

Chapter Three

Methodology

This chapter presents a discussion on methodology applied in this research. This includes the description of the research design, research setting, research participants, research instrument, data collection procedures, and data analysis.

Research Design

This study aims to find out the perception of pre-service teachers' on the use of online learning at EED of UMY. It is to investigate the participants' experiences on the implementation of online learning at EED of UMY. Based on the objective above, qualitative research design was used as the research design in this study. It is because qualitative research intends to explain or reveal the participants experience, so that qualitative research became an appropriate research design. It is also supported by Gonzales et al (2008) as cited in Cohen, Manion, & Morrison (2011) p. 219 "qualitative research provides an in-depth, intricate and detailed understanding of meanings, actions, non-observable, as well as observable phenomena, attitudes, intentions and behaviors, and these are well served by naturalistic enquiry".

Specifically, this study employed descriptive qualitative method. It was because the researcher wanted to find the detail information about pre-service teachers' perception, opinion and experiences on the use online learning at EED of UMY. The researcher needed to display the data using description, so the descriptive qualitative became an appropriate method. Descriptive research intends to describe or

depict exist phenomenon which is including natural phenomena or human engineer (Sukmadinata, 2006). Greetz (1973) as cited in Cohen, Manion, & Morrison (2011) stated that description includes reflections on the meanings to situations and phenomena. Moreover, the descriptions must convey events in their proper sequence or have descriptive validity, and the meanings participants to those events or have interpretive validity (Maxwell, 1992) as cited in (Sandelowski, 2000).

Research Setting

Research setting means the place where the research is conducted. This research took place at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. There are several reasons why researcher selected this department as the setting of this study. Firstly, this department is where the researcher is studying. The researcher has basic information and knowledge in conducting this study in this department. Besides, it ease the researcher in terms of time management and scheduling with the participants. Secondly, this department has been implementing online learning in some courses. On the first semester, basic reading and writing, and academic reading and writing subjects used e-learning as a tool of online learning. In addition, on the second semester, the lecturers also used e-learning in interpretive reading and argumentative writing, and reading and writing for career development. On the fifth semester, all of students learned about tools of online learning in digital technology in education subject. Another subject also used online learning tool such as blog in material design subject in that semester. Lastly, in seventh semester, there

were some subjects that used online learning. Academic presentation subject used Edmodo and interpreting subject used e-learning as a tool to implement the online learning in teaching and learning process. Hence, the researcher investigated the use of online learning not only in one subject, but the whole subjects which had implemented online learning to answer the formulation of the problem in this study. So, the researcher could ease to gain deeper information based on the perception and the experience that the participants gained from the online learning. Starting from June 2015, the researcher conducted interview to gather the data.

Research Participants

The researcher made consideration to take pre-service teachers at EED of UMY in batch 2011 as the participants in this study based on some reasons. It was because these pre-service teachers had already passed all courses which were integrating learning process with the use of online learning. So, they had more experience and more information related to this study.

This study employed purposive sampling technique to recruit some pre-service teachers to be the participants in this study. The use of purposive sampling technique was to determine the participants of this study. The consideration in selection of purposive sampling for this study was based on to Creswell (2012 p. 206) “in purposive sampling, the researchers intentionally select individuals and sites to learn or understand the central phenomenon”. The selections of six (6) pre-service teachers as the participant was based on the experience joining online learning.

Creswell (2012) stated that in qualitative research, the researcher can identify the participants and sites on purposive sampling based on people which can best help the researcher to understand the central phenomenon.

The researcher took six (6) students of 2011 at English Education Department of UMY from different class. There were some criteria why the researcher took those six (6) students as the participants. The first criteria was coming from the researcher observation. The researcher selected participants who highly involved in online learning in order to recall their perception and experience on the use of online learning that they had done. This can be done based on personal observation of the researcher during her study in this department.

The second criteria, the researcher selected the participants based on their technological capability, in which they have good technological capability. On this criteria, participants were chosen based on the researcher observation.

The third criteria, the participants were students who had actively enrolled in courses which were integrating online learning in the teaching and learning process. By doing so, they expected to expose to the different types of tools used in online learning. They were hoped to provide rich and various information from their experiences on the use of online learning. So, by having those participants who met the criteria, the researcher got information which was adequate enough to give the data needed.

In determining the number of participants, the researcher employed the theories from Creswell (2012) who stated one of the characteristic in qualitative

research is small sample size and there is no definite sample size. The researcher might study few individuals even single individual, because it was better to have few individuals to be studied, and it allowed the researcher to explore the information deeply. Based on the explanation above, the researcher determined six (6) participants to be studied. The participants consist of five female participants and one male participant.

Research Instrument

This study employed interview as a data collecting instrument, in order to answer to the purpose of this study. For this reason, the researcher conducted the interview with the participants to obtain information from their perspectives and gain deeper perception based on their experience in online learning. By having the interview, the participants could express their opinion in the interview process. It was supported by Creswell (2012) that qualitative data collection decides the method that the researcher will use interview. According to Cohen, Manion, & Morrison (2011) there are several types of data collection instruments that are widely used in qualitative research and one of them namely interview. Interview is considered as a suitable instrument since it has several purposes including: present contractions of events, feeling, persons, organizations, activities, motivations, concerns and claim (Cohen, Manion, & Morrison, 2011). Moreover, a qualitative interview occurs when the researchers ask one or more participants general, open-ended questions and record

their answers (Creswell, 2012, p. 217)”. Besides, the questions of the interview focused on pre-service teachers’ perception on the use of online learning.

The interview used Indonesian language in order to make deeper understanding for both participants and researcher. Other benefits of using Indonesian language were first language, so it was easier than using second language and also the researcher and participants could explore more information to support this topic of the study. The interview recorded using a voice recorder during the interview process. Then, the recorded interview was transcribed in original language.

Data Collection Procedures

The procedure of the data collection in this study is described in several steps. Firstly, the researcher began the data collection procedures with preparing the interview guidelines, to gain deeper data. Secondly, the researcher made an appointment to participants of this study, because the researcher needed to recruit the participants, and then conducted the research through interviews. Participants of this study were recruited through direct invitation or via phone invitation to be the participant in this study. Next, the researcher provided an explanation about this study in the beginning of recruitment, so that participants had sufficient information to make a decision whether to participate in this study or not. Participants who agreed to join in this study had an opportunity to make an agreement with the researcher related to the schedule of interview. In order to ensure anonymity, the researcher changed participant’s names into pseudonym. The participants were informed that their

identity would not be mentioned to protect them from any foreseen threats that they could give the information honestly.

Dealing with the agreement of schedule, the researcher focused on time, place and facilities that were used in the interview process. Time allocation for an interview was about 10 – 15 minutes of each participant. However, it could be less than 10 minutes or more than 15 minutes depended on how much the information that the researcher needs.

Data Analysis

After collecting the data by conducting interview, the next step was to analyze the data. The purpose of this part was to understand and interpret the data in order to answer the research questions. There were some steps applied in this study to analyze the data. Firstly, the researcher transcribed each interview which was conducted from each participants. According to Creswell (2012, p. 239) “transcription is the process of converting audiotape recording or field notes into text data”. Words, phrases, and sentences spoken by participants will completely transcribed. Afterward, the researcher did member checking in order to prove the validity of interview. The researcher did taking the finding back to participants and asking the participants relating to accuracy of the report. Then, the participant gave feedback toward the accuracy of data reporting. According to Creswell (2012) member checking is process to check the accuracy of the account which the researcher asks one or more participants.

Afterward, the result of the interview was analyzed by using the coding.

“Coding is the process of segmenting and labeling text from descriptions and broad themes in the data (Creswell, 2012, p. 243)”. This data of interview will be analyzed into three steps which are open coding, axial coding, and selective coding (Cohen, Manion, & Morrison, 2011). Then, open coding was conducted by researcher to attach to piece of text in order to describe and categorize that piece of text. The next step was axial coding which allowed the researcher to category label from open coding that was similar in meaning. The next step was selective coding. In this step, the researcher identified the core categories the data, and then integrated them to form a theory. The final step was discussing the finding and making the conclusion.