

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter provides introduction of this research. It serves background of this research, identification of the problem, and limitation of the problem. In addition, this chapter also presents formulation of the problems, objectives of the research, and significance of the research. Last but not least, this chapter offers outline of the research.

Research Background

At least once in life, people postpone some, or even most of tasks. The tasks are compulsory to be done in a certain timeframe. Some people just dallied with laziness and some others ended it as their way of life (Steel, 2007). Research found that 80 to 95% of college students confessed that they were occupied by procrastination (Knaus, 1973; Thakkar, 2009). This phenomenon becomes extreme prevalence, since not only students who engaged in procrastination but adult also might be involved in procrastination. It was reflected in some researches that 15 to 20% of adults suffered from chronic procrastination (Harriott & Ferrari, 1996; Thakkar, 2009). Hence, the idea of procrastination is thought-provoking to be discovered by the researcher in the current site since the community that is observed is adults and college students.

The history of procrastination started at very long time ago. Therefore, the arousal of procrastination among adult is not a new phenomenon that appears recently. Thakkar (2009) affirmed that the trend of procrastination does not only emerge presently. This notion had been concerned from around 800 BC when

Hedroid, Greek poet, marked procrastination as something that always sticks on ruin. Hamlet, the famous poet from Italy, often delayed action for most of his self-title play and ever started with his soliloquy that “to be or not to be, that is the question”. Moreover, the famous artist from Italia, Leonardo da Vinci grieved over his life that many of his drawing could not be finished. Indeed, after the Industrial Revolution, the perception of procrastination became as an evil phenomenon that made the tight schedule in order to decrease delayed industrial production, (Ferrari, Johnson, & McCown, 1995; Thakkar, 2009). Thus, procrastination becomes perpetual phenomenon in every epoch and even becomes worse time by time than before.

The awareness of the researcher towards procrastination epidemic triggers him to explore more about it especially in his surroundings. It is started from the researcher himself that he sometimes procrastinates some of tasks. Although the task could be done, the researcher is not really sure with the quality. In addition, based on the researcher’s observation, numerous students in English Education Department at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (EED UMY) are found to be a procrastinator. Some of those students got the low score for the assignment that they postpone it. This might be related to the prior research that procrastination might impact to students’ achievement such as obtaining low score in examination, or even facing failure in examination which result in depression and anxiety. The further impact the students face is losing their motivation and learning and finally they stop their study (Hussain & Sultan, 2010). Thus, raising the issue of students’ procrastination in relation to their achievement is essential because some of English

Education Department students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta can be procrastinators.

Problem Identification

The researcher exposed some problems related with either procrastination or students' achievement. Based on depth informal interview with some colleagues, the researcher found that many students put off the duty until close to the deadline. In the daily lives, they are always late to the place they supposed to be punctual like train station. Moreover, there are students who often pay the rent house payment out of the deadline. Those are because they delay the obligation they have which is supposed to be accomplished on time. This kind of procrastination is included in general procrastination.

There are particular students who delay the task from the lecturer when they feel unsure to be able to accomplish it. The reason is because of the quantity of the task and/or the difficulty of the task. In addition, some students postpone reading assignment and read it the night before class, or even couple minutes before class. Another reason is that students are lack of motivation to finish the assignment on time. This type of procrastination is commonly known as academic procrastination. In students' academic life, both general and academic procrastination may affect their academic performance including learning achievement. This issue needs detail study.

Problem Limitation

The incapability of the researcher to investigate those problems due to limited time drives the researcher to limit into one type of procrastination. The researcher

only focuses on students' procrastination that takes place at EED UMY in relations to their achievement. The researcher also tries to find out whether or not procrastination intertwines to students' academic performance.

Research Questions

Based on the theoretical background and issues above, the researcher formulates three research questions below:

1. What is English Education Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' procrastination like?
2. What is English Education Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' achievement like?
3. What is the correlation between English Education Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' procrastination and their achievement like?

Research Objectives

The aims of this study are in line with the research question formulated by the researcher above:

1. To investigate EED UMY students' procrastination.
2. To find out EED UMY students' achievement.
3. To examine the correlation between EED UMY student's procrastination and their achievement.

Research Significance

For teachers and lecturers. The result that is attained from this research helps teacher and lecturer to be aware that procrastination is danger. Teacher and lecturer also can help their students to encounter this problem and encourage them to finish their task on time.

For students. The outcome of this research makes the students aware about the hazard of procrastination and then whittles away their bad habit that is putting off their work. In addition, they are more motivated in their study after knowing the bad effect of procrastination and good impact of avoiding procrastination than before knowing it.

For the next researchers. This research enriches the next researchers' knowledge in order to develop another case or phenomenon related with procrastination and students' achievement. It also gives them insight regarding to the recent situation that is happened around them.

Research Outline

This research comprises five chapters and the first chapter presents the introduction. It consists of background, formulation of the problem, and limitation of the problem. Then, it serves research question and purpose of the study as well as significance of study.

The second chapter discusses about the literature review. It reviews the definition of procrastination, causes, and effects of procrastination. The types of procrastination also are explained subsequently. Definition of student's achievement

is described along with level of Cumulated Grade Point Average (CGPA). Review of related study and conceptual framework which includes hypothesis are following.

The third chapter portrays research methodology. It defines type of the research design and population and sample. Data collection method and data analysis are explicated afterwards.

The fourth chapter talks about finding and discussion. The result from the data analysis is showed in order to answer the research question. The discussion follows to relate the result with the theories provided before it. In the end, the fifth chapter is about conclusion and suggestion for several parties.