

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Design

This research conducted by using quantitative descriptive method. According to Sugiyono (2013, p. 13) quantitative is a research method where the data is in form of numbers and analyzed using statistics. Descriptive research is a research that tries to give solutions for current problems based on the data, presents the data, analyses the data, and interprets them.

In this research, the researcher used reading comprehension test to measure the students' ability in understanding short functional texts. Then, the researcher analyzed the students' answer sheets to find out their problems in understanding short functional texts. The researcher also used interview to know the teacher's effort to increase students' ability in understanding short functional texts.

B. Research Setting

The researcher conducted this research in SMPN 1 Batumandi at ninth grade students, academic year 2015/2016. That is located on Jl. Sutera Ali Adul, Batumandi, Balangan. This research conducted during two months (13th march – 13th may 2017).

C. Population and Sample

According to Sugiyono (2013, p. 117) population is the generalization region that consists of the object/subject that has certain qualities and characteristics that defined by the researcher to study and to draw the conclusion. The population of this research is all of ninth grade students and a ninth grade English teacher at SMPN 1 Batumandi academic year 2016/2017. There are four classes of the ninth grade students. Those are IXA, IXB, IXC, and IXD. Total number of the ninth grade students is 86 students, which is classified on table 3.1.

3.1 Total Numbers of Ninth Grade Students at SMPN 1 Batumandi Academic Year 2016/2017

Class	Students		
	Male	Female	Total
IXA	10	12	22
IXB	9	11	20
IXC	9	13	22
IXD	9	13	22
Total	37	49	86

Sample is part of representative of the population that studied (Arikunto, 2010, p. 174). Technique of sampling of this research is saturated sample. It is a technique of sampling when all members of the population used as a sample. It is often used when the population relatively small, less that 30 people or a research that wants to make generalization with a very small error. Another term of saturated sample is total sampling, where all members of the population becomes sample (Sugiyono, 2013, p. 124). So, the sample of this research is 86 students and an English teacher.

D. Research instrument

In this research, the researcher used written test, interview and documentary. Written test that used in this research is in multiple choice forms. The total number of the items is 25. The questions of the written test are aim to find out students' ability in understanding short functional text, including their ability to find out main idea, vocabulary in context, referent, specific information, and excluding fact not written. The objective test is used because it is more objective and representative. The maximum expected score is 100. Each item has scored 4 point for every question. If students answer all of the items correctly, they will get score 100 that is the highest score. The score are taken from 86 students and then analyzed to find the students' ability and their difficulties in understanding short functional texts. Interview hold by the researcher to know the teacher's effort to increase students' ability in understanding short functional texts. So that, the respondents of this interview is an English teacher of the ninth grade students. Documentary also used to collect necessary data in this research.

E. Indicators of Short Functional Texts

As mention in the previous chapter, there are many kinds of short functional texts. But, just several of them that taught in senior high school. So that, the researcher choses five types of them as the sample of short functional texts. Those are short message, letter/e-mail, advertisement, announcement and notice/warning/caution. The five types of short functional texts will be the indicators of the students' questions test.

3.2 Blue Print of the Ninth Grade Students' Test in Understanding Short

Functional Texts at SMPN 1 Batamandi Academic Year 2016/2017

No.	Kinds of Text	Type of Question			Total
		Knowledge and Understanding	Application	Reasoning	
1	Advertisement	1, 13	2, 12	14	5
2	Short Message	4, 15	3, 16	25	5
3	Notice/Warning/ Caution	5, 11	17, 24	18	5
4	Letter/E-mail	6, 7	19, 20	21	5
5	Announcement	8, 9	10, 22	23	5
Total of Questions		10	10	5	25

F. Design Measurement

Design measurement is intended to know the ninth grade students' ability in reading comprehension at SMPN 1 Batamandi in academic year 2016/2017. In this research, students answer 25 items of written test. All of questions are about short functional texts in reading comprehension in form of multiple choices. The questions are aimed to know the students' ability in understanding short functional texts.

The total Maximum Expected Score (MES) of questions is 100 points. To find out the mean of the result of the students' score that is taken from the test, the writer uses the following formula:

$$M = \frac{\sum x}{N}$$

M = Mean score

$\sum x$ = Accumulative score

N = Number of the respondents

The students score categorized into five levels based on Haris (1969, p. 9) as follow:

80 – 100	: Excellent
70 – <80	: Good
60 – <70	: Fair
50 – <60	: Poor
0 – <50	: Very poor

The students' problems in understanding short functional texts analyzed from the students' written test. Difficulties that analyzed are the five types of short functional texts. Those are short message, letter/e-mail, advertisement, announcement, and notice/caution/warning.

G. Data Collection Procedure

The techniques of data collecting that is used in this research are as follow:

1. Test

Test is a series of questions or exercises and other tools that is used to measure skills, intelligence knowledge, ability or talent that is have by individuals or groups. The type of this test is intelligence test. Intelligence test is a test that is used to estimate the intellectual level of a person by giving various tasks to someone who his/her intelligence will be measured (Arikunto, 2010, p. 193-194).

The students are tested to know how far their reading comprehension ability and their problems in understanding short functional text. The researcher takes the

material from books and internet. The test is multiple choice items that consist of 25 questions.

2. Interview

Interview is often called oral interview. It is a dialogue that is conducted by the interviewer to obtain the information from interviewee. Interview is used by researcher to assess situation of a person, for example, to search data about variables background of students', parents, education, attention, attitude towards something (Arikunto, 2010, p. 198).

This technique used to collect the data which is related to this research. The respondent of this interview is the English teacher from ninth grade students. The researcher interviews the English teacher directly to know the teacher's effort to increase students' ability in understanding short functional texts.

3. Documentary

Documentation originally from word "document" which means something that written. In using this method, researcher investigate written objects such as books, magazines, documents, regulations, notes of meeting, dairy, and so on (Arikunto, 2010, p. 199).

This technique used to looking for any written report or documents which have any additional information about students, teachers, and the school. Document that researcher investigated are list of students attendance, teacher task organization, and school organization.

H. Technique of Data Analysis

All the collected and processed data analyzed quantitatively and descriptively. The students' ability and their problems identify from the students score of the test. Then, the purpose solution of the problems got from the interview that researcher conduct from the ninth grade English teacher as the interviewee. The analysis of the problems help the writer to highlight some important conclusion from this research and the data analysis in a process by which data simplified into a form that can be read and interpreted easily.