

This chapter deals with the process for conducting the study. It consists of approach and research design, researcher presence, research location, data and source of data, research instruments, data analysis technique, checking validity of findings and research stages

This research is a survey research. Survey research (also called descriptive research) uses instruments such as questionnaires and interviews to gather information from groups of individuals.⁴³ Descriptive research is to describe or to get information about the current condition of certain objects. Therefore, it includes “describing, taking notes, analyzing, and interpreting the existing facts”.⁴⁴ The researcher needs some numeric data to obtain understanding about the phenomenon being analyzed and followed up by interview to give more understanding about the result. Besides, in the interview, students are asked to reflect on their challenges in academic writing. Thus, the researcher uses questionnaires and interviews as instruments in this research due to the requirement of both data to give more understanding. Furthermore, this study is

⁴⁴ Mardalis, *Metode Penelitian* (Jakarta: Bumi Aksara, 1995), 26.

B. Researcher Presence

The role of the researcher in this research is the collector of the data and the interviewer. Instruments used in this research can be used to collect the data, but it still requires the researcher presence as the collector of the data since this research uses questionnaire. Furthermore, this research needs data from interview, so the researcher has a role in this research as an interviewer. Therefore, the researcher presence is necessary in this research. The research subjects of this research know about the role of the researcher.

[illegible]

This University is located on Ahmad Yani Street, no. 117, Wonocolo, Surabaya. Moreover it is located in strategic place which is in the south of Surabaya. Thus, students from south places such as Sidoarjo and Mojokerto. and from Surabaya and Gresik are able to reach the place using public transportation. This place is also near the highway, hospital, sport center, DBL stadium, restaurants and industrial area.

This study is conducted to describe the challenges in academic writing faced by sixth semester students of 2014/2015 academic year through reflection at English Teacher Education Department of State Islamic University Sunan Ampel Surabaya. For the purpose of the study, some data collected are:

To answer the first research question of this study, Students' difficulties in academic writing are needed to be analyzed. This data are from students as the main source. The researcher uses questionnaire to describe students' difficulties in academic writing as their challenges. By calculating the result of questionnaire, it will be known the greatest difficulty perceived by students and the lowest difficulty. It will be also known the score of the difficulties from every students. The result of questionnaire can be a source to select respondents for reflection in the interview.

2. Students' reflection on the challenges in academic writing

To answer the second research question of this study, students' reflection on the challenges in academic writing is needed to be analyzed. The reflection only focuses on students' difficulties as the challenges in academic writing and their attitudes toward the challenges. The researcher uses in-depth interview as students' reflection. The data are from students as the primary source.

The source of data to answer the first and the second research questions are sixth semester students of 2014/2015 academic year at English Teacher Education Department.

E. Population and Sample

Ary states that quantitative researchers use a wide variety of instruments to gather data, including tests, questionnaires, ratings, and attitude scales.⁴⁶ Since the researcher uses questionnaire in this study, the researcher needs to determine the population and samples. The population is eighty students. In determining samples, Suharsimi stated that if the population is less than 100, it is better to take all population as samples, therefore the research becomes population research. Furthermore, if the population is larger (more than 100), determining

⁴⁶ Ary, Jacobs, and Sorensen, *Introduction to Research in Education*, 32.

⁴⁷ Prof. Dr. Suharsimi Arikunto, *Prosedur Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik* (Jakarta: PT. Rineka Cipta, 2006), 112.

⁴⁹ Ibid., 429.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid., 428.

F. Data Collection Technique and Instrument

As Ary states that survey research (also called descriptive research) uses instruments such as questionnaires and interviews to gather information from groups of individuals.⁵² Knowing the nature of this study, the researcher uses questionnaires and interviews as the technique to gain the data. To apply the techniques, the researcher needs some instruments, they are questionnaire sheet and interview guide. Those instruments are described as the following:

1. Questionnaire sheet

This instrument is used to get information from the data sources. The researcher uses questionnaire sheet based on some theories adapted from Luna's finding. The questionnaire sheet consists of the difficulties in general academic writing skills and difficulties in language problems. This instrument will answer the first research question of this research.

2. Interview guide

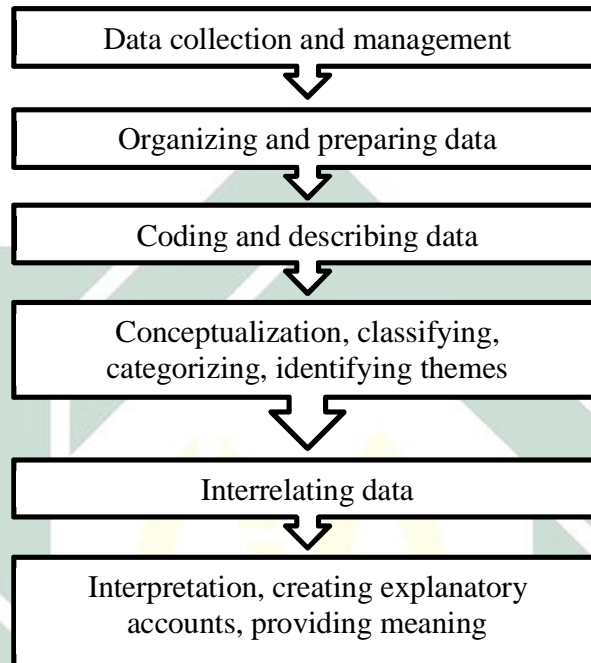
In-depth interview formed in semi-structured is used to gain deep information of students' reflection on challenges in academic writing. The reflection is focused on students' difficulties as the challenges in academic writing and their attitudes toward the challenges. The students are expected to explore their experiences about the difficulties in academic writing that are challenging for them. Besides, students also reflect their attitudes toward the

⁵² Ibid., 28.

No difficulty : if the result of calculation is on the degree of 1 or the response to components is strongly disagree.

The targeted data from Semi-structure interview is to answer the question number two. The researcher will interview the participants with great difficulty based on their answers on the questionnaire and stop when new information is emerging from new units. After gaining the interview, the data are managed and prepared to make easier for description. Then, the researcher describes the data. The next step is conceptualizing, classifying, categorizing, and identifying themes. After the data management and organized arrangement, the researcher interrelate the data. The last step, the researcher makes interpretation based on the process of analysis. Here are the steps of the analysis technique:

Figure 3.1
Steps of analysis technique



H. Research Stages

The procedures of doing this research are explained into four steps:

1. Research design and planning

In this step, the researcher chose the research design based on the research problem. In relation to conduct this research, a set of plans were needed to be prepared well. Then, the researcher tried to build up some theoretical foundation related with academic writing and prepare some instruments such as questionnaire sheet and interview guide. The research planning was conducted from Tuesday, February 24th 2015 to Friday, April 24th 2015

2. Research Action

This part is a main part of this research because it is time for the researcher to begin collecting the data. This stage contained two implementations. The first is giving and collecting questionnaire sheet to students as the respondent to know their difficulties as the challenges in academic writing.

The second is interviewing students as the research subject to know their reflection on their difficulties as the challenges in academic writing and their attitudes toward the challenges. The interview was an indepth interview with semi-structured form. The research action is conducted from Monday, April 27th 2015 to Monday, June 1st 2015.

3. Analysing the data

In this step, the researcher analyzes the data collected from the field. The data are then arranged in good order in order for the researcher to do data analysis easily. In analyzing the data, the researcher describes the data. The next step is conceptualization, classifying, categorizing, and identifying themes. After the data managed in organized arrangement, the researcher interrelate the data. The analysis started on Tuesday, June 2nd 2015.

4. Writing the result and concluding data

In this action, the researcher reflected all of the information that have been collected with the theories from library research. So, the researcher designed the result, described intensively, interpreted the literature, stated the parts of result complements and wrote the conclusion. Finally, the researcher

