CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter elucidates the research methodology. It covers research design, research subject, research instrument, data collection, and data analysis. Thereby, those are elaborated concisely in the following parts below:

3.1 Research Design

Research design is required by the researcher to facilitate the process of collecting and analyzing the data. The research design is needed as a plan or a strategy in conducting the research. As a plan of the researcher, the research design is used to obtain an understanding on groups or phenomena (Ary, et al., 2010). Furthermore, Creswell (2009) addresses that the research design is basis plans and procedures of the research that significantly focus on methods of data collection and analysis. Thus, it can be remarked that the researcher is supposed to determine the research design is used prior to conducting the research.

This research typically employed qualitative research design. Even more, the qualitative research design is the research design which is attempting to understand or to find out the answer of the current phenomena (Fraenkel, Wallen & Hyun, 2012). It is inclined to generate words rather than numerical data. Furthermore, this research used descriptive qualitative research design. It employs words and images to answer the research problems, as supported by Ary, et al.,
Accordingly, the research was categorized as the qualitative research design due to two reasons. Firstly, this research investigated the phenomena of the culture barrier faced by the students exchange of UMM in Singapore, the causes of the students’ culture barrier, and the solution of the students in overcoming the culture barrier. Secondly, the result of this research was framed by means of using words rather than numbers. Therefore, for those reasons, it could be categorized that this research was classified as qualitative.

3.2 Research Subject

The researcher required the research subject as a person who is investigated further in the research. McMillan (1996) remarks that the research subject is an individual who involves or participates in the research. Apart from this, the researcher determined two research subjects since those two research subjects gained the chance to join the program of Learning Express Singapore (LeX Singapore) within 21 days. The research subjects are taken to be investigated and as key informants to obtain the data.

Accordingly, regarding this research, the researcher decided to choose two students from University of Muhammadiyah Malang as the research subjects. The first research subject is male in the period of 2013. He is majoring in English Language Education Department. Further, he has pseudonym in this research as “BD”. In other side, the second research subject is female in the period of 2012.
She is also majoring in English Language Education Department. Her pseudonym is ”APP”.

3.3 Research Instruments

Research instrument is a means employed by the researcher in collecting the data. Likewise, Arikunto (2006) conveys that the research instrument is a tool that is used by the researcher to gather the data and to make the researcher easier in gaining better result, complete, and systematic. The research instrument can assist the researcher to obtain the informative data related to the research. According to Ary, et al., (2010), there are instruments which are commonly used by the researcher, namely: tape recorder, camera, observation checklist, field notes, interview guide, questionnaire, and document analysis. Furthermore, in this research, the researcher used interview guide as the instrument of this research. Thereupon, the instruments is presented further below:

3.3.1 Interview Guide

The researcher used the interview guide in gaining information or data from the research subjects. Creswell (2011) argues that the interview guide is an instrument which is designed or prepared by the researcher which comprises instructions for the interview process, questions, and space to take notes of the interviewee’s responses. In other words, the interview guide provided the purpose of reminding the researcher’s questions, and it served a means for recording notes.
In essence, this interview guide assisted the researcher to prepare several questions prior to conducting the interview and to make the depth discussion from the aim of the interview. The interview guide comprised five questions which were used to investigate the culture barrier faced by the students exchange in Singapore Polytechnic, the causes of the students’ culture barrier, and the solution of the students exchange in coping with the culture barrier. Therefore, for further detailed, the interview guide is displayed in Appendix 2.

3.4 Data Collection

Collecting the data is an essential element in conducting the research. Similarly, Ary, et al., (2010) remark that the data collection is techniques of collecting or gathering the data. It was intended to facilitate the researcher in obtaining the data rigidly. Even more, in this research, the researcher applied to gain the data through interview. Eventually, the following explanation is provided further below:

3.4.1 Interview

Interview is one of the most commonly techniques for obtaining the qualitative data. The interview is used to collect the data or information from people about opinions, beliefs, and feelings about situations in their own words (Ary, et al., 2010). It may provide information that cannot be gained through observation, or it can be used to verify the observation result. Furthermore, Hancock (2002)
conveys that there are three sorts of interviews such as a structured interview, a semi-structured interview, and an unstructured interview.

For this research, the researcher employed the semi-structured interview since the researcher could prepare questions for the research subject, and the researcher could modify the questions within the interview process. Further, the researcher administered an interview with two university students of English Language Education Department as respondents. Particularly, the interview with those two university students was conducted on November 04, 2016. It was intended to find out: (1) the research subjects’ culture barrier in Singapore, (2) the causes of the research subjects’ culture barrier, and (3) the research subject’s efforts in overcoming those culture barriers.

3.5 Data Analysis

Data analysis constitutes a set of procedures of analyzing data have been collected. Data analysis can be conveyed as a process of analyzing and arranging the data in order to enable the researcher to come up with findings (Ary, et al., 2010). Apart from this, it is intended to enhance the researcher’s understanding of the data and to enable the researcher to expose what the researcher learned to others. According to Creswell (2009), it comprises analyzing participant information, organizing data, preparing data, coding the data, representing the findings in table, graph, or figure, and interpreting the findings. Then, after collecting the data, there
were five procedures as a guideline to analyze the data. Ultimately, those procedures are outlined rigidly as follows:

1. Classifying the research subjects’ culture barrier into six aspects, namely: language differences, body language, level of context, value of time, negative stereotypes and prejudices, and feelings and emotion. Even more, those six culture barrier aspects can be illustrated in the following table.

2. Classifying the causes of the research subjects’ culture barrier. Here is the following illustration of causes classification.

3. Classifying the efforts of the research subjects in overcoming those culture barriers. Further, the illustration of the effort classification is displayed below:

4. Describing the research subjects’ culture barrier, the causes, and solution of the research subjects.

5. Drawing conclusion about the research subjects’ culture barrier, the causes, and solution of the research subjects.

This chapter sums up about research design, research subject, research instrument, data collection, and data analysis. Next, in chapter Four, the finding and discussion about culture barrier experienced by learning express program (LeX) students of University of Muhammadiyah Malang in Singapore Polytechnic is described in detail.