

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This study investigated types of reading strategies as a foreign language used by first- year Business English students at Hatyai University

This chapter presented the procedures used in the study as follows:

- 3.1 Information of Respondents
- 3.2 Instrument
- 3.3 Procedures
- 3.4 Data Analysis

3.1 INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS

The subjects of this study were first- year Business English students at Hatyai University. A total of 36 students were studying a Reading in Business English course in the academic year 2004.

3.2 INSTRUMENT

The instrument used for data collection was a questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed according to the purpose of the study. The questionnaire used was written in Thai in order that the respondents would easily understand.

3.2.1 Details of Questionnaire

The questionnaire consisted of three parts:

Part I *General information about the respondents*

It was intended to collect the information of the respondents' personal data including gender, age, grade point average, and educational background.

Part II *Students' reading strategies in English comprehension*

It was a five point Likert Scale of strategies in English reading comprehension. The respondents would be asked to rank the degree of frequency on each item. The rating criteria were:

- 5 = very often
 4 = often
 3 = sometimes
 2 = rarely
 1 = never

Part III *Students' additional reading strategies in English comprehension*

It was an open- ended question section about other reading strategies that the respondents use inside and outside the classroom.

3.2.2 Pilot Study

For the validity and reliability, these questionnaires were tested in a pilot study using five teachers of English at Hatyai university to check whether the instruction and statement of the questions would be understood.

3.3 PROCEDURE

3.3.1 The questionnaires were made in two versions: An English version and a Thai version. There were 32 statements about reading strategies that were given to 36 first year Business English students studying the course of Reading in Business English.

3.3.2 The Thai version was distributed as it would be clearly understood by respondents. The respondents were asked to rate and fill in their reading strategies used inside and outside classroom.

3.3.3 The questionnaires were collected for the data analysis procedure.

3.4 DATA ANALYSIS

The Microsoft Excel program (version 98) was used to compute descriptive statistic including frequency, percentage, mean (X) and standard deviation (SD) of all items of the respondents' answers. A five point Likert scale was used to investigate the extent of the respondents' strategies in English reading comprehension.

3.4.1 Personal information in part one of the questionnaire was analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequency and percentage.

3.4.2 Students strategies in English reading comprehension were analyzed using frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation on each item responded to all subjects.