the materials well so that they are easily accessible to students), Assign Work (Create assignments or homework that students can complete, Provide feedback on assignments that have been done), Monitor Student Progress (Check student progress through the analytics features provided, View statistics on assignment completion and student engagement), Generate Reports (Create reports to assess overall class performance, Use these reports to identify areas for improvement), Sign Out of Account When you're done using the platform, don't forget to sign out of your account).

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach, this research was conducted on several students and lecturers of IAI Badrus Sholeh, and this research focuses on the role of using Sevima Edlink as an online learning media for learning and teaching Arabic in the Arabic Language Education Study Program at IAI Badrus Sholeh Kediri using the theory of innovation diffusion Robert Bogdan and Steven J. Taylor suggested that a qualitative approach is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of speech or writing sourced from observed behavior. In other words, qualitative research intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the research subject.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The success or failure of the lecture process is inseparable from several factors, both from planning, curriculum design, tools used, learning methods set and the main thing is the lecturer in charge of the lecture process. The success of the lecture process will involve one another. The impact of this technological advancement forces the realm of education to shift from the world of manual-based learning to digital-based processes. Almost every year the learning process experiences improvements and changes. The same thing was conveyed by Fatimah, M.Pd.I during an interview with researchers on September 1, 2024:

“In the past, before using Sevima Edlink, learning was done offline. But, the learning has used technology, for example students are directed to read journals on the internet, it is also part of teaching students to be literate in the internet world “.

Then the same thing was revealed by Rounas, PBA student in semester 5 interview with researchers on September 2, 2024:

“In the past, before there was Sevima Edlink, we had to collect all assignments in the form of printouts during lectures, but after using Sevima Edlink, everything was paperless or assignments were simply collected by soft file and uploaded on Sevima Edlink”.

Online Learning

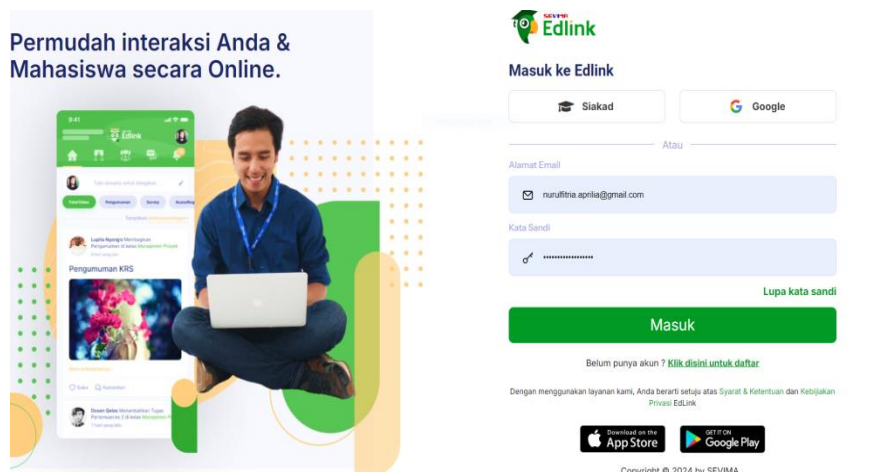
In distance learning (PJJ), two types of learning activities are known, namely Offline and Online. Online learning is distance learning using an interactive model based on the internet and Learning Management System (LSM), such as Whatsapp Group media, zoom, google meet, teacher's room, Edlink, etc. (Prodjo 2022). Online learning is learning that is able to bring together students and lecturers to interact with the help of the internet (Kuntarto 2017). Online learning allows students to interact and collaborate with their learning resources even though they are far away (Sadikin and Hamidah 2020). In the university environment, the online learning process is carried out using learning applications that can be accessed via the internet. Overall, this learning process is very helpful for students in understanding the material even though they are only in their respective residences and students are also getting used to and satisfied with this learning model, because the process is flexible.

Another positive thing is that lecturers can provide lecture material virtually so that it can be accessed easily without being bound by space and time so that students can replay and download material that has not been understood. However, in terms of implementation, the Online learning model is not smoothly implemented, for example, many shortcomings are found both from lecturers or students as well as facilities and learning media itself (Puspitasari, Haryanto, and Sofyan 2022). Among them are students who are in a pesantren environment, there is a regulation that they are prohibited from bringing cellphones and some are because their cellphones are not supported, so these shortcomings appear. In addition, the Online learning process also forces Lecturers to be technologically literate so that if they are not so technologically literate, they will certainly find it difficult to use this technology. Another thing that is no less important is the problem of networks that vary in each region so that it raises new problems regarding the problem of learning effectiveness for the world of lectures, namely with unequal speeds sometimes making it difficult for students to attend lectures and access information because it takes a relatively long time to download and upload material.

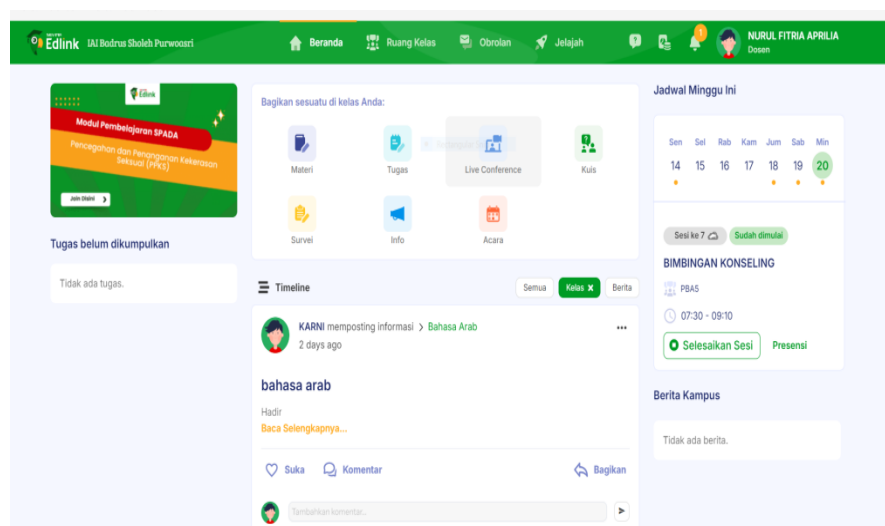
Sevima Edlink Platform

Sentra Vidya Utama (Sevima) is a Limited Liability Company (PT) engaged in consulting and development in the field of technology and focuses on the education and government sectors (Admin SEVIMA, 2017). The Sevima Edlink application is an application intended to make it easier for lecturers and students to communicate with each other in the world of education in order to keep the learning process organized and more efficient in time. The meaning of the Sevima Edlink application is an application that is directly connected to Siakad and can be accessed via laptop or cellphone media making it very easy for lecturers and students to run online lectures (Marlina 2020). Edlink is an application intended to help facilitate lecturers and students in the lecture process (Aisa and Lisvita 2020).

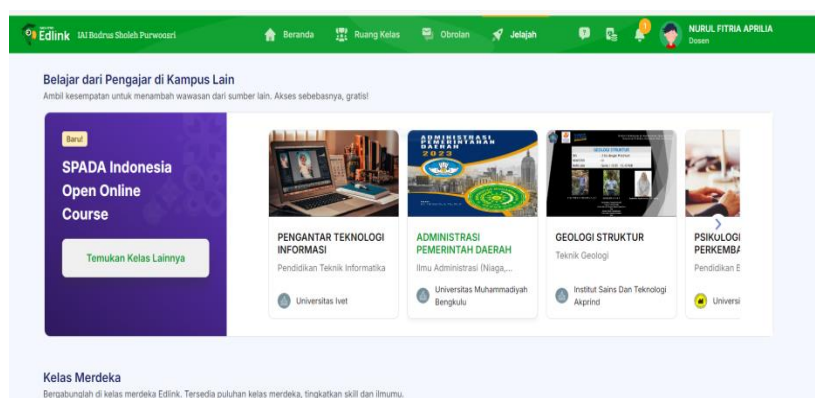
The Sevima Edlink application makes the online learning process more effective, as it can be integrated directly with the college's Academy Information System (Siakad) for colleges that use Siakad. In addition, this application is equipped with a lecture schedule notification feature, and can create class groups and can be used to make live presentations. To enter the sevima Edlink application, the initial entry page has the following appearance:



The advantage of the Sevima Edlink application is that it is equipped with various features that are made to facilitate lecturers and students to carry out learning. Among them are being able to conduct long-distance lectures by using the video conference feature, student attendance can be carried out only with cellphones, lecture schedule notifications that help remind students. The evaluation process is more effective and interesting by utilizing interactive quiz features, students will find it easier to conduct online lectures using the Sevima edlink application because lecturers can attach files and videos that students can download so that they can more easily understand the material provided by lecturers, besides that students will also be simpler to collect answers through the Edlink application so that the recap of lecture activities will be more accurate. Here is an image of one of the displays on Sevima Edlink:



In the class group forum feature, lecturers can give assignments by simply clicking share information then select questions, besides that lecturers can also attach assignments with file formats that students can download. Not only that, lecturers can also give grades directly to students and share answer sheets that have been assessed so that students can find out if they are right or wrong. The Sevima edlink application is also equipped with a homepage feature consisting of classes and news so that it can add insight and student literacy related to the world of lectures. The browsing feature also makes it easier for students to find learning resources more easily. Here's an example of how it looks:



However, please note that this application also has disadvantages. The disadvantage is that this application must be directly connected to the campus feeder, namely Siakad colleges that have used or collaborated if they are going to integrate and synchronize the system with Siakad. In addition, to use this application also requires a fairly good internet network, so students who are in areas that have not been reached by the internet network will have difficulty using this application..

Online Learning using Sevima Edlink for Arabic language learning and teaching activities in the Arabic Language Education study program IAI Badrus Sholeh Kediri

In today's modern era, technology plays an important role in the world of education, for example, learning does not have to be done face-to-face but can be replaced by the Online learning model. The online learning model was originally a computer-based learning model, but as technology develops slowly the function of computers is shifted by *smartphones* (Kuntarto 2017). The online learning model is a learning model through online media, therefore it requires assistance from additional applications to support the learning process. The applications that can be used are very diverse ranging from paid and free, one example is the Sevima Edlink application.

Various features of the Sevima Edlink application with reference to the Section Chapple theory have benefits for students in the ease of collecting answers to assignments and receiving material. In terms of ease of use, this application is very easy to use, for example, features that make it easy to attach files and a very easy log in process. In terms of cost, this application is very cheap, even free for subscription. This application is free of charge, just download this application and you can immediately use all the existing features. Furthermore, in terms of teaching functions, this application makes it very easy for teachers to share material, just choose the type of material to be given and can upload it immediately. In terms of interaction, this application also makes it easy for lecturers to interact directly with students in discussion forums. In terms of Networking, this application also provides private and public class forums. In terms of security, this application has also been equipped with good security with a *password* so that it is not easily misused.

Online learning through the Sevima Edlink platform is an effective solution for the Arabic Language Education Study Program of IAI Badrus Sholeh Kediri in carrying out teaching and learning activities, especially in today's digital era. This platform facilitates a flexible and interactive learning process, where lecturers and students can interact virtually through features such as discussion forums, video conferencing, and online assignment collection.

In the context of Arabic language teaching, Sevima Edlink provides various advantages, among others:

1. Easier Material Access: Students can access Arabic learning materials anytime and anywhere through devices connected to the internet.
2. Evaluation and Assignment Submission: The collection of assignments, quizzes, and learning evaluations can be done digitally, making it easier for lecturers to provide real-time feedback.
3. Student Engagement: With features such as group discussions and online classes, students have greater opportunities to actively participate in Arabic learning, both written and verbal.
4. Ease of Monitoring: Lecturers can easily monitor students' progress and attendance, and provide more structured guidance according to students' individual abilities in learning Arabic.

By utilizing Sevima Edlink, the Arabic Language Education Study Program at IAI Badrus Sholeh Kediri seeks to improve the quality of education and Arabic language skills of students effectively and efficiently, albeit through online media. It also encourages the creation of learning that is more independent, collaborative, and integrated with the development of current educational technology.

CONCLUSION

Sevima Edlink, as one of the most popular online learning platforms in Indonesia, offers various features that can support the teaching and learning process, including Arabic. The use of digital media such as Sevima Edlink can be an effective solution in dealing with time and space limitations as well as providing more flexible access to learning. The results show that the use of Sevima Edlink as an online learning media provides a number of benefits, such as ease of access, flexibility of learning time, and integration of interactive features that support Arabic language learning, such as materials, assignments, interactive videos, interactive quizzes, and discussion forums. Nevertheless, this study also found some challenges, such as limitations in direct interaction between lecturers and students and limited internet access due to connection problems that hinder the online learning process.

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