CHAPTER III

RESEARCH OBJECT AND METHOD

This chapter presents the methodology of the research. It explains research object and research method.

3.1 Research Object

The object of this research is internet slang phrases taken from various threads in thestudentroom.com forum from September 2011 until February 2012. The Student Room is a United Kingdom-based internet forum for school and university students. The site is primarily designed as a place for UK-based students to find information about studying, courses and careers. It also hosts discussion on a wide variety of general topics, such as football, music, movie, etc.

The forum is chosen as the source of the data since this forum is used by university student, and they are the prominent user of slang as it is stated by Yule (2006: 211) that slang is words or phrases that are used instead of more everyday terms among younger speakers and other groups with special interests. Therefore, this forum is the best source to make a research about internet slang.

3.2 Research Method

The method used in this research is analytic descriptive. Ratna (2007: 53), points out that analytic descriptive method is conducted by analyzing and describing the facts of the research data. Thus, the speech acts of internet slang

phrases are analysed, then it is followed by describing the types of speech acts and speaker communicative intentions when using internet slang phrases.

3.2.1 Data Collection

In collecting the data to be analysed, there are some steps conducted as follows:

1. Reading the whole comments of a thread in thestudentroom.com forum from September 2011 until February 2012.
2. Choosing the internet slang phrases which are classified into direct and indirect speech acts. The internet slang phrases which are only classified into direct speech acts are not taken as data since this research wants to compare the direct and indirect speech acts of internet slang phrases.
3. Making a table which consists of the speaker, the audiences, and the discussion containing internet slang phrases to give communicative events.

3.2.2 Data Analysis

There are two steps in analysing the internet slang phrases as follow:

1. Identifying the types of speech acts of internet slang phrases based on Searle theory.
2. Analysing speaker communicative intentions when using internet slang phrases.