

Chapter Three

Methodology

This chapter explains the methodology of the research. This chapter discusses research design, research setting and participants, instrument of the study, technique of data collection and the data analysis. There are some theories that support this chapter.

Research Design

In this research, the researcher focused on the problems faced by EED UMY students in doing TOEFL test. The researcher used case studies for the design. Based on those objectives above, the researcher used qualitative research in this study since it encouraged participants to explain their problems. Qualitative research was chosen because it emphasizes seeing the world from the perspective of the participants in order to make the research is richer in information.

According to Creswell (2012), qualitative method exploring and developing a detailed understanding of a central phenomenon. So, by using qualitative research, the researcher can explore more information about the problems and develops a detailed understanding of central phenomenon.

The researcher chose case study as the design of this research, it was chosen to collect the data in this research. In case study, the issues often occur in the environment where the people behave like in the real life. Case study defined in terms of the research process, Yin said (1994, p. 13) “a case study is an observed analysis that investigates an existing fact within its real-life environment, especially when the restrictions between fact and environment are not clearly evident”. So, case study involved in this research.

Research Setting and Participants

Setting. The research was conducted at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. The researcher chose English Education Department because of some reasons. The first is that the English Education Department provides TOEFL or International Language Testing subject in sixth semester. It helped the researcher conduct the research, as the students and the lecturers close enough with the researcher. The second was that the researcher got an easy access to require the permission of university. The researcher has been studying in this University, so it eased the researcher in conducting the research while the researcher also students of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. The research was conducted in October and November 2017, right after the proposal seminar. That month was also considered as a good time for the researcher in conducting the interview because the participants were still at Yogyakarta. It eased the researcher meeting the participants.

Participants. The participants were the students of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta batch 2013. The researcher chose batch 2013 because some reasons. The first reason was because some students had taken the TOEFL class. Therefore, they knew the problems during TOEFL test. They explained clearly and also the researcher could explore more information based on their experiences. The second reason is the researcher chose the students batch 2013 because some students in batch 2013 did not graduate yet from University. They did not graduate from university because of some of the students could not pass the TOEFL test, so they could not enroll the

skripsidefense. Whereas, the TOEFL test has been used as requirement of *Sarjana Pendidikan*. So, it helped the researcher to get the data about the problems.

According to Creswell (2012) one of the characteristics of qualitative research is small sample size in which there is no definite size. Based on the resource, there were four participants in this research. The reason why four participants were taken was because in qualitative research the point is not about the quantity of the participants, but it is about the quality of the data given by the participants. Thus, the researcher chose participants who could give detail information to answer research questions of this study. There were four female participants. Participant one and four had taken the TOEFL test eight times. Whereas, participant two and participant three had taken the TOEFL test about five times. There were two criteria in choosing participants, namely students who had low score and high in attempting TOEFL test. The researcher believed that the students who had low score face many problems. Hence, they could explain briefly about their problems. Second, the students who had high score was chosen by the researcher because they were assumed to be able to give detail information about the strategies that they used.

The researcher enforced the study within a few individuals because the researcher wanted to explore and acquire in-depth information about participants' problems and strategies used in TOEFL test. Therefore, there were four students who meet the qualification to be the participants in this study of the research.

Data Collection Method

In this study, the data were collected by in-depth-interview with four participants. The researcher chose interview because by having interview, the participants can express their opinion and experiences. The researcher can investigate in-depth information around the topic of research study. The researcher used Indonesian language in interviewing process in order to get clearest understanding from the participants' responses. The researcher used informal interview to make the situation between the researcher and the participants more natural. The researcher used smart phone to record the interview then the researcher transcribed the participant's answer.

The interview talked about the problems of taking TOEFL test by students in EED UMY. There were ten questions in the interview guidelines. The researcher contacted the participants via WhatsApp to decide the date, the time, and the place of the interview. The researcher also recorded the result of interview to make it easier in transcribing and coding process.

Data Analysis

The purpose of data analysis is to understand and construe to answer the research questions. This is the rule or step applied in the research which is transcribing the data, coding the data, and categorizing the data.

The first step was transcribing the data, the researcher transcribed the answer of interview. The results of interview were transcribed by the researcher based on the recorded interview. The researcher used smart phone to record the interview, which eased the process of transcription. Word by word transcription

was used by the researcher. After that, member checking was done for ensuring the data collected from the interviewees. It was done through making a confirmation with the participants one by one and asking them to prove whether the transcript written by the researcher is similar as the interview that had been conducted.

Member checking was considered to be an important quality control process in qualitative research since participants accept the occasion to evaluate their speeches for truthfulness (Harper & Cole, 2012). The aim of the member checking is to recognize the data after transcribing which is the same with respondents. All the participants agreed with the transcript that the researcher showed to them. The researcher wrote the transcript without any addition and deletion.

After member checking, the next step was coding the data. Cohen (2011, p. 559) argued “Coding is the ascription of a category label to a piece of data, that is either decided in advance or in response to the data that have been collected”. The data were coded in the four steps to a label of the data and to analyze of the data in this research. There were open coding which the researcher made a label more general of the data, then, analytic coding can be analyzed the data more specific, axial coding is the data that should be brokendown of a label in a small unit, and selective coding is the process of identifying of the label data in the text. After finishing the coding data, the last step is reporting the data by describing the answer of research questions.