

## CHAPTER 3

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter will elaborate the investigation of the research by employing data collection and data analysis. In connection with data collection and data analysis, answers to such questions as who will be involved, where and how to obtain the data, and finally how to analyze them, will be the steps to discuss in both procedures.

#### 3.2. Research Questions

1. What types of word-formation processes are found in *Kaskus* thread and comments?
2. What type of word-formation processes is most frequently used in *Kaskus* thread and comments?
3. What is the context of situation leading to the use of those word-formations?

#### 3.3. Research Method

The research applies qualitative method while the data of comments in *Kaskus* are transcribed, identified and calculated. It is attempted to get the answer

of the research purposes, which is to identify the word-formation processes used in comments and their context of situation. The method used in this research is qualitative method. Hoepfl (1997, cited in Nuraida 2005:28) proposes that qualitative research uses a naturalistic approach that seeks to understand phenomena in context –specific settings.

Furthermore, she reveals eight characteristics of qualitative research:

- 1). Qualitative research uses the natural setting as the source of data;
- 2). The researcher acts as the ‘human instrument’ of data collection;
- 3). Qualitative researchers use inductive data analysis;
- 4). It reports descriptive , incorporating expressive language;
- 5). It has an interpretative character;
- 6). It pays attention to the idiosyncratic as well as pervasive, seeking the uniqueness of each case;
- 7). It has an emergent design;
- 8). It is judged using special criteria for trustworthiness.

In addition, descriptive method is a method used in a study, which is not searching for something or making the prediction, but only describes the situation or phenomenon. It is in line with description from Gay L.R. (1987) below:

A descriptive method is a method of research that involves collecting data in order to test hypothesis or to answer questions concerning the current status of the subject of the study. The descriptive study determines and reports the way things are (Gay L.R, 1987).

Based on that explanation, the researcher can say that this is a qualitative descriptive research, which means a research that is intended to provide a clear explanation about the word-formation processes and context of situation in *Kaskus* comments.

### **3.4 Data Collection**

According to Sankoff, the need for good data imposes three different kinds of decisions about data collection on the researcher: a) choosing data to collect; b) stratifying the sample; and c) deciding on how much data to collect from how many speakers.

‘Good’ data is defined as language materials of sufficient type and quantity, as well as materials which take into account the social context in which the language data is gathered. This is referred to as defining the sampling universe (Sankoff 1974:21-2).

#### **3.4.1. Source of Data Collection**

Methods of data collection are done in a way that an investigator obtains the necessary data. “The appropriate method of data collection in a study will allow the settlement of valid problems and confidence that will finally allow the formulation of the objective generalization” (Nawawi, 1991:13).

There is no golden rule about what size a sample should be. In this fashion, bigger is not always better. Nevertheless, the aims of the study, the availability of and the accessibility to potential respondents are determining factors in defining sample size.

In terms of number, Best and Kahn (1989, cited in Libugan 1997: 36) argues “the minimum number of subjects believed to be acceptable for the study depends upon the type of research involved”. In addition, Arikunto (1997) states

that if the subject is bigger than 100, it can take 10-15%. Furthermore, Sankoff in Milroy (1987:21) points out:

“...even for quite complex speech communities, samples of more than about 150 individuals tend to be redundant, bringing increasing data handling problems with diminishing analytical returns...” (1980:51-52).

Hence, based on aforementioned considerations, the data of this research were taken from the English sub-forum of *Kaskus* web pages. The data were taken from 75 *Kaskus* comments in one thread of English sub-forum in *Kaskus* posted from April 9, 2010 to May 8, 2010. The researcher did not inform anything about the study to the *Kaskusers*, so that they would not be aware and worry if their comments were actually being recorded.

#### **3.4.2. Procedures of Data Collection**

Before analyzing the data, the researcher noted comments from source web. After all of the comments data were collected, the researcher transcribed the comments from web to the written text form. The data were retyped in the same form as the original texts.

### 3.5. Data Analysis

There are several steps that the researcher takes to make a systematic analysis. The steps are mentioned below:

#### 3.5.1. Identifying

Through the transcribed comments data the researcher identified which words were considered as the unordinary terms by seeing its form to identify the word-formation processes. Furthermore, the results are presented in form of table as follow.

**TABLE 1**  
**The Comments Data and Its Word-formations**  
**1-75 Comments**

No.	Comments/text:	Word-formations:

#### 3.5.2. Classifying

After identifying the data, the researcher classified the new terms by how they were produced. The theory is taken from Yule's classification and also Stageberg's theory in word-formation processes, such as; *coinage, reduplication, clipping, compounding, derivation, blending, back-formation, acronyms, conversion, onomatopoeia* and *borrowing*. *Multiple processes* will also be noted if the researcher finds the word-formation which has two or more word-formation processes. Besides, if the researcher finds a process which does not belong to the

Yule, Stageberg, and Abdul Chaer theories about word-formation processes, the researcher will identify those words as *various*.

The researcher has to compare the meaning of users' comments to the researcher common ground to get the lexical meaning of the terms. As the data are taken from the comments posted by the *Kaskusers*, the researcher does not have any difficulties in getting the lexical meaning. Furthermore, the results are presented in form of table as follow.

**TABLE 2**  
**Each Type of Word-formation Processes**

No.	Expressions	Meaning	Occurrences

### 3.5.3. Calculating

After classifying all comments of the data, the researcher calculated them and moved the result into a table of frequency to decide the word-formation process, which is mostly used in *Kaskus* comments. To count the frequency of each word-formation process, the researcher uses a formula, that is:

$$N = \frac{P}{Q} \times 100\%$$

N = the percentage of word-formation process which is used in *Kaskus*

P = the total of each word-formation process used in *Kaskus*.

Q = the total of all word-formation processes used in *Kaskus*.

Furthermore, the results are presented in form of table as follow.

**TABLE 4**

**The Whole Word-formation Processes in *Kaskus* thread and Comments**

No.	Word-formation Processes	Examples	Total Words	Total in Percent
1.	Coinage			
2.	Reduplication			
3.	Clipping			
4.	Compounding			
5.	Derivation			
6.	Blending			
7.	Back-formation			
8.	Acronyms			
9.	Conversion			
10.	Affixes			
11.	Onomatopoeia			
12.	Borrowing			
13.	Multiple Process			
14.	Various			
<b>Total</b>				

At the end, the researcher explains the findings and discussion about word-formation processes in *Kaskus* comments. This session will be included in chapter four.