CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. Research Design

Research design is a plan or strategy chosen by researcher to carry out research that can define concise and logical plans to answer research questions. According to Silaen (2018), research design is a design regarding the entire process required in planning and also conducting research. In this research, researcher used descriptive qualitative research. . According to (Sugiyono, 2020), qualitative research is a process of collecting data in a natural way with the aim of analyzing the phenomena that are happening. This descriptive method is a method that describes, describes, and analyzes or explains the findings of the data obtained without drawing broad conclusions. On research qualitative researcher act as a key role. The steps that researcher do in this study were as follows: 1) pre-observation, 2) data collection, 3) data analysis and writing of the results. The reason researcher used qualitative descriptive design, because the researcher wants to describe a condition that observed in the field, namely the implementation of the Curriculum Merdeka at a state of Junior High School in Pontianak with more specific, transparent, and also depth.

B. Subject of Research

The subject of research is referred to as an informant, namely parties who can provide information to answer the formulation of the problem in the research. In this study, the subjects of the research were English teachers from 8th grade students, headmaster and researcher took one student from each different class to represent 4 classes, so the researcher will take 4 students as subjects, with a total of 7 classes for 8th grade students at state of Junior High School in Pontianak which is located at Tanjung Raya II Street, East Pontianak, Pontianak City, West Kalimantan.

Researcher selected the 8th grade students in the academic year of 2023/2024 as subject because they have experienced about the Implementation of Curriculum Merdeka in learning for one year. In this research, the students selected randomly, that is the researcher found the students from 8th who voluntarily to become subject of this research. In addition, researcher asked for availability English teacher, the headmaster, students, to fill out availability form as research subject.

No	Subject	Initial Code
1	Headmaster	H
2	English Teacher 1	ET 1
3	English Teacher 2	ET 2
4	Other Subject Teacher	OST
5	Student 1	S1
6	Student 2	S2
7	Student 3	S3
8	Student 4	S4

C. Technique and Tool of Data Collection

1. Technique of Data Collection

Technique of data collection is the process of collecting the data needed to answer the research questions. To collect data in this research, researcher used forms of semi-structure interviews and observation.

a) Semi-Structure Interview

According to Alijoyo et al (2021), semi-structure interviews are a type of interview in which the interviewer only asks a few questions predetermined while other questions unplanned. Semi-structure interviews are interviews that refer to a series of open-ended questions.

Interview data was obtained from English teachers, other subject teacher, headmaster, and students section to obtain results

regarding the description of the implementation of the Curriculum Merdeka at a state of Junior High School in Pontianak. In the data collection techniques using semi-structured interview, the data and results obtained will be more detailed according to the research design, namely descriptive qualitative, where the most important part is that the data obtained will describe the research objectives at the points above.

b) Observation

Furthermore, observation were made during the process learning takes place in the classroom, to find out how the activities oof teacher and students in the learning after implementing Curriculum Merdeka. The researcher made observation by looking at the teacher teaching and how enthusiastic the students were when the teacher taught and explained the material, as evidence the researcher took photos when the learning activity took place.

2. Tools of Data Collection

Researcher used research tool to collect data in the form of interview guidance and field notes.

a) Interview Guidance

Interview guidance is a guide in interview so that the interview process can be properly systematized. Interview is the most widely use research tool to obtain qualitative data. Interview use to collect data that comes from people's opinions, beliefs, and also feelings about situations through words. The researcher used an interview guide which contains a series of plans and descriptions that will be carried out when conducting interviews, which have prepare in advance and made based on the sub focus, indications, interview questions, and interview informants that make in a table.

To answer the 3 research questions in this research, the researcher prepared interview guidance which contain open-ended questions, with the total were 50 questions. The researcher made

the same questions for each guidance interview which would be answer by the headmaster, English teachers, other subject teacher, and also students, in which the researcher ask questions relate to progress, challenges, and also recommendations about the implementation of the Curriculum Merdeka, as asked in research questions. The researcher made 4 guidance interviews, 11 questions for headmaster, 14 questions for English teachers, 14 questions for students, and 11 questions for teachers of other subject.

b) Field Notes

Apart from that, researcher used field notes to write activities, atmosphere, and situation that occur between students and teacher when learning is take place. Field notes used when researcher make observation in the classroom during the learning process, researcher write the activities occur and how students behave while learning.

D. Technique of Data Analysis

Data analysis employ with thematic analysis. According to Braun & Clarke 2006 in Heriyanto (2018), thematic analysis is a process of identifying patterns or themes in qualitative data. Then, the goal of thematic analysis is to identify themes, namely patterns in data that are important or interesting, and use these themes to discuss research or say something about an issue. Thematic analysis obtained from interviews with subjects who have experience related to the implementation of the Curriculum Merdeka in schools.

To analyze the data in this research used thematic analysis, which according to Braun & Clarke 2006 in Heriyanto (2018) there are six phases or stages: recognizing and reading the collected data, creating initial code, looking for themes among the codes, reviewing themes, determining themes, and write findings.

The six stages of the analysis can be described as follows:

a) Recognizing Data

The first step in any qualitative analysis is reading, and reread the transcript. In interview excerpts, the researcher must know the entire body of data or other corpus of data that might be used before going any further. This stage is useful for taking notes and recording initial impressions.

b) Generate Initial Code

This phase begins to organize data in a meaningful and systematic way. Coding reduces a lot of data into small chunks of meaning. There are various ways to code and methods which are determined by the perspective and the research question.

c) Looking for Themes

A theme is a pattern that captures something significant or interesting about the data or research question. A theme can be characterized by its significance.

d) Reviewing Themes

This stage is useful for collecting all relevant data every theme. Researcher will review, modify, and develop themes initial identified based on each row that has been grouped for each theme.

e) Finding a Theme

At this stage, namely the final refinement of the theme and objectives is analyzed how conclusions by developing recommendations what should be made based on feedback from the research subject.

f) Writing-up

This final stage is the writing of the results and discussion of the stages previous considerations and analysis so that it becomes an overview of the results reported from the questions in the study.