GENERATION Z AND DIGITAL LITERACY

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Abstract. Every generation of its time has different characters and habits. According to the words of Umar bi Khattab that "educate our children according to his time". Then it is imperative that practitioners and educational institutions adapt the way learning to their generation. Generation born after 2001 called the generation Z or a lot of so-called "net generation". This is because they grow as the internet progresses rapidly. Understanding of this generation brings a concept that generation Z should be equipped with good digital literacies. Because generation Z should be able to avoid the negative influence of the virtual world and its negative effects. The conclusion that can be obtained about the generation Z is they are the generation that still needs to upbringing and good direction, full of potential but can also be dangerous if not equipped with good ability in mastering technology. then the participation of teachers, lecturers and institutions needs to provide education in a manner appropriate to their characteristics..

Keywords**:** Generation Z, Digital literacy

I. INTRODUCTION

In the last 10 years, the development of technology and information flow is very rapid. This rapid rate of technological development has an impact on lifestyle changes, mindset, way of learning, and other aspects of life. The greatest impact is felt by generations born and / or growing during this technological explosion, this generation known as "Z generation". Generation Z has a unique character and very different from the characters owned by previous generations. This powerful technological influence is reflected in, for example, Z-generation dependence with gadgets and short concentration duration (Ozkan & Solmaz, 2015: 92-98). At this time we often hear the term millennial generation, which is a generation that lives and is growing learning today. Millenial generation is the term used in describing the Y generation.

Z-generation populations at the school's active ages at both primary and high levels of education (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2015). This group, which is currently about 11-20 years old, lives with ease of access and lots of data or information that spoils their imagination. Maybe they will never know the difficulty of finding a source of learning. They are adept at using technology and spending time playing games or just watching Youtube. But this generation also grew during the events of 11 September, the monetary crisis and various terror at home and abroad. So based on BPS data, it is estimated that in 2019 this generation will fill more than 20 percent of the world of work.

The world of education and industry continues to work together to prepare young people of the Z generation who are ready to enter the workforce. The Z generation born in 1995-2010 has begun to enter their first world of work. Generation Z is the children we will "harvest" in the coming 2030s, which according to McKinsey (2017) prediction that in that year Indonesia will occupy the seventh position of world economy, beating Germany and England. They are currently in the school benches. The next question is, what kind of learning process is suitable for this Z generation? Then what efforts should parents and teachers make in order for Z-generation children to get the right learning in preparing their era of leadership in the next 18 years?

Based on previous thought then an essence if the education can understand and interpret the generation of Z and the impact of digital literacy. So an in-depth study needs to be done in order to understand about this Z-generation. The application of digital literacy is the impact of a

generation that changes according to the times, generally aims to present a precise picture of the application of digital literacy in primary school learning. In particular the purpose of this writing is (1) explains the definition of generation Z; (2) describe the character of the Z generation; (3) describes the application of digital literacy in learning.

II. LITERATURE

Many generational theories are expressed by social and psychological experts. They argue that the first members were born in early 1991 and at the end of 2001 (Hawkins, Schmidt 2008), while others argued that anyone born after 1995 was part of Gen Z. What which is not in disagreement, however, is what distinguishes this generation from the previous one, and that's the unique era in which they grew up. Here is a generation classification according to experts

Tabel 1
Generasi Label

Label:	Mature Generati	Boom Generati	Generation X	Millennial (Y)	Generation Z
Date:	1925–	1946–	1965–	1981–	2001–

Sumber: Reeves (2008:297)

Generation Z has characteristics of behavior and personality that are different from previous generations. Some common characteristics of the Z generation according to Andrea et al (2016: 90-95) are:

1. Fluent Technology. They are the "digital generation" who are proficient and passionate about information technology and various computer applications. They can access the various information they need easily and quickly, both for the benefit of education and the interests of daily life.

2. Social. They are very intense communication and interact with all circles, especially with peers through various networking sites, such as: FaceBook, twitter, or via SMS. Through this medium, they can express what they perceive and think spontaneously. They also tend to be tolerant of cultural differences and are very concerned with the environment.

3. Multitasking. They are accustomed to various activities at one time at a time. They can read, talk, watch, or listen to music at the same time. They want things to be done and run fast. They do not want things that are rambling and tortuous.

These characteristics have two opposite sides, can be positive-provide benefits for themselves and / or the environment-or even negative that can harm themselves and the environment. They are sophisticated in using digital tools. But they will be difficult if asked to manage a plot of land, with irrigation facilities, and enough capital money. Because all they have in mind is computers, laptops and cell phones, not farms, fisheries and farms. According to Taufiq A. (2011: 45), that children tend to decrease in verbal communication, tend to be egocentric and individualistic, tend to want results that are fast-paced, instant-paced, and easy-going, impatient and disrespectful to the process. Their Intellectual Intelligence (IQ) may be well developed, but their emotional intelligence is dulled.

Based on what is stated by Chou P. (2012: 34), it is not surprising if at a young age, people who in fact still status as students have been skilled in the mastery of technology. Generation Z has a distinctive characteristic in which the internet began to grow and grow in line with the development of digital media. The existence of Generation Z is born from the combination of two generations before the Generation X and Generation Y. People in this generation are those who were born and raised in the digital era, where various technologies have grown more and more sophisticated, such as the existence of the device hard electronics in the form: computer or laptop, mobile phone, iPad, MP3, MP4, and so forth.
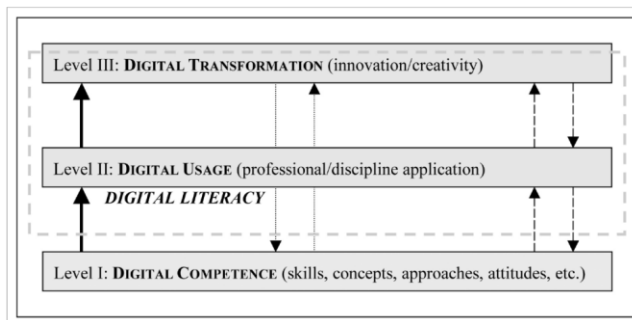
A. Digital Literacy

Gilster first proposed the term digital literacy (in Riel, et al., 2012: 3). He proposed digital literacy is the ability to use technology and information from digital devices effectively and

efficiently in various contexts such as academic, career and everyday life. So it can be said that digital literacy is a basic ability in using digital technology.

Kemenkominfo (2014) mentions that from research conducted to children and adolescents aged 10-19 years, there are at least 30 million children and adolescents Indonesia who use the internet and make digital media as the main choice of their communication channels. It also mentioned that children and teenagers have been using online media for more than a year, and nearly half of them claim to first learn about the internet from friends. The study revealed that 69 percent of respondents use computers in accessing the internet. About a third (34 percent) use laptops, and a fraction (only 2 percent) connect via video games. More than half of respondents (52 percent) use mobile phones to access the internet, but less than a quarter (21 percent) use smartphones and only 4 percent use tablets. This data proves that digital technology is widely used by teenagers to access information through the Internet network to meet daily needs

Picture 1. Digital Literacy Level

Sumber: Lankshear dan Knobel 2008, 167

From Figure 1 then obtained level of digital literacy level, that is competence, usage and transformation. Competency level (competence) regarding the mastery of the tool, while the usage (usage) is the use of digital to support the job / task, while the transformation is the ability to provide innovation through digital technology.

Tabel 2
Classification Digital Literacy

Tool and System	Information and Data	Sharing and Creation	Contex History &
Basic Computer Hardware	Representati Searching	Creatif Teks	Digital Civil Differcity
Software and Application	Buliding	Multimedia	Intellectual Privilage
Network	Analysis and Decition Making	Communication Character building	Privacy and identity Program by agenda
Design	Storage	Producttifity	Technology
Enrichment	Navigacy	Sharing and Colaboration	

Sumber: Riel *et. al (*2012: 9)

Table 2 explains that the classification of various digital literations should be known. Lots of types and functions respectively. It can be learned and developed for students.

Generation Learning Z

Facing a Z generation that is very close to technology, hyperactive, confident, and bored, innovation and breakthrough in teaching methods are essential, where teachers play a facilitator role (Kelly, 2008). Teachers need a great strategy that provides the widest possible opportunity for students to experiment and explore on a topic.

The presence of Generation Z with all its very complex characteristics brings its own implications for education, including:

1. We do not want a technology-stammering generation and we do not expect technology to be held by "the wrong people". Therefore, parents, teachers, counselors and other educators should be able to guide and facilitate the child to grow and develop in accordance with his era and can utilize the presence of technology appropriately and correctly. Not forbid them to

be their generation, but the most important is the effort to teach them to live well adjusment.

2. In learning, children Generation Z tend to like things that are applicative and fun. The learning methods developed should be able to accommodate the tendencies of their learning methods, one of them through the Centered Learning Model approach (PBM), which uses the model, the constructed tools and the dynamics simulation of the system to produce diverse presentations to help students develop understanding of the phenomenon. complex and dynamic (Milrad, et al, in Hazrul Iswadi, 2012).

3. To accommodate the trend of Generation Z children in online social media, Bukik (2012) mentions that tweeting is not just memorizing lessons but it is a challenge to create lessons. The process of tweeting itself is an attempt to create a building of understanding. The brain is not passive, it is actively discovery and creation. This active brain is a sign of the real learning. Meanwhile, Akhmad Sudrajat (2009), initiated the FaceBook Counseling in School, which is essentially about efforts to utilize FaceBook presence to support the effectiveness of Guidance and Counseling services in schools.

Of course there are many other things to consider in the process of Z-generation children education, which essentially boils down to appropriate educational services and appropriate to empower and civilize the children of Z generation, in which requires awareness and wisdom of educators in the face of children generation Z.

The presence of Generation Z with all its phenomenon and uniqueness becomes its own attraction especially for those who are not from previous generations like generation Y or better known as millenial and generation X. Many research, journals and articles are trying to explore the ins and outs of Z-generation life. As quoted from Entrepreneur (2015), Generation Z

or Gen Z is a generation that includes children born between the mid-1990s to the present. The oldest member of Gen Z is still a teenager. They were born and grew big amid the increasingly established technological developments, where mobile phones more sophisticated, the internet has been everywhere until social media is not become something that is difficult to access. So, do not be surprised if Gen Z became a topic that is often touted various circles in terms of education, economic, political, social, and cultural.

The existence of Gen Z and its advantages in following the latest technological developments turned out to create a new phenomenon. Starting from the phenomenon of their lifestyle that has been literate IT to the style of communication. Moreover, Gen Z is known to dominate more communications through social media. Uniquely, they tend to think social media is everything that the real world is about. If a peek at their timeline activity will be very visible that such social media becomes a necessity that is absolutely consumed daily. Unlike the generation before them the generation of Y and X who never felt not free to access the internet and if you want to enjoy a complete information generation X and Y never had to be patient to rely on mass media print, waiting for the publication of a book and so forth.

The online learning model will stimulate the Z generation to learn effectively. Lots of current learning technology developments that support that direction. Not a few in the education practitioners have started. Nothing is too late or limited because of the many media, tools, and learning resources that are digitally based. This generation Z generation is a technologically advanced and pampered generation of ease of access. Unfortunately if the way of learning methods, approaches and models have not come into contact with digital. So as a plunger

(practitioner), institutions are beginning to promote digital-based learning for this potent Z generation.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Generation Z is the next generation of millenial generation (Y) generation. They grew up in an age of highly developed information technology, easy and fast. Generation Z is the next generation of earth guards and the inhabitants of the planet. Then digital capabilities (digital literacy) should be owned by the Z generation. This means they can filter information well, effectively, and innovate for the people.

Generation Z has also a weakness because the role of parents replaced by their digital tools. In addition to the many parents who work, most of the day they spend outdoors. The role of teachers and parents becomes very important, to maintain the balance of knowledge, attitudes and feelings so that children of Z generation not only able to understand that life is not just in the virtual nature only. But there is a real nature whose reality demands cooperation and mutual respect.

Social function will work if there is a balance between intellectual, emotional and spiritual. Familiarizing children to blend in togetherness with the family is an effort that can be done to stifle these Z-generation children in the direction of individualist thinking. Because they are often negligent and too engrossed using gadgets or other information technology equipment. Therefore the teacher must create a warm atmosphere when in the classroom so that the child becomes a caring person, and likes to socialize with others. Classroom teaching should be relevant to reality. This means that teachers should be able to become a bridge of accurate and useful knowledge for future students.

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