

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter presents the introduction of the research. This chapter consists of the background of the research, identification of the problem, delimitation of the problem, research questions, objective of this research, significance of the research, and organization of the research.

Background of the Research

Internship is a way to practice what has been learned at University. Internship is becoming an increasingly important tool both for corporate recruitment, selection and for student learning and job seeking (Zawel 2005). Trainees are able to observe the entire workings of a school and participate actively in the important professional activities of a teacher both in and out of the classroom. During their internship experience, prospective teachers have the opportunity to develop and extend their pedagogical practices and beliefs. Gault (2000) also stated that experience that students get from the internship program can help the students get good career in education. This is why internship is a beneficial training for students.

Teaching practice in education context is when the students practice in teaching based on experience and theory which they have learned in the institution. Marais and Meier (2012) stated that the term “teaching practice” represents the range of experiences to which pre-service teacher are exposed to when they work in

classrooms and schools. In addition, Rees, Pardo and Parker (2013) stated that every pre-service teacher's class, grade and material or topic will affect their experience. Pre-service teachers who have experienced teaching practice will understand and are able to estimate what they should do in the next teaching practice. Teaching practice is an important preparation for pre-service teachers before they apply what they already learned from their classes into real work environment (Goh, Wong, Choy, & Tan, 2009).

Practicum is a field experience that allows students to observe and work directly from what they have learned in class so that they become professionals. Practicum a course of study for teachers, doctors, nurses, etc. that involves actually working in the area of study and using the knowledge and skills that have been learned in a school (Merriam 2007).

Identification of the Problem

The English Language Education Department (ELED) gives pre-service teachers teaching practice activity. This department provides three stages for three batches. Every stage will take place in different years, locations, and schools. Based on the researcher's experience, the researcher found the challenges in teaching practice such as factor affecting pre-service teacher success on teaching practice, choosing the method in the teaching and learning practice, lack of evaluating pre-service teachers from institution guide teachers, learners' discipline and classroom

condition problem, supervision and support from school guide teachers, and teaching practice duration.

Delimitation of the Problem

The researcher focuses on the challenges faced by pre-service teachers of ELED of an Islamic Private University from batch 2015. The consideration is taken because the researcher wanted to know about students' feeling in conducting teaching practice at school from elementary, junior and senior high school. In addition, pre-service teachers faced some challenges in doing teaching practice. Then, the researcher look for some strategies from pre-service teachers to overcome the problems. This is because the researcher want to know the strategies used by the pre-service teachers.

Research Questions

Based on the explained problems, the research question are formulated as follows :

1. How is the pre-service teachers' feeling in conducting the teaching practice?
2. What are pre-service teachers' challenges faced in teaching practice?
3. What are pre-service teachers' strategies used in teaching practice?

Objectives of the Research

The aims of this research are presented as follows:

1. To investigate pre-service teachers' feelings in conducting the teaching practice.
2. To investigate challenges faced by the English Language Education Department pre-service teachers in teaching practice.
3. To investigate strategies used by the English Language Education Department pre-service teachers to overcome the challenges in teaching practice.

Significance of the Research

The significance of this research give the benefit for the pre-service teachers, supervisors, and institutions.

Pre-service teachers. This research help pre-service teachers to know more about teaching practice, and they can get a some description about what and how they do the teaching practice. By knowing, the pre-service teachers prepare for the challenge and make a strategy to overcome the problems in teaching practice.

School teachers. This research benefits the school teachers by pointing out the problems in teaching practice. Schools teachers can better support the pre-service teachers, and build a better relation with the pre-service taechers.

Supervisors. This research helps supervisors to give explanation about the situation and condition in the school, which in turn can be given to pre-service teachers. This way, the supervisors build a good relationship with the pre-service teacher, as well as the institution.

Institution. This research support the institution with how to better conduct internship programs, and how to solve the problems normally found in pre-service teachers' tenure.

Organization of the Research

There are five chapters in this research. The first chapter contains the introduction of the research, and introduces the background of the research, including why the researcher decided to write this research. The second chapter of the research is the literature review, and contains the various literatures regarding teaching practice, definition of pre-service teacher, challenge in teaching practice, and strategy in teaching practice with theories to support this research. The third chapter is the methodology, and it explains about research design, research setting, research participant, data gathering technique, and data collection procedure, also data analysis. The fourth chapter is the finding of the research, and the fifth chapter is the conclusion and recommendation the researcher might have.