

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter simplifies the procedures of the research used by the writer. It contains method of the research, object of the research, data collection and data analysis techniques.

3.1 Method of the Research

The method of the research of the study will be using the qualitative research. Research studies that investigate the quality of relationships, activities, situations, or materials are frequently referred to as **qualitative research** (Frankel and Wallen (1993:380).

One aim of the qualitative research is to extract the meanings of the phenomena. In addition, Alwasilah (2002:111) writes that in the qualitative research, context or local situation are determining the meaning of an event. The data is soundless if it does not consider the context.

Robert Bogdan and Sari Knopp Biklen (1992) in Frankel and Wallen (1993:380-381) describe five features that characterize qualitative research as follows:

- 1) **The natural setting is the direct source of data, and the researcher is the key instrument in qualitative research.**

Qualitative researchers go directly to the particular setting in which they are interested to observe and collect their data. As Bogdan and Biklen point out, qualitative researchers go to the particular setting of the interest because they are concerned with context—they feel that activities can be understood in the actual settings in which they occur.

- 2) **Qualitative data are collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers.**

The kinds of data collected in qualitative research include interview transcripts, field notes, photographs, audio recordings, videotapes, diaries, personal comments, memos, official records, textbook passages, and anything else that can convey the actual words or actions of people.

- 3) **Qualitative researchers are concerned with process as well as product.**

Qualitative researchers are especially interested in *how* things occur. Hence they are likely to observe how people interact with each other; how certain kinds of questions are answered; the meanings that people give to certain words and actions; how people's attitudes are translated into actions; how students seem to be affected by a teacher's manner, or gestures, or comments; and the like.

4) Qualitative researchers tend to analyze their data inductively.

As Bogdan and Biklen suggest, qualitative researchers are not putting together a puzzle whose picture they already know. They are constructing a picture that takes shape as they collect and examine the parts.

5) How people make sense out of their lives is a major concern to qualitative researchers.

A special interest of qualitative researchers lies in the perspectives of the subjects of a study. Qualitative researchers want to know what the participants in a study are thinking and why they think what they do. Assumptions, motives, reasons, goals and values—all are of interest and likely to be the focus of the researcher's questions.

Moreover, according to Maxwell (1996) in Alwasilah (2002:107-109), there are five characteristics of qualitative research:

1. Understanding the meaning, of the participants in the study, the events, situations, and actions involved with and the accounts of their life and experiences.
2. Understanding the particular context within which the participants act and the influence that this context has on their actions.
3. Identifying unanticipated phenomena and influences, and generating new grounded theories.
4. Understanding the process by which events and actions take place.
5. Developing causal explanations.

A descriptive method is used in presenting the data. According to Fraenkel and Wallen (1993:23), descriptive method is a method used to explain, analyse and classify something through various techniques, survey, interview, questionnaires, observation and text. The purpose of descriptive research is to describe current condition without them being influenced by the investigator.

Descriptive research may also help to point out the extent of a problem and indicate how serious and widespread it is. Descriptive method would systematically and factually describe and illustrate the characteristics of and the connection between the phenomena studied (Gay 1987).

3.2 Object of the Study

The object of this study is a film script of comedy film entitled *Tropic Thunder* directed by Ben Stiller. This film tells about five actors named Tugg Speedman, Jeff Portnoy, Kirk Lazarus, Alpa Chino, and Kevin Sandusky who have to save their big budget film from cancellation after one fatal scene accident. Their director tries to keep the movie released by putting the actor to the real war shooting scene in some South Asian jungle. However, they really face the real enemy beyond the script which is a drug-manufacturing gang.

3.3 Data Collection Techniques

The main data of the research is taken from the DVD of comedy film entitled "*Tropic Thunder*". Its script is taken from the film's dialogues and the

subtitle script is also taken from the film. The dialogues and subtitle are transferred into written text.

As explained in chapter two, the writer has classified the data found into translation methods offered by Newmark. The writer has categorized the data into six types of idiom based on Hockett (1958:310-318) types of idioms.

In conducting this research, some steps are taken in collecting the data; those steps are as follows:

1. Watching the *Tropic Thunder* DVD.

The researcher watched the DVD of “*Tropic Thunder*” several times in order to see the connection between the film’s dialogue and the subtitling script. The researcher believes that watching the film several times is an important process to understand the whole conversation and it becomes the basic step before analyzing the methods of translation.

2. Copying the script from the film dialogue.

This step is conducted by the researcher in order to obtain the textual data for this research.

3. Reading the script of *Tropic Thunder* and its translation.

In this step, the researcher reads and compares every dialogue in the original script of the film with the English-Indonesia subtitle to determine the methods of translation that is used by translator. It is also done to search out the types of idioms based on Hockett (1958) classifications of idioms.

4. Collecting, classifying, and describing the usage of idiomatic expression on subtitle of *Tropic Thunder*.

In this step, the researcher will collect, classify and describe the usage of idiomatic expression found in the movie into the methods of translation offered by Newmark (1988) and types of idioms based on Hockett (1958) types of idioms.

3.4 Data Analysis Technique

In the process of analyzing the data, the writer abbreviates each type of idiom and translation methods into tables as described below.

Table 3.1
TYPES OF IDIOMS
(Hockett 1958:310-318)

Types of Idioms	Abbreviation
Substitute	S
Proper Names	PN
Abbreviation	A
English Phrasal Compounds	EPC
Figures of Speech	FS
Slang	SL

Table 3.2
METHODS OF TRANSLATION
(Newmark 1988:45-47)

Translation Method	Abbreviation
Word-for-Word translation	W
Literal translation	L
Faithful translation	Fa
Semantic translation	S
Adaptation	A
Free translation	Fr
Idiomatic translation	I
Communicative translation	C