

# The Development of Digital Age Literacy: A Case Study in Indonesia

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## Abstract

This research aims to develop the instrument of feasible and reliable digital-age literacy to be used in the learning process. This needs to be done due to a different region, tribe, and gender involved in this research. The digital-age literacy developed in this research consisting of 8 constructs, including 1) basic literacy, 2) scientific skill, 3) economy skill, 4) information skill, 5) technology skill, 6) visual skill, 7) various cultures skill, and 8) global awareness. As many as 650 respondents were chosen through stratified and random sampling in this survey. Those respondents were students at Universitas Terbuka based on gender and *Ethnicity* comparison. To see the internal consistency, the data were then analyzed using SPSS 23.00 version for Windows. It was obtained that all questionnaire constructs were valid and reliable, proven by obtaining a high mean reliability value of Cronbach Alpha ( $0.816 > 0.6$ ), in which each item had a high value (0.778–0.841). Therefore, the number obtained **the results** proved that this research had produced a quality instrument that can be used to evaluate the students' mastery of the digital-age literacy of the learning process in Universitas Terbuka Asia, especially in Indonesia.

**Keywords:** Universitas Terbuka, Digital-Age Literacy, University Students, Industrial Revolution Era 4.0

**JEL Classification Code:** I20, I26, I29, Q16, D83

## 1. Introduction

In this 21<sup>st</sup> century, technology development becomes more rapid as it enters the industrial revolution era 4.0, making the globalization flow cannot be stopped anymore. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is a century where significant

global development is in the technology and information sector (Rahayu et al., 2018). This century is marked by the globalization flow causing tight competition so that excellent knowledge and skills are required. Skills needed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century include information and communication technology and information literacy (digital-age literacy) as working tools (Griffin & Care, 2015). Digital-age literacy is defined as an individual's ability to use the digital device to find and choose information, think critically, be creative, collaborate with other people, communicate effectively and mind electronic safety and develop social-culture context (Hague & Payton, 2010). The use of information technology also has an impact on economic effectiveness and company conditions (Dwirandra & Astika, 2020).

Hague and Payton conducted educational research finding that good digital-age literacy plays a role in developing an individual's knowledge regarding particular lesson material by encouraging him to develop his curiosity and creativity (Akbar & Anggaraeni, 2017). A survey conducted on 424 students of the tenth and twelfth grade in the rural area of Canada regarding digital-age literacy activity obtained information that the frequency of activities using digital technology potentially increased inside and outside the classroom (Briere, 2015). Furthermore, another survey conducted on 60 University students provided information

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that most of the students accepted to the university had good ability to use social media, email or Skype, and the internet as community members in cyberspace. However, their competence in applying technology in the learning process was still lacking (Shopova, 2014). This is supported by another survey carried out by the Ministry of Communication and Information cooperated with UNICEF that 79.5% of children and teenagers at the age of 10-19 years old throughout Indonesia representing the rural and urban area were internet and digital media users (Febliza & Oktariani, 2020). It has a significant effect on the transition process of children as children and teenagers search for information on the internet. Thus, this digital era requires the teachers to follow the development in science and technology so that the learning process is by the current developments and is in sync with the students' needs. However, the educational environment phenomenon indicates that the teachers are still lacking in following the modernization rate; many still use 80s products and apply educational systems of the twentieth century, causing a significant difference between the teacher and student (Susilo & Sarkowi, 2018). Digital-age literacy involves life skills, which does not only involve ability in using technology, information, and communication devices but also involves ability in socializing, ability in learning and behaving, as well as thinking critically, creatively and in an inspirational way to match with the requirements of the digital age.

Research conducted by Kharizma concluded that the Senior High School Teachers of Surabaya City had high digital-age literacy ability (Kharisma, 2017). Other research detected that the literacy level of the Junior and Senior High School aged teenagers had high ability in internet searching, hypertextual navigation, and knowledge assembly. In contrast, the digital-age literacy ability in the content evaluation was still categorized as low (A'yuni, 2015). Another research project studied the significant relationship between digital literacy with self-directed learning and e-resources (Akbar & Anggaraeni, 2017); (Nurjanah et al., 2017), indicating that a student has a high literacy level, then his learning independence and mastery in accessing electronic source will also increase. Based on several research projects above, it can be understood that through digital-age literacy, someone can access, manage, integrate, analyze and evaluate information, build new knowledge, make and communicate with other people so that he can actively participate in the community. According to Potter's concept (Widyastuti et al., 2016), the effort to liberate the community based on digital is not merely introducing digital media but also synergizes daily activities aiming to improve their productivity. Furthermore, according to Sholihah, digital-age literacy is an effort to find, use, and distribute information effectively (Sholihah, 2016).

Digital literacy has become an essential factor in distance learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. Digital competence and literacy in using computers and surfing in cyberspace are the necessary skills needed in implementing PJJ (Latip, 2020). Furthermore, Shopova stated that competency and level of ICT literacy affect the effectiveness and efficiency of the learning process (Shopova, 2014). Meanwhile, ICT literacy is more specific to the use of digital media. Clark said that ICT literacy is influenced by the level of generation and age of technology users. The younger generation finds it is easier to manage technology than the older generation (Kirschner, 2006). In the context of the ongoing implementation of PJJ, differences in generations and ages between teachers and learners can be a barrier to the smooth implementation of PJJ. Therefore, the improvement and standardization of teachers and learners in the mastery of information and communication technology should be pursued by all parties involved in PJJ.

In connection with standardization, the International Technology Education Association (ITEA) released a technology literacy standard that covers various competencies and abilities of learners from 2 to 12 years of age. This standard relates to the ICT competencies that learners must demonstrate in using information and communication technology to support the learning process. In another part, the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) also released seven aspects related to technology mastery standards that learners must master in facing the digital world. The competency standards and ICT capabilities of the ITEA and ISTE are closely related to the use of technology to support the learning process. If it is linked to the context of implementing distance learning during the Covid-19 pandemic, the ICT literacy standards developed by ITEA and ISTE can be a reference for teachers and learners in utilizing technology for the smooth implementation of PJJ.

Besides, Kats stated that digital-age literacy assessment is needed to be involved in the educational framework in order to support institution digital literacy initiative and individual learning guidelines as well as to define skill and knowledge (Covello, 2010). Another advantage of the assessment is to prove the understanding and learning of an individual (Corrigan & Gunstone, 2019). Several studies focus on assessing students' skills, such as assessing successful Intelligence (Vianney Mitana et al., 2019) and critical thinking skills (Dwi Saputra et al., 2018). The main finding in this study is that digital literacy has the greatest influence on the performance of SME entrepreneurs, both directly and indirectly (Sariwulan et al., 2020). But not many studies have developed the instruments to measure digital literacy skills. Based on the explanation above, assessment instrument of digital-age literacy ability is needed so that the

present research aimed to measure to the level of university students' digital literacy level. It is impossible that a university can follow the science and technology development while it does not have adequate potential and unprepared human resource. Therefore, digital-age literacy instrument needs to be developed to identify the preparedness of university and its students in encountering the digital era in industrial revolution 4.0.

## 2. Literature Review

Abundant digital information resource nowadays is caused by advanced information technology and the internet. On the other hand, information technology development is similar to the two sides of a coin, which affects the community positively and negatively. Digital-age literacy learning cannot be ignored. This demand produces thought that digital-age literacy is also essential in the education aspect. Besides, education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century demands the education institution to respond to the era changing and development by mastering information technology, also called digital-age literacy. According to NCREL, Metiri Group, and Burkhardt et al., literacy ability is the ability to emphasize the literacy ability connected in the digital era and is limited to reading ability. However, it is also associated with listening, writing, and speaking abilities (Hasibuan & Ariyanti, 2019).

Stokes divided literacy terminology based on the theory into four definitions. First, reading and writing ability is a requirement for someone involved in social interaction. Second, reading, writing, and counting ability. Third, it refers to the quality of the intellectual and educated individual. He can participate fully in social activities, whether in social, economic, political, and cultural sectors. *Fourth*, literacy is the characteristics of a certain social or cultural group (Yanti, 2016). The definition of literacy develops through the times. Literacy is widely defined based on the context used. Therefore, it is no wonder if media literacy (Sibii, 2009), visual literacy (Jones, 2009), *critical literacy* (Roberts, 2000), and information literacy (Bawden, 2001) appears now. In more complete form, literacy has several types including (a) *minimal literacy*; (b) *conventional literacy*; (c) *basic literacy*; (d) *functional literacy*; (e) *restricted literacy*; (f) *vernacular literacy*; (g) *elite literacy*; and (h) *multiliteracy* (Wiley, 2008). However, digital-age literacy is different from other literacies because it is related to the local and global ecology, which are interconnected. It is also not monocultural and static (Hawisher et al., 2006). Although they are different, basic literacy capabilities greatly affect one's connectivity to the digital environment (Warschauer, 2007).

Digital-age literacy can read, write, and count various digital texts/objects present in a digital environment. When information is presented in digital form, it can be manipulated (Ensmenger, 2012). Digital-age literacy is not

an old topic since there are so many research projects which elaborate on this. Research conducted at the University of Qatar shows that the skills to look for information in a database are considered by students as one of the essential skills that students must have (Azmi, 2006). However, online skills also include the ability to look for information on the internet, which may be the reason for differences among the students (Santos & Pedro, 2013).

Digital-age literacy skills need to be improved to support the universities with lecturers and students who are ready with competencies in the IT field as described previously. The literacy movement is defined as more than just reading and writing. It includes the ability to think critically in processing information that has been read or will be written (Asari et al., 2019). Furthermore, digital-age literacy is also not limited to the technical competence of applying technology in finding information, but the skills in reading, understanding, criticizing, and presenting knowledge/information obtained through technological devices and internet networks that support it (Kurnianingsih et al., 2017). Digital-age literacy is not as simple as understanding technology and information as supporting device, but rather a sufficient connection between the experience of teachers/students in using information technology inside and outside the classroom (Buckingham, 2015). Thus, it can be concluded that digital-age literacy is the process and the ability of teachers/students in processing and presenting information from/through digital technology that is related to their experience from inside and outside the classroom.

Digital-age literacy is one of the critical aspects of supporting education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century aims to encourage students to master essential and useful 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills to be responsive to the era changes and developments (Afandi et al., 2016). The 21<sup>st</sup>-century knowledge era has the interconnection characteristics between the science worlds comprehensively, where digital-age literacy is expected to present consequences in the educational aspect (Sudarisman, 2015). Through digital-age literacy, reading, listening, and writing skills can be done with digital media such as computers, the internet (blog, social media, and website), and smartphones. Students can be invited to distinguish between false and true news spread on the internet. Besides, students need to be told addresses of useful sites for learning and how to use them dramatically facilitates them in finding information related to courses they consider very dull. However, after learning to use digital media, they are increasingly becoming enthusiastic about learning.

Therefore, the researchers of this paper determined that the digital-age literacy for students of primary education of Universitas Terbuka consisted of eight constructs adapted from (NCREL, 2003), including 1) basic literacy,

2) scientific skill, 3) economic skill, 4) information skill, 5) technology skill, 6) Visual skill, 7) various cultural skill, and 8) global awareness. This research is significant, considering that currently, many children and young people are tightly following the technological advances seen from the smartphone devices and other technologies used. They are used to using and exploring these devices. However, does this closeness guarantee that they will have the right level of digital-age literacy to face the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

In a study examining how critical aspects of digital literacy (i.e., SRL and EC) relate to student learning benefits when using the internet to investigate everyday public health and science topics (Greene et al., 2014). Furthermore, some studies focus on measuring the significant difference between before and after digital literacy education through tests and surveys before and after the performance (Lee, 2014). The development of tests attempts to measure students' ability to handle digital information, communicate, and collaborate during problem-solving (Siddiq et al., 2017). Literate assesses the psychometric properties of a newly tested self-report assessment tool for media literacy, based on the twelve new media literacy (NML) skills developed by (Jenkins et al., 2015).

The definitions of digital and ICT literacy that have been adopted in cross-national studies investigate the approaches to digital literacy and ICT assessments that have been used in these studies and articulate the criteria that should guide the development of global measures of digital and ICT literacy skills. (Ainley et al., 2016). Another study investigated digital literacy among junior high school students to compare participants' perceptions of digital literacy competence and their actual performance on relevant digital assignments. (Porat et al., 2018). Furthermore, to the best of our knowledge, no research addresses digital literacy skills in open-ended questions.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1. Design

This survey research was done to guide and produce digital-age literacy instruments for students. Research data were collected using a questionnaire (Creswell, 2012). The development of this questionnaire instrument is based on the adaptations that have been carried out by (NCREL, 2003) with a scale of seven consisting of eight constructs that were assessed for their validity and reliability level so that they can produce quality instruments and can measure what should be measured. The eight constructs meant are: 1) basic literacy, 2) scientific skill, 3) economic skill, 4) information closeness, 5) technology skill, 6) Visual skill, 7) various cultural skill, and 8) global awareness. This needs to be

done to evaluate, know, and identify the digital-age literacy skills of the students because this research was carried out in Asia, especially in Indonesia, which has different gender and ethnic characteristics.

#### 3.2. Sample

This research involved 650 necessary education students of Universitas Terbuka, both domestic and abroad. It is expected that through such a large number of respondents involved, the quality of instruments that are fostered and developed by researchers can be improved well. Samples were selected using stratified and random sampling to ensure that each member of the population has the same possibility to be chosen. The sample size taken is representative of the subgroup for gender and Ethnicity Comparison. Many respondents in this study coming from various regions, including from foreign countries, big cities as well as rural villages, speaks about the importance of this research for making policies that need to be taken for a university or institution.

#### 3.3. Data Analysis Procedure

The data was collected from digital-age literacy questionnaire instruments for necessary education students of Universitas Terbuka of Riau Region. It was then processed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 23.00 for Windows to see the quality of the instruments that have been developed. The research instrument validity was obtained from the corrected item-total correlation value with scores without items regarding dimensions or constructs. In contrast, the reliability index was obtained from the use of Cronbach Alpha. The analysis result was carried out using corrected item-total correlation value, which must have a minimum value of 0.3 (Nunnally, 1978), while the instrument reliability was based on the results of the Cronbach Alpha analysis, which must have values in the range of 0.6 - 1 (Hair et al., 2006) thus this research could produce the quality instrument.

### 4. Results

#### 4.1. Instrument Development

The development of digital-age literacy instruments for necessary education students used three stages of the approach. Those are stage 1, starting with scale identification; stage 2, involving writing individual items on a scale; and stage 3, involving field testing items followed by item analysis and validation procedures. The stages done by the researcher are explained as follows.

**Table 1:** Digital-age literacy Instrument Construct and Aspect Assessed

No	Construct and Aspect Assessed
A.	Basic
1.	Able to read English
2.	Able to write in English
3.	Able to speak in English
4.	Understand arithmetic computation in numeric
5.	Understand mathematic explanation in numeric
B.	Scientific
7.	Have knowledge and mastery of scientific concept and process
8.	Analyze the answer of curiosity based on experience
9.	Able to describe, explain, and predicts the natural phenomenon
10.	Read and understand a scientific article
11.	Identify scientific issues
	Evaluate the quality of scientific information
C.	Economic
12.	Identify economic issues at the local level
13.	Identify economic issues at the national level
14.	Identify economic issues at the global level
D.	Information
15.	Before accessing information (able to distinguish what want to be known and needed from difference source based on source credibility)
16.	During accessing the information (able to identify relevant information)
17.	After obtaining information (used for a specific purpose by using several tools and media)
E.	Technology
18.	Able to use various techniques to improve productivity
19.	Able to use various tools to communicate the idea to other people
20.	Use technology to solve the problem
F.	Visual
21.	Understand the necessary element of visual design
22.	Apply knowledge obtained into electronic media in visual form
23.	Able to make visual media to present learning media
G.	Multicultural
24.	Understand and appreciate the similarity and difference of value, belief, and culture
25.	Sensitivity towards information containing ethnicity, race, religion, and groups
26.	Learning other culture
H.	Global Awareness
27.	Aware of global issues
28.	Know global issues
29.	Analyze the global issues solving procedure global

**Stage 1 – Scale Identification and Development.**

Stage 1 contained three steps that lead to scale identification and development. The first step includes reviewing the literature related to digital-age literacy instruments for students. This step is essential to be done because it identifies the main components that will be considered by researchers, educators, and practitioners as digital-age literacy needed in this challenging era. The second step is to conduct focus group discussions with experienced lecturers to obtain advice concerning digital-age literacy. The researchers also asked for approval and correctness of the constructs and items that were fostered in the instrument. The third step is to classify and rearrange the newly developed scale related to digital-age literacy, as suggested by the experts. Digital-age literacy in the present study includes nine primary components, those are: 1) basic literacy, 2) scientific skill, 3) economic skill, 4) information skill, 5) technology skill, 6) Visual skill, 7) various cultural skill, and 8) global awareness.

**Stage 2 – Writing Individual Item.**

A set of questionnaires were compiled based on digital literacy instrument by the research, where each component consists of constructions which are guidelines for developing a set of questionnaires in introducing digital-age literacy to the students. The following presents a whole set of digital-age literacy items that are shown to the expert panel to ensure the validity of the instrument’s construct and content.

**Stage 3 – Analysis of Instrument Validity and Reliability.**

One of the essential stages in this research is designing an instrument for measurements complemented with validity and reliability tests. The construct validity was used to see the extent to which the instrument describes a theoretical construct that is to be measured by carrying out trials (Setyawati et al., 2017). Emory said that there are methods that can be used in calculating construct validity, which is by considering the correlations between research data with existing measurement methods in the form of the

convergent discriminant method, factor analysis, and multi-method analysis (Fahrana & Fahmi, 2017). Besides, the value of the validity coefficient should be between +1.00 to -1.00. The coefficient value of +1.00 indicates that the items on the test instrument and construct test have relatively the same results.

In contrast, if the validity coefficient is 0, it indicates that there is no relationship between the instrument and its construct. If the validity coefficient value is high, the instrument is considered acceptable (Yusup, 2018). The instrument validity in this study used a corrected item-total correlation with the total score without items regarding dimensions or constructs.

The instrument reliability of this research was also tested by looking at the value of the composite reliability of the indicator blocks to measure the construct and Cronbach’s Alpha coefficient. Mallery & George (2016) revealed that the questionnaire reliability above 0.7 has an acceptable consistency level (Aksoy & Gökçe, 2016). Furthermore, the *Cronbach alpha* value is considered high if it is in the range of 0 and 1 (Straub & Gefen, 2004). Meanwhile, Morris stated that the researcher generally accepted *Cronbach’s alpha* if the value is higher or 0.60 (Zettel, 2001).

**4.2. Analysis of Instrument Validity**

As many as necessary education students of Universitas Terbukain May 2020 were involved in this research. The respondents can be described and explained in terms of ethnicity and gender as follows.

Based on the data in Figure 1 above, information was obtained regarding the number of respondents by gender, where male students had the same number as female tutors totaling 325 people or 50%. Thus, it can be known that respondents involved based on gender have met the margin error requirements.

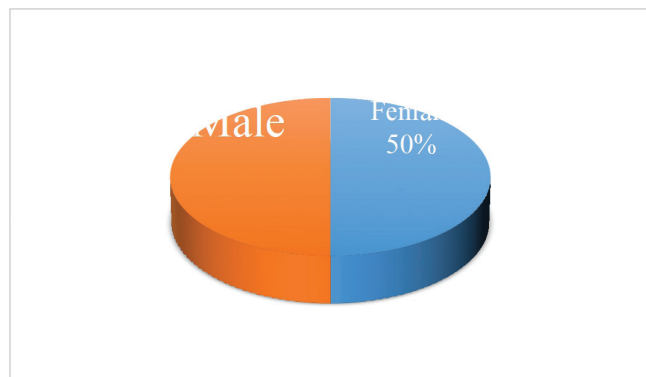


Figure 1: Graph of Respondents' Gender Comparison (%)

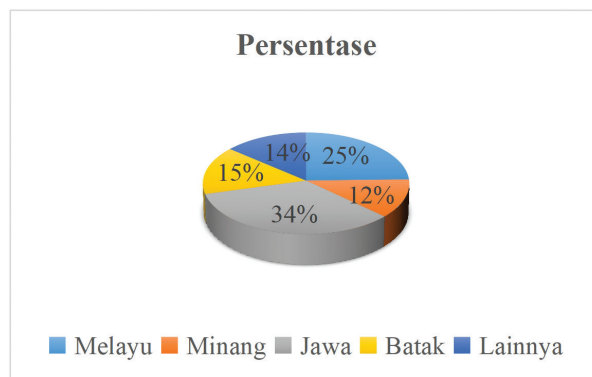


Figure 2: Graph of Respondents' Ethnicity Comparison (%)

Figure 2 above obtained information about the number of respondents based on Malay, Mining, Javanese, Batak, and others. Malay ethnic respondents consisted of 160 people (25%); Mining ethnic group consisted of 80 people (12%); Javanese ethnic consisted of 220 people (34%); Batak ethnicity consisted of 100 people (15%), and the others consisted of 90 people (14%). From this diagram, we can understand that most respondents are from the Javanese and Malay ethnic groups.

In addition to respondent data based on gender and ethnicity, the researcher also analyzed the instrument's validity using item correlation values corrected by item-total correlation. The following presents the results of the instrument validity test from the data of this study, as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2 above obtained information that the value of  $r$ -table is equal to 0.080 obtained from tables with a degree of freedom (df) of 648 from 29 questionnaires distributed as trials. From the overall calculation, all items are declared valid because the value of  $r$ -count  $>$   $r$ -table so that all question items can be used to measure the digital-age literacy of necessary education students of Universitas Terbuka.

### **4.3. Analysis of Instrument Reliability**

In developing digital-age literacy instruments for necessary education students of Universitas Terbuka, each item's internal consistency was assessed. This is a measure of the extent to which items on a scale measure the same construct as other items on the same scale. The following presents the reliability analysis results using Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the questionnaire based on the digital-age literacy instrument of necessary education students of Universitas Terbuka.

Table 3 above obtained the Cronbach Alpha Reliability Index for each study construct and the overall alpha value showing the constructs of physical/kinesthetic, existential/spiritual, interpersonal, intrapersonal, logical thinking, musical/rhythmic, naturalistic, verbal, and visual by 0.819; 0.816; 0.876; 0.877; 0.871; 0.874; 0.869; and 0.875, respectively. It was found that the reliability value ( $\alpha$ ) was more significant than 0.60 for each construct studied. Thus, the nine results of the reliability analysis above indicate that all constructs are reliable. This means that this instrument can measure what is rightly measured and can be used to measure and evaluate digital-age literacy instruments for the necessary education students of Universitas Terbuka.

## **5. Discussion**

Online questionnaires were distributed, obtaining that the highest dominant digital-age literacy skill among the necessary education students is a multicultural construct, which is the skills of various cultures by 78.97%. The lowest

digital-age literacy is in the basic construct, which is the necessary skill of 62.63%. Digital-age literacy is critical in finding information and implementing that information. Therefore, students involved in this research must be able to access and evaluate information, access information efficiently and effectively, evaluate information critically and competently, use and manage information, use information accurately and creatively to solve problems encountered, manage information flows from various sources, as well as applying a basic understanding of ethical/legal issues surrounding the access and use of the information. Learning in the 21st-century digital era, such as independent learning and collaborative learning, places students and society at the center of the learning process while introducing differences between students, with learning levels adjusted to the individual and their abilities, preferences, and needs (Eyal, 2012). In an educational context, this development provides opportunities for teachers and learners to provide new nuances in studying and learning social interaction and professional work. So, this digital-age literacy skill becomes lecturers and students' foundation and the core of knowledge in improving other skills to develop better. It is similar to the old saying that: reading is a window of science. With this skill, students and lecturers can distinguish between real news and hoax. The hoax news problem in the era where information is easily obtained digitally causes much information to be clarified and evaluated to conclude that the information obtained is correct or a hoax. Thus, it is clear that these digital-age literacy skills will save themselves, their families, and the country because people who have good digital-age literacy skills will avoid hoax in the form of news or information.

Digital-age literacy has significance for teaching and learning. For example, from the teacher side, mastering digital-age literacy provides convenience and effectiveness in planning, implementing, and evaluating learning programs that it does. The use of digital literacy also has an impact on economic growth which leads to financial stability, especially in savings, investment, insurance, and entrepreneurship (Monsura, 2020). From the learner side, it is excellent to live in the millennial era now since they are facilitated by qualified digital technology in which makes college assignments can be typed on a computer, and learning resources from all over the universe are available (Harjono, 2019). Thus, digital-age literacy for students is considered very important in modern times like today. IT is not only widely used in learning but personal daily activities and the common good. Because of the importance of digital-age literacy, students must be able to: 1) use technology as a tool for researching, organizing, evaluating, and communicating information, 2) using digital technology, communication tools, and social networking appropriately to access, manage, integrate, evaluate and create information, and 3) understand fundamentally about ethical/legal issues surrounding access to and use of information technology (Trilling & Fadel, 2009).

**Table 2:** Instrument Validity Using Item Correlation Values with Corrected item-total Correlation for Each Study Constructs

Constructs	Item	Corrected Item-Total Correlation	Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted
Basic	1	0.835	0.781
	2	0.844	0.781
	3	0.852	0.778
	4	0.801	0.786
	5	0.791	0.788
Scientific	1	0.864	0.786
	2	0.858	0.789
	3	0.880	0.785
	4	0.915	0.782
	5	0.926	0.781
	6	0.916	0.781
Economy	1	0.893	0.841
	2	0.955	0.822
	3	0.919	0.825
Information	1	0.923	0.828
	2	0.944	0.831
	3	0.922	0.832
Technological	1	0.884	0.819
	2	0.918	0.825
	3	0.894	0.831
Visual	1	0.904	0.828
	2	0.940	0.823
	3	0.896	0.832
Multicultural	1	0.897	0.822
	2	0.911	0.817
	3	0.846	0.831
Global Awareness	1	0.906	0.833
	2	0.948	0.822
	3	0.903	0.831

**Table 3:** Cronbach Alpha Reliability Index for Each Study Constructs

Constructs (N = 650)	Overall Alpha Cronbach Value
Basic	0.819
Scientific	0.816
Economic	0.876
Information	0.877
Technological	0.871
Visual	0.874
Multicultural	0.869
Global Awareness	0.875

Students need to own digital-age literacy skills in order to obtain and utilize media in learning on campus. Therefore, the use of digital in learning does not only help to explain abstract concepts to be more concrete but further than to explore various skills possessed by students so that they can analyze and create media for learning purposes.

According to the analysis conducted, the digital-age literacy questionnaire developed by necessary education students has a valid and reliable construct. Thus, digital-age literacy instruments can be used in research to identify digital-age literacy among students in the learning process. We can acknowledge that this research instrument has been tested and meet the eligibility standards to be used and trusted to measure the digital-age literacy of necessary education students. This is confirmed by research that stated that instruments that are already valid and reliable could be used as a measurement tool (Suratno, 2016). Furthermore, the use of assessment instruments that can be used by teachers must meet the criteria of validity and should be very good and appropriate to be used (Pinilih et al., 2013). The development of digital-age literacy instrument is one proof of the application of education standardization policies through the issuance of PP No. 19/2005, Article 63–72 of the Ministry of National Education Number 20 of 2007 concerning Educational Assessment Standards that the assessment of education at the tertiary level is regulated by each tertiary institution by applicable laws and regulations (Astuti et al., 2015). Implementing this policy requires each tutor to produce many assessment instruments so that the teaching and learning process can be achieved by established competency standards.

## 6. Conclusion

Results and discussion of this paper answer our question that the researchers have developed a useful and theoretically



feasible instrument to measure the level of digital-age literacy skills of students in the university to face the challenges of the 21st century. Besides, this assessment instrument also met the empirical eligibility criteria in the validity and reliability tests. This is proven from all valid and reliable questionnaire questions based on the count Cronbach's alpha ( $\alpha$ ) value, which is greater than the Cronbach's alpha ( $\alpha$ ) value, which is  $0.816 > 0.60$ . Based on the instrument analysis results carried out at the field trials stage, the 29 questionnaire items tested had met the criteria for the proper use and quality. This has implications for stakeholders and policyholders at the university to assess and identify the level of digital-age literacy skills of students. This is important to direct and implement appropriate methods in teaching and learning process performed in the future to improve various student skills and uphold the quality of a university because the quality of students will carry the right name and quality of the university where students draw and develop their knowledge and skills.

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