

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about some topics related to the study such as background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of the key term.

Background of Study

In academic life all of students have responsibility to follow the regulation that set by the university start from their courses regulation at the first semester until the last semester and also the other regulations. In every semester students will face some courses that have been set by university until they come to the last semester with a course named thesis. Every regulation that had been set by the education ministry should be follow by every educational institution. There are some government policies that regulate about scientific work in academic life especially at university. Thesis is one of the scientific works regulated in government regulations that are intended for all university students as a graduation requirement. It shows that thesis is an important part for a student in academic life before they finish their study at the university. Furthermore, thesis is also expected to contribute to the society and also becomes a problem solving in the future.

For almost all of senior students which are at the 8th semester have to conduct a research to get the result of their problem statements in their thesis. After conducting a research and getting the result of the problem statements student have to present their thesis in front of the lecturers and the examiners in thesis examination. After going through all of the writing process, students will be faced with an examination also known as thesis examination or thesis defense examination which aims to test students how far they understand the thesis they have written. In thesis examination usually have four examiners that will ask about the content of the thesis. As stated in the Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia No. 60 in 1999 concerning Higher Education, the examination can be held with a thesis examination and final examination in the undergraduate program consisting of a comprehensive examination, or written examination, or thesis examination. It means thesis examination is a crucial part in higher academic process.

Some students at the university start to feel anxiety when they are going to face the examination. Rachman (2004) defined anxiety as a threat anticipation of vague event and an uncomfortable feeling. Anxiety is a phenomenon that humans often encounter in their daily life. In academic life, students anxiety of examination especially thesis examination appear because of several reasons such as fear of being fail in answering the questions, fear of getting the lower score, have no enough preparation and the other reasons.

A research that conducted by researchers with the title examination stress and anxiety: A study of college students. This study assumed that, a consequence of stress and demands to perform well in examination, the students are not able to enjoy their academic life and it becomes joyless and burden for them (Kumari & Jain, 2014). This study found that examination stress is highly correlated with level of anxiety in college students. Furthermore some college students do not know how to properly prepare for a test and will perform poorly and are anxious as a result. This study is related with the researcher's explanation above that some of college students have no enough preparation before the examination that can caused anxiety when they start to face the examination especially thesis examination.

Anxiety in thesis examination refers to the test anxiety that has been concerned from the researchers as a common problem in educational life. According to Zeidner (1998) Test anxiety is an issue about possible negative result or failure on examination or comparable situation which is a set of phenomenological, physiological and behavioral responses. Based on this statement, test anxiety is really impact to the student's performance in their examination in this case for their thesis examination. Therefore, to find out about this kind of phenomenon in the university field, especially in University Muhammadiyah Malang the researcher trying to investigate about the factors that caused test anxiety in thesis examination among students of UMM at the 8th semester in English Language Education Department and how they overcome with this problem.

Statement of Problem

1. What are the factors that caused anxiety of the last semester students in facing thesis examination in English Language Education Department of University Muhammadiyah Malang?
2. How do the 8th semester students of English Language Education Department deal with the anxiety in their thesis examination?

Purpose of the Study

Based on the problem mentioned in the problem statement, this study aims to:

1. Identifying the factors that cause students anxiety while facing thesis examination in English Language Education Department of University Muhammadiyah Malang
2. To find out the strategies used by 8th semester students to reduce the anxiety in the thesis examination.

Significance of the Study

This study expected to give benefits to both the students and the researcher itself.

For the students this study expected to give some benefits and enrich students' knowledge about the anxiety that facing by the last semester students and how they overcome with this issue.

For the writer this study expected to give the knowledge and help the writer dealing with the anxiety in thesis examination in the future.

Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is focused on the anxiety faced by students in the thesis examination. Meanwhile this study is limited to identifying about the anxiety that faced by 8th semester students in English department of University Muhammadiyah Malang.

Definition of The key Terms

- a. Anxiety is a threat anticipation of vague event and an uncomfortable feeling. Anxiety is also a phenomenon that people frequently encounter in their daily life. (Rachman, 2004)
- b. Thesis is a form of final assignment which must be submitted as a requirement to get Bachelor Degree for all of university students.
- c. Thesis examination is an exam that conducted to test a student how the writers know about their thesis and also as a graduation qualification for every student. (Shahini, 2011)

