CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the method which was applied in the research. The chapter covers the research question, the research design, the research procedure, data collection and analysis, and data presentation.

3.1 Research Question

This research is expected to give an elaborate answer towards the following question:

- What are the effects of focalization on the story?

3.2 Research Design

The current research employs textual analysis towards the written documents, which in this case is a fictional novel, thus the use of the qualitative method is considered appropriate in conducting the research. Patton and Cochran (2007) stated that qualitative research relates to the way of understanding some aspects of social life and in their words qualitative is "methods which (in general) generate words, rather than a number, as data for analysis" (p.2). Hammersely and Traianou (2012) add another explanation regarding qualitative research. He argues that qualitative research "generally operates on the basis of flexible and emergent mode of research design which can be used to clarify and develop an understanding of the research problem" (p.7).

Therefore, as stated above qualitative research contains some features such as flexible data design which is applicable to understand the social phenomenon. Hammersely and Traianou (2012) also add that the data source in qualitative research
may somehow in the form of unstructured data. It means that the data can be in form of written document, audio or even video footage which sometimes is not statistically arranged. From this, it is considered that qualitative method is appropriate to be used in the research since the data of the current research is in form of written document and the point of the research is to see the effect of selected theory on the data itself (which can result in understanding the social phenomenon inside the story).

3.3 Research Procedure

The current research applied several procedures to provide an answer to the research questions. The procedures are divided into two major parts: data collection and data analysis.

3.3.1. Data Collection

The data which is presented in the research is collected from the novel entitled *Kite Runner* written by Khaled Hosseini. The novel was first published in 2003 and it consists of twenty-five chapters. *Kite Runner* presents a story about the journey of a boy named Amir from his childhood into adulthood while facing many problems whether it is physical or mental even ideological. The data were collected from the comprehensive reading of the novel using the main theory as the guideline. The novel is chosen since it has a different way to present the story by mainly using first person of view with the main character acted as a sole narrator. The collection of data focused on the interaction and the world view of the characters, and the way they focalized their focus on the story. To obtain the data, the narration inside the novel including dialogue, events, description, actions and interaction between the characters were thoroughly examined. The data were analyzed to see how focalization occurs in the story. The data which show the characteristic of focalization are analyzed further using Genette’s (1980) theory of focalization.
3.3.2 Data Analysis

After the data were collected through comprehensive reading and examination as well as classified according to the type of focalization by Genette (1980), the following steps were taken. To identify the focalization, the data were examined based on the characteristic of focalization. If the data represent the ‘feeling’ or ‘thought’ of character or narrator using the unspoken form of verbal or soliloquy, thus the data were classified as internal focalization. However, if the data represent the perspective of character or narrator towards the events, but it is limited to what the character ‘says' or ‘does', it is then classified as external focalization. External focalization can also occur if the data represent the perception of the story through the narrating only. If the perception is represented in form of experience of certain character, thus it belongs to internal focalization. From these examinations, the data were classified into each type of focalization which is found inside the novel. The data is also represented in form of textual evidence which can be used in the analyzing procedure.

The data which is already classified in each type of focalization is examined once again to see the relationship between the focalization and narrative. The data is examined to see whether it conveys various verbal indicators. Moreover, the types of focalization are compared with the events of narrative to see whether the focalizer is the same as the narrator of the events or the other way around. If the focalizer is only a character, his acts of perception are part of the story. However, if the focalizer is also the narrator, it can be considered as rhetorical strategies that the narrative used to highlight the vital points of the events.

To complete the analysis of the effect of focalization on the story, the data will also be observed using the theory of facets of focalization by Rimmon-Kenan (2005). Using the selected theory, the research aims to see what kind of facets the data has; it can be perceptual, psychological, and ideological or even all of them. Later, the result is presented in the form of elaboration and interpretation. The result
is also compared to the previous studies on the same field to see the similarity and differences that the research has. The ending result of the research is expected to provide an elaborative answer on how the use of focalization can affect the narration inside the story.

3.4 Data Presentation

The data is presented in the form of a table which contains the excerpt from the novel. The table covers the information of the source data (page number, the textual evidence) as well as the types of focalization and the focalized. In the table, the data which presents the use of focalization are considered as textual evidence whereas the subject and the object becomes the focalizer and focalized. The type of focalization is later determined based on the relation between the evidence, focalizer and focalized objects. Below is the sample of the data analysis:
### Tabel 3.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Textual Evidence</th>
<th>Focalizer</th>
<th>Focalized</th>
<th>Type of Focalization</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>I became what I am today at the age of twelve, on a frigid overcast day in the winter of 1975.</td>
<td>Amir</td>
<td>Amir’s memories</td>
<td>Internal Focalization</td>
<td>Amir remembers his past and his childhood memories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>I remember the precise moment, crouching behind a crumbling mud wall, peeking into the alley near the frozen creek. That was a long time ago, but it’s wrong what they say about the past, I’ve learned, about how you can bury it. Because the past claws its way out.</td>
<td>Amir</td>
<td>Amir’s feeling of his childhood memories and his regret on his past self</td>
<td>Internal Focalization</td>
<td>Amir reveals how he feels about his childhood life. He also presents his regret of what he has done in the past.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>I sat on a park bench near a willow tree. I thought about something Rahim Khan said just before he hung up, almost as an afterthought. There is a way to be good again. I looked up at those twin kites. I thought about Hassan. Thought about Baba. Ali. Kabul. I thought of the life I had lived until the winter of 1975 came and changed everything. And made me what I am today.</td>
<td>Amir</td>
<td>The news from Rahim Khan</td>
<td>Internal Focalization</td>
<td>The news from his friend triggers Amir’s memories of his homeland and friends. Amir shows how he missed those moments and he mentions that his past creates his present self.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>When we were children, Hassan and I used to climb the poplar trees in the driveway of my father’s house and annoy our neighbors by reflecting sunlight into their homes with a shard of mirror.</td>
<td>Amir</td>
<td>Amir memory of him playing with Hassan</td>
<td>Internal Focalization</td>
<td>Amir reveals his memories with Hassan. It can be seen how happy Amir was back then.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>I can still see Hassan up on that tree,</td>
<td>Amir</td>
<td>Hassan’s</td>
<td>Internal</td>
<td>Amir tries to remember</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
sunlight flickering through the leaves on his almost perfectly round face, a face like a Chinese doll chiseled from hardwood: his flat, broad nose and slanting, narrow eyes like bamboo leaves, eyes that looked, depending on the light, gold, green, even sapphire I can still see his tiny low-set ears and that pointed stub of a chin, a meaty appendage that looked like it was added as a mere afterthought. And the cleft lip, just left of midline, where the Chinese doll maker's instrument may have slipped; or perhaps he had simply grown tired and careless.

| 6 | 4 | Sometimes, up in those trees, I talked Hassan into firing walnuts with his slingshot at the neighbor's one-eyed German shepherd. Hassan never wanted to, but if I asked, really asked, he wouldn't deny me. Hassan never denied me anything. | Amir | Amir’s thought of how obedient Hassan to him | Internal Focalization | Amir remembers his time with Hassan. Amir reveals that Hassan is too obedient. Amir believes that Hassan will never deny his request because of this trait. It also shows how Amir thinks of Hassan. |
| 7 | 4 | He would take the mirror and tell us what his mother had told him, that the devil shone mirrors too, shone them to distract Muslims during prayer. "And he laughs while he does it," he always added, scowling at his son. | Amir | Ali’s story of devil while he is preaching Amir and Hassan | Internal Focalization | Amir hears a story about devil that disturbing a prayer from Ali. In the story, the devil always laughs at the people who pray. |
| 8 | 4 | But he never told on me. Never told that the mirror, like shooting walnuts at the neighbor's dog, was always my idea. | Amir | Amir’s feeling on Hassan. | Internal Focalization | The text shows how much Amir believes in Hassan. He believes that Hassan will never betray him. |
Everyone agreed that my father, my Baba, had built the most beautiful house in the Wazir Akbar Khan district, a new and affluent neighborhood in the northern part of Kabul.

Baba and his friends reclined on black leather chairs there after Ali had served dinner. They stuffed their pipes—except Baba always called it "fattening the pipe"—and discussed their favorite three topics: politics, business, soccer.