Chapter III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes the methodology that is applied in the research. It consists of the formulation of the problem, research design, site, participants, data collection method, and data analysis.

3.1 Formulation of the Problem

The problems of the research are formulated below:

1) What kinds of rewards and punishments does the teacher use in motivating the students?
2) What are students’ responses toward the implementation of rewards and punishments strategies?

3.2 Research Design

The research applied a descriptive qualitative research method that attempts to describe the implementation of rewards and punishments in improving students’ motivation. Creswell (2008) stated that this method is suitable for descriptive qualitative research regarding to describe a phenomenon in depth. By using this method, this research was able to describe the kinds of rewards and punishments that were implemented in motivating the students and students’ responses toward the used of the methods could be revealed.

In order to answer the research questions, several instruments were applied. The instruments that were used are teacher’s and students’ interviews, classroom observations, and open-ended questionnaire.
3.3 Site and Participants

3.3.1 Site

This research was conducted in one Junior High School in Bandung. The selected class was based on the discussion with the teacher, where this class consisted of students with various motivations.

3.3.2 Participants

The participants of this research were the teacher and the students of the class, which consisted of 39 students.

3.4 Data Collection Method

Conducting data collection in qualitative descriptive studies is typically directed toward discovering the who, what, and where of events or experiences, or their basic nature and shape (Sandelowski, 2000). It is also said that the data collection techniques usually include open-ended individual and/or focus group interviews. Data collection techniques may also include observations of targeted events, interview, and questionnaire (Creswell, 2008).

Several instruments were implemented in this research to collect the data, at which point the instruments selected were confirming to the experts’ statement above. In order to answer the first research question, the researcher hold teacher’s interview and conducted classroom observations. However, open-ended questionnaires were distributed to answer the second research question, and students’ interview was also conducted for further information.

The followings are the explanation of each instrument that was used in collecting the data:
3.4.1 Interview

a. Teacher’s Interview

One of the instruments applied in collecting the data was interview. Interview is an appropriate method to get deeper information in qualitative research (Creswell, 2008). By doing interview, the researcher can get deeper information that cannot be obtained in the classroom observation.

The interview was conducted in one-on-one interview where the researcher asked the questions directly to one interviewee in collecting the data (Creswell, 2008). In this research, teacher’s interview was conducted after and before the observation. In the initial interview, the researcher asked some questions to the teacher focusing on her/his motivational strategies and students’ response toward them, especially in rewards and punishments that she might apply.

Other interviews were also conducted after the observation in order to clarify and to get further explanation based on the data found. Based on the teacher willingness, the interviews were conducted in using second language (L2), which is English, in accordance with the researcher’s request.

b. Students’ Interview

Another interview that focused in students’ response was also conducted after they filled in the questionnaires. Some students were invited to have small talk about the issue towards motivational strategy, especially rewards and punishments, based on their questionnaire’s answer. The issues were about the kinds of rewards and punishments they received and their responses on those strategies towards their motivation. Students’ interview was hold in using first language due to the limited ability of the students. By using the first language, they could express their taught wider.
During the interviews, the researcher included the audiotape recording as suggested by Creswell (2008) to get more accurate recording of the conversation. The researcher used second language in interviewing the teacher and first language in interviewing the students.

3.4.2 Observation

Another instrument used was classroom observations. Observation is the process of gathering the information by observing the people and place of the research objective (Creswell, 2008). In this research, the researcher conducted classroom observations to find out the real teaching–learning activities between the students and the teacher, particularly in terms of the implementation of motivation strategy, specifically for kinds of rewards and punishments that were implemented in the classroom by the teacher.

The researcher applied some processes in conducting the observations. Regarding to what Creswell (2008) proposed, that the researcher could obtain more understanding of the site proposed and individuals by conducting multiple observations, the researcher conducted four times observations in order to gain more information. In the observations, field notes and video recordings were also conducted. They helped the researcher to recheck the data easily in categorizing the kinds of rewards and punishments that were implemented by the teacher.

3.4.3 Questionnaire

The third instrument that was applied in this research was questionnaire. It was used to obtain the information from the students based on their point of view. The language used in the questionnaire was their first language, which is Bahasa Indonesia. It was intended to facilitate the students in understanding the questions.
Distributed questionnaire was consisted of six open-ended questions. It was formulated to gain students’ contribution in giving information about their response to rewards and punishments motivational strategy that were implemented by the teacher toward their motivation.

3.5 Data Analysis

The data gathered were separated according to each category. Classroom observations results were analyzed, teacher and students’ interview result were transcribed, and the questionnaire result was categorized. They were divided into some analysis steps in order to answer the research questions. Based on Miles & Huberman (1984), there are three steps in analyzing the data which are reduction, data display, and conclusion (drawing or verifying).

The following are further explanation of each instrument result.

3.5.1 Interview

In this research, there were two interview subjects. The first subject of the interview was the teacher, and the second one was the students’ interview. The researcher analyzed the interview results separately, which were elaborated more below.

a. Teacher’s Interview

In analyzing the teacher’s interview result, the researcher transcribed the recording. It was implemented to discover the kinds of rewards and punishments that were usually used by the teacher.

The researcher categorized the kinds of rewards and punishments that were mentioned by the teacher. Furthermore, the interview transcription was connected to the classroom video observation that had been analyzed to correlate the teacher’s statement with the real situation of the classroom teaching – learning activities.
The data that had been synchronizing then were displayed in the form of narrative text where later on would be elaborated to draw a conclusion.

b. Students’ Interview

Similar to what had been done to the teacher’s interview, students’ interview results were transcribed to be analyzed. Firstly, the students’ responses were categorized into rewards and punishments that were implemented by the teacher. After that, the interpretation was displayed then a conclusion was drawn to answer the research questions.

3.5.2 Observation

The data from the observations that consisted of field notes and video recordings were analyzed one by one. The researcher analyzed the video to categorize the teacher’s actions in terms of motivational strategies applied in the classroom. In the reduction step, the researcher coded the kinds of rewards and punishments that were found in the video. When there were some data confusion or the researcher needed more information about why the teacher did so in the observation’s time, the researcher conducted post interview. It was implemented to validate the findings.

3.5.3 Questionnaire

The students’ responses in questionnaire were analyzed in two steps. The first one, it focused on categorizing the kinds of rewards and punishments that the students mentioned. The second one was finding out the students’ responses toward the implementation of rewards and punishments. It concerned on their motivation, whether it was high or low motivated.
After doing the categorization and analysis, a conclusion can be drawn in order to answer the research question related to students’ responses.