CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses research methodology related to research design, research subject, data collection and data analysis.

3.1. Research Design

To address the research questions, a qualitative method was employed in this study as it is aimed to answer the problems related to students’ language anxiety phenomena. Qualitative method had the ability to capture a social phenomenon and human behavior by focusing on its meaning which helped the researcher obtained descriptive information on variables that were not easily assessed through empirical study (Ary, Jacobs, and Sorensen, 2010). In addition, this study is also aimed to explore students’ personal experiences dealing with language anxiety faced by Thailand students in speaking class. This purpose of the study is in line with Fraenkel’s (2012) notion which states that the data in qualitative study is collected based on the subject’s experience and perspective.

3.2. Research Subject

The research subjects were the 8th semester of Thailand students of English Language Education Department in University of Muhammadiyah Malang. These
students were also considered as research respondents, which were defined as persons that were able to give response and serve research data (Arikunto, 2006).

In addition, the researcher put it in consideration that those four 8th semester Thailand students were qualified for the research respondent requirements; 1) they are foreign learners; 2) they experienced several anxiety moments because they have already taken four semesters of speaking classes; 3) they faced various problems compared to juniors.

3.3. Data Collection

The data of this study were students’ personal experience dealing with anxiety problems in speaking class. The researcher obtained further insight about students’ perceptions, particularly about personal experience, how they confront their anxiety problems, and also factors that trigger their FLA through semi-structured interview with extreme cases students.

3.3.1. Technique and Instrument

In this study, the researcher used semi-structured interview since the researcher considered the flexibility of using semi-structured interview instead of the other two interview techniques; structured and unstructured. The researcher was able to prepare a set of fixed questions to avoid too general questions when running an interview and at the same time allowed the respondents to express their ideas.
Therefore, interview guide was used as this research instrument which is considered as a tool or facility used by the researcher to collect the data. Moreover, it helps the researcher to gain better, complete, accurate, and systematic data. The interview guide of this study covered several questions related to students’ personal experiences, and how they confront their anxiety problems, and also students’ perception about factors that trigger their FLA. For details, the interview guide can be seen in Appendix I.

3.3.2 Procedure

To administer a systematic procedure process in collecting the data, the researcher arranged the steps as follows:

1. The writer prepared the instrument related to students’ anxiety.
2. The writer made an appointment with the respondents.
3. The writer conducted interviews with the respondents using an interview guide.
4. The writer recorded all of the conversations while conducting an interview.
5. The writer transcribed all the important points related to factors that trigger students’ anxiety in their speaking class after all the data gathered.
6. The writer coded the transcription of the interview.

3.4. Data Analysis
Data analysis considered as the most important step while conducting a research. In this step, the researcher usually does some activities such as preparing, organizing and analyzing data from research subjects. Miles and Huberman (1994:11) reveal that qualitative analysis consists of three main classification; data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification. In data reduction, the result of interview in the form of recording is transformed into transcription or written notes. Then the researcher focuses, selects, and simplifies the transcription into short, focused, organized, and summarized data. Data display defined as a compact form resulting from data reduction which makes the data easier to be understood. Conclusion drawing leads the writer to define the important points generally according to the obtained data. The steps of data analysis can be described as follows;

1. Transcribing the data source gained in the interview from video records into written document.
2. Translating the data obtained in the interview into English version.
3. Coding the transcription of the interview.
4. Interpreting the data related to the problem of study.
5. Drawing conclusion and describing the data from the interview in a descriptive way.