

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents the background of the study, the formulation of research questions, the purpose of the study, the significance of the study, the scope and the limitation of the study, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of The Research

Language is one of the important thing we use in our life, every day in our daily life we need to communicate with one another using a language. The use of language absolutely has a huge role to make our conversation with people feel connected to each other, such as when we talk to people around us to get a certain goal of the conversation.

Husain (2015:1) defines language as a collection of words strung together in sentences, each with its own identity and meaning. The words are combined in unique ways to produce a highly systematic order from which we derive the meaning. Every individual use language when communicating with one another, and it is used to express ideas, argue a point, and provide directions. So, communicating not only use in spoken form, also can happen in written form.

Language in written form appears in text, such as: in letters, in books, or in news, and it serves the purpose of providing information. During the teaching process, teachers instruct students on how to learn a language. The teacher asks the students to create a text to demonstrate their understanding of language usage. There are various types of text, including descriptive text, recount text, narrative text, and argumentative text.

When writing a text the student take a role as the writer, and the writer need to have a good knowledge in writing skills, especially to describe certain object to the literary works. Canton (2016:12) define if literary is anything that written down, and it is most closely associated with works of fiction, drama, and poetry, and it is now weighed with an intangible sense of worth and superiority. Especially, when creating the text, the writer need to expand the imagination about the object to get a better description, particularly in writing a descriptive text. According to Kane (2000:352) descriptive is description about sensory experience which tells about how it looks, sounds, or tastes. However, it can also be about a visual experience that deals with other perceptions in order to inform specific details about a person, place, or thing.

The creativity of the ideas from the writer is the most important thing to build the imagination to the readers. It necessitates the use of imagination to entice readers and allows the writer to deal with experiences and emotions from a variety of perspectives, whether their own, as the narrator, or create a character to describe the object. When creating characters, the writer need to focus on how they want in the story. Egerton (2007:22) said that “The character has the potential for both good and ill, to do the right thing and the wrong thing, to succeed or fail, and it’s the character’s decision-making along the way that determines the outcome”. The statement implies that the characters in the story live their lives in order to experience some difficulties and happiness, just as most people do. It is the writer's responsibility to explain the character's behavior or attitude through what they do or say in the story. Then, those aspects can be used to describe the characters' personalities.

Writing a good description of the character's personality have to be vivid because it help the writer to enter the reader's imagination intensively over the character they made, the writer use many forms of words that make readers figure out how the characters were created and presented. Furthermore, the use of descriptive writing improving the story to visualize the characters specifically.

Descriptive writing is that domain of writing that develops images through the use of precise sensory words and phrases, and through devices such as metaphor and the sounds of words (McCarthy, 2012). The definition itself explained that in descriptive writing, the sentences or paragraphs will be arranged by the beautifulness of words and the writer must have an ability of it to creating their text. Talking about the use of descriptive writing on the character, it also can be found in the novel. The novel containing some aspects, such as characters, plot, theme, and setting. And the role of the characters itself is important because the character is the one who will experience the conflict to succeed the story line.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher chose a novel to learn about the descriptions used by the writer when creating characters, particularly when building the characters' personalities. There are many novels in the world, and researchers are interested in the 'Flipped' novel by Wendelin Van Draanen which was published in 2001. The novel is about the coming-of-age story of two children named Juliana Baker and Bryce Loski, which began when Bryce's family move in to be neighbors with Juli's family. The novel has a simple plot with a clear path to follow, making the content easy to read and understand. The writer describes the story in such vivid detail; the words used imagery and

parables, and the wording is organized in such a way that it employs many descriptive writing features.

There are some researchers who have discussed about analyzing the descriptive writing on the text. First is the study from Yudha and Chakim (2015, State University of Surabaya) entitled *"An Analysis on Student's Descriptive Writing of Eleventh Grade Students at SMAN 1 Tumpang Malang "*. The focus of the study is to analyze the descriptive writing which has been made by the eleventh graders at SMAN 1 Tumpang. From the data descriptions, it can be conclude that student has different style in expressing ideas. The classification divide into three categories; excellent, good, and poor level. Based on the nine students, there are none of student get excellent level, five students in a good level, and four students in a poor level. The data shows if the student are able to deliver their ideas in writtens, but the problem appeare in the student's ability.

The second study from Purnama (2016, STIKOM Bali) and the title of the study *"Analysis on the Descriptive Writing in Dual Degree Program Stikom Bali"*. The focus of the analysis is on Stikom Bali's students' descriptive writing from Dual-Degree Program. The purpose of this study is to know the ability of students' descriptive writing and the students' problem in writing a descriptive text. The result of the study shows based on thirty students, three students are inappropriate in writing a descriptive writing and the others students having difficulty to developing sentence and describing ideas.

The last study is from Harefa and Zebua (2021, IKIP Gunungsitoli University) with the title of the study *"The Descriptive Analysis of Students' Writing Ability in Narrative Text at the Eighth Grade of SMP Negeri 1*

Gunungsitoli Barat in 2020/2021” the researchers to collecting the data use documentary of student’s worksheet and interview. Based on the data analysis, it can conclude based on 20 students, there are about 7 students have excellent score, 4 students have good category score, 3 students have fair score, and 6 students have poor score. The study explain that the factor effecting student’s ability in writting narrative text because of the cognitif problem, lack grammar and practice, also less mativation.

Based on these three previous studies, the researchers analyze the use descriptive writing and purposes to know the ability of students’ in writing a text. The first and second studies use descriptive text to be analyzed, and the last study use narrative text of students to analyzed the use of descriptive writing. The similarities between this study to these studies to analyze the descriptive writing on the text. However, unlike previous studies that used student-created text as the source of the study, this study uses a novel as the source of the study in order to learn how the novel's writer used descriptive writing to create the character's personality.

Whereas in this study, for the research object the researcher decided to use Flipped novel by Wendelin Van Draanen. In this study, the researcher select sentences or paragraphs in the novel that showed the personality of the main character and analyze the description of the personalities using descriptive writing theory. Therefore, the researcher conduct this study under the title ***“Descriptive Writing on The Main Characters’ Personalities in “Flipped” Novel By Wendelin Van Draanen”***

B. Formulation of Research Question

Based on the background of the study above, the formulation of research the question as follows:

1. How are the description of the main characters' personalities in “Flipped” novel?
2. How are the main characters' personalities in “Flipped” novel can be explained by the theory of descriptive writing?

C. Purpose of The Research

The purpose of the research:

1. To describe the main characters' personalities in “Flipped” novel.
2. To explain the description of the main characters' personalities in “Flipped” novel that can be explained by the theory of descriptive writing.

D. Significant of The Research

The researcher hopefully give benefit both theoretically and practically:

1. Theoretically: this research is expected as the useful reference in order to understanding the content of the descriptive writing to help a writer, even student or teacher in describing things, place, or person and help to leads arranging words into good description.
2. Practically: by doing the research, hopefully the researcher get the information for the further studies and can be used for better understanding in analyze the descriptive written.

E. Scope and Limitation of The Research

The study's limitations are very useful for the researcher, learners recognize that there are various types of texts. The researcher use the text that

presented in form of novel because the writer must be skilled in presenting the story, they are reliable in developing ideas while describing an objects, such as describing the character's personality. There are many novels in the world, and the researcher choose "Flipped" novel by Wandelin Van Draanen. However, in order to make the topic more specific, the researcher decided to set the limitations and focus on discussing descriptive writing theory in order to analyze the personalities of the main characters.

F. Definition of Key Terms

In this part of research, the researcher would like to use terms in order to avoid misunderstanding:

1. Character

Character is a person who has important role in whole story, such as novel or movies. Without the role of the characters, the story would not attractive because characters have a big influence for the plot on the story.

2. Personality

Personality can be defined as the appereance of the character in the story, can be found by interacting with the family or society.

3. Descriptive Writing

Descriptive writing is a model of writing to describing a person, a place or an object with vivid details that a writer can create a descriptive scene in the readers' mind (Suriyanti & Yaacob, 2016)

4. Novel

Novel is long story that presented in a book. The story containing heavy aspect and deals with sequence problems that will be experienced by the characters, and have intention to entertain the readers.

5. Flipped Novel

Flipped is a novel was published by Wendelin Van Draanen in 2001, in this novel, the author gives two points of view from the main characters, Bryce Loski and Juliana Bakers in turn. Readers understand the feeling, emotions, and perceptions of both characters.