CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODS

3.1. Research Approach

This research used descriptive method since the data was described in the form of explanation with provided the description of phenomena naturally. The descriptive research attempts to describe, explain and interpret conditions of the present i.e. "what is'. The purpose of a descriptive research is to examine a phenomenon that is occurring at a specific place and time. A descriptive research is concerned with conditions, practices, structures, differences or relationships that exist, opinions held, processes that are going on or trends that are evident. Related to that, descriptive research is the way to find out the accurate facts by having the right interpretation. It meant that descriptive type of research used to describe data factually and accurately in solving the problem.

Then descriptive method belongs to qualitative approach, that was defined by Bodgan and Taylor in Moleong (2001: 3) as a research that presents the descriptive data in the form of written or oral words of people and behavior which can be observed. Based on these, this research concerned politeness strategies in expressing refusals used by the Akeelah Anderson in James W. Ellison's *Akeelah and The Bee*. The utterance of refusals was analyzed using Brown and Levinson theory of Politeness Strategies. The

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analysis was in forms of explanation or description in words or in paragraphs, not in statistic data.

3.2. Technique of Data Collection

3.2.1. Data and Data Sources

The source of data was the subject where the data could be obtained in detailed. The data of this research was the utterance of children characters in James W. Ellison's *Akeelah and The Bee* novel which contained some refusals to be analyzed. Then the source of data was the print out novel of James W. Ellison's *Akeelah and The Bee*.

3.2.2. Instruments

An instrument plays an important role in conducting a research that is for gathering the data accurately. In a qualitative research, instrument of the research is the researcher herself with or without the help of other people (Moleong, 2001: 4). However, in conduction this research, the researcher herself needs some supporting instruments. The supporting instrument used by the researcher was James W. Ellison's *Akeelah and The Bee* novel.

3.2.3. Data Collection

This research used documentation technique in collecting the data. Documentation technique is collecting data through the documents, the artifacts, the photographs and other data (Koentjaraningrat, 1982: 173). In

order to make up the data, the data collection would be done through some steps. Firstly, the researcher did close reading James W. Ellison's *Akeelah and The Bee* novel for several times to ensure the data will accurate and to have good comprehension and understanding about the whole context of the novel. Secondly, the researcher focus and started to code on the refusals utterance. Third, after reading closely, observing the novel, the researcher made some notes of the data collected. The researcher chosen the conversations in James W. Ellison's *and The Bee* novel which contain refusals used by the children characters, they were Akeelah Anderson, Georgia Cavanaugh, Javier Mendez and Dylan Chiu.

3.3. Technique of Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the next step was analyzing. The data analysis technique of this research was descriptive analysis. In analyzing the data, it needed identifying, classifying, analyzing, and drawing a conclusion (Wray and Bloomer, 1998: 7-13). Related to this explanation, the researcher took several steps, they were:

1. Identifying the refusals utterance appeared in *Akeelah's* utterance.

2. Classifying and determining the data based on the appropriate kinds of politeness strategies of refusals and what refusal function the utterances refused to. The classification was presented in the table as follows.

NO.	The speaker and to whom he or she refuses to (S to H)	Politeness Strategy	Refusal function	Cases of refusal	Page

3. Analyzing how politeness strategies used by children characters in their refusals and finding the reason why the certain strategies were chosen based on the underlying theory. Then, the researcher summed up the analysis by putting the occurrence of politeness strategies in the table as follows.

No.	Strategies	Data	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Positive Politeness			
2.	Negative Politeness			
3.	Bald On Record			
4.	Off Record			
5.	Mixture Strategies			
	Total			

4. The researcher also put the occurrence of politeness strategies based on the refusal functions in the following table:

No.	Refusal function / Strategies	Command	Suggestion	Offer	Invitation	Request
1.	Positive Politeness					

2.	Negative Politeness					
3.	Bald On Record					
4.	Off Record					
5.	Mixture Strategies					
	Total (100%)					

5. Lastly, the researcher make a conclusion based on the data analysis.