Chapter Three

Research Methodology

This chapter discusses the research methodology that was employed in this study. As a start, the researcher explains the research approach used in the research, followed by the research design. Then, it is followed with the research setting, which covers the time and place of the research and data gathering process. Next, the researcher explains the participants of this research along with the reasons why they were chosen. Finally, this chapter closes with the details of the data gathering technique and analysis processes.

Research Design

This research utilized the qualitative research method. Because knowing a participant’s opinion on World Englishes requires further investigation and flexible questions, the qualitative method is more fitting for this particular research. As Cohen, Manion, and Morrison wrote on their book, the qualitative research method is suitable to conduct a research when details are needed more than data (Cohen, Manion, & Morrison, 2011). Because this research requires a detailed description of the participants’ perceptions and opinions regarding their accents, the researcher decided to use the qualitative research method.

This research utilized one of the research designs that falls under the qualitative research method, more specifically the descriptive qualitative design. Descriptive qualitative design is a research design that is used to identify descriptive qualities in a certain ethnic group (Creswell, 2012). Because this research requires the researcher to
find the qualities of a certain group, more specifically students of English Education from a private university in Yogyakarta, then this research used the descriptive quality design. The two focuses in this research are the variety of World Englishes and the students’ opinion regarding World Englishes.

**Research Setting**

This research took place in a private university in Yogyakarta, considering that the participants involved are members of the said university’s student body. The researcher selected this location because this university has multiple courses that included details regarding World Englishes on their curriculum. During the participants’ time in this university (2014), it offered courses such as Capita Selecta on Grammar 1 and 2, which mentions the World Englishes phenomena and explains it further. The classes have since been merged into one Capita Selecta on Grammar class. Another class this university has that includes World Englishes is the Second Language Acquisition class, which does mention that English is a flexible language and that not everyone should speak in the same accent. Another reason the researcher selected this location is because of its accessibility. During the time the research took place, the researcher attended the same classes as the participants, so making appointments with the participants was easier.

The data gathering process took place in July of 2017, when the participants still have classes in the university. This is because the researcher wanted to interview the participants while they still have classes in the university. In addition, the researcher made sure to interview the participants in the university building. This was done to
make it more convenient for the participants. In addition, the researcher made sure to cooperate with the participants during the scheduling of the exact time and place for the interview.

**Research Participants**

As mentioned above, the participants of this research consisted of English Education students from a particular private university in Yogyakarta, more specifically students of the 2014 batch. They were chosen because they attended the same classes as the researcher, and they have all been proven to have some degree of familiarity with the subject of World Englishes, and they are likely to have developed a stance on it. Their experience with teaching will also be beneficial should additional data regarding teaching be needed. Moreover, students of the 2014 will have more experience being taught by different lecturers with different English accents and dialects, and they are more likely to have chosen one of them as a role model. After three years of studying under the same lecturers, the students will have been fixated on one of the lecturer’s accent and perhaps even copy it. For example, a student who prefers to be taught by a lecturer with a British accent may develop a preference for the British accent, consciously or otherwise. The researcher performed the data gathering process with five different participants. According to Cohen, Manion, and Morrison (2011), interviews have no definitive limit regarding the number of participants. In order to make the data not too biased but not to numerous, the researcher has decided on a number of five participants. To protect the participants’ identities, aliases were used in the transcript of the interview. The aliases that were used are: Amo, Della, Ilya,
Sara, and Sue. All participants were female, but this was a coincidence rather than intended, because the first students who volunteered for the research were all female.

**Data collection instrument**

In this research, the researcher used the interview instrument to gather the data. The interview type used in this particular research was the interview guide line, in which the researcher only asks specific questions, but with no clear sequence (Cohen et al, 2011). This makes the participants answer the questions truthfully and in an unbiased manner. Because the researcher needed reasons and further detail on the answer of the questions, the interview used the Open-ended structure (Cohen et al, 2011). Like its name, the open-ended interview format has no definite answers, and the participants are free of any influence from the researcher’s part (Cohen et al, 2011). The researcher used the non-direct general format of questions to provide as much freedom as possible for the participant to answer the questions. This format is a question format that allows for additional answers should the researcher require it (Cohen et al, 2011). Because the researcher does require additional details on the questions, this research uses that format to get said details from the participants.

**Data collection Procedure**

After the instrument was been created, the researcher contacted the participants’ class through LINE group chat and found participants for the interview. Because the researcher comes from the same class as the participant, the researcher chose to contact them through the LINE group for the class. From there, the researcher and participant tried to find a fitting time and date for the interview. Since both the researcher and
participant study in the same building, the interview was also done in the same building. To make the data clearer and avoid any confusion, the interview was done in the Indonesian language. To ease the transcribing of the interview, the whole interview was recorded into an mp3 format using the researcher’s cell phone. Each interview took approximately 5 minutes from start to finish.

To ensure that the data collection method is free of any bias, the researcher designed his own interview questions. The first interview questions inquired about the participants’ knowledge of World Englishes, as well as the variations they are familiar with. Then, the interview moved on to ask the participants’ stance regarding World Englishes, and their reasons for their stance. Lastly, the researcher asked the participants’ favored variation of World Englishes, as well as any variations they would like to study or implement further. To maintain the trustworthiness of the data, the researcher performed member checking to make sure that the data on the transcription is the same as their current opinion. Member checking is a method of checking if the participants’ opinions are still the same as the ones they gave on the interview (Cohen et al, 2011). The researcher did this by calling the participants and asking them if their opinions are still the same as the ones they had during the time of the interview. The results of the member checking confirm that their opinions are still the same.

Data analysis

The recording of the interview was transcribed into a Microsoft Word format for validity reasons. After the data has been created, the researcher performed member checking (Cohen et al, 2011) by calling or messaging the participant to make sure the
participants’ opinion has not changed during the time the data was gathered and analyzed. As for the coding method, the researcher used the Open, Axial, and Selective coding method, for clarity. Open, Axial, and Selective coding are methods to catalogue and sort the results of an interview or other methods of gathering data (Cohen et al, 2011). Open coding is done by simply putting labels on the text to categorize the text. Axial coding is done by labelling groups of open codes that are similar in meaning. Selective coding identifies the core categories of the text data, then creates theories based on those categories.

The steps that were used for data analysis are as follows: First, the researcher transcribed the recording into a Microsoft Word document. Then, the result of the interview was written down in open and axial coding in the form of tables. The third step was to create a selective coding document by combining the results of the interview and identifying main ideas of the result. Finally, the data was written down in a report form that can be seen in the fourth chapter of this research paper.