

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter includes explanations about the basic of the research. They consist of background of the study, formulation of research question, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of study, and definition of the key terms.

### **A. Background of the Study**

One of the most crucial aspects of human life is language. People can fulfil their urge to survive through receiving and sending language. Language is mostly spoken, but it may also be written. Humans can communicate and share whatever they desire by using language. People should communicate in this way, because this also makes it easier for people to exchange information or express their feelings. Therefore, language is very necessary in life, and it will never be separated from human influence, because language can be used in any context and at any time.

Wehmeier (in Firnawaty, 2007: 1) defines language as all of the words that a person understands or employs, or all of the words in a certain language, or the words that individuals use while discussing a specific topic. And while conversing, individuals will very probably employ language to communicate with one another. People are often required to interpret the true meaning of a communication is attempting to accomplish by the speaker, and to comprehend its purpose. This function provides a means of determining or comprehending the meaning of a person's words. People desire to be able to understand other people's language and expect others to do the same for them all of the time.

People may not recognize that spoken or written phrases have a purpose while communicating. However, if people speak without a goal, the listener may become confused. It signifies that the language function helps the listeners understand what the speaker is trying to say. According to Janet Holmes (2013: 275-284), there are six language functions categories: 1) the

expressive function, the purpose is to express the speaker's emotions. 2) Directive function is an attempt to persuade someone to do something. 3) Referential function purpose is to give information. 4) Metalinguistic function used to comment on language. 5) Poetic function focuses on the artistic qualities of language. 6) Phatic function is the expression of sympathy and empathy with others through words.

Human's communication relies heavily on language functions. We typically don't comprehend what other people are saying when we speak with them. When we communicate, we may use our understanding of language functions to help us analyze every sentence the speaker says. It will also assist us in explaining how some linguistic stretches work. The function of language can also be found in various places, such as in literary works. Literature is a study of human life and actions in general. Literature has numerous forms, just as human existence and activities do. Everyday human behaviours (spoken or written) in everyday life are used to create literary forms.

Drama, poetry, and prose are the three genres of literature that may be found in general. Drama includes dance dramas, radio and television dramas, pantomimes, heroic and morality dramas, and more. They are all classified as tragedy, comedy, tragic-comedy, or melodrama. Sorts of language functions can be studied in literature by looking at the genres of literature. The function of language may also be evident in literacy works, some of them are movies and cinema films. Film is included with drama in this case. A film, according to the Cambridge Advance Learner's Dictionary (2008), is a collection of moving images that are frequently presented in a cinema or on television, they are typically tell a story. People can also learn about language functions by watching a movie.

In the process of learning to teach a language, movie can be used as a medium for teaching and learning languages. According to Reza (2017:8), one of the students of the English Education Department at the As-Syafi'iyah Islamic University said in his journal which has been proven throughout the first year of SMKN 1 Batulayar in the 2013/2014 academic year that the use

of film media makes a potential positive contribution in teaching English. Since the reasons are that they could learn English from a native speaker in a natural way, and it would improve their speaking ability because they would learn how to talk fluently from a native speaker. Furthermore, native speakers in cinema media may help pupils improve their listening skills. Additionally, the majority of pupils prefer watching movies. Using movie material to teach listening skills to English learners may be quite beneficial since it can help them improve their listening and speaking abilities. It will also be valuable tools for learning vocabulary and culture, with the primary benefit of using cinematic media to delight learners. Furthermore, movie media might be a wonderful option for teaching listening skills in English learning the next day.

Based on Mubayyinah (2020), she analyzed the movie “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” with the theme of American computer-animated superhero. In this study, the researcher expands the theme of previous research with the theme of adventure animation from Walt Disney Animation Studios entitled “Raya and The Last Dragon”. In her study, she focused on the language function’s theory by Guy Cook. Therefore, this time the researcher will analyze the language functions by using Janet Holmes’s theory.

The researcher chose “Raya and The Last Dragon” movie as the data source to be researched because the researcher believes that movie is one of many ways to make teaching and learning more enjoyable, simple, and interactive. In this movie, the researcher finds many practical lessons that are important for the learning process, such as the importance of self-confidence, sincerity in helping each other, courage, cohesiveness and responsibility shown by the characters. There are not only humans as actors and actresses in this movie but also animals such as the dragon which has been mentioned in the title, monkey, and pillbug. It is suitable if watched by various ages, both children and adults.

Based on the reasons above, the researcher is having an interest to do a study to analyze language functions entitled: Language Functions Used by The Main Character in “Raya and The Last Dragon” Movie.

## **B. Formulation of Research Question**

Based on the background of the study above, the formulation of the problem obtained is as follows:

1. What types of language functions are used by the main character in *Raya and The Last Dragon Movie*?
2. How the language functions used by the main character in *Raya and The Last Dragon Movie* are grammatically realized?

## **C. Purpose of the Study**

In accordance with the formulation of research questions, the research purpose can be stated as follows:

1. To find out the types of language functions used by the main character in *Raya and The Last Dragon Movie*.
2. To find out the grammatical realization of language functions used by the main character in *Raya and The Last Dragon Movie*.

## **D. Significance of the Study**

This study is expected to have several significances as follows:

1. Theoretically, the results of this study are expected to make a useful contribution to everyone who wants to learn English, both in the field of English literature or to assist in the preparation of scripts in movies. So, the results of this study provide further explanation of the function of language. It can also be used as a reference for next language functions analysis.
2. Practically, the results of this study are expected to be useful for readers, researcher and students. This study is expected to provide and develop more descriptions of the theories of language functions for readers, students and researcher, and also appreciate literacy works, especially in dramas or movies. By understanding the function of language will make it easier for readers to understand the purpose of each sentence in daily conversations.

## **E. Scope and Limitation of Study**

The researcher establishes limitation when doing this study. The researcher focuses on types of language functions by Janet Holmes (2013), then the language functions that used by the main character as data, and *Raya and The Last Dragon Movie* as data sources.

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

The title of this thesis is *Language Functions Used by The Main Character in “Raya and The Last Dragon” Movie*. To minimize misunderstandings, the researcher would like to provide some definitions related to this title:

### 1. Language Function

Language Function, according to Beatriz (2009:1), is a communication instrument that can even be considered as the main function of language. Language Function, also known as partial signifier, is inextricably linked to a meaning and cannot be conceptualized without it.

### 2. Character

A character is a person who appears in a narrative or dramatic work of art (such as novel, play, or film).

### 3. Main Character

Main character refers to the person who plays the initial role, the lead actor of the core or major human figure of a literary, dramatic, or musical tale, around whom the events of the plot circle and with whom the audience is expected to feel the most empathy.

### 4. Movie

According to Tomlison and Brown (2002:56), that plays as a literary genre, refers to written, dramatic or scripts intended to be acted.