Chapter Three

Methodology

3.0 Introduction

This chapter provides a description of the tool used in collecting and analyzing the data, describes the participants of the study, displays the instruments and presents the techniques followed in analyzing the data of the study.

3.1 The Population

The population of this study are Sudanese secondary schools third year students in Khartoum State. The researcher has collected the data throughout a test distributed to the sample of the population (some Sudanese secondary school third year students in Khartoum state).

3.2 The sample

The sample of this study is third secondary year students who are doing their summer classes during the holiday (April 2016) at three schools in Khartoum state two of the sample schools are in Omdurman locality and one in Bahri locality. The students have been chosen randomly due to the nature of the research questions and hypotheses which address to what extent do the students use English affixes correctly.

The focus of the study includes 50 participants. They are all secondary school students (boys and girls) who have recently completed second secondary year and they haven’t started the third year yet.

3.3 Tool and procedure

The data of this research are collected through a test. The test is divided into two parts and each part is subdivided into ten questions.

The test was designed for the third year secondary school students, these students are required to use the given appropriate affixes to complete the words between the brackets of the first parts of the test, as well as to choose the most
correct one of the four choices of the second part which includes ten various questions.

The students agreed to allow the researcher to conduct the test. The test was distributed to 50 students from different secondary schools.

3.3.1 The Test

The test was essentially designed to assess students' knowledge of the affixation matters. The test is divided into two parts, the first part asks the students to put the words in the brackets in their correct form using the affixes listed between the brackets and these affixes are equally divided into suffixes and prefixes i.e five for each division. In contrast, the second part of the test asks the students to draw a circle round the correct alternative among the four given choices.

The task was done in a regular classroom at three schools in Khartoum state. The aim behind this decision is to make the students feel relax as if they are doing their usual tasks. The participants were given 30 minutes in order to do the test.

The test was marked by the researcher and the total marks of each paper is 20 marks. This was done so as to test whether the students are able to use the affixes correctly or they ignore them as well as to accomplish the process of the data collection and data analysis.

3.4 Validity and Reliability of the test

The researcher discussed the question of the test with one of the English experts: Dr. Tag Elsir Bashoum. It was agreed that the questions of the test are reasonable as they cover the questions and the hypotheses of the study, then they can measure the aimed purpose.
3.5 Summary

This chapter presents the Methodology of the research. It contains a description of the instruments employed for the data collection. The chapter also describes the sample and the population of the study, states the reliability and validity of the tools in the study and presents the techniques followed in discussing and analyzes the research data.