RESEARCH METHODS AND VARIABLES IN FINISHING THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION STUDENTS DURING PANDEMIC

Sri Handayani [1]
English Language Education, Faculty of Teaching and Education Sciences, Universitas Slamet Riyadi, Surakarta, Indonesia
Email: Jihandayani.2017@gmail.com

Riyani[2]
Faculty of Teaching and Education Sciences, Universitas Slamet Riyadi, Surakarta, Indonesia
Email: riyani707@gmail.com

Zahra Putri A[3]
Faculty of Teaching and Education Sciences, Universitas Slamet Riyadi, Surakarta, Indonesia

Abstract
The purpose of this research was (1) to enhance the students' understanding on types of qualitative research method; (2) to enhance the students' understanding on types of research variables; and (3) to give a better solution for students who have the problems in finishing their study during pandemic. The method used in this research were lecturing, focus group discussion, and consultation. Firstly, all of the teams delivered materials to students about types of variables, research methods, and problems probably faced by the students in conducting research during pandemic and how to overcome those problems. The meetings were conducted twice. Focus group discussion on types of research methods and variables appropriate to pandemic situation was then delivered. lastly, they could consult to the team about the research variables and methods. Based on the conducted research, it was found that the students still got difficulties in choosing the research methods and variables, and by taking this program, they can solve those problems and finally formulate title as well as research design suitable with pandemic situation. All of them chose qualitative research as their research methods and online learning as the research variable. The novelty of this article was shown at the new topic discussed since it was happening and new phenomena in university education. Hopefully, the result of this study can be one reference for the students who want to finish their study effectively during this pandemic or online learning.

Keywords: research method, variable, pandemic, online learning

Introduction
The pandemics of Covid 19 has many impacts in many life aspects, including in education. In university level, city levels the students have to finish in the end of period by conducting research. Students of eight semester how have already fulfill the requirements to finish the study the hard to conduct research in education. Endless rain in English for the means there

for students who lives in different areas in Solo hard to finish the study by conducting research during the pandemic. It's become a challenge for them.

During the lecturing, the students get materials in research both qualitative and quantitative and action research. But the researches are really difficult to be conducted during the pandemic. They have already trained to make the proposals of research. they still find some difficulties to initiate the research because of the different situation. The research proposals were initiated by problem identification in schools. After that they have to choose the most appropriate problem to be research subject or object. The have to have to choose the appropriate research method and also variable. that topics today can go on turn the titles and then the hard to make the proposal. During the study in Research in the students make the proposal for conventional learning. But in their real work in finishing their study, the are faced by different concept of learning, from conventional to online learning; they have to get along different paradigm of teaching from offline to online learning.

In this pandemic era, the students of eight semester who want to conduct research for their study find difficulties and also challenge because there really difficult to use the appropriate research and variable especially in online learning. The main factor of this difficulty is the difference the different concept of learning, so setting of the research or the place and times of the research. It a big a big problem for the students. The settings of the research are junior and senior high school, but the teaching learning process is still conducted by online learning, it becomes a problem for school to allow the students to conduct research. Because they still have a big problem of how to handle online learning on students. As we know that online learning in this time is teaching by accidents and not change by design. So, the school is a school have to prepare their readiness to conduct online learning, both for students and also teachers. They have to design new system of teaching.

Moreover, the government of the school to protect the students by implementing the good health procedure. They have to restrict the interaction between the students and the teacher forever with others, so it is a big problem for the students of university to finish the study. So, it is very important to give the students of each semester brief solution in this difficult time.

In this pandemics time, the eight-semester students want to know the research to finish this study found some problems since not all of research type is suitable with the situation. This was influenced by many factors especially about the settings of the research, since the settings of the research is school or junior senior high school, but the teaching learning process in junior and senior high school work by online learning, it is really difficult to get the permission to connect to the teacher also the headmaster. The school itself still try to overcome the new situation for them because teaching by online teaching is a teaching by accident and not teaching by design. So, they need many preparations to make the teaching learning process run well. The schools have to make new design online learning and the hard to give the training for the teachers the students and even for the parents.

Moreover, the government instructs the school that they have to limit the interaction between the teacher and the students, all school members must be free from the pandemic. So online learning is something you for the students of university and also for the school. Which is online learning is structured with the aim of using an electronic or computer system that it can be support the learning process while pandemic comes (Ghani, 2014). E-learning is a system or concept education that utilizes information technology in teaching and learning process especially for eight semester that have to finished the study in

university. Like it or not, all the students and lecturers will be follows this system changes in education.

By these phenomena, it is needed to give guidance for students of eight semester, especially in English education. This was done for some reasons:

1. During the student taking English language teaching course, they learn about any kinds of these methods and also have to be able to know about qualitative and quantitative research, they are able to design the research and make proposal, but most of the students prefer to conduct quantitative research in form of experimental research, correlational research and comparative research. Just the topic about the workplace especially in teaching learning process at school. As stated by Siahaan 20 nineteen with the friction of interaction the ministry of education in Indonesia is restricted and teaching learning process at school must be conducted by online learning.

2. The students found some difficulties in funding the settings of the research, and they find difficulties in the process of problem identification.

3. Students still find difficulties in choosing appropriate object of the research in order to finish the study effectively during the pandemic.

4. The student doing academic activities in online learning so they so they cannot explore problem identification face to face, so the activities in investigating the information was done through the internet. The difference between the theory of course and the situation of the make the students difficulties in the study to conduct final project in doing the research. This influences the success of the student to finish the study especially in academic activities stated by Andriana and Kusumawati (2020) state that academic stress correlate with academic failure. In this case, it can be said that that academic stress and the problems of academic is suddenly happen during the pandemic situation.

   So that, even pandemic was happening but the students should to do the academic activities. It doesn't mean the students couldn't do that, due to the lecturer give some supports such as online lecturing, make a group discussion and consultation intensively. Doing the academic activities by E-learning, it has more advantages as follows; students can surf the knowledge and sources material anytime and everywhere unlimited to finished the study while pandemic happen.

   Based on the explanation above it can be seen clearly that we serve novelty in our article since it explores phenomena happening in pandemic time, we find new and different situation in term of online learning, different research method, also variable which are matched with pandemic situation.

1. How to enhance students understanding about kinds of qualitative research method?

2. How to enhance students understanding about kind of research variable?

3. How to give a better solution for students who have problems in finishing their study during pandemic time?

Theoretical Framework

1. The Notion of Qualitative research

Qualitative Research is starts with the assumptions on the use of theoretical framework which inform the analysis of research problem directing to groups or individual meaning attribute to social life or human problem which is in the formed of words in the final result, (Creswell, 2007:3). Qualitative research focuses on understanding research as a humanistic or idealistic approach. This article used qualitative method to explain the process of research as it flows from analyzing social and human problems and describe it clearly.

2. Benefits

According to Pritha Bhandari (2020) the benefits of qualitative research as follows

a. Flexibility, the data collection and analysis process can be adapted as new ideas or patterns emerge.
b. Natural Settings, which means Data collection occurs in real-world contexts or in naturalistic ways.
c. Meaningful insight, which means Detailed descriptions of people's experiences, feelings and perceptions can be used in designing, testing or improving systems or products.
d. Generation of new ideas, which means Open-ended responses mean that researchers can uncover novel problems or opportunities that they wouldn't have thought of otherwise.

3. Challenges qualitative research during pandemic

We already know that pandemic era has limited to access, but doing research something new and fresh is must go on. According to Teti et al., (2020) Researchers have highlighted the importance of qualitative research, arguing that this approach can provide insight into aspects of behavior and perceptions often missed in epidemiological and clinical research as it allows us to "focus not just on 'what' but on 'how'". Moreover, there is a limited way, qualitative research can be used in research method to inform and explain something new and up to date to reader. Due to, there is a lot of way to find out information for this method event though that information is in network which is getting information is not face-to face but by online. As mentioned by Trembley at all

(2021) As in other areas of society, conducting research amid the COVID-19 pandemic requires adaptation, while ensuring the quality of research is maintained. Overseeing high-quality qualitative research is challenging because quality standards depend on the paradigm in which the inquiry is based, the proposed research strategy, and the object of interest (Sparkes & Smith, 2009). As such, some researchers judge qualitative research quality based on adherence to a set of criteria and standards (e.g., the Consolidated Criteria for Reporting Qualitative Research [COREQ], the Standards for Reporting Qualitative Research [SRQR]; Peditto, 2018), while others view quality as a phenomenon that cannot be strictly attached to methodological rules (Sparkes & Smith, 2009). Although there is debate with regard to the use of standards or alternative methods to judge quality, there is an informal consensus around the fact that consideration must be given to the clarity of the research question, the rigorousness of the research method, and the transparency and completeness of the reporting process (O'Brien et al., 2014). Similarly, trust in the research process is established when the researcher demonstrates an alignment between the different components of the research

process, including its epistemology, theory, methodology and methods (Morse, 2015).

4. Research variables

Variables are therefore the names that are given to the variance we wish to explain and it is very critical to the research because the way the researcher uses or handles them in the research process could determine the nature and direction of the research (Nwankwo and Emunemu, 2014). Which is variable on the research is also important thing to know the context that will be explain and the way to research especially for eight semester students to finish their study, students have to know the variable in thesis that will be do. So that, research variable is attributes or behavior or values of people, object, or various activities determined by the researchers, in order to get information about the research and to draw the conclusion.

5. How to determine the research variables, adjusting research variables during the pandemic, etc.

Pandemic is not a reason to limit our critical thinking to get something new and fresh to find out variables. Lecturer serves some methodology to the students especially for eight semester students to finished their study, such as students can consult to the lecturer by online, make a discussion to the lecturer to get signal to find out the idea for variables before students observes individually.

Method

The subject of this social service was   students of eight semester students who have problem in finishing thesis as their final project for their study. They were 12 students. The object of this study is research method and variable in online learning.

Arthur Corpley (2021) stated that "The core property of qualitative research is that it examines the way people make sense out of their own concrete, real-life experiences *in their own minds* and *in their own words*." It is the same that method used of this article especially for eight semester students for finishing their study, the method used in this program were lecturing, focus group discussion and consultation. Not only method that important component in research, but variable research is also important component. Research variable is an object, idea, event, time period, feeling, or any other category one is trying to measure (Jumoke Olayemi, 2017). Moreover, finding the variable is a basic ingredients in every research and the new entrant to the field should study this aspect of research very critically due to have well defined variables at the beginning of the studies will definitely lead to blind alley along the line.

The way of this program while E-learning based on the characteristic as follows; Firstly, all the team delivered material to students about kinds of variable and research method also some problems that probably faced by students in conducting research during pandemics and how to overcome those problems. This meeting was conducted twice. After this meeting, we conducted focus group discussion about kind of research method and variable which are appropriate to pandemic situation. And last, they can consult to team about variable and research method. Based on the result of the social services, the team analyze them by reducing information, display the information and concluding result.

Hopefully by using this characteristic program in online learning that doing by eight semester students to finish their study it is can be effective now and future in every problem that they face, the way of this program will be continuously do.

Findings and Discussion

In the beginning of this social services, the students already prepared the titles to their thesis consultants, but they found some problems because of the pandemic situation, it still happening in our nation. Informal situation, they propose titles based on the results of problem identification they have already done during the internship program at schools, but during the pandemic they conduct internship program by home visit, they come to students' home. And they do not go to school so they can't identify the problems there. By conducting home visit during internship program, the students only found personal problems, they did not find the problems happens during the teaching learning process in the classroom. During their research in ELT course, the students found the problems by observing and interview students of junior and senior high school. So, it is different with the real situation when they have to finish the study during the pandemic. They got the problems personally from the students at home.

In this social service, the team give the solution toward the target by giving training to give the students understanding of doing research effectively during pandemic time. They have to know that not all research method and variable they have already known before can be done effectively in online learning. Firstly, the team give them theory about research method and choosing research variable. It was conducted twice. Secondly, the team invite the students to have focus group discussion. In these activities, we discussed about what is research method and variable based on problem identification at schools. In this meeting, the team also give the technique of how to identify the problems during in online learning so they can choose appropriate research problem and variable.

The social service activities already done successfully by the time during May up to June 2021. Before we conduct the social services, we meet students and also head of English department to design the program. The preliminary services were conducted by observing and also interview with the students. It was conducted to during the captain of the team gave lecture for the students in seminar class. In this course the students are invited to read so many articles. Then they were directed to choose one of the research projects and also the variables as object for their research. Most of them choose descriptive research. Actually, they can use interesting research also variables based on the models from any publication in journals.

The social service activities were initiated by exploring students' problems in finishing their study: choosing the title of the research, determining research setting or the problems, identifying problems during the process in conducting the research and also how to sharpen their knowledge about research design they have already made. The social service is followed by 12 students of in English language education.

No	Name	Title	Method	Variable
1	Yuliana	An Error Analysis of Preposition in	Descriptive Research	Variable 1: Preposition Variable 2: Writing

		Writing Descriptive Text at the Seventh Grade Students of SMPN 1 Ngargoyoso Karanganyar in 2021/2022 Academic Year		
2	Dewi Utari	An Analysis of Students Perception The Use of Google Classroom For Learning Narrative Text	Descriptive Research	Variable 1: Students pe Variable 2: Google Classroom
3	Muhammad Wahyu Ramadhoni	An Analysis of Students Self-confidence in Speaking skill by Using Google Meet at second Grade of MAN 1 Surakarta in the Academic Year 2020/2021	Descriptive Research	Variable 1: Students Self-confidence Variable 2: Speaking
4	Dewan Bogy	An Analysis of Students Error on the Use of simple past tense on writing recount text at SMPN 1 Jumantono	Descriptive Qualitative	Variable: 1. Simple past tense on recount Variable 2: Writing
5	Diandra Varalaksita Ayudyanita	The Analysis of Students' Perception on the Use of YouTube Media in Learning English During Covid-19 Pandemic (A Study at Eleventh Grade of SMK Kasatriyan Surakarta in the 2020/2021 Academic Year)	Descriptive Qualitative	Variable 1: Students Perception Variable 2: YouTube Media
6	Ifran Gunawan	Error Analysis in Writing Recount Text at 10 Grade SMA Kalam Kudus of academic year 2020/2021	Descriptive Research	Variable 1: Error Variabel 2: Writing
7	Rara Tiara	An Analysis Students' Perspective	Descriptive	Variable 1:
	Agustina	Towards the Use of E-learning Application in English Class at SMP N 1 Kemusu Boyolali	Qualitative Research	Students' Perspective Variable 2: E-learning application (Zoom)

Based on the result above, it can be seen that 100 hundred percent of students choose qualitative research. During lecturing and focus group discussion in this social service, students learn types of qualitative research, steps in conducting qualitative research, technique of collecting data for qualitative research, technique of analyzing qualitative data and reporting qualitative research. By this they have clear understanding about qualitative research. So, after the getting explanation about qualitative research, all students choose qualitative research for their study. There are some reasons why all students choose qualitative research: (1) it was easy to conduct qualitative research in pandemic time since they just describe real condition of research object, (2) conducting qualitative research is an interesting action since they can explore recent phenomena by interviewing students, and (3) they do not disturb the research subject more in collecting data. Based on this result it can be seen that having clear understanding about research method and also variable and elaborate them in pandemic situation can help students in overcoming their problem, as stated by Rebeca

Mitchell that "very little has been written about the methods, risks, challenges and opportunities faced, and what has is almost entirely focused on the pandemic itself. Beside understanding about research method, they also guided to know some variables which are suitable in pandemic time. The team focusing on online learning in language teaching as research variable. The students from these activities were guided to identify variable in online learning in language teaching. Firstly, they were guided to identify about language elements and language skills. Secondly, they identify factors influencing language skill, and finally they were asked to identify media, method and also evaluation in language online learning. They were so enthusiastic in following this program. Since it was really help them in overcoming their problem to formulate research title, construct a thesis proposal and preparing good research.

Conclusion

Based on the result of this social services that already done, it can be concluded that:

(1)   Enhancing students understanding about kinds of   qualitative research method can be done by Delivering material about research methods and the object of the research can help students to have clear understanding to choose appropriate research methods and variables. So, they can finish the research effectively during the pandemic.

(2)   Enhance students understanding about kind of research variable can be gained by delivering material about the notion of research method, and how to determine research method. The social services by blended learning food online and offline to motivate students in finishing the study in finishing the final project

(3)   Solution for students who have problems in finishing their study during pandemic time can be achieve in this activity. Since, finally after giving them theories, training and also consultation intensively can make All students had already known and clear understanding about how to conduct research effectively during the pandemics.

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