CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses the research methodology explaining the method applied in the present research to answer the research questions. The discussion revolves around subject of the study, research question, research methodology, technique of data analysis, context of the research, as well as the data presentation.

3.1 Subject of the Study

The study focuses on a dystopian science fiction and some selected characters in the novel entitled *Delirium* by Lauren Oliver. The novel was chosen because it portrays the dystopian science fiction story, which tells about Lena Holloway, as a main character who faces the dark and bleak condition of her life. In addition, three constellation characters like Carol, Hana, and Alex tend to build her character development through some events in this story. It is in line with the discussion of the study that focuses on the generic approach by utilizing science fiction genre and intersecting it with narrative theory tools on the characterization, events, focalization, speech representation and dystopian transformation.
3.2 Research Question

The research question of the study is designed as follows:

1. In what ways does dystopian science fiction construct its character?

3.3 Research Methodology

The research employs a qualitative method since the data are in the form of words, clauses, and sentences. The textual evidence are collected from the narrative events of the main character acts, thoughts, and speeches with other characters. Qualitative method is a study approach in which the researcher tends to explore the unknown variables, asks the broad and general questions to the participants, collects data of words, and reports all the study in a subjective way (Creswell, 2003, p. 12). Hancock (2002, p. 2) also states that the data of qualitative method are used to develop concepts and theories helping people to understand the subject of the study. Therefore, the data in this research are analyzed to elaborate the concepts that had been developed in Chapter II.

The present study applies textual analysis to analyze the issues of how dystopian science fiction genre constructs its characters in the novel. Musthafa (2008, p. 154) says that in the research where the text becomes the focus of the study, textual analysis treats literary works as cultural artifacts that cannot be separated from social, cultural, and political contexts. Regarding the issue
adapted in the novel about constructing character in dystopian science fiction, dystopian characters should be understood from the viewpoint that considers the social, cultural, and political context.

Truex (1996) says that textual analysis can be conducted by compiling the data as the textual evidence from the text, which are most likely in the form of words, or idiom that has explicit definition. Thus, the data collected from the novel were listed, described, elaborated and interpreted to identify the issue of constructing character in dystopian science fiction genre in Lauren Olivers’ Delirium (Hodder & Stoughton, 2011).

In conducting the research, there are several steps that have been taken. The steps conducted to fulfill the two levels of textual analysis in this research were as follows:

- Reading throughout the novel carefully in order to understand and to discover the issues presented in Lauren Oliver’s Delirium.
- Taking brief notes in the highlighted textual evidence to simply identify and give label to the textual evidence that are related to the issues of dystopian science fiction in constructing the main character and some selected characters.
- Examining and categorizing the list of textual evidence in a table from the notes that are related to the issue of constructing character in dystopian science fiction.
• Analyzing the textual evidence as well as presenting and interpreting the data framed within the related theories of young adult dystopian science fiction (Bradford, Mallan, Stephens & McCallum, 2008) and narrative theory (Rimmon-Kennan, 2001) which are related to the textual evidence.

• Making conclusions of the research and suggestions for further research in the future.

3.4 Context of the Research

The research provides some excerpts from Lauren Oliver’s Delirium, which presents the portrayal of dystopian science fiction and how the genre constructs its characters. The portrayals can be seen through the characteristic of dystopian science fiction and the main character’s actions, thoughts, and speeches with other characters. The findings were viewed with regard to the issue of dystopian science fiction to discover how the genre constructs its characters. Moreover, the main character’s focalization and speech representation with other selected characters were also highlighted in relation to the issue of dystopian science fiction genre. Therefore, the research investigated further to seek how the genre (dystopian science fiction) constructs the main character and some selected characters in the novel.
3.5 Data Presentation

To complete the analysis of the research, the presentation of the data was designed in the form of tables. The table presentation is aimed to answer the research questions in an orderly form. The excerpt of the table presentation is as follows:

3.5.1. Sample Table1 Dystopian Atmosphere through Lena’s Focalization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Narrative Event</th>
<th>Focalizing Process</th>
<th>Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The Book Shhh tells Lena how dangerous of Deliria nervosa (Love).</td>
<td>Still, I worry. They say that in the old days, love drove people to madness. That’s bad enough. The Book of Shhh also tells stories of those who died because of love lost or never found which is what terrifies me the most (p. 4).</td>
<td>Lena feels worried about what people say about love. The Book of Shhh is clearly described about how dangerous about feeling in love. It means that “love” is a disease that can make people die. The contents of the book are intoxicated Lena’s mind not to close to the feeling of love. “which is what terrifies me the most” shows that Lena is afraid of what people and book say about love. It was very dangerous.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>