

# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter the researcher presents the background of the study, statement of the research problems, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitations, and definitions of the key terms.

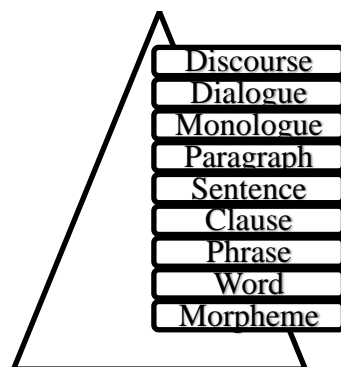
### **A. Background of the Research**

Language is the medium people use to communicate. Language is used to create meaningful communication between people (Nurhayati & Yuwartatik, 2016). Through language, people can express what they feel, how they feel in their hearts, and what they want to convey. The emergence of a language is usually also based on the culture in which it is the native language. Larina, Ozyumenko, and Kurtes (2017) describe cultural aspects such as the values and beliefs that created a particular language as an agreed genuine means of expression. The role and definition of language, which grows over time, influence the study of language or linguistics.

Based on Nurhayati (2019), linguistics is important for understanding the meaning behind a language. In Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2008), linguistics is defined as the study of language or the study of the scientific study of language. In this case, linguistics is the science of studying the language. According to

Kurtato (2017), linguistics has been known since the Greek era (6th century BC) and was called traditional linguistics. Traditional linguistics analyzes language based solely on philosophy and semantics. Language research does not cover just one aspect but extends beyond language to areas or aspects related to language use and human life.

Referring to the linguistic branch, language can be analyzed based on the sound system (phonology), morphology, syntax, and meaning content (semantics) (Kurtanto, 2017). Therefore, there are many assumptions that a language is just an object of research that can be separated. However, facts in the field show that when language is used for communication, language cannot be detailed over those parts. Because they all form one. Likewise when faced with discourse embodied in a text. Discourse in the form of text cannot simply be viewed as a word, word arrangement, or sentence. Linguistics clerical shows discourse is the highest hierarchy in grammatical units. The arrangement of grammatical units in question can be seen below:



The arrangement indicates that the smallest grammatical unit is the morpheme, In phonology, morphemes are how we say words or parts of words (Nurhayati, 2019) and the highest and largest unit is discourse. The arrangement also proves that the study of discourse will associate grammatical units under it, namely dialogue, monologues, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, and words.

Rabinow in Hafizh (2016) explained that discourse is a complete unit of language either delivered orally or in writing. Discourse is a series of matching sentences, which connect one proposal with another, one sentence with another sentence, forming a unity (Eriyanto, 2011). The word discourse has many meanings. However, as with many words, the higher it is called and used sometimes not the clearer but the more confusing and confused the understanding. There is a discourse to facilitate communication and social interaction. The discipline of studying discourse is called discourse analysis.

Discourse Analysis is one of the fields of linguistic studies applied to the use of discourse analysis that can be oral or written that involves the delivery of messages to the recipient of messages in the act of communication. Discourse analysis examines patterns across texts and considers the relationship between language and the social and cultural context in which it is used. Partridge (2012) say the use of language is influenced by the relationship between individuals and

the effect of language on identity and social relationships. It also considers how worldviews, and identities, are constructed through the use of discourse.

Eriyanto (2011) formulates three views on language in discourse analysis: Positivism-Empiricists, Constructivism, and Critical View. In the critical view using a critical perspective, then this view can be referred to as Critical Discourse Analysis or CDA. In critical discourse analysis, discourse here is not understood as the study of language. Language is analyzed not by describing merely the aspect of language, but also by connecting with context. The context here means that the language is used for specific purposes and practices, including the practice of power (Eriyanto, 2020).

To analyze CDA, the professionals provided numerous approaches: Norman Fairclough, Van Leeuwen, Van Dijk, Ruth Wodak, and Sara Mills (Bulcaen and Blommaert, 2000). Norman Fairclough explains that discourse sports are a social practice. This way that discourse affects social order and social order influences discourse. Van Leeuwen's essential discourse evaluation method makes a specialty of social actors in discourse and explains how social actors are represented in the textual content. Meanwhile, Van Dijk has a cognitive social method for the application of CDA. Wodak's critical discourse analysis is a historical discourse approach that explains that to conduct discourse analysis is to look at historical

factors in a discourse. Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis method is a feminist perspective that makes a speciality of what what women display in a discourse.

Focused in this study, the researcher used Sara Mills' theory of the CDA version. Eriyanto (2011) the approach proposed by Sara Mills is usually applied in discourse feminism. So, the theory put forward by Sara is commonly called the feminist perspective. The feminist discourse perspective has a point of concern that shows how the text presents women. CDA in Sara Mills' model focuses on two things, the subject-object position and the reader's position (Hardiyanti, Nugraheni, & Sumarlam, 2018). Sara Mills seems greater at how the text places women in the position of the subject and the position of the object as well as how to position the reader in a particular subject in the discourse text. Discourse that does not escape the use of Sara mills model discourse analysis is novel.

The use of Sara Mills' CDA theory in analyzing literary works, for example, novels, is nothing new. Like the research conducted by Diana Hardiyanti, Yunita Nugraheni, and Sumarlam (2018) under the title "A Critical Discourse Analysis of Gender Discrimination on Ratih Kumala's *Gadis Kretek* Novel". This study discusses how the women characters are presented in the novel and how women characters are being discriminated against in the Javanese culture that adopts the patriarchal system in society. This study took the main

discussion of Sara Mills, namely the subject-object position, but does not discuss the reader's position which is also an important point of Sara Mills' theory. This will also be discussed later in this study.

In addition, the subject-object position will also be the subject of discussion. This is based on the context of the story which is very clearly much different. Previous research has a position of women by the position of women in the social condition of society in ancient times. While this study will use the position of women in today's society.

The researcher was interested in choosing Jojo Moyes' Novel *Me Before You* as the topic of research. Novels that make women one of the main characters. In addition, this novel tells the story of a woman's struggle who is very touching, confident in her different self, and has a sincere sense of love. A simple girl who works hard for her extended family. We know that the novel is fiction, but it will make many people feel touched when reading it.

Moreover, the reason why the researcher chose to discuss this novel is that it was written by a famous female novelist, Jojo Moyes. Moyes has won two Romantic Novel of the Year Awards from the Romantic Novelists' Association. *Me Before You* is one of the famous novels proven in 2012 was nominated for the UK Galaxy Book Award Book of the year and entered the bestseller list of Top Ten Charts in New York Times and expected 19 weeks. It sold more

than 14 million copies and in 2016 was made into a film.

## **B. Statement of Research Problems**

Based on the background of the study above, the research question can be formulated as follows;

1. How is the female depicted in the position of subject and object?
2. How is the position of the reader shown in the novel?

## **C. Objectives of the Research**

Based on the problems of the research, the objectives of the research are presented below:

1. To analyze how the female is depicted in the position of the subject and object
2. To analyze how the reader is presented in the novel

## **D. Significances of the Research**

Good writing can certainly contribute benefits to the development of science for the general public. The researcher hopes this research can benefit. These benefits include:

1. This research will be used as a comparison for further research in conducting research related to critical discourse analysis in the novel *Me Before You*.
2. This research is expected to expand the science, especially about the analysis of Sara Mills' discourse model.
3. This research is expected to be used as a reference in developing thinking skills for students or readers, especially about CDA

theory.

#### **E. Scope and Limitations of the Research**

The researcher is sure that many important aspects of the novel can be discussed. But, the researcher gives a scope and limitation to facilitate research. The scope of the study focused only on Sara Mills' CDA model applied to the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. This analysis is used to find out how women are portrayed in the novel and what is behind it, as well as how readers are placed in discourse. While the limitation in this study is the decision of the researcher not to accept the CDA theory other than Sara Mills.

#### **F. Definitions of the Key Terms**

##### 1. Subject position

The subject of position describes how an actor is displayed in a discourse. An actor who is positioned to be a subject has more dominance than in the position of the object. This dominance can be in the form of his ability to define the surrounding environment or other actors.

##### 2. Object position

The actor positioned as an object has no dominance, in other words, they can not define themselves. Their presence in a discourse is the result of the representation of other actors or although they can represent themselves, they do not influence discourse.

##### 3. Reader position



In Sara Mills' theory, the reader also has their position in discourse. How the reader's position is displayed in the text, how the reader is positioned in the displayed text, to whom or which group readers identify themselves.