

CONCEPT, MEANING AND OBJECT OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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DEFINITION

When we learn an object of study, the first thing a learner asks is 'what'. In the course of philosophy, these basic questions are called ontological questions. Barry Smith's concept of ontology is 'a branch of philosophy, the science of what, types and structures of objects, properties, events, processes and relationships in each realm of reality'².

The meaning of the word ontology from two syllables of Greek, namely *ontos*, and *logos*. *Ontos* means something tangible, and *logos* means knowledge³. So ontology can be interpreted as a science or theory about the existence of existing nature. The task of ontology is to question the right form of scientific and scientific objects in the empirical world or the world that can be reached by the senses. So the object of knowledge is a sensory experience. In other words, ontology is the study of the nature of something tangible (existing) based on its logic⁴.

The sentence that may be simpler to implement is that ontology is a fundamental question and understanding discussed in philosophical studies so that humans know and understand about an object of study or the object of discussion. So when we investigate methodology as a scientific discipline,

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² Barry Smith, 'Ontology', in *The Furniture of The World* (Leiden: Brill Rodopi, 1964), pp. 47–68.

³ Winarno, *Paradigma Baru Pendidikan Pancasila* (Jakarta: Bumi Aksara, 2016). 180

⁴ Mohamad Adib, *Filsafat Ilmu* (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2011). 69

we will think in advance about the meaning and definition of research methodology.

The research methodology is different from research methods⁵. This sentence must always be remembered and practised in academic activities. Methodology is a unity of two words, namely *methodos* and *logos*, *methodos* means method while *logos* is science. The research grammatically meaning is retrieval. While definitively, the Oxford dictionary⁶ translates 'a careful study of a subject, especially to discover new facts or information about it'. So research methodology is the science that discusses the method/way of studying a particular subject in research⁷.

Meanwhile, "research method" is the means and tools used by researchers in researching as stated in a research proposal or report. The consequence is, before carrying out research, a researcher understands as well as possible about the object of research, how to collect data, process data, to analyse data that ends with a conclusion or research results.

OBJECT OF RESEARCH

Research as an effort to study academically and comprehensively certainly has a specific object. The research object is strongly influenced by the approach to be used in the research. If the research is quantitative, then the object of research will be described in the form of a ratio of numbers and

⁵ This is important for me to convey because there are still many students in thesis writing using the term research methodology, even though it should be the research method because it describes the choice of methods in carrying out the research process starting from data collection, processing to analysis

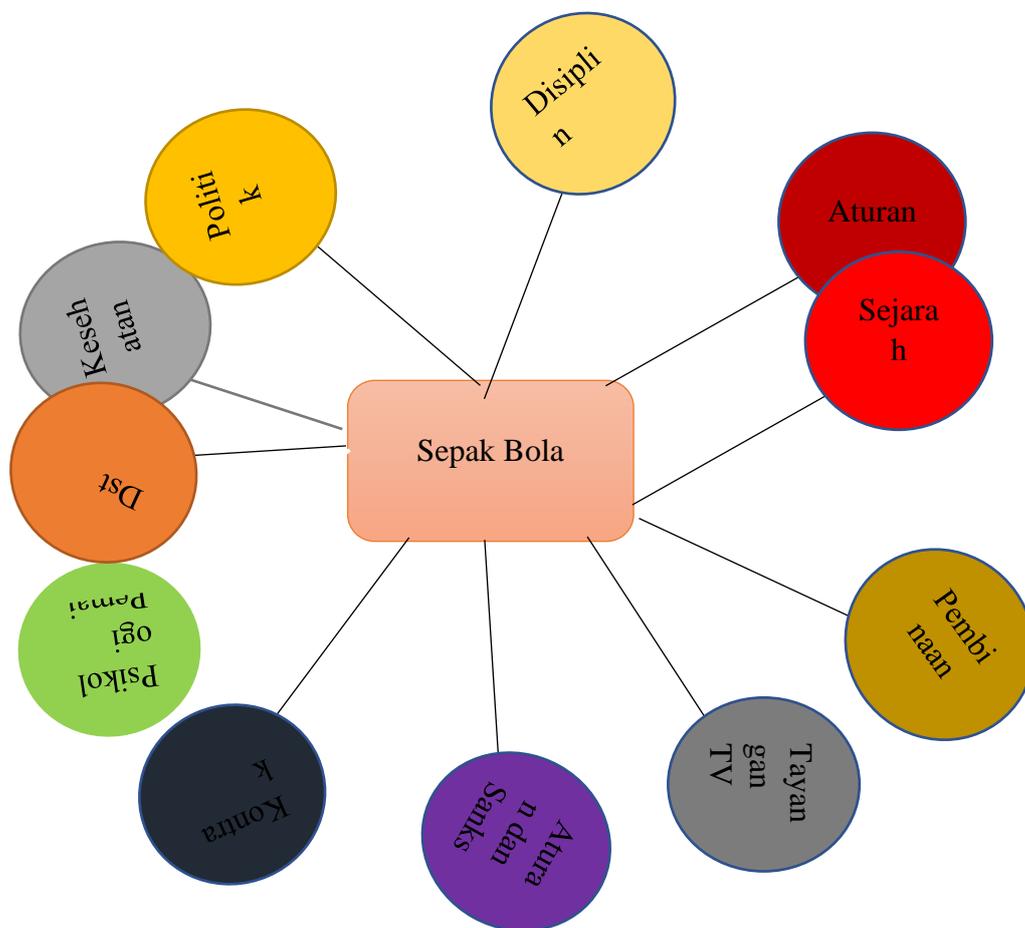
⁶ https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/research_1?q=research accessed on 4 September 2020

⁷ A simple example is when it is called psychology; it means the science of psycho, biology is the science of living things, archeology is the science of arch, virology is the science of viruses and so on. Deepening this term, look for every word that ends with word 'logi', so all of that means the knowledge.

correlative data. Whereas in qualitative research, the object of research is in the form of an abstract social phenomenon so that it needs an in-depth study by looking at the facts behind the phenomenon.

The research object is a small scope which is the focus of the research. Later, from this object, a researcher will explore various literature reviews, theories, data and analysis of the research object to get results according to the research output target. As a simple example, when talking about football as a research theme, the researcher must explore what objects will be studying from football.

After knowing the definitions and objects in research, what are the actual cycles or cycles in research? answer this question, a lot of books have various perspectives.



The picture above is a description of the theme of football. There are tens or even hundreds of aspects that become issues or objects of research. It could be about politics, broadcasting, player health, discipline, psychological health, player contracts and so on. So if you are a sharia faculty student with a bachelor's degree in law, what topic would suit your field of study? Of course, about the law. Well .. apparently what is called the object of research.

After finding the object of research, a researcher must-read in-depth, then look for the appropriate method and conduct an analysis using the chosen theory, then report it. Then all processes up to the reporting are called research.

The simpler keywords are that there are two main requirements in research. The two conditions are learning and sharing. If we study an object and rewrite it in a book, that is learning. When you want to increase it into research, it is obligatory to process/share the selection of objects, research methods and analysis.