

Chapter Three

Research Methodology

This chapter discussed the type of approaches used in this study, how it was conducted, and how the data was collected. What the researcher would point out in this section was the research design which consisted of the research approach and the design. The researcher also explained about the research setting and participants. Data collection technique showed how the researcher collected the data. Data collection procedure explained more about the steps in conducting this study. Last, the researcher elaborated on the data analysis.

Research Design

This research used the qualitative approach as the research design in order to get the data. Creswell (2012) examined that one of the characteristics in qualitative research is to seek to a problem and expand a more detailed perceptive of a phenomenon. In accordance with Creswell, qualitative research can be a way to explore a variation of dimensions of the social life such as; daily activities, the cycle of social life, and experiences (Mason, 2002). Based on the study mentioned, it is clear that qualitative approach is suitable in this study because the research questions are trying to find out the international students' experiences related to their challenges and strategies in facing culture shock.

This study wanted to explore more about culture shock phenomenon. The appropriate design to apply in this research is case study. Merriam (2009) pointed out that case study tends to focus more on a particular situation, event, program,

or phenomenon. A case study is used when the study is aimed to reveal a connection between certain conditions with a phenomenon under study (Baxter & Jack, 2008). A case study has limited time and place, that is, the phenomenon that is being studied is studied only in a certain time and place (Creswell, 2012). This study is aimed to know what conditions that exist from the international students' social life and academic life that can be considered as culture shocks. Based on the view from Baxter and Jack (2008) and Merriam (2009), it mirrors that case study is used when the researcher wants to find out about a phenomenon and its effects on people's condition. It means that it has the same goal with this study, which tries to focus on a phenomenon called culture shock faced by International students. Creswell (2012) also explained that one of the case study characteristics is a holistic inquiry. This means it should be collecting any information from multiple data collection such as interview, direct observation, and reflective essay.

Research Setting

This study was conducted in one private Islamic university in Yogyakarta. The university is located in a suburb area, which need a fifteen to twenty minutes ride to the centre of the city. This university holds Islamic values in its curriculum and system. This manifested in some of the rules from the university such as; before the class begin all Moslem students should recite Al-Quran together, and the female Moslem students should wear hijab in the University area.

The university itself accepts international students from many countries such as Italy, Thailand, Turkey, America, Australia, and Taiwan, and Africa. The international students can apply any major that available at the university.

Furthermore, international students will be in the same class with the local students.

This research started on March 2018 when the researcher took Research Methodology course. During the course the researcher wrote chapter one, two, and three and also interview guideline as the instrument of this study. The interview guideline is the same as the interview guideline from this research. The interview guideline was consulted by the lecturer who taught the Research Methodology course. From March 2018 until June 2018, the researcher decided to do a preliminary research. The participant at that time is one of the researcher's classmate, a Taiwanese student. Hence, the researcher took a preliminary research's data on June 2018.

On June to August the researcher took a break from writing the study because the researcher celebrated Eid in July and also on August the researcher had to take part in the community service for a month. Then, the researcher continued writing from September 2018 until January 2019. During that time, the researcher developed all three chapters. After the research proposal accepted by the first examiner, the researcher took data. Later on, after the researcher successfully got all the data, the researcher started to write chapter four and five.

Research Participant

The participants were selected based on several characteristics. The first is the participant should be an international student studying in selected private Islamic University in Yogyakarta. Second, the international students should stay

in Indonesia for at least three or six months. The last, the international students should have at least one experience related to culture shock in Yogyakarta such as struggling with understanding the local culture. In order to make sure that the participants already qualified, the researcher asked the participants personally.

The very first step is looking for the participant, which is an international student. In doing so, the researcher asked one of the International Relation Office (IRO)'s staff to give two international students' contact. The researcher got three different participants. From all of the three, two of them were not available at that moment because they have to go outside the city. The other one turned out, did not experienced any culture shock at all in Indonesia, even though he already stayed in Yogyakarta for almost a year. In conclusion, all of the contacts given by the International Relation Office (IRO) was cancelled. Due to this issue, the researcher reached out a friend that happens to be an International student from Thailand studying in the same university the researcher conduct the study to. This Thai students agreed to participate this research as participant. Unfortunately at that time, which is January 2019 most of the international students were not available because they visited other cities, some even come to their home country. The researcher still need one more participant to conduct the study. So, the researcher decided to use the data that were taken from preliminary research on June 2018.

In conclusion, the total participants in this study were two. The researcher decided to use purposive sampling in order to find the participants.

According to Cohen (2012), the number of participants will not affect the result of the study; in fact, it will help the researcher to gain thick data that were needed.

The first participant, which the data taken from preliminary research is a female Taiwanese student participating an exchange program for one semester in one private Islamic University in Yogyakarta. At 2018 she was already stay in Yogyakarta for one semester. Due to privacy policy, the researcher use pseudonym name. The first participant is Lara Jean. Meanwhile the second participant, is a female Thai students. She take a bachelor degree in International Relation program. The second participant also use pseudonym name and it is Clementine. When the research is conducted, Clementine was on the 3rd year.

Data Collection Technique

As stated before there are two different instrument used in this study. The first is document in a form of reflective essay. In order to took data from reflective essay, the researcher firstly write one main questions with three follow up questions. Then, the researcher contacted the participant to answer the question with a very honest answer. After three to seven days passed, the researcher asked the participant if they have finished answering the reflective essay.

The second instrument is interview. After finishing the reflective essay, the researcher created an appointment to meet with the participant and conducted the interview. Before conducted the interview, the researcher already created an interview guideline. As stated on research setting, the interview guideline is same with the interview guideline from preliminary research. There are two main

question, and each question has ten to eleven follow up question each. While conducting the interview, the researcher asked about much more detail information that were available on the participant's answer on reflective essay using the interview guideline. Not only that, if there were any answer that did not answering one of the follow up question from interview guideline then, the researcher asked the participants.

Research Instrument

The first instrument is reflective essay. This instrument was used because the researcher wants the reader to know the participant's true belief, assumptions, goals, and subjective (Ortlipp, 2008). In accordance with the statement from Ortlipp (2008), the researcher used reflective essay to be able to know the participant's opinion related to culture shock.

The second instrument is interview. Correspondent with the purpose of this study, the interview's construction of the schedule applied in this study is open-ended items. Open-ended item means that there are no limitation for participant to answer all questions. It can give wider change for the participants to express their answer in many ways. It can be a benefit for this study because the researcher will get thick information related to the study. Cohen, Manion, and Morrison (2011) stated open-ended item should give minimum requirement in order to answer the research questions.

In addition, the researcher used the indirect question as the questions format. This type of question is able to provoke opinion from the participants,

which is what the researcher wants. According to Cohen, et.al (2011), this type of questions can make it less obvious for the participant.

Besides, the response mode used in this study is unstructured. This is because it can make the participants' answer to become more general. Therefore the answer will provide much information related to the issue. Cohen, et.al (2011) stated that the unstructured response mode could ease the participant to answer in the ways that like to choose.

Data Collection Procedure

In order to find participant, the researcher reach out to one of the internationa students from Thailand. The researcher's friend recommend another female Thai students because the researcher's friend had to go to her home country. So from there, the researcher met the second participant which is Clementine. The researcher decided to use participant from preliminary research because it was hard to find another participant. December and January were the end of the semester, many students went on vacation or visiting their home.

After get all of the participant, the researcher contacted Lara Jean, the first participant to answer the reflective essay. Next, the researcher contacted Clementine to answer the reflective essay. Three days later, Clementine agreed to conduct an interview. Every participant spent at least twenty minutes to finish the interview. That is how the researcher collected all data. When the researcher interviewed Lara Jean, both parties communicate with English. Meanwhile when

the researcher interviewed Clementine the language that was being used is Indonesian language.

To make sure that all data is valid, the researcher done member checking by asking all participant via chat messenger. Through member checking some data were not changed, in fact, the participant gave new information, and gave some support statement from what they said during the interview.

Data Analysis

After interviewing all of the participants, the researcher transcribed the data by changing the form of the recording into words so that it would ease the researcher to process the data. Previous research from Saldaña (2009) has mentioned that transcript is a way for the researcher to decide if there are any tendency between psychological facts, and understanding the essence of a fact.

After the researcher conducting the interview, the researcher made sure that the interview was already valid. This step is called probing or member checking. The researcher asked the participant again in order to confirm the transcription that the researcher make with what the participant's truly meant during the interview session. Similarly with Rager explained that member checking is a way to verify the participant related to the transcription (as cited in Harper & Cole, 2012, p.5).

After transcribing and doing the member checking, the next step was to analyze the transcription. In the transcription, there are many codes in selected facts that the researcher pick, the facts were given by the participant was chosen

based on which facts answers which research questions. This step called focused coding based on Saldana (2009) that from this step the researcher can get psychological facts from the transcription.

Interpretation. Saldaña (2009) said that interpretation is a conclusion for categorizing all of the facts into a psychological theme. This step changed the sentence from the electing code into the phrase in interpretation that represents the entire sentence. It was meant to ease the researcher in the next step which is focused on coding.

Focused Coding. In this step, the researcher divided all of the interpretation into the same category that belongs in the same scope. Some of the facts from the transcript might be ignored because they are not needed for the study. Saldaña (2009) mentioned that focused coding is deliberative and natural. It means that the researcher tries to get and to see the consistency in the subject means. The goal of this coding is to expand all categories despite its size and properties Saldaña (2009). This step is different from the previous three steps because focused coding should be in a different table.

Categorization. After the researcher finished writing the focused coding and interpretation, the researcher wrote the categorization. According to Saldana (2009) categorization is a process to create the shape of data from the diversity of data. In addition, this step helped the researcher to see clearly which facts answer which question.

Codifying. After writing the categorization, the researcher wrote the codifying. Based on Saldana (2009) to codify means to arrange all data in a systematic order to create a part of a classification. In addition through codifying the available data would be re-grouped on a certain theme and lead to build more solid meaning and explanation. This step, the researcher decided to divide the theme/group based on research question. The researcher underlined the same facts based on the meaning.

Writing the Coding. In this last step, the categorization that firstly in the form of a table should be changed in the form of a paragraph. This step was quite easy because the researcher already knew what to write based on the codifying. The researcher connected all of the available answer with the literature review on chapter two.

Triangulating. After analyzing all the interview data with several steps based on Saldana (2009), the researcher triangulated the data from interview with the reflective essay. The aim of this step is to make the data more valid and to create trustworthiness. Based on Cohen, Manion, and Morisson (2011) triangulation is used to show more evidence from more than one method to prove the trustworthiness of a phenomena as the result.