**CHAPTER III**

**RESEARCH METHOD**

In this chapter, the writer writes the research method that is applied in this research, includes research design, population and sample of the research, research instrument, data collecting method, and data analysis.

1. **Research Design**

The design used in this research is descriptive design by using quantitative approach. Lodico (2006:10) points out these descriptive are summarized by reporting the number or percentage of persons reporting each response. It is intended that the data are tabulated numerically as a result then it will be interpreted to descriptive explanation. In this case, the descriptive study is the design in the research that receives the information focusing in current status and phenomena. They are set through determining the nature of situation as it appeared at the time study. In the descriptive study, there is no control or treatment as in experimental study.

The method which is used in this research is descriptive quantitative method. The researcher determines that the design is descriptive quantitative research; because it describes the data that is taken from the sample. In this research, the researcher is going to identify the errors on the mechanics of writing made by students. Then, the researcher classifies those errors which are related the error on capitalization, punctuations, and spelling in writing. The researcher identifies the errors are happened and then the frequencies of errors are calculated by using certain formula. Next, the researcher classifies the mechanic of writing error made by students in writing essay by using theory proposed by Dulay *et al*. It will be analyzed by basing on surface taxonomy strategy. It covers error of omission, addition, misformation, and misordering.

1. **Population and Sample of the Research**

Before conducting research, the researcher tries to complete what is required. One of them is deciding which one will become population and which one will become the sample. In this part, the writer describes about population and sample to be decided in order to conduct data collection.

1. **Population**

The population of this study covers that the whole of the research subject is called population research (Arikunto, 2002: 115). Based on that statement, population can be understood that it covers everybody who can be included to be a target of the research. If the researcher is going to conduct research of all elements in the research, the research is considered as population research. The study is also called population study. Thus, the researcher takes the population in IAIN Tulungagung who takes the study of English in educational department especially in the fourth semester.

1. **Sample**

Due to it is impossible to involve all of individual or population. Sample is a part of population. Cohen (2007:100):

“Therefore they often need to be able to obtain data from a smaller group or subset of the total population in such a way that the knowledge gained is representative of the total population (however defined) under study. This smaller group or subset is the *sample*”.

Sample is defined as a small group of people selected to represent the much large entire population from which is drawn. Besides, Latief (2010: 139) stated that there were few methods to get the sample from population, which is called technique sampling. Those are random sampling, systematic sampling, stratified sampling, and cluster sampling”.

In this case, there are five classes of English department of fourth semester in IAIN Tulungagung. Those are A, B, C, D, and E classes. The researcher cannot list all its members for the purpose of drawing a sample. Due to those problems, the researcher uses a cluster sampling as stated by Ary *et al* (2002: 169) “This kind of probability sampling is referred to as cluster sampling, because the unit chosen is not an individual but a group of individuals who are naturally together”. It explains that the researcher does not choose individual; but he choose one group directly that takes in one place as a sample of population. The sample of this research is the students who study English in fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic years 2013/2014. The researcher chooses the 4C class. There are 27 students who will become the sample.

1. **Research Instrument**

Research instrument is very necessary for the researcher in order to it helps the researcher in collecting data from the subjects. The instrument of research helps the researcher to get the target data easily collected and get better, complete, and systematic result. In this study, the instrument used is as *test document***.** As we know document is written by someone who has had firsthand experience with the phenomenon under study (Ary, 443:2010). Ary (201:2010) also states that tests are valuable measuring instruments for educational research. A testis a set of stimuli presented to an individual in order to elicit responses. According to those statements, test document is the document shows the result of a test, which represented the students’ measurement as a response of stimulus. The aim of this test is to measure the students’ ability when they construct the paragraph. The researcher uses the writing document test as an instrument to collect the data. The researcher wants to know how far the errors made by students in using mechanics of writing.

**D. Data Collecting Method**

The data in this research will be collected by using such method and instruments. The section on data collection methods describes the methods used to gather the data and explains why these methods were chosen (Ary, 2010:492). This subsection explains in detail how the information is collected for the purpose of a research study (Perry, 2005:52).

The method that is used to collect the data is using document. The researcher wants to know the errors related to mechanics of writing made by the students of fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic year of 2013-2014. So the researcher borrows the document of students writing test to be analyzed.

In collecting the data of this research, the schedule is determinate, that is 28 May 2014. It is time for borrowing the document is teacher of writing class determinate.

There are procedures to collect the data before interpreting in this research. To collect the data from the document, the researcher asks permission to the relevant teacher. Then, the researcher explains his purpose. Next, the researcher borrows the students’ entire document of the writing test in a class determinate.

1. **Data Analysis**

After the data that has been collected need to analyze, so that it can be interpreted. Then the data analysis in this research will be done by applying the following procedures:

1. Identification of errors

After the researcher receives students’ entire sheet, the researcher is going to identify the errors happened in the answer sheet that are made by student. Identification of errors means that the researcher identifies the deviation on mechanics of writing made by students. The mechanics of writing errors that are made by students in composing sentence are identified. It is very possible that in one sentence made by students, the researcher will find more than one error. After the data has been identified, they will amount or the frequencies of the errors happened represented in the form of table.

1. Classification of error

After the errors have been identified, the next step is classifying them in their types. The errors that are made by students are classified by using surface taxonomy strategy as stated Dulay *et al*. They are error of omission, addition, misformation, and misordering.