

Chapter Three

Research Methodology

This research discusses teachers' strategies and challenges to develop students' critical thinking at the EED of UMY. In this chapter, the methodology used in this study is presented. This chapter consists of research design, research setting, research participants, data collection method, and data analysis.

Research Design

Qualitative research was used as this research design. It is because qualitative research intends to explain or to reveal the participants' personal opinions, perspectives, experiences, and knowledge. Cohen, Manion, and Morrison (2011) defined qualitative as "an in-depth, intricate, and detailed understanding of meanings from the voices of participants", which "probes issue that lies beneath the surface of presenting behavior and actions" (p. 201). In addition, Creswell (2012) mentioned that "qualitative approach does not restrict the views of participants" (p. 205). It means that the quality research design can be employed to explore the participants' opinions. Therefore, qualitative research was considered as the proper research design for this study because qualitative research intends to explain or to reveal the participants' personal opinions, perspectives, experiences, and knowledge.

Specifically, to find the detail information of the challenges that the teachers faced to develop students' critical thinking at the EED of UMY, the researcher used a descriptive qualitative method. This method is very useful

when the researcher wants to know events, who are involved, what are involved, and where things take place (Lambert & Lambert, 2012). Lambert and Lambert (2012) added that the goal of qualitative descriptive studies is a comprehensive summarization, in everyday terms, of specific events experienced by individuals or groups of individuals.

Research Setting

This research was conducted at the English Education Department of UMY. There are two reasons why the researcher selected the EED of UMY as the setting of this study. First, at the EED of UMY there are learning activities which apply critical thinking such as essay writing, reflective writing, and group discussion. Hence, this eased the researcher to get the data of the challenges that teachers' face to develop students' critical thinking at the EED of UMY. Second, the EED of UMY is where the researcher is currently studying. Thus, the researcher and the participants could easily arrange the schedule to interviews to take the data. This research was started from September to October 2016.

Research Participants

The participants of this research were two lecturers of the EED of UMY. Creswell (2012) stated that descriptive qualitative might use small sample size that there is not the definite number of participants. The sampling technique used in this study was purposive sampling. Creswell (2012) stated that in purposive sampling "the researchers intentionally select individuals and sites to learn or understand the central phenomenon" (p. 206). There were some criteria of

selecting the two participants. First, the participants shall be the teachers whose learning activities in their class require students to think critically. Second, the participants also shall be the teachers who have taught for at least three years at the EED of UMY. With all the experiences of both teachers who have taught for at least three years at the EED of UMY in applying critical thinking in their learning activities, they were expected to be able to give broad opinions from their experiences.

Data Collection Method

In this study, the researcher used an interview method to collect the data. He conducted the interview to the participants to find out their opinions and to gain information of their experiences when teaching at the EED of UMY. Khan (2014) stated that an interview provides an exclusive opportunity to uncover rich and complex information from an individual. Thus, by having interviews as the research instrument, the participants could express their opinions and tell their experiences. Furthermore, the interviews used the Indonesian language in order to make deeper understanding and comprehension when answering the interviews. During the interviews, the researcher used an audio recorder to store all the data when the participant answered all the interview questions.

The data collection procedures consisted of several steps. First, the researcher made the interview guidelines before interviewing the participants. Second, the researcher made an appointment with the participants to ask their willingness to be interviewed. After the participants agreed to be interviewed,

they were scheduled to have interview based on their time availability. The interviews were conducted in certain places and time based on the agreement of both side (the researcher and participants). The duration of the interview was about 20 to 35 minutes.

Data Analysis

After collecting the data from conducting interview, the data from interview were transcribed into a written form. Moreover, the validity of the interviews was checked by conducting member checking to the participants. According to Creswell (2012), member checking is a process to check the accuracy of the interviews by asking each participant. The participants confirmed that there is not any mistake on the interview transcription. Afterwards, the researcher analyzed the data by coding. According to Creswell “Coding is the process of segmenting and labeling text from descriptions and broad themes in the data” (p.243). Coding eases the researcher to identify similar information (Cohen et al., 2011). Data of the interviews were analyzed in three steps which are open coding, axial coding, and selective coding. Open coding means the researcher makes a group of text which has similar meaning. The next step was axial coding. In this step, the researcher categorized the statement of open coding into one topic. Then, the last step was selective coding. Selective coding refers to selecting the same categories between open and axial coding into bigger categories (Cohen et al., 2011).