

# **EDUCATIONAL SKILLS IN CHOOSING LEARNING STRATEGIES IN THE PANDEMIC CASE STUDY IN MTs. MIFTAHUL HUDA BULUNG KULON, JEKULO, KUDUS**

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***Abstract:** This study aims to analyze the skills of educators in choosing learning strategies during pandemic case studies at MTs Miftahul Huda. The subjects in this study were learning media used by teachers in the online learning process, namely What's App Group, Zoom Meeting, Learning Videos; and (3) the implementation of learning carried out by the teacher includes lesson planning by making online lesson plans, implementing online learning using voice notes, zooming meetings, as well as the What's App Group; carry out learning evaluations. The conclusion in this study is that the teacher's learning strategy has been implemented using a variety of technological media which are used to achieve learning objectives under the applicable curriculum.*

***Keywords:** Skills, Educators, Strategy, Pandemic*

## **Introduction**

Currently, Corona is a hot topic of conversation. In any hemisphere, corona still dominates public space. In a short time, his name became a trending topic, discussed here and there, and was reported massively in print and electronic media. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-COV-2), better known as the coronavirus, is a new type of coronavirus that causes infectious diseases in humans. Covid-19 is a contagious disease caused by a newly discovered type of coronavirus. Although it mostly affects the elderly, this virus can affect anyone, from babies to children to adults. This coronavirus can cause minor disorders of the respiratory system, severe lung infections, and death.

Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was first discovered in the city of Wuhan, China at the end of December 2019. This virus is spreading very quickly and has spread to almost all countries, including Indonesia, in just a few months. So the WHO on March 11, 2020, declared this outbreak a global pandemic. This has led several countries to establish policies to impose lockdowns to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. In Indonesia itself, a Large-Scale Social Restriction (PSBB) policy was implemented to suppress the spread of this virus. Because Indonesia is carrying out the PSBB, all activities carried out outside the home must be stopped until this pandemic has subsided. Some local governments have decided to implement a policy of dismissing students and have started implementing online or online learning

methods. This government policy came into effect in several provinces in Indonesia on Monday, March 16, 2020, which was also followed by other provinces. However, this does not apply to several schools in each region. These schools are not ready for online learning systems, which require learning media such as cellphones, laptops, or computers.

The online learning system (in a network) is a learning system without face-to-face learning between teachers and students but is done online using the internet network. Teachers must ensure teaching and learning activities continue, even though students are at home. The solution, teachers are required to be able to design learning media as an innovation by utilizing online media (online). This is under the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia regarding Circular Number 4 of 2020 concerning the Implementation of Education Policies in the Emergency of the Spread of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19).

The learning system is implemented through a personal computer (PC) or laptop connected to an internet network connection. Teachers can learn together at the same time using groups on social media such as WhatsApp (WA), telegram, Instagram, zoom applications, or other media as learning media. Thus, the teacher can ensure students take part in learning at the same time, even in different places. All sectors are feeling the impact of the corona. One of them is the world of education. Judging from the surrounding events that are happening, both students and parents who do not have cellphones to support online learning activities feel confused, so the school is also looking for solutions to anticipate this. Some students who do not have cellphones learn in groups, so they do learning activities together. Starting to learn via a video call that is connected with the teacher concerned, being asked questions one by one, to capturing via VoiceNote available on WhatsApp. The materials are also given in the form of a video which is less than 2 minutes long.

Online learning cannot be separated from the internet network. An Internet network connection is one of the obstacles faced by students whose living quarters are difficult to access the internet, especially since these students live in rural, remote, and underdeveloped areas. Even if someone uses a cellular network, sometimes the network is unstable, because the geographical location is still far from cellular signal coverage. This is also a problem that often occurs in students who take online learning so that the implementation is not optimal. According to the results of the interview the author conducted, to Mr. Zamris Anwar as a teacher at MTs Miftahul, the researcher asked about how the school provides information about the learning process "we use the offline route, which is not online because remembering that there are some parents of students MTs Miftahul Huda not have an android mobile ", then" we have to survey or map students who have media or mobile phones and those who don't. Those who have cell phones are much easier to communicate with. "From this background, the authors chose the title "Educators' Skills in Choosing Learning Strategies During the Pandemic, Case Study at MTs Miftahul Huda.

### **Theoretical Basis**

According to Muhibbin Syah, learning is an activity that is in process and is a very fundamental element in the implementation of every type and level of education. This means that the success or failure of achieving educational goals is very

dependent on the learning process experienced by students, both when they are at school or in their own home or family environment. Meanwhile, according to Gagne in Dimiyati and Mudjiono, learning is a complex activity. Learning outcomes in the form of capabilities. After learning people have skills, knowledge, attitudes, and values. The emergence of these capabilities is from (i) stimulation that comes from the environment, and (ii) cognitive processes carried out by students. Thus, learning is a set of cognitive processes that change the stimulating nature of the environment, bypassing information management, into new capabilities.

According to researchers, learning is a process of interaction between teachers and students both online and offline by producing behavioral changes that lead to better, these changes occur because of deliberate use of humanizing human methods because in essence learning is change. Furthermore, teachers are professional educators with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, assessing, and evaluating students in early childhood education, formal education, basic education, and secondary education. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) or the world health organization announced the global status of the Corona Virus Disease (Covid 19) pandemic which emerged in 2019. The following researchers try to distinguish between Plague, Epidemic, and Pandemic, Outbreak is the occurrence of the spread of certain diseases over a wide area and in many people, then Epidemic is usually used to refer to a bag on a larger scale and not on a global scale such as a pandemic, while Pandemic is the occurrence of an epidemic of a disease that attacks many people simultaneously in various countries on a global scale.

### **Research Methodology**

In this study, researchers used a naturalistic qualitative research type with a case study approach at MTs Miftahul Huda. Because this research relies on descriptive, natural, and inductive processes, qualitative research has special characteristics or characteristics, namely: a) Naturalistic (naturalistic), b) Descriptive (Descriptive Data), Focus on Process (Concern with Process), d ) Inductive (Inductive) and e) Attention to meaning (Meaning).

### **Findings and Discussion**

Based on the results of observations made at MTs Miftahul Huda, Bulung Kulon, Jekulo, Kudus regarding Educators' Skills in Choosing Learning Strategies during the Pandemic Study which includes:

Educator

Skills are basic abilities in humans that must be trained, honed, and developed. continuously so that it becomes potential in doing something. In addition, to develop skills, a process of sharpening reason or thinking is needed. Thus encouraging the emergence of special skills. Skills are abilities that exist in a person from birth. In other words, skills are talents that are inherent as an essence. Even though there is a talent or potential within, it should be sharpened and trained, so that the ability continues to develop optimally. To become skilled, a series of processes is required. Specific skills that a person possesses in certain aspects or fields are then trained through continuous and continuous training, besides that it is also supported by a

diligent learning process. So that from the training and learning process carried out continuously and continuously, a broad and deep understanding emerges which is then implemented in the form of optimal and potential mastery of the field.

Robbins expressed his thought that skills are divided into 4 types, namely as follows:

**1. Basic Literacy Skill**

Is a basic skill or ability inherent in each individual, this type of skill includes various abilities such as listening, reading, writing, and also the ability to aspects calculating?

**2. Technical Skill**

Technical Skill is a type of skill that is acquired by a special learning process in the engineering field. Technical skills have examples, including the skills to operate computer equipment, repair various electronic devices such as cellphones, televisions, and so on.

**3. Interpersonal Skill**

Interpersonal Skill is a type of ability or skill that is fundamentally owned by each individual in communicating between one individual and another, or between groups. Interpersonal Skills have examples, including the skills to put forward several ideas and opinions, as well as work together in a determined work team.

**4. Problem Solving**

Problem Solving is a basic skill in a person, which can potentially be implemented to solve a problem supported by one's logical ability to think.

Education is an effort to nurture and develop the human personality both in the spiritual and in the physical part. Some experts define education as a process of changing the attitudes and behavior of a person or group of people in maturing through teaching and training. With education, we can be more mature because this education has a very positive impact on us, and also it can eradicate illiteracy and will provide skills, mental abilities, and so on. As stated in Law No.20 of 2003 Education is a basic and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious-spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and skills. which is needed by himself, society, and the State.

According to the (Depdiknas 2003), education is a conscious and planned effort to create an atmosphere of learning and the learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious-spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and the necessary skills. himself and society. aims to improve knowledge, body, and morals so that they can slowly lead children to their highest goals and ideals. So that the child has a happy life and what he does can benefit himself, society, nation, country, and religion. Apart from that education is an effort to help children to be able to carry out their life tasks independently and responsibly and education is an effort of adult humans in guiding immature humans to maturity. Education is an important factor for society, for the sake of the progress and decline of the quality of the community or nation, it is very dependent on the education available to the people of that nation. As stated by Harupas and Poerkatja, education is a deliberate effort by parents which is always interpreted as being capable of creating moral responsibility for all their actions.

According to Heidjrachman and Husnah (1997: 77), education is an activity to increase a person's general knowledge, including in increasing the mastery of theory and skills, deciding and finding solutions to problems related to activities in achieving their goals, be it problems in the world of education or everyday life. Meanwhile, according to Notoadmodjo (2003: 77), formal education in an organization is a process of developing capabilities in the direction desired by the organization concerned (Visiuniversal 2019). Educator skills are very important for teachers when carrying out their duties in class. Educators must master and fulfill the three components of the professional trilogy, namely the basic components of science, the substance of the profession, and the components of professional practice. The management of education is expected to be able to empower educators to carry out professional duties according to the professional trilogy. The basic scientific components provide a foundation for prospective teaching staff to have insight, knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes regarding the teaching profession. Educators are required to master the science of education as the basis for their overall professional performance. The substance component of the profession equips prospective educators about what is the focus, as well as the specific practical objects of their professional work. This component consists of the learning process material which is part of the curriculum. The practice component directs prospective teaching staff to carry out their professional practice towards service targets appropriately and efficiently. There are 8 basic teaching skills, namely:

1. skills to open and close learning
2. skills to explain learning
3. skills to ask questions, to
4. provide a variety of
5. skills, to strengthen
6. class management
7. skills, skills to guide small group discussions, to
8. teach small group and individual teaching skills.

Educators' Tips for Choosing Learning Strategies During the Pandemic The skills of teachers in selecting and using learning strategies and models are very influential in overcoming learning difficulties of early childhood students. Professional teachers are teachers who can adapt to situations and conditions during the Covid 19 pandemic, starting from learning materials, learning strategies to the media used to support the learning process during the current pandemic. Learning and learning activities are essentially interactions between teachers and students. The concept of the strategy applied in learning during the pandemic is an approach to managing learning activities with a sequence of integration of activities, organizing the material, media, and time used during the learning process to achieve predetermined learning objectives (Barrimi et al. 2013). From this, educators pay attention to the material so that learning during this pandemic continues to run efficiently, effectively, and optimally. The strategy in the learning process as a plan, and the educator's mindset to determine the content of the material, the delivery of learning material, and to manage learning activities to achieve learning objectives besides that, strategies in learning are conceptual regarding the provisions used for the implementation of the learning process both directly and distance learning. far,

(Khanifatul, 2014).

Innovations in education are applied to develop a more optimal learning process with maximum results. Learning innovations used by educators in the millennial era of the pandemic that are applied are from pre-existing learning innovation models but are more increasing and creative by utilizing technological developments and internet connections. So that students can remain active, interested in learning, and remain productive during a pandemic. Challenges for teachers, lecturers, and the involvement of parents in current distance learning that are centered on an internet connection network, so that they must be able to design, design, and develop learning methods that run optimally by considering the characteristics of students, materials and selecting suitable media or applications. used, the way educators teach the millennial generation, including starting to learn using personal gadgets or laptops, multitasking, blended learning, online assignments, teachers as friends, and publishing online assignments. Learning innovations in the millennial era can be applied with various models including guided models, virtual and fun-based, optimization of IT and social media media, entrepreneurship and creativity oriented, and optimizing groups.

Steps for Millennial Teachers or Lecturers in this Pandemic period that must be taken are:

1. applying the main and first principles, namely health with protocols that must be adhered to,
2. analyzing the development of students and economic abilities with different technologies, being
3. able to design, design, and choose methods of learning and the media used
4. make learning fun with the involvement of students,
5. reflecting on online learning regularly and
6. forming communities for psychosocial support.

The current development of Information Technology has laptops connected to the internet, and smartphones with current student actors or students from Twitter, Google, Instagram, and Facebook. So that the media selection step in the current pandemic is the need for a strategy, namely:

1. looking at the characteristics of students before developing technology and innovative learning methods and media,
2. designs to strengthen students' interest and motivation to learn,
3. creating creativity and responsiveness regarding the importance of direct interaction with people. fellow friends, as well as the social environment, to strengthen social and humanities values through online media such as videos, YouTube, and others,
4. motivating students to be more motivated to be creative and innovative so that they do not only get learning media or knowledge from teachers or lecturers but can develop and innovate independently. as well as
5. the learning process carried out by students actively and pleasantly by creatively developing or using online media. Alternatives in choosing a learning media platform and changing learning strategies are using textbooks, social media such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and others. Platforms that can be developed include virtual classroom/hybrid learning, interactive learning

media, online quizzes, and tests as well as video conferencing.

Virtual classroom/hybrid learning platform consists of google classroom, Microsoft teams, Edmodo, jombla, moodle, and Schoology. Interactive learning media includes Macromedia flash, learning videos, Microsoft sway, and interactive ppt. Meanwhile, the online quiz and test platform includes quizzes, google form, Microsoft form, k-hoot. In addition, video conferencing that can be accessed for the learning process and community service activities include Zoom, Teams, Meet, Webex, and WhatsApp Viall. Developing learning videos with Android-based applications including Adobe Premiere Rush, Kinemaster, Filmorago, and Inshot, while PC / laptop-based applications include Adobe Premiere Pro, Corel Video Studio Pinnacle Studio. Whereas in the process of designing online learning media, educators need to design professionally and interactively with several platforms, namely Sway, interactive PPT convert YouTube or with the Ms. Power Point, multimedia learning using the Macromedia flash platform and digital book using the Professional 3D Page Flipp platform. Quiz and assessment application that can be accessed and developed with Kahoot, quizizz, google form, and quiz feature.

### **Strategy**

Strategy is an effort and effort in realizing expectations and goals. The strategy referred to here is a strategy that is specific to education or educational learning. In general, the meaning of the strategy in question is the teacher's way of presenting lesson content in the scope of education. According to Syaiful Bahri, in general, the strategy has the meaning of an outline of the direction to act to achieve predetermined goals. This understanding when connected with learning, strategy can be interpreted as general patterns of teacher and student activities in the embodiment of learning activities to achieve the goals outlined. (S. Bakhri 2015). Strategy is also defined as the teacher's approach to the use of information, selecting sources, and formulating the roles of students. Strategies include specific practices used to achieve teaching goals.

Strategy in learning is everything that is empowered for a teacher, for the success of learning (Fitria 2013). The learning model is a plan or a pattern of approaches used to design teaching. The teaching model contains teaching strategies, namely the sequence pattern of instructional activities used to achieve the desired learning objectives. Whereas in the teaching strategy there are instructional strategies and technical teaching skills that are very specific, such as the skills to ask questions, communicate directions, and react to the students. (Anon n.d.). Meanwhile, Muktar, 2003: 136 in his book entitled PAI Learning Design writes that strategy in learning is everything that is empowered for a teacher, for the success of learning. The strategy is indirect (indirect) for the achievement or success of learning. In another term, we are also familiar with the method. Regarding the method is direct (direct) which is carried out by a teacher in a learning event. In another formula, if one of the elements in the strategy is removed it will result in not achieving the teaching objectives, especially those involving the very close relationship between teaching strategies and teaching and learning activities. Students can carry out learning activities well if the teacher has set a strategy that is under the learning material to be delivered. Siti Kusri concluded that the teaching strategy is "a plan and method of teaching that will be

carried out by the teacher by determining the main teaching steps under the teaching objectives to be achieved". In general terms, the term teaching strategy can be equated with a teaching method or teaching model (Fatimah and Kartikasari 2018). Learning strategies can be described as traits and behaviors. Oxford defines learning strategies as behaviors used by learners so that language learning is successful, directed, and enjoyable. Learning strategies refer to the behaviors and thought processes that are used and influence what is learned. Language learning strategy is the act of implementing a plan using several variables such as objectives, materials, methods, and tools, as well as evaluation to achieve predetermined goals. Learning strategies according to (Fatimah and Kartikasari 2018). include:

1. Main Strategy and Support Strategy. The main strategy is used directly in digesting the learning material. Support strategies are used to develop learning attitudes and assist learners in overcoming problems such as distraction, fatigue, frustration, and so on.
2. Cognitive Strategy and Metacognitive Strategy. Cognitive strategies are used to manage learning material so that it can be remembered over a long period. Metacognitive strategies are steps used to consider cognitive processes, such as self-monitoring, and self-reinforcement.
3. Syntax Strategy and Semantic Strategy. Syntax strategies are function words, prefixes, suffixes, and word groups. Semantic strategy is dealing with real objects, situations, and events (Mu'min 2013).

The learning strategy is based on the classification, as follows:

1. Emphasis on Components in the Teaching Program The components of the teaching program, among others, are centered on teachers, students, and teaching materials. Teacher-centered, teachers convey information to students. Presentation techniques are lecture techniques, team teaching techniques, brainstorming techniques, demonstration techniques, and interdisciplinary techniques. Student-centered, learning strategies like this provide the widest possible opportunity for students to be active and take part in learning activities. In this case, the teacher acts as a facilitator and motivator. Presentation techniques are discussion techniques, group work techniques, discovery techniques, experimental techniques, fieldwork techniques, and special presentation techniques. Centering on teaching material, the material is divided into two, namely formal material and informal material. Formal material is the content of lessons contained in official textbooks at school, while informal material is learning material that comes from the school environment. Presentation techniques are tutorial, modular technique, integrated teaching technique, and demonstration technique.
2. Message or Material Processing Activities can be divided into two, namely, the expository learning strategy is a strategy in the form of elaboration, both in the form of written material and verbal explanation. The heuristic learning strategy is a strategy that gets around the aspects of the components that make up the instructional system leading to the activation of students to look for and find the facts, principles, and concepts they need.
3. Disturbing Messages or Materials There are two types of learning strategies for education, where messages are processed starting from general things to



specific things. For example, when teaching about single sentences, it begins with single sentence definitions, examples of single sentences, and continues with explanations of the characteristics of single sentences. While the induction learning strategy is that messages are processed starting from specific things to general concepts. For example, if teaching about a single sentence, begins by giving examples of single sentences, the characteristics of a single sentence so that students can define themselves about a single sentence.

4. How to Process Inventions There are two types of learning strategies, namely the expository learning strategy, which is a strategy in the form of elaboration which can be written material or verbal explanation. Discovery strategy is a process capable of assimilating a concept or principle. Such as observing, digesting, understanding, classifying, guessing, explaining, and making conclusions.

### **Conclusion**

Educator skills are very important for teachers when carrying out their duties in class. Educators must master and fulfill the three components of the professional trilogy, namely the basic components of science, the substance of the profession, and the components of professional practice. The management of education is expected to be able to empower educators to carry out professional duties according to the professional trilogy. The basic scientific components provide a foundation for prospective teaching staff to have insight, knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes regarding the teaching profession. Educators are required to master the science of education as the basis for their overall professional performance. Learning strategies are a major factor in improving the learning process and language skills. A planned strategy plays an important role in the learning process. So that this strategy does not move away from the target to be achieved, it is necessary to have a better understanding of language learning activities. Strategies that relate directly between teachers and students to give rise to stimuli and responses are very important. The components of the teaching program that are centered on teachers, students, and teaching materials also need to be implemented so that learning can be carried out properly. A learner-centered strategy is a learning strategy that provides opportunities for students to be active so that the teacher only acts as a facilitator and motivator.

Online or distance learning strategies carried out during a pandemic are a process of activities to create optimal learning by selecting materials or teaching materials, and media. Meanwhile, lecturers or teachers innovated during the pandemic by creating a new learning atmosphere online using form plates and social media. The role of the teacher is to improve IT literacy as much as possible (social media, video lessons, WhatsApp communication), encouraging parents and students alike. Meanwhile, the role of parents is intense communication with the teacher and directing the child to follow the instructions or rules of the teacher or lecturer. Strategi pembelajaran yang bertujuan proses pembelajaran online atau jarak jauh dapat terarah dan optimal serta inovasi pembelajaran tercipta pengalaman baru dan kreatif untuk mahasiswa dalam mengikuti pembelajaran di masa pandemi.

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