

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This study investigated the needs of the Thai dance instructors at the College of Dramatic Arts. This chapter discusses the subjects of the study, instruments, procedures of collecting data, and data analysis.

3.1 POPULATIONS

The population of this study was 82 Thai dance instructors at the College of Dramatic Arts, Bangkok. Since it was not the large number, they were all investigated.

3.2 MATERIALS

The instrument used in this study was a questionnaire designed to fit the purpose of the study. The questionnaire was divided into 3 parts: the general background of the subjects, their opinions on necessities and problems of using English in their career path, and the subjects' opinions and suggestions on designing an English course.

3.2.1 Details of the Questionnaire

Part 1: The subjects' personal information.

In this part, there were 12 questions concerning their gender, age, education level, job experience, frequency of using English in daily life, cultural exchange abroad, ways of developing their English language skills. The types of questions were multiple choice, and a self-evaluation of their English language proficiency, where the respondents had to choose by rating on a five-point scale from excellent, good, fair, poor, and very poor.

Part 2: The subjects' opinions on necessities and problems in using English.

The subjects were asked to indicate the extent of necessities and problems in using four language skills, listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and to indicate their necessities to use English in different activities in their career path and to what extent these activities are difficult for them. This part was divided into two sections: A and B. Section A was about the subjects' necessities and problems in using the four

skills. Section B focused on the subjects' necessities and problems in using each particular skill in different situations. The five-point Likert scale was used in the questionnaire with the following criteria:

- 5 = very extensive necessity / problem
- 4 = extensive necessity / problem
- 3 = moderate necessity / problem
- 2 = little necessity / problem
- 1 = very little necessity / problem

Part 3: The subjects' opinions and suggestions for teaching-learning activities of the course.

The subjects were asked to give their opinions and suggestions on specific course design and components: teaching-learning, materials, course duration, course schedule, specific date and time, and instructors. The following criteria were used to indicate the subjects' opinions on their preferences:

- 5 = strongly agree
- 4 = agree
- 3 = no opinion
- 2 = disagree
- 1 = strongly disagree

3.2.2 Pilot Study

A pilot study was conducted in order to examine whether the instructions and statements of the questionnaires would be clearly understood. Besides this, the pilot study would provide suggestions which might benefit the design of the final questionnaires.

The twenty Thai dance instructors of Ang Tong College of Dramatic Arts, one Thai dance instructor of University of Rajamangala Technology, and nine Thai dance instructors of Banditpattanasilpa Institute were asked to complete the questionnaire and evaluate its content to identify unclear terms and to give suggestions in general. From the information obtained, the researcher clarified the unclear terms and excluded the irrelevant items. After that the questionnaires were revised and finalized by a specialist in the field.

3.3 PROCEDURES

The Thai language questionnaires were distributed to 82 subjects. Those questionnaires were distributed by hand and collected within one week. 75 questionnaires (91.4%) were returned. Then the questionnaires were checked for their level of completion and cross-checked for some data to verify the information. No problems were found. Finally, the data were coded and typed into a computer.

3.4 DATA ANALYSIS

The Statistic Package for Social Science (SPSS) was used to analyze the data from the questionnaires. The statistic devices used in the study were employed as follows:

3.4.1 Frequencies, percentages and arithmetic means were used in the analysis of the data concerning the respondents' background information.

3.4.2 Arithmetic means and Standard Deviations were used to analyze the respondents' opinions on the necessities and problems in using English and on the preferences to establish English course.

After the data were analyzed, they were tabulated and interpreted as shown in the next chapter.