Chapter Three

Research Methodology

In this chapter, the researcher discusses some important things. The first is research design which describes the research approach and design are used in this research. The second is research participants and setting. The third is data collection method used by the researcher to gather the data under the researcher’s study. The fourth is data analysis that provides coding to analyze the data from the participants.

Research Design

The purposes of this research are to know the problems faced by the students in speaking English and their strategies to solve speaking problems. The researcher used qualitative approach in conducting this research. According to Creswell (2012), qualitative research is a research process in identifying a problem about participants’ experiences. It is similar to this research that is going to observe the problems faced by participants and their strategies to overcome those problems, so qualitative approach was suitable for this research. In this case, the researcher used descriptive qualitative as the research design. Creswell (2012) stated that descriptive qualitative design is suitable to facilitate an in-depth exploration of the participants’ experience. So, this research described the problems faced and strategies used by EED of UMY students in their speaking.

Research Participants and Setting

Research participants. The participants of this research were six students of batch 2014 studying at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. The reason in chosing EED of UMY students batch
2014 was that they had experienced more problems in speaking English than the students batch 2015 and 2016 since EED of UMY students batch 2014 were studying at EED of UMY longer than the other batches. Therefore, they also have more strategies to overcome those speaking problems.

According to Creswell (2012), there is no rule for selecting the numbers of the participants in qualitative research and it could be one participant for study if it was sufficient for the result of the study. As a result, the researcher chose six participants to conduct this research to ensure that the obtained data was valid. In choosing participants, the researcher considered the participants’ score in ‘show and tell test’ in listening and speaking for daily conversation course in the first semester. Listening and speaking for daily conversation provided many activities and tests which focus on speaking including ‘show and tell test’. This test required the students to speak English directly. In addition, the researcher chose and took their data score from listening and speaking for daily conversation course since it provided learning speaking for daily conversation, and the researcher wanted to know their speaking ability related to daily conversation.

To be the participants of this research, the researcher divided the participants into three categories based on their scores. The categories were two participants who got low score (meant the participants who got score less than 12.00), two participants who got medium score (meant the participants who got score between 12.00 until 16.00) and two participants who got high score (meant the participants who got score between 16.00 until 20.00). The students’ minimum score of the test was 11.10 and the maximum score was 18.50. The reason why
the researcher chose the different score (low score, medium score and high score) was due to getting various findings about problems and strategies in speaking.

**Research setting.** This research was conducted at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. UMY is located in Jl. Lingkar Selatan, Tamantirto, Kasihan, Bantul, Yogyakarta 55183. There were some reasons in choosing EED of UMY as the setting. The first, there was English learning speaking in the classroom at EED of UMY. The second, there was a phenomenon that some of the EED of UMY students have problems in their speaking skill based on the researcher’s experience. It can be seen when the students did the presentation in front of the class, and the students did not speak English fluently. The third, the researcher was currently studying at EED of UMY, so it was easy and accessible to collect the data from interview. The time schedule of this research started on February, 2017.

**Data Collection Method**

**Interview instrument.** The instrument used by the researcher in this research was interview. According to Cohen, Manion and Morrison (2011), interviewing is a process of gathering data from the participants by asking them questions and getting them react verbally. Added by Gill, Stewart, Treasure and Chadwick (2008) defined an interview as a simple tool to explore the views, experiences, beliefs and motivations of individual participants. Thus, in interview there were the questions and answers with two parties namely interviewer and interviewee.

In this research, the researcher used standardized open-ended interview to collect the data from the participants and through face to face interaction between
the interviewer and the interviewee in conducting the interview. According to Cohen, Manion and Morrison (2011), a standardized open-ended interview has interview guideline which consist of the exact wording and sequence of questions that are determined in advance. Furthermore, the researcher used open-ended question in order to allow the participants to answer the questions freely and deeply (Cohen, Manion and Morrison, 2011). It means that the researcher did not give limitation to the participants’ answer. The reason why the researcher applied this data collection method was to give the detail information about the problems based on feeling of the participants which was related to the sequence questions. In last, the researcher used two major questions to be ask to the participants. Those major questions were problems and their strategies to overcome those problems in speaking.

Interview procedures. The researcher had some procedures in conducting the interview. In the beginning, the researcher made an interview guideline. After that, the researcher made an appointment with the participants who will be interviewed. While having the appointment with the participants, the researcher arranged the schedule about time and place. During the interview, the researcher used Indonesian language as the participants and the researcher’s first language. The reason why the researcher used Indonesian language was to avoid bias. The interview was audio-recorded.

Data Analysis

After collecting the data through interview, the researcher analyzed the data through coding. According to Cohen, Manion and Morrison (2011), coding is a way of evaluating and organizing the data in an effort to understand meanings in
text and helps the researcher to identify categories and patterns. It means that coding is the process of breaking down segment of text into pieces of text or specific categories. There were four steps in coding namely open coding, analytical coding, axial coding and selective coding. Before the researcher analyzed the data, the first thing to do was transcribing the recording into the written form. It enabled the researcher more easily to analyze the data. After that, the researcher needed to do member checking with the participants to measure whether the data accurately and fully captured or not. According to Harper and Cole (2012), member checking is the researcher giving the opportunity for the participants to review and recheck their statements for accuracy. Thus, in this research, the researcher had to meet the participants to do member checking. The researcher gave the transcripts to participants be checked. The researcher allowed the participants to justify if the researcher’s transcript was incorrect and different from what the participants mean. The result of member checking showed that there was no changing about the point of the interview. It meant that all of the participants agreed on what have been captured in written form and allowed the researcher to continue to the next steps.

After transcribing and doing member checking, the researcher did content analysis through coding including open coding, analytical coding, axial coding and selective coding (Cohen, Manion and Morrison, 2011). The first was open coding. In open coding, the researcher gave categories based on the transcript. It meant that the researcher inferred what participants meant by their answer. The second was analytical coding. In analytical coding, the researcher translated or interpreted the participants’ statement. After that, the researcher gave theme or
point to be interpreted in analytical coding. The third was axial coding. In axial coding, the researcher grouped the themes which have same meaning from all of the participants. The fourth was selective coding. A selective coding was very similar to an axial coding. In selective coding, the researcher identified the core categories of text data which were students’ problems and strategies.

The last step in conducting this research was data reporting. After all of data which have been coded and the core are selected were reported and discussed completely in the finding. According to Creswell (2012), data reporting is writing the report in appropriate ways to readers. In this research, the researcher reported the finding to the written form that is suitable for different audiences. In reporting, the researcher used formal format in educational context.