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CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Design

The design of this research was a correlational research. Correlational research is a research to discover or to measure the relationship between two or more variables. Correlational research design is procedures in quantitative research in which investigators measure the degree of association (or relationship) between two or more variables or sets of scores (Creswell, 2012, p.338).

There were two variables in this research; they were the independent variable and dependent variable. The independent variable is a stimulus variable or input, it is that factor which is measured, manipulated, or selected by the experimenter to determine its relationship to an observed phenomenon. Meanwhile, the dependent variable is response variable or output, it is that factor which is observed and measured to determine the effect of the independent variables. In this research, the students' understanding of noun phrase is the independent variable and symbolized by X, and the students' ability in writing descriptive text is the dependent variable and symbolized by Y.



B. Time and Location of the Research

This research was conducted from November 2016 to Februari 2017, in the 2016/2017 academic year. It was conducted at MTS AL-FAJAR Pekanbaru, located at Fajar street no.5, Labuh Baru Barat, Payung Sekaki, Pekanbaru, Riau.

C. Subject and Object of the Research

The subject of this research was the eight grade students of MTS Al-Fajar Pekanbaru. Meanwhile, the object of this research was the students' understanding of noun phrase and their ability in writing descriptive text.

D. Population and Sample of the Research

1. Population

According to Gay (2000), population is a sample that comprises the individuals, items, or events selected from a larger group. The population of this research was the eighth grade students of MTS Al-Fajar Pekanbaru in 2016/2017 academic year. It consisted of 3 classes in which the total number of the students was 63 students.

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Table III.1
Total of population at the second year students of
MTS AL-FAJAR Pekanbaru

No	Class	Population		Total
		Male	Female	
1	VIII. A	9	11	20
2	VIII.B	13	8	21
3	VIII.C	9	13	22
Total		31	32	63

2. Sample

The researcher used random sampling to take the sample and used Krejcie and Morgan table to determine the sample size of this research. Random sampling is the process of selecting a sample in such a way that all individuals in the defined population have an equal and independent chance of being selected for the sample (Gay, 2000, p.123). Meanwhile, Krejcie and Morgan table is a technique to simplify the process of determining the sample size for a finite population. The reason why researcher determined the sample size based on Krejcie and Morgan table was because the confident level of this technique is 95% (Riadi, 2016, p.39). Krejcie and Morgan table took 100 - 70% of population to become the sample of research. Then, based on Krejcie and Morgan table (in Riadi, p.39), the sample size for 63 population was 56.

E. Technique of Collecting Data

The technique of collecting data that researcher used in this research was test for both noun phrase and writing descriptive text.

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1. Noun Phrase Test

To know students' understanding of noun phrase, the researcher gave the students multiple choice questions. It consisted of 50 items. Following is the matrix of noun phrase test.

Table III.2
Matrix of noun phrase test

No	Indicator	Number of items	Number
1	Students know the head of noun phrase	7	5, 16, 24, 30, 38, 41, 50
2	Students know the determiner of noun phrase	7	4, 12, 18, 26, 34, 48, 49
3	Students know the modifier of noun phrase	6	1, 15, 17, 25, 33, 47
4	Students know the post-modifier of noun phrase	6	6, 10, 23, 29, 37, 42
5	Students know the function of noun phrase in the sentence or text is subject	6	2, 9, 19, 28, 36, 46
6	Students know the function of noun phrase in the sentence or text is object	6	7, 14, 20, 32, 40, 43
7	Students know the function of the noun phrase in the sentence or text is complement	6	8, 13, 22, 27, 35, 44
8	Students know the function of the noun phrase in the sentence or text is adverb	6	3, 11, 21, 31, 39, 45
Total		50	

2. Written Test

Written test was used to know students' ability in writing descriptive text. The test was assessed by using the rubric of writing which were adopted from the teacher's assessment.

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Table III.3
Assessment Aspects of Writing Descriptive Text

No	Aspect Assessed	Score			
		1	2	3	4
1	Content				
2	Organization: Identification Description				
3	Vocabulary				
4	Language Features: Action Verb Transitional word Present Tense				
5	Spelling and Punctuation				
Maximum Score		20			

Explanation of score:

1= Incompetent

2 = Competent enough

3 = Competent

4 = Very competent

$$\text{Final score} = \frac{\text{Total score}}{\text{Maximum Score}} \times 80$$

F. Technique of Analyzing the Data

In order to find out the mean, median, mode, maximum and minimum score for both of the variables, the researcher analyzed the data by using descriptive statistics on SPSS. Meanwhile, to find out whether there is a relationship or not between students' understanding of noun phrase and their ability in writing descriptive text, the data were analyzed by using statistical

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formula. The researcher used the score of test of variable X and test score of variable Y. In analyzing the data, the researcher used Pearson Product Moment Correlation. Based on Pearson in Hartono (2008) cited in the formula for correlation research is following:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{n \sum xy - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][n \sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$

Meanwhile, in order to get easy in analyzing the data, the researcher used product moment correlation SPSS 16.0 program.

Statistically the hypotheses are (Raidi, 2016, p. 213):

$$H_a: \text{Sig.} < \alpha (0.05)$$

$$H_o: \text{Sig} \geq \alpha (0.05)$$

H_a is accepted if sig. $< \alpha$ or there is a relationship between the students' understanding of noun phrase and their ability in writing descriptive text.

H_o is accepted if sig. $\geq \alpha$ or there is no relationship between the students' understanding of noun phrase and their ability in writing descriptive text.

G. Validity and Reliability of Instrument

1. Validity

Validity is the individual's score from an instrument that makes sense, meaningful, enable you, as the researcher, to draw good conclusion from the

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sample you are studying to the population (Creswell, 2008, p.169). It means validity is the extent to which inferences made from assessment results are appropriate, meaningful, and useful in terms of the purpose of the assessment. An instrument is valid if it is able to measure what must be measured.

According to Sugiyono (2015), there are three kinds of validity. They are construct validity, content validity, and external validity. In this research, the researcher used content validity. Content validity is the extent to which the elements within a measurement procedure are relevant and representative of the construct that they will be used to measure.

To analyze the validity of the data, the researcher used SPSS 16.0. Based on the try out result of the instrument validity to 50 items, it showed that 42 items were valid and 8 items were not valid, so the researcher took 40 questions among those valid in this research. In the following table is the result of the instrument validity:

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Table III.4
The Analysis of Noun Phrase Test Validity

Item	R	Status	Item	R	Status
1	.661	Valid	26	.675	Valid
2	.526	Valid	27	.584	Valid
3	.553	Valid	28	.699	Valid
4	-.308	Invalid	29	.554	Valid
5	.268	Invalid	30	.272	Invalid
6	.716	Valid	31	.562	Valid
7	.638	Valid	32	.562	Valid
8	.575	Valid	33	.654	Valid
9	.389	Invalid	34	.582	Valid
10	.619	Valid	35	.689	Valid
11	.699	Valid	36	.553	Valid
12	.589	Valid	37	.483	Invalid
13	.723	Valid	38	.803	Valid
14	.581	Valid	39	.675	Valid
15	.572	Valid	40	.575	Valid
16	.642	Valid	41	.562	Valid
17	.553	Valid	42	.875	Valid
18	.721	Valid	43	.634	Valid
19	.552	Valid	44	.565	Valid
20	.653	Valid	45	.773	Valid
21	.821	Valid	46	.369	Invalid
22	.040	Invalid	47	.572	Valid
23	.554	Valid	48	.699	Valid
24	.699	Valid	49	.581	Valid
25	.414	Invalid	50	.642	Valid

Based on table above, there were 42 items which were valid, and there were 8 items which were not. The numbers of items which were invalid were 4, 5, 9, 22, 25, 30, 37 and 46. The reason why the items number 4, 9, 22, 30, 37 and 46 were invalid was because those items were too difficult. For

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example, the item number 4, there was only 1 student who got the correct answer. Meanwhile, the reason why the items number 5 and 25 were invalid was because those items were too easy. The researcher found all students got correct for those items.

Based on the result of data validity, the researcher rearranged the matrix of the valid items. The table III.5 is the matrix of the valid items:

Table III.5
Matrix of Valid Item

No	Indicator	Number of items	Number
1	Students know the head of noun phrase	5	6, 11, 20, 29, 36
2	Students know the determiner of noun phrase	6	7, 13, 19, 27, 35, 34
3	Students know the modifier of noun phrase	5	2, 10, 22, 28, 37
4	Students know the post-modifier of noun phrase	5	4, 14, 18, 26, 33
5	Students know the function of noun phrase in the sentence is subject	4	1, 12, 21, 25
6	Students know the function of noun phrase in the sentence is object	5	5, 9, 17, 30, 39
7	Students know the function of the noun phrase in the sentence is complement	5	3, 16, 24, 31, 38
8	Students know the function of the noun phrase in the sentence is adverb	5	8, 15, 23, 32, 40
Total		40	

2. Reliability

a. Noun Phrase Test

Brown (2004, p.20) stated reliability has to do with accuracy of measurement. This kind of accuracy was reflected in obtaining of similar

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results when measurement was repeated on different occasion or with different instrument or by different person. The characteristic of reliability was sometimes termed consistency. The following table is the level of internal consistency Cronbach's Alpha (stated in Riadi, 2016, p.239):

Table III.6
A commonly accepted rule of thumb for describing internal consistency using Cronbach Alpha

Cronbach Alpha	Internal Consistency
>0.90	Very highly reliable
0.80–0.90	Highly reliable
0.70–0.79	Reliable
0.60–0.69	Marginally/minimally reliable
<0.60	Unacceptably low reliability

To obtain the reliability of the test given, the researcher used SPSS 16.0 to find out whether the test is reliable or not.

Table III.7
Cronbach Alpha Table Reability Statistic

Cronbach's Alpha	N of items
0.804	40

From the table above, it can be seen that the value of Cronbach's Alpha was 0.804. It means the reliability of the test was highly reliable.

b. Written Test

To find out the reliability of written test, the researcher used inter-rater reliability formula because the researcher used two raters in assesing and giving the score of the students' ability in writing descriptive text.

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Inter-rater reliability occurs when two or more scorers yield inconsistent scores of the same test, possibly for lack of attention of scoring criteria, inexperience, inattention, or even preconceived biases (Brown, 2004, p.21). The researcher compared scores from two raters (rater 1 and rater 2) in order to find out if the scores were similar or different. After comparing the scores, the researcher determined how close the scores from two raters.

To obtain the reliability of the written test, the researcher used SPSS 16.0 to find out whether the test is reliable or not.

Table III. 8
Cronbach Alpha Table for Written Test

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.932	2

From the table above, it can be seen that the value of Cronbach's Alpha was 0.932. It means the reliability of the test was very highly reliable.

H. Analysis Data

1. Normality Test

Normality test is used to determine whether sample data has been drawn from a normally distributed population. In this researcher, the



researcher used SPSS 16.0 to find out whether the distribution of data is normal or not.

2. Descriptive Statistic

Descriptive statistics are statistics that are quantitative to describe or summarize features of collection of information. Descriptive statistics are distinguished from inferential statistics (or inductive statistics), in that descriptive statistics aim to summarize a sample, rather than use the data to learn about the population that the sample of data is thought represent.

Some measures that are used to describe a data set are measures of central tendency and measures of variability or dispersion. Measures of central tendency include the mean, median and mode, while measures of variability include the standard deviation (or variance), the minimum and maximum values of the variables.

3. Inferential Analysis

In this research, to find out whether there is a relationship between students' understanding of noun phrase and their ability in writing descriptive text, the researcher used Pearson Product Moment. The Pearson Product Moment correlation is a measure of the strength and direction of association that exists between two variables measured on at least an interval scale. To make it easier, the researcher used SPSS 16.0 to find it out.

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