# CHAPTER III

# METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses about research method, data sources, data collection technique and data analysis technique.

## 3.1 Research Method

The writer uses descriptive analytical study as the research methodology in this research by analyzing ambiguity in English Department students' academic writings. L.R Gray (1987) cited that a descriptive study determines and reports the way things are, furthermore typical descriptive studies are concerned with the assessment of attitudes, opinions, demographic information, conditions and procedures. Descriptive analytic method focuses on describing facts and then analyzes it with an explanation to reach deep understanding about something. (Ratna, 2006)

## 3.2 Source of the Data

The sources of the data of this study are academic writings of English Department students major in English Language and Education Study Program and English Literature Study Program. The writer takes 31 academic writings of English Department students which are collected from *Academic Writing I* subject. The data of this study is ambiguous words, phrase, clause and sentences that appeared in 2010 English Department students' academic writings.

## 3.3 Data Collection Procedure

In collecting the data, there are several procedures which were used in this study:

1. Finding the academic writings of 2010 English Department students which are taken from Academic Writing I class.
2. Choosing 31 academic writings.
3. Reading the 31 academic writings.
4. Identifying the text by looking through each word, phrase, clause and sentence to locate the ambiguity.

**3.4 Data Analysis Procedure**

The data were analyzed by following some steps such as:

1. Classifying the type of ambiguity based on the criteria. The types of ambiguity are structural ambiguity and lexical ambiguity.

2. Displaying the total number of each type in a table order to show the ambiguity that mostly appeared in students' academic writings.

3. Explaining the ambiguity that encountered in students' academic writings.

4. Interpreting the most occurred ambiguity in students' academic writings.

5. Lastly, drawing a conclusion based on the analysis.

A table is created in order to show the result of ambiguity in students' academic writings.

| No. | Sentence | Types of Ambiguity | | Explanation |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | | Structural Ambiguity | Lexical Ambiguity | |
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. | | | | |