

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **A. Research Design**

The process of gathering and analyzing data in order to identify the variables that would be the focus of the research was known as the research design. The form of research design that the researcher chose was descriptive qualitative that aims to find out students' difficulties in writing an essay. Qualitative research is concerned with the person being studied's ideas, perceptions, opinions, or beliefs, and all of them cannot be measured by numbers. According to Creswell (2012), qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social human problem. Furthermore, Basrowi and Suwandi (2008: 2) said in Fadli, M. R. (2021) that via qualitative research, researcher may recognize subjects and feel what subjects experience in everyday life. Qualitative research includes researchers in order for them to comprehend the context of the situation and setting of the natural phenomena being examined. Each phenomena was distinct from the others due to their respective circumstances. The goal of qualitative research is to comprehend the state of a context by directing to a thorough and in-depth description of the portrait of conditions in a natural context (natural setting), about what actually occurs in accordance with what is in the topic of study. Moreover, Qualitative research is a research procedure that seeks to understand human or social phenomena by developing a comprehensive and complex picture that can be articulated in words, presenting specific perspectives received from informant sources, and doing the study in a natural context (Walidin, Saifullah, & Tabrani, 2015: 77) in Fadli, M. R. (2021).

For this research, one class of students was selected as a sample to represent the second semester English students at IKIP PGRI Pontianak. The reason for chosen one class as a sample was because the second

semester English students has four classes. If the total of the four classes was all subjects, then it would take a long time for researcher to complete the data collection process. So, the researcher decided to chose one class as a representative of the second semester English students.

## **B. Subject of Research**

This research have subject of research, which is the English students. According to Moleong, (2004) stated that the person used to provide information about the situation and conditions of the research background is known as the subject of research. The subject of research is to limit the subject of research as an object, thing or person where the data for the research variable is inherent, and at issue. Subject in this research was the second semester English students at IKIP PGRI Pontianak. The number of students who participated as respondent were 8 students. The reason for only taking 8 students as subjects of the study was to facilitate researcher in the process of data collection and data interpretation.

## **C. Technique of Data Collection**

The research used data collection technique by documentary study. Documentary study was one of the methods of collecting qualitative data by viewing and analyzing documents created by the subject himself or by others about the subject. According to Herdiansyah (2010: 143) documentation studies are one way that qualitative researchers can do to get an overview from the subject's point of view through written media and other documents written or made directly by the subject concerned. Documents could take the form of writings, pictures, diaries, life histories, regulations, policies or monumental works of a person. In this study, researcher used documents in the form of writing written by research subjects, namely essays written by students.

#### **D. Tools of Data Collection**

In this research, researcher would collect data through students essay and documentation as a tool to get data related to students difficulties in writing an essay, in order for the researcher to investigate and discover knowledge that was concealed within someone's mind, especially about the focused on how students difficulties in writing an essay to the second semester English students at IKIP PGRI Pontianak.

##### **1. Students Essay**

One of the tools that would be used to collect data was the students essay, where the researcher would asked the students who was the subject of the research to write an essay or collect an essay that has already been written for the course task of essay writing, which would then be analyzed by the researcher. Thus, researchers collect student essays as written documents to analyze mistakes that occur in the results of their writing.

##### **2. Documentation**

Documentation is an activity that aims to capture certain moments in the form of images or videos. Documentation refers to related topics that are prepared in order for specific materials that can be communicated (such as text, images, audio, and specific text (Moleong, 2004). The researcher used documentation techniques to obtain data in the field. This was done as evidence that the researcher was really involved in collecting data, without manipulating it.

#### **E. Data Analysis**

This research was descriptive qualitative study. In addition, when compared to other qualitative approaches, qualitative descriptive studies are the least constrained by a pre-existing theoretical or philosophical commitment. Naturalistic inquiry, which purports a commitment to studying something in its natural state to the extent that is possible within

the context of the research arena, is common in qualitative descriptive studies. As a result, no study variables are pre-selected, no variables are manipulated, and no prior commitment is made to any one theoretical view of a target phenomenon. Although qualitative descriptive studies different from the other qualitative research design, they may share some of the overtones of the other approaches. In other words, because it used constant comparative analysis when examining data, a qualitative descriptive study may have grounded theory overtones (Vickie A. Lambert and Clinton A. Lambert, 2012). Moreover Sandelowski said that, qualitative descriptive research: should be viewed as a categorical, rather than a non-categorical, alternative for inquiry; is less interpretive than an interpretive description approach because it does not require the researcher to move as far from or into the data; and, when compared to other qualitative designs, does not require a conceptual or highly abstract rendering of the data.

The data analysis technique used in this study is Thematic Analysis (TA) which is a method for identifying and analyzing patterns of meaning in a data set (Heriyanto, 2018). If a study intends to explore in detail the qualitative data they have in order to find the interrelationship of patterns in a phenomenon and explain the extent to which a phenomenon occurs through the lens of researchers, this method is a very effective method (Fereday & Muir-Cochrane, 2006 in Heriyanto, 2018). Thematic analysis allows researcher to identify and understand collective or shared meaning. There are several stages in analyzing data using thematic analysis, including:

1. Understanding Data

The main goal of this first stage was for the researcher to start understanding the content of the data that has been obtained and to start finding several things in the data that were related to the research questions. The researcher re-read the written interview results during the interviews and listened to the audio recordings to match and understand the data.

## 2. Composing Code

The second stage of thematic analysis was to begin coding. Code could be written semantically, which means that it directly describes the appearance of data. Researcher write down the code based on what they see on the surface. Typically, researcher do this by writing code based on the words used by participants. At this stage, the researcher compiles transcripts from student interviews into tables for coding. After coding, the researcher made a table to group the same data and gave the group name according to the code.

## 3. Looking for Themes

The third stage of Thematic Analysis was to look for themes that were relevant to the study's purpose. This theme describes something significant in the data that was related to the formulation of the research problem. From the results of the analysis found themes, namely: content, form, vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics.

The first theme was content, explaining the ability of students to determine ideas and the ways in which they could determine ideas. The second theme, namely form, describes students' ability to write with the right structure and their knowledge of the structure of one type of writing, namely essays. The third theme was vocabulary, the difficulties experienced by students with vocabulary when writing, and how to determine the vocabulary to be written. The fourth theme, namely grammar, explains students' knowledge of grammar and the difficulties experienced in using it. And the last theme is mechanics, explaining students' knowledge about mechanics and the experience of making mechanics mistakes when writing.

The procedure consists of the researcher doing observation, then collecting data through interview and asking several questions

about the topic and asking the student to answer them. After the data were collected, researcher identifies responses. Researcher then used thematic analysis to process and analyzed the data.

## **F. Research Procedures**

Researcher were required to follow procedures which were divided into four, they were planning, data collection process, data processing and data reporting.

### **1. Planing**

Research contained a plan that formulates questions and research objectives. Furthermore, what must be done was to build a theoretical foundation, prepare target participants in the research. The data collection instruments included validity. And finally take care of access to permission to do research.

### **2. Data Collection Process**

The data collection process would carried out by direct communication technique in research place. The researcher conducted interviews with 8 students in the classroom and recorded the interviews.

### **3. Data Processing**

Researcher would used interview, then the questions would be asked according to the needs of the researcher. After obtaining data through interviews, researchers conducted data analysis using thematic analysis.

### **4. Data Reporting**

In reporting data, researcher conveyed the results of data that were in accordance with those obtained in the field without manipulating the data at all. Then the final stage was the data report submitted in the form of a thesis.