

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher documents the research methodology utilized to answer the research questions set out in Chapter 1 (subsection 1.3). Details of the respondents of this study and the method used to analyze data is also given in this chapter.

3.2 Research site

This research is done at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Wangsa Maju Seksyen 2, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This is a secondary school which includes students from Form one to Form Five. Each Form comprises 5 classes. This schools' main language use in instruction is Bahasa Melayu. English is taught as a subject in this school. This school is attended by students from difference races including Malay, Chinese and Indian.

3.3 Subjects

The subjects for this research are Malay Form 2 students in Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Wangsa Maju Seksyen 2, Kuala Lumpur. The data collection involves Form 2 students from 5 different classes. The reason for choosing only Form 2 students is because in the year of research, they are not sitting for the PMR or SPM examination. Hence the methodology involves the use of convenience sampling.

Furthermore, they are at the early stage of being teenagers, where hand phones become their priority and they tend to use text messaging (SMS). Therefore, the researcher

will focus whether this can be one of the factors that influence their second language writing.

3.3.1 Subjects background

The subjects in this research are Malay students who are enrolled in the same Form, which is Form 2 and located in the same school. The reason the researcher chose the Malay students as respondents is because Bahasa Melayu is their mother tongue and English is their second language. The focus in this research is on the influence of the mother tongue on the writing in English, in particular, the spelling errors.

3.3.2 Total number of respondents

This research will involve 100 participants comprising of Form 2 Malay students. The research also involves both genders, male and female. There is no discrimination of gender in this research.

3.3.3 Method of data collection

The students are to write only one essay of 120 words entitled “The Best Festive Holiday That I will Never Forget”. Through this essay, the researcher will identify the spelling errors made by the student and identify and analyze the spelling error made by the students. The researcher will also carry out a post-discussion with the students to identify the causes of the spelling error. The researcher will mark the essay as the researcher has years experience in the education field. The essay will be marked by the researcher and the errors are then audited by an English tutor in MSU (Management and Science University).

3.3.4 Main reason for choosing respondents

The reasons in this research for choosing Form 2 Malay student are because 1) they are using Bahasa Melayu as their mother tongue which is their first language, 2) they are using English language as their second language, 3) they are not involved in any major examination in the year that the research is carried out.

3.4 Methodology

3.4.1 Collection of data

The collection data for this research will be done by:

1) questionnaire

The questionnaire is used to obtain data of the students background and their attitude on English and also the usage of English language in their daily activities. This is necessary so as to gauge their ability to separate the two languages which is their mother tongue (Bahasa Malaysia) and English language in written English language. For example, they are able to spell and write the English words correctly in English writing.

2) Data in the form of an essay

The pupils will be asked to write an essay of 120 words entitled “The Best Festive Holiday That I will Never Forget”. The essay will be marked and the researcher will identify the error made by the students in the essay- The essay will be marked by the researcher and the errors are then audited by an English tutor in MSU (Management and Science University). Next the researcher will categorise the errors: error in words with same sounds but spelt

differently which are homophones and homonyms (mail – male, four-for etc), words with silent letters (hour-our, know-no etc) and also the influence of using mother tongue language (Bahasa Melayu) in written English language. The 120 words for this essay is a format which is required of all students from Form 1 to Form three in their English written examination questions.

3.4.2 Methodology of data analysis

The data for this research will be analyzed through:

- i) SPSS software for demographic background. The data from the questionnaire will be calculated through the SPSS software.
- ii) The essay will be marked, the researcher will identify and classify the spelling error made by the malay learner in their English writing and also calculate the spelling errors made in the essay. The errors also will be identified and the causes of the spelling error made will be deduced from the analysis.

3.5 Conclusion

This chapter summarized the research, including the methods used, and the methods utilized for analysis of the data collected during the research sampling.