

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Design

Before going to the point of the research, it is better to know first the definition of research. Research in common parlance refers to a search for knowledge. One can also define research as a scientific and systematic search for pertinent information on a specific topic. The Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English lays down the meaning of research as "a careful investigation or inquiry especially through search for new facts in any branch of knowledge." According to Waltz and Bansell (1981) "Research is a systematic, formal, rigorous and precise process employed to gain solutions to problems or to discover and interpret new facts and relationships." Research is an original contribution to the existing stock of knowledge making for its advancement. It is the pursuit of truth with the help of study, observation, comparison and experiment. In short, research is the search for knowledge through objective and systematic method of finding solution to a problem.

There are two kinds of research design based on the approach; quantitative and qualitative. In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative research method to analyze the data. Kothari (1990: 3) states that qualitative research is concerned with qualitative phenomenon, i.e., phenomena relating to or involving quality or kind. For instance, when we are

interested in investigating the reasons for human behaviour (i.e., why people think or do certain things). In descriptive research, researcher is exploring, and describing, with the purpose to explain a phenomenon based on the data acquired in the field. Suharsimi (2002) stated that descriptive studies are designed to obtain the current status of phenomena and are directed toward determining the nature of situation as it exists at the time of the study.

To sum it up, this research was using descriptive qualitative design. The phenomenon that have been researched were the students' difficulties in comprehending TOEFL Reading text and the factors that influence the difficulties in comprehending the text. This research was done in two stages. First, did a test to the subject. In the test section, the researcher gave TOEFL Reading text to the students to gain the data related the difficulties in comprehending the text. Second, did interview to the subject to gain the data related the factors that influence the difficulties in comprehending the text. The result of test and interview were used as the main data in analyzing this research.

B. Research Setting

This research was conducted at English Department of UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. It is located at A. Yani Street km.4,5, Kebun Bunga, East Banjarmasin, Banjarmasin City, South Kalimantan, Indonesia. The research was done from November until December 2018 (2 months) to collect all the data accurately and briefly.

C. Population and Sample

1. Population

The population of this research was fifth semester students of English Department of UIN Antasari Banjarmasin academic year 2018/2019. The total population of fifth semester students was 153 which divided into 5 classes.

2. Sample

The sample for this research was taken randomly. According to Arikunto (2008: 116) determination of sampling is as follows:

If less than 100 are better to take all population of the research. If the number of subjects more than 100 it can be taken between 10-15% or 20-55% or more depending on the amount of:

- 1).The ability of researcher related time, energy and funds. Of course if the sample is large the results will be better.
- 2).Narrow or large area of observation for each subject, because this involves how much funds the researcher needs.

After determined the time, energy and funds of the research, thus this research only used 15% of the population; 23 students from the fifth semester of English Department academic year 2018/2019.

Table 3.1. Total of sample from each class

Class	Total of the students
A	5
B	5
C	5
D	5
E	3
Total	23

D. Object of the Research

The objects of this research were the students' difficulties in comprehending TOEFL Reading Text and the factors that influence the difficulty in comprehending TOEFL Reading text.

E. Data and Source of Data

1. Data

The data that investigated in this research was the data about the students' difficulties in comprehending TOEFL Reading text and the the factors that influence the difficulty in comprehending TOEFL Reading text.

2. Source of the Data

The data was collected through some sources as follow.

- a. Informants: 23 students on fifth semester of English Department
- b. Documents: all written reports related to the primary data such as test result and interview script.

F. Techniques of Data Collection

This research applied two techniques in undertaking data collection procedure.

1. TOEFL Reading Test

The researcher gave reading test to the students for measuring the students' comprehensibility in reading. By giving the reading test, the researcher tried to find out the difficulties which encountered by the students. The wrong answers from the students were used as an indicator whether the students find the difficulties or not. The TOEFL Reading section uses five aspects of reading comprehension in this test;

determining main idea, finding specific information, reference, inference, the meaning of the word. This test was not for measuring the students ability quantitatively, but for finding the difficulties in comprehending the text. This test was taken from Barron's practice exercises for TOEFL Preparation Test. The total item of the test was 50 in the form of multiple choices which consist of five texts.

2. Interview

According to Sugiyono (2011: 231), interview is a meeting of two people to exchange information and idea through responses, resulting in communication and joint construction of meaning about a particular topic. Meanwhile, Hadi (2004: 39) states that interview can be viewed as method of data collection through question and answer undertaken unilaterally by systematic and based on the purpose of the investigation.

According to Arikunto (2008), there are three kinds of interview; a) unstructured interview, in this type, the interviewer carries out the interview with no systematic plan of question, b) structured interview, the interviewer carries out the interview by using a set of questions arranged in advance, c) semi-structured interview, the interviewer uses a set of questions which is developed to gain the specific information.

In this research, the researcher was using structured interview to interviewed 23 students about the difficulties in comprehending TOEFL Reading text and factors that influence the difficulty in comprehending TOEFL reading text.

G. Data Analysis

Qualitative data analysis is the range of processes and procedures whereby the researcher move from the qualitative data that have been collected into some form of explanation, understanding or interpretation of the people and situations the researcher investigating (Ann Lewins, 2005). Sugiyono (2012: 246-252) states that qualitative research data analysis can be done in three stages; data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusion or interpretation.

1. Data Reduction

Data reduction means to select only the important information. The data that has been sorted will give clear description about the topic. The data about test and interview are sorted out to get only the important information. Then, the researcher analyzed the result of the test to determine the students' difficulties in comprehending the text, and in what aspects the students encountered the difficulty. The researcher distinguished the students' difficulties from the wrong answers that they have done in answering the test.

2. Data Display

After reducing the data, the next step is doing data display. It is the process of displaying data in the form of table or essay describing the students' difficulties in comprehending TOEFL Reading text and the factors that influence the difficulties in comprehending the text. Miles and Huberman (1984) state that the most frequent form of data display for

qualitative research is in the form of narrative text. They also point out “looking at displays help us to understand what is happening and to do something-further analysis or caution on that understanding.”

3. Drawing Conclusion or Interpretation

The last step in data analysis is drawing conclusion or interpretation. The researcher synthesize all the data (test result and interview script) to make the conclusion.