

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODS

In this chapter, the researcher will enlighten the research method which she used in collecting and analyzing the data. This chapter consists of research approach, subject of the study, instrument, data and data source, data collection, and data analysis.

3.1 Research Approach

In conducting this study, the researcher applied descriptive research to analyze the data which she has collected. According to Santika (2014: 24) Descriptive approach is taken as the analysis is about discussing, analyzing and finding the linguistic features of BVE. The collected data were utterances. The researcher used this method because she wanted to gain a deep understanding by giving rich description of the Black Vernacular English which is used by Bigger Thomas in Richard Wright's *Native son*.

3.2 Subjects of the Study

The subject of this study was Bigger Thomas as the main character. Therefore, the researcher analyzed Bigger Thomas' utterances while having conversation with the other characters. The researcher selected only Bigger Thomas as her subject because he is the main character in the *Native son* novel. From book one, two and three, Bigger Thomas often appear in the

conversation. And because of his emerge in conversation regularly, he automatically often apply Black Vernacular English.

3.3 Instrument

Arikunto in Santika (2014: 25) states that instrument as a tool or a means that the researcher used to collect the data. In this study, the instrument is the researcher herself who collected and analyzed the data. In descriptive research, the researcher is the most important instrument for gathering and analyzing the data. The researcher collected and then she analyzed the utterances which were containing Black Vernacular English.

3.4 Data and Data Source

In this study, the researcher's data was utterances in conversation in the novel which is done by the main character, Bigger Thomas. The researcher selected the data from the novel entitled "Native Son" which is written by Richard Wright. Native Son was immediate best-seller novel, selling 250,000 hardcover copies within three weeks of its publication by "the Book-of-the-Month Club" on March 1, 1940 (Wikipedia.com). It was one of the earliest successful attempts to explain the racial divide in America in terms of the social conditions imposed on African-Americans by the dominant white society. It also made Wright the wealthiest black writer of his time and established him as a spokesperson for African-American issues, and the "father of Black American literature."

