CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Approach and Research Design

This research was designed in a qualitative case study. A qualitative research is a type of scientific research and in general terms, scientific research consists of an investigation that; seek answer to a question, systematically uses a predefined set of a procedures to answer a question, collects evidence, produces findings that were not determined in advance, and produces findings that are applicable beyond the immediate boundaries of the study. In the other definition, qualitative research is characterized by it aims, which relate to the understanding some aspects of social life, and its methods which (in general) generate words, rather than numbers as data for analysis. Case studies are set in temporal, geographical, organizational, institutional, and other contexts that enable boundaries to be drawn around the case; they can be defined with reference to characteristics defined by individuals and groups involved; and they can be defined by participant's

¹Mack, Natasha and friends (2011). *Qualitative Research Methods: A Data Collector's Field Guide*. US: Family Health International (FHI) p. 1

²Patton, Michael Quinn and Cochran, Micahel (2002). *A Guide to using Qualitative Research Methodology.* Medecins Sans Frontieres.

roles and functions in the case.³ In education setting, those boundaries can be a program, an event, a person, a process, an institution, or a social group.⁴

In short, the researcher focuses on the program which held by SMPN 5 Surabaya. It is English Placement test which is conducted to divide students into some groups based on the student's ability in order to make the different treatment for those two groups of class. The researcher focuses observing the quality of this test that focus in content validity as one of the requirement in order for a test can be called as a good test.

In addition, the researcher only analyzes the questions sheets which contain of some English questions and compares with the curriculum as a manual theory in measuring the content validity of the test. Therefore, the researcher did not need to have an observation field because the researcher only focused to analyze the question sheets of English test in the placement test

B. Research Location

This research conducted at SMP N 5 Surabaya which is located at Jl. Rajawali 57 Surabaya. The researcher decided to choose this school as object of research depend on the researcher's observation when do the

³Cohen, Louis and Friends (2007). *Research Methods in Education sixth edition*. New York: Routledge p. 253

⁴ Hatch, J. Amos. (2002). *Doing Qualitative Research in Education Settings*. Albany: State University of New York Press, p.30

internship program. English as one of the lesson include in a National Examination have a weaknesses, in a practical or material. Based on the researcher's observation, both class excellent or regular have a similar ability, even in excellent class which has to more competence than regular class. Some students in excellent class who have a better ability in mastering English are students who take a course in a benefit English course in Surabaya. Therefore, the researcher wants to measure the quality of test that conducted in the beginning of the period which wasdetermined the class they will join for a year, excellent or regular class.

C. Data and Source of Data

The researcher analyzes the test materials whether or not they suitable with the curriculum used based on the KTSP (Kurrikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan) in SMP N 5 Surabaya. The data gotten from the questions sheet of Placement test for seventh grade of SMPN 5 Surabaya and the syllabus of first semester for the first year student SMP N 5 Surabaya (see appendix 5)

The data that researcher used in this study were the English test in three Placement test during period 2011 – 2014. The total numbers of each placement were 20 items which is consist of 20 multiple choices test items (see appendix 1, 2, 3, and 4)

D. Research Instruments

1. Interview

Interview becomes necessary when researchers feel the need to meet face-to-face with individuals to interact and generate ideas in a discourse that borders on mutual interest.⁵ The researcher also has an interview with the English teacher who also helps the researcher during the internship program. The researcher makes an interview with the English teacher to add the information that the researcher need in order to make this research run successfully. (See appendix 6)

2. Documentation

Documentation means collect the files or data related to the information that researcher wanted to analyze. There were two instruments used in this research, those are English test from the placement test in 2011 to the placement test in 2014 and English syllabus as guideline in comparing the English test with the curriculum applied in SMP N 5 Surabaya.

This research conducted to measure the validity of the test. Moreover, the researcher asked the questions sheet of English test in Placement test from school party of SMP N 5 Surabaya in the period 2011 to 2014 for answering the first and the second research questions. Therefore, the researcher did not involve any volunteer from the students.

⁵An article from Dr. Godfred Annum of KNUST Gh, p.2 accessed on 28thDecember, 2014 from campus.educadium.com

E. Data Analysis Technique

In short, the process in analyzing the data is specified below:

To answer the first question about the content validity of the English Placement test in SMPN 5 Surabaya, the researcher compares each English placement tests 2011 till 2014 with the English Syllabus of KTSP 2006 of seventh grade in first semester. The formula which used in measuring the content validity of the English Test in Placement test for first grade SMP N 5 Surabaya was:

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\%$$

P = Percentage

F = Frequency of conformity

N = Number of Sample

The formula above is used to see how many percent the test covers the instruction in English Curriculum of KTSP 2006 used in Indonesia. To check the percentage of the content validity of the test, the researcher divide the frequency of conformity by the number of sample of the test items. Then, the measurement of the frequency and number of sample must be multiply by 100% as the way to see how many percent they achieve the good content validity. The frequency of conformity are acquired by the synchronizing the

English question with the English syllabus. The frequency of conformity is taken from the number items which is conformed with English Syllabus. Furthermore, to see how the test covers the content validity, the researcher also compared the formula with the Arikunto's opinion about the criteria of a content validity of a test:

Table 3.1

76% - 100%	Good
56% - 75%	Sufficient
40% - 55%	Less Good
< 40%	Bad ⁶

Whether analyzed the test materials with the curriculum, the writer also analyzed the materials with the characteristic of a good test.

Table 3.2 Checklist of the Observation of the Characteristics of a Good test.⁷

		Degree of Content Applicability	
No	Issues to Consider	No	Yes
1	There should be one correct answer		

⁶Arikunto, Suharsimi. 1992. *Prosedur Penelitian.* Jakarta: Rineka Cipta p.313

⁷Zulaiha, Rahmah. (2008). Analisis Soal Secara Manual. Departemen Pendidikan Nasional Badan Penelitian dan Pengembangan Pusat Penilaian Pendidikan. Jakarta: PUSPENDIK

2	Only one feature at the time should be tested	
3	Be efficient of using word, phrase, and sentences.	
4	Chronological on the optional answer	
5	The stems should not give clues or question to other question	
6	Be careful on capital letter	
7	All multiple choice items should be at a level appropriate to the proficiency level of education	
8	Pictures, Graphics, tables, and diagrams should be clear and in function	

To answer the second question about the differences of the content validity result in English Placement tests that given to seventh graders during 2011 to 2014, the researcher only needs to compare the results of content validity of each placement test during 2011 to 2014 with the formula of Arikunto's opinion about the criteria of a content validity in a test and present it on the table.