

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. Research Design

In this research, the type of research that the author uses is qualitative descriptive research. Qualitative research is research that produces descriptive data (descriptions in the form of written or spoken words of each behavior of the people observed). Qualitative researchers aim to ensure that phenomena can be understood carefully if done through interaction with subjects through in-depth interviews. Apart from that, it can also be done through observations at the location of the phenomenon.

In the book, the combination of research methods suggests that qualitative research is often referred to as naturalized because research is done in a natural setting, as is often used for cultural anthropology, which was initially referred to as qualitative.

According to Creswell (2009) States that “Qualitative research is a means of exploring and understanding the meaning of individuals or groups to social or human issues. The research process involves emerging questions and procedures, a detailed collection of data on general topics, and interpreting the meaning of the data. The final written report has a flexible writing structure.”

B. Research Setting

This research was conducted at Madrasah Aliyah Negeri Kota Pariaman, a high school educational institution located on Jl. NAN TONGGA

PADUSUNAN, Kampung Gadang, Kec. Pariaman Timur, Pariaman City Prov. West Sumatra.

The researcher chose this location because of its representativeness of the educational population. The State Islamic Senior High School (MA) in Pariaman City was chosen because its student characteristics represent the diversity of social, economic, and academic backgrounds in West Sumatra. As an A-accredited public school, this institution represents a quality madrasah education system while also facing common challenges such as the gap in English language proficiency in Islamic schools.

Data Access and Contextual Suitability. This location was chosen because of its easy data access and the school's readiness to actively participate in the research. As the largest madrasah in Pariaman with over 600 students, MAN Pariaman City provides a research sample capable of understanding English language mastery and learning strategies in an Islamic educational environment.

Relevance to Contemporary Educational Issues Research at this school is relevant for exploring innovative solutions to address the gap in English language proficiency among madrasah students. The research findings are expected to serve as a model for improving the quality of foreign language teaching in other Islamic schools in Indonesia, particularly in West Sumatra, which face similar challenges.

C. Research Subject and Participant

Participants in this study consisted of 20 students from a State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) in Pariaman City. They were selected through purposive sampling to represent various levels of English proficiency. This group consisted of both male and female students, all of whom had studied English vocabulary.

The researcher chose students from MAN Kota Pariaman because this school is a public educational institution with a representative student body with a variety of English language proficiency levels. Furthermore, MAN Kota Pariaman has a quality learning environment that supports valid data collection. This selection was also based on the relevance of the research findings to the educational context in the area and the opportunity to observe the learning methods implemented at the school.

D. Technique of Data Collection

The data-gathering technique is the most important step in the research process. The main goal of a study is to get valid data. When researchers do not know how to collect data, they fail to get data that meets the established data standards.

In qualitative research, data collection is done in principle, primary data sources, and data collection techniques that contribute more to observation and

deep interviews. According Catherine Marshall, Gretchen B. Rossman, State "the fundamental methods relied on by qualitative researchers for

gathering information are, participation in the setting, direct observation, in-depth interviewing. Here the researcher will use the opinion of Creswell, J.W 2014, There are 2 techniques for collecting qualitative data, namely:

1. Observation

To obtain direct data on students' vocabulary skills during English learning, observations were conducted. By conducting observations, researchers could observe how students used vocabulary in oral and written classroom activities. This method provided a direct view of how students' vocabulary mastery was applied in daily activities, such as completing exercises, discussing, and answering teacher questions. By conducting observations, researchers could identify discrepancies between students' theoretical vocabulary mastery and their learning practices.

Observations also served as supplementary data to complement information obtained from interviews. The results of observations helped researchers assess the overall classroom conditions, such as the teacher's approach to teaching vocabulary, students' reactions to the lesson, and the difficulties students encountered when using English vocabulary. Thus, observations not only provided descriptive data about student activities but also provided broader context about the factors that influence students' vocabulary mastery. This data was crucial for understanding how students learned vocabulary effectively.

2. Interview

An activity between two or more people that involves the exchange of ideas and information and interactive question-and-answer sessions. Therefore, it can be understood in the context of explanations related to a specific topic. Investigators use interviews to collect data when they want to conduct a preliminary study to determine a problem that needs to be investigated and when they want to learn more from respondents. Personal knowledge and beliefs, or at least self-reports, are the basis of this data collection technique. By engaging in a relaxed activity, one can gain the resources necessary to gain a deliberate understanding of a phenomenon or phenomena.

according to Susan Stainback (1988). Therefore, by conducting interviews, researchers can gain a better understanding of participants in understanding emerging circumstances and phenomena, which is information that cannot be obtained through observation.

In this study, interviews were conducted to obtain information about vocabulary mastery among students in Pariaman City.

E. Technique of Data Analysis

After the data have been collected, the researcher turns to the task of analyzing them. Qualitative data analysis was a process of searching and arranging the data taken from the observation and interview. Qualitative data analysis consists of three current flows of activity: data reduction, display, and data verification. Each of the stages was presented in the following

1. Data Reduction

The first stage of data processing involves centering, simplifying, and transforming data, aimed at effectively managing large amounts of data. In this stage, data reduction is a crucial step in minimizing data volume without losing the most important and relevant information for the research focus.

To reduce the amount of data while retaining its core content, several strategies can be implemented, including using appropriate data for research needs, systematically summarizing key points, and selectively filtering information based on relevance and quality. This process helps researchers organize raw data, making it more focused, structured, and ready for further analysis.

2. Data Display

A data display is a visual or narrative representation of collected data, designed to make it easier for researchers to see, understand, and interpret patterns, relationships, and themes emerging from the data in a more systematic and structured manner. Data displays serve as a means of organizing information, enabling researchers to present data in tables, graphs, matrices, diagrams, or narrative descriptions that are concise and clear.

Using data displays, researchers can identify relationships between variables, discover significant trends, and extract deeper meaning from complex data sets. Furthermore, data displays facilitate further analysis, aid

in drawing conclusions, and support the validity of research results through transparent and easy-to-understand presentation.

3. Drawing Conclusions and Verifying

The final step is to draw conclusions from the research and analyze the data. Researchers find patterns and trends while confirming the accuracy of their results by using methods such as peer review and triangulation. This ensures that the results are reliable and backed by facts.

