

CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY

3.1 Method of Study

The method used in this study is descriptive method. Jackson (1995) stated that descriptive study is a study that emphasizes the accurate representation of a population and has major concern on the accurate description of some aspects of society. In accordance with him, Sudjana and Ibrahim (2004), stated that descriptive study is a study which tries to define today's circumstances, condition, or events.

Their statements become the first foundation in choosing descriptive method in this study. Sexist language issue is one of the issues that people discuss nowadays. As we can see now, some writers and publisher in Indonesia tend to put more attention to the sexist language usage in the articles or books they write or publish.

Rakhmat (1989:34) as cited by Sanjaya (2004:32), notes some aims of descriptive method, they are:

1. Mengumpulkan informasi aktual secara rinci yang melukiskan gejala yang ada.
2. Mengidentifikasi masalah atau memeriksa kondisi dan praktek-praktek yang berlaku.
3. Membuat perbandingan atau evaluasi.
4. Menentukan apa yang dilakukan orang lain dalam menghadapi masalah yang sama dan belajar dari pengalaman mereka untuk menetapkan rencan dan keputusan pada waktu yang akan datang.

While Vredenberg (1984) notes that the main objective of descriptive research is to describe a complex reality of life or to get anthropological and sociological relevance. In this study, the descriptive method is used to describe female students'

perception on sexist language. Furthermore, to find out how they react to this issue. Another consideration why the writer chose this method is based on what Rakhmat (1989:34) stated in Sanjaya (2004). He said that one of the aims of a descriptive study is to collect the newest data accurately of the existing phenomenon. The phenomenon that the writer wants to reveal is the perception of female English students concerning to the sexist language issue.

3.2 Subject of the Study

As the aims of the study deal with the issue of sexist language in English, therefore the students of English Department of Indonesia University of Education become the respondents in this research. Furthermore, because the meaning of sexist language has become the language that conveys negative attitude to woman, the writer decided only take female students as the respondents. The writer will take only twenty respondents as the samples. Milroy as cited by Kusumawati (2007) stated that sampling is usually undertaken because studying an entire population is too unwieldy, too expensive, too time consuming, or simply unnecessary. Still in Kusumawati, Milroy (1987:27) proposed about sampling in linguistic study. He stated:

First, the samples in linguistic research are in general demonstrably not technically representatives, and to claim that they are leaves a researcher open to quite proper criticism. Second, relatively small samples (too small to be considered technically representative) appear to be sufficient for useful accounts of language variation in large cities.

His statement highlight that linguistic research do not need a large number of respondents. Within the suggestion from the supervisor, the writer takes only twenty samples of female English student from the whole population.

3.3 Data Collection

The writer uses two instruments to collect the data in this research, e.g questionnaire and interview. First, let us discuss about questionnaire. In Wikipedia, *questionnaire*, which was invented by Sir Francis Galton, is defined as a research instrument consisting of a series of questions and other prompts for the purpose of gathering information from respondents. Alwasilah (2002:151) as cited by Sanjaya (2004) stated that questionnaire is used to identify attitude, opinion, or perception of subjects at point in time data. In this study questionnaire is used to get a description about students' perception on Sexist language. He added that questionnaire is also used to discover which standards in the recent condition and compare to the real life. In this study, the questionnaire is aimed to find out the reaction of female English students to the issue of sexist language, which in the standard recent life is avoided.

Nazir (1999:248) divided questionnaire into three large categories; *fact questionnaire; opinion questionnaire; and perception questionnaire*. The writer definitely use perception questionnaire. He stated that this questionnaire is aimed to collect the data about the way the respondent see, feel, think, and react to something, in this case, sexist language issue.

In this research, the writer uses two forms of questionnaire; closed-ended questionnaire (A form) which is aimed to get their perception on sexist language, and open-ended questionnaire (B form) which is aimed to get respondents' reaction to sexist language issue. The writer decided to use both forms of questionnaire because they have their own advantages and disadvantages as Frankel and Wallen (1993:351) shown in this table.

Table 2. Advantages and Disadvantages of Closed-Ended versus Open Ended Question.

Close-Ended	Open ended
Advantages	
Enhances consistency across respondent	Allows more freedom of response
Easier and faster to tabulate	Easier to construct
More popular with respondent	Permits follow up by interviewer
Disadvantages	
May limit breadth of responses	Responses tend to be inconsistent in length and content across respondent
Takes more time to construct	Both question and responses subject to misinterpretation
Requires more questions to cover the research topic	Harder to tabulate and synthesize

The second instrument is *interview*. In *Wikipedia*, (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interview>) a *research interview* is defined as a structured social interaction between a researcher and a subject who is identified as a potential source of information, in which the interviewer initiates and controls the exchange to obtain quantifiable and comparable information relevant to an emerging or previously stated hypothesis. Based on Selltiz (1964:243-255) in Nazir (1999:238), interview is aimed to collect new data or to ascertain the previous data, in this study, the data which is collected using questionnaire, to determine someone's feeling, to find out the standard of a process or activity, to know someone's today and or past habit, to know reasons.

Based on that explanation, *interview* covers almost all what this research need to find out. That is why the writer feels that this instrument is important in this research.

3.4 Data Analysis

Data analysis is the process of systematically arranging the numbers of data or materials that the investigator accumulate to increase their own understanding of them and to enable to present what you have discovered to other (Boarden and Biklen in Alwasilah, 2005:153). The writer analyzed the data by organizing them, managing them and dividing them into some units, searching for the pattern and deciding what will be told to others. First, the writer will give the A form questionnaire to the respondents, to get their own opinion about sexist language issue. After that, the B form questionnaire, which is aimed to get their reaction, and their habitual action related to sexist language usage and issue is given to the respondents. Then, after collecting the data using questionnaire, the writer will conduct an interview. The writer will use *interview guidance* in this process to make it more structural and directed.

The next step is classifying the result based on question of the questionnaire form A to facilitate the writer in describing the result of the research. After that, the writer will draw an assumption about how many respondents answering each question compared to the total respondent. Continually, the writer will use quantitative analysis to find out the percentage of the data. The following steps are taken to analyze it:

1. Finding out the percentage of each response per item
2. Calculating the frequency (f_o) of the respondents who answer an item of each question.

3. Calculating the percentage of each total frequency of respondents' answer to item by using this formula:

$$\text{Percentage (\%)} = \frac{\text{Total Respondents who answer an item (fo)}}{\text{Total Respondents}} \times 100$$

4. Making a table that consists of some columns of statements, frequency, and the percentage.
5. Calculating the total frequency and the average percentage
6. Classifying the average percentage into the form of interval as follows:

00,00%	= none
00,01% - 24,99%	= a few of
25,00% - 44,99%	= nearly half of
50,00%	= half of
50,01% - 74,99%	= best part of
75,00% - 99,99%	= nearly all of
100,00 %	= all of

(Suryadi:1987 in Sanjaya (2005:38))

And to analyze questionnaire form B and interview, the writer will use qualitative analysis, which will be presented logically and critically.

Hopefully, by doing both quantitative and qualitative data analysis, the writer can get sufficient information needed to investigate the answer of the research questions.

