

## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHODS

In this chapter, the writer presents four points related to the research method used in the study. They are research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis.

#### 3.1 Type of Research

In this study, the writer used qualitative approach since the object of the analysis is symbol, icon, index and codes on chapter covers in the graphic novel *Maus: "A Survivor's Tale"* by Art Spiegelman. Therefore, the finding of this study was in the form of description rather than in the form of number. According to Ary *et al* (2002) qualitative research deals with the data that are the form rather than numbers and statistics. Moreover, it tries to arrive at a rich description of the reports, objects events, and also processes.

The writer is the key instrument in collecting and analyzing the data. The data are in the written form since the writer analyzed the signs of chapter covers in the graphic novel *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* by Art Spiegelman. Thus, the type of this research is document analysis. Ary *et al.* (2002) state that document or content analysis is a research method applied to written or visual materials for the purpose of identifying specified characteristics of the materials such as textbooks, newspapers, web pages, speeches, television programs, advertisements, musical compositions, or any of a host of other types of documents.

The writer explained the symbol, icon, and index on chapter covers in graphic novels *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* by Art Spiegelman. Then, the writer found codes of the signs.

### 3.2 Data Source

The data source of this study is chapter covers in the graphic novels *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* by Art Spiegelman. The data are six chapter covers of the graphic novel *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*, subtitled *My Father Bleeds History* which contains signs. There are six chapter covers in the graphic novel *Maus* and the writer chose all chapter covers. The reason of choosing this data of six chapter covers is because the data is not homogeneous.

### 3.3 Data Collection

This study deals with document analysis in which the researcher is the primary instrument. In order to obtain the data, the writer took some steps:

1. Choosing chapter covers

The writer chose chapter covers in the graphic novel *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. The writer chose all chapter covers of the graphic novels

2. Reading the graphic novel

The writer read the content of the graphic novel. Although in this study, the content was not included into the analysis, the writer needs to know the contents of the graphic novel in order to find out whether the chapter covers had succeeded in representing the content of the graphic novel or

not. In this case reading the whole graphic novel helps the writer in analyzing it and the result of the analysis is more valid.

### 3. Identifying the signs

The writer identified the signs that contained symbol, icon, and index of chapter covers in the graphic novels. In order to make the data credible, the writer took evidence based on consensus.

### 3.4 Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the writer analyzed the data. The steps of data analysis was conducted as the following steps :

#### 1. Identifying symbol, icon and index

The writer identified the signs that contained symbol, icon and index in the chapter covers in the graphic novel *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. The writer analyzed the signs which are used in each chapter cover based on the mode of signs by Pierce. The writer interpreted the signs that appeared in each chapter cover by using other sources from [jewishvirtuallibrary.org](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org) and the stories of this graphic novel,

#### 2. Identifying the codes

The writer identified the codes of the signs based on the appearing signs in each chapter cover. The codes which were found in each cover were analyzed by using Chandler's theory of codes. There were social codes, textual codes, and interpretative codes.

3. Drawing the conclusion

After the writer analyzed the signs and codes used in the chapter cover of the graphic novel *Maus: A Survivors Tale* by Art Spiegelman, the writer drew a conclusion based on the finding of this study.

