

CHAPTER III

METHOD OF RESEARCH

A. Research Design

The study was conducted through qualitative method. Denzin and Licon (1994) explains qualitative research is aimed at gaining a deep understanding of a specific organization or event, rather than surface description of a large sample population. It aims to understand how the participants derive meaning from their surroundings and how their meaning influences their behavior. The qualitative method investigates the why and how of decision making, not just what, where, when. Hence, smaller but focused samples are more often used than large samples.

B. Research Setting

The research took place at STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin on Sultan Adam Street No.18. The writer took it as the location for this research because there is an English Department which has already run for more than 20 years. Also, the writer has done a pre-observation there on December 27, 2015. In addition to the observation, the English Department have four subjects for writing, the sixth semester students had learned writing I, II, III, and IV. They have been taught about the genre of texts such as descriptive, narrative, argumentative and procedure, etc. Therefore, those are the reasons why the writer interested in doing the research there. The researcher conducted the research in two months.

C. Subject and Object

1. Subject

The subject of this research is the sixth semester students of English Department at STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin in academic year 2015/2016, consisting of 2 classes, morning and afternoon class. There are 24 students in morning class and 27 students in afternoon class. Thus, the total is 51 students.

2. Object

The object of this research is the grammatical errors in argumentative essay writing made by the sixth semester students of English Department STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin. There are 51 students' essay writing from two classes.

D. Data, Source of Data

1) Data

The data that were investigated in this research are primary data and secondary data.

a) Primary Data

Primary data are the types of errors in writing an essay and the possible causes of the errors made by the sixth semester students of English Department STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin.

b) Secondary Data

To complete primary data, the writer also collected the secondary data, which related to the research location as mentioned in the following:

1. Brief history of STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin.
2. Description about lecturers and students' condition.
3. Description about facilities at STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin.

2) Source of Data

In this study, the sources of data were the essay writing assignment made by the sixth semester students. There were 51 essay written assignment. Others were English Department's students and some documents.

E. Data Collecting Procedure

The writer uses three techniques of data collection in this research as follows:

1. Observation

This technique was used to get the data about specific description of reseach location, for instance about campus condition, lecturers, students, and campus facilities.

2. Documentary

This technique was used to get the data about students' errors through the written assignment made by the lecturer of English Department at STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin.

3. Interview

This technique was used to gain the deep information about the possible causes of the errors made by the sixth semester students of English Department at STKIP (PGRI) Banjarmasin. The researcher interviewed eight students to add information about that.

F. Data Analysis

Data analysis is a process to find out and set result data from written assignment and interview to increase the writer's knowledge about the study and make easy to understand by the writer and others (Muhajir N, 1996, p.104). After collecting the data, the writer analyzed the data. In analyzing the data, the researcher used some steps in order to analyze the data easily. The steps were as follows:

1. Finding the errors

In this step, the researcher studied the acquired data and tried to find out the grammatical errors by underlying the errors. The researcher tried to analyze the data as objective as possible.

2. Classifying the errors

The writer classified the errors into types of errors. The classification of the errors is based on Dulay surface strategy taxonomy (1982, p.170-174) in which errors can be described as omission, addition, misformation, and misordering errors.

3. Verifying

The writer verifies the learners' sentence errors by comparing the learners' sentences with grammatical rules in English. Finding the causes of errors in the students' written.

4. Drawing a conclusion

The last step would be drawing a conclusion based on the analysis. In this step, the reseacher made a valid conclusion in the form of a brief description of the errors.