

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Research Design

This study applied qualitative approach in analyzing the data. Fraenkel (1993: 380) states that qualitative research is research studies that investigate the quality of relationships, activities, situations, or materials.

Furthermore, Nunan (1992: 4) explains briefly the characteristics of qualitative research, they are: advocates use of qualitative methods; concerned with understanding human behavior from the actor's own frame of reference; naturalistic and uncontrolled observation; subjective; close to the data: the 'insider' perspective; grounded, discovery-oriented, exploratory, descriptive, and inductive; process-oriented; valid: 'real, rich, and deep' data; single case studies; and assumes dynamic reality.

Moreover, in a case study, Best (1981: 108) mentions that the data may be gathered by a wide variety of methods, including observation by the researcher, interviews with the subjects, questionnaires, or recorded data. In addition, assessment, which refers to the process and procedures whereby we determine what learners are able to do in the target language (Nunan, 1992: 185), was applied in the research.

3.2 The Subject of the Research

In this study, the subjects of the research were 22 students of the second semester of Architecture Engineering Department of Indonesia University of Education (UPI). The text translated was taken from "A Visual Dictionary Architecture" by Francis D. K. Ching (Second Edition, 1997).

3.3 Data Collection

Before conducting the research, the writer chose the text as the instrument assisted by the Architecture lecturer, decided the students as the subjects of the research, and then had the subjects translate the text into Indonesian.

The students had to translate the sentence and redraw the picture from the text. It also would be their last semester test for the Architecture students. They had to choose one or two pages (about 150 - 550 words, see Appendix 3) to be translated related to column, door, floor, foundation, masonry, roof, wall, or window.

In collecting the data, the writer was also assisted by the Architecture lecturer had the translation documents (translation's products) from the student. The student had to finish their work from 09.00 a.m. up to 01.00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2008. Besides that, to get more information about students' ability in translating English text into Indonesian, the writer interviewed some students related to the translation process and the translation difficulties. Furthermore, the writer also participated in the four meetings after the last semester test in discussing the students' translation results.

3.4 Data Analysis

After collecting data in the form of students' translation products, the writer studied the source language and the translation products by finding new specific terms from the engineering and general dictionaries, analyzing the products, and relating it to the previous theoretical foundation.

The writer analyzed the translation products by examining the translation products in terms of accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. In this study, the writer used random sampling to select 100 samples of term's definitions to be analyzed. The analysis procedures were divided into some steps. The first step was listing and classifying the selected term's definitions based on its procedure and making the percentage of the term's definitions. The second was correcting the translation products and adding the best translation that was assisted by the experts of civil and Architecture Engineering. It was intended to get the sufficient information about the engineering terms. The third step was listing and classifying the difficulties, if there is any, to get information about students' ability in translation. The next step was learning the interview transcript of the students and identifying the possible causes of difficulties to get information about students' ability in translation. The last was using her point of view to analyze them.

