

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Design

This study uses a descriptive research design. Descriptive research is used to describe, analyze, and interpret phenomena as they are without manipulating variables. In this study, a descriptive design was applied to identify and analyze errors found in students' complex sentences in essay writing. The purpose of using this design is to obtain a clear picture of the types of errors, the frequency of each error, and the dominant errors made by students when constructing complex sentences. This research is a descriptive research because it was only describe the error made by students in their assignments.

B. Research Object and Setting

The research was be conducted at UIN Imam Bonjol Padang. The participants of this study were fourth semester students that have studied on complex sentence structures in essay writing. The participant were students fourth semester in academic year 2025 in essay writing class. The student assignment that became document obtained amounted 16 documents. Of the 16 student assignments that researcher analyze, there were 11 student assignments that cannot be analyze because they are indicated by AI. Although some student tasks were indicated using AI, but it can still be analyzed so the data can be found.

C. Data Collection Techniques

The instrument of this analysis was documentation. The documentation for this analysis is the text of the students' comparative essay from the students' assignment to be analyzed. Document analysis was chosen because it provides direct evidence of students' language use and learning outcomes. The documents were collected systematically and organized according to the research objectives before being analyzed.

D. Data Analysis Techniques

The data were analyzed using the qualitative data analysis framework proposed by Huberman (2014) in *Qualitative Data Analysis: A Methods Sourcebook*. According to Miles et al. (2014), qualitative data analysis is an interactive and cyclical process that consists of three concurrent flows of activity: data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification.

1. Data Condensation

Data condensation refers to the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming raw data that appear in written-up field notes or documents (Miles et al., 2014). In this study, data condensation was conducted through repeated reading of the documents, coding relevant data segments, and grouping similar data into categories. Initial codes were developed from the data and then refined into broader categories and themes relevant to the research focus.

2. Data Display

Data display is defined as an organized and compressed assembly of information that allows conclusion drawing and action (Miles et al., 2014). In this study, the condensed data were displayed in the form of tables and matrices to facilitate systematic comparison and pattern identification across documents. The use of data display enabled the researcher to better understand relationships among categories and emerging themes.

3. Concluding and Drawing Verification

Conclusion drawing involves interpreting the displayed data to identify meanings, patterns, explanations, and causal flows, while verification refers to testing the validity of those conclusions (Miles et al., 2014). In this study, conclusions were drawn based on recurring patterns and themes and were continuously verified through careful re-examination of the data to ensure consistency and credibility of the findings.