CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

It is inevitable that literature works picture human life in the society which has various features, such as creativeness, artistry, and styles in the content. Literature introduces us to a new whole world of entertainment and the moral lesson we can learn from a literary work. According to Supadjar (2003, p. 15), "Literary works that was created from a different world view." As the reader of a literary work, people can relate to the phenomena that have been going on in the environment. The emergence of people reading novel during the COVID-19 pandemic, made the researcher of this study realized that studying literature is also a part of English education. Moreover, the reason why the researcher chose literature as the topic of her thesis was because she was interested in analyzing and learning about the character's characteristics and specifically why the character – the Hatter was being called "Mad Hatter", when the author, Lewis Carroll, never used the term 'Mad' before his name.

Stated by Rohrberger and Woods (as cited in Nurniati, 2001, p. 2) that "there are four modern literacy genres – short story, poetry, novel, play or drama. Each genre has its own form." Depending on the topic, the researcher chose novel as a literary work to be analyzed. Novels, a literary work, represent some values in the character presented by a distinctive cast or character in the novel. Reading a novel broadens our knowledge of various characteristics of human being which may occur in the reality. Reading a novel may provide the readers with excitement, enjoyment, fresh point of view, knowledge, inspiration, and many other things that may also improve the readers' language skills.

The analysis sets out using deconstructive reading method to fully comprehend the text from its details. The researcher reads and re-read the

novel, which creates understanding of the novel and also developing the critical thinking. This deconstruction theory is a philosophy that could be applied to literary criticism. The theory is an approach, which pursues to expose the contradictions and internal oppositions in a text; showing that a text may betray itself. As an instance, the word of 'book' will produce the concept of book in the readers' thoughts; however, the theory sees that language does not have a stable meaning, and the word 'book' could change depending on the context.

One of the finest works of Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventure in Wonderland, tells a story of a young girl having an adventure in Wonderland. She met the Hatter, a creature living in Wonderland whom she considered rude for the first time she met. The researcher chose this novel "Alice's Adventure in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll, because the plot of the story was amusing. Moreover, the theme of Alice's Adventure in Wonderland was a never-ending source of literary, philosophical, and scientific theme. The researcher specifically interested in analyzing the character "the Hatter" because the character seemed very eccentric which made the character himself stands out more and caught the researcher's attention.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

1. What are the characteristics of 'Mad Hatter' in Alice's Adventure in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll through Deconstructive Reading Method?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the questions formulated, the objective of this study is to analyze the characteristics of the Hatter in the novel "Alice's Adventure in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll using the Deconstructive Reading Method by Jacques Derrida.

1.4 Significance of the Study

    This study is expected to give some contribution to the students of English Language Education Study Program of Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University who are interested in learning literature and also reading literary works. Literary research is expected to vary the knowledge, especially in literary criticism and approaches. This study uses deconstructive theory to analyze the characterization of a character in a novel. The researcher aims to show opposite characteristics of the Hatter who is popular with the name "Mad Hatter".

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

    The researcher is interested in analyzing the characterizations of Hatter in the novel because the characters portrayed in the novel seem unusual and Hatter stands out more than the other characters. Therefore, the researcher is eager to analyze the characteristics of "the Hatter". The researcher also finds the other characters' interaction with the Hatter; to compare how the Hatter would behave with different individuals. The author of the novel never used the term "Mad" in the Hatter's name. Therefore, this study focuses on analyzing the characteristics of the Hatter. The study employs a theory of deconstructing by Jacques Derrida to deconstruct the characteristics of Mad Hatter and the eccentricity of the character in the novel. The current analysis is limited by time; therefore the researcher did not go further to analyze the language of the author used in the novel.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

    1. Novel

            "Novel is an invented prose narrative of considerable length and a certain complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience, usually through a connected sequence of events involving a group of persons in a specific setting." (Burgess, 2022). Novel is a form of

human's creativity in making a narrative of characters and the world they live in. A work needs these followings traits to be considered a novel:

a. Written in prose; the narrators' points of view may vary.
b. Consist of considerable length or word count. A short novel would be considered as 'novella', and even shorter would be 'short fiction'.
c. Fictional content; a novel could be inspired by true events or based on individual's experiences.

2. Deconstruction theory

It is a theory of literary analysis that opposes any assumptions of any structure. Deconstruction theory is a philosophical theory which is inspired from the works of Jacques Derrida. The main purpose of this theory is to figure out the relationship between the text and the meaning of it. "Deconstruction involves the close reading of texts in order to demonstrate that may give text have irreconcilably contradictory meanings, rather than being a unified, logical whole." (Mambrol, 2016). In Western culture, people tend to think and express their thoughts in term of binary oppositions (white >< black, man >< woman, presence >< absence). Derrida suggested these oppositions are hierarchies, which contained the Western culture views as positive or superior and the other are considered as negative or inferior. Derrida aims to erase the boundaries between the binary oppositions.

3. Alice's Adventure in Wonderland

Alice's Adventure in Wonderland is an English fantasy novel written by Lewis Carroll. It was published in November 1865 by Macmillan. The novel told a story of a young girl, Alice, having an adventure in Wonderland. She saw a white rabbit wearing vest and bringing its watch running and screaming that it was late. Because of

Alice's curiosity, she went down a rabbit-hole into Wonderland. She met so many creatures in Wonderland; they were all became such representatives of human beings' personalities which guided Alice and showed Alice the adult's perspectives.

The researcher read the digital replica of the first edition of Lewis Carroll's work Alice's Adventure in Wonderland. In 2000, Peter Zelchenko published a project to create the 'E-book' version of the first edition of the novel at the Newberry Library in Chicago. Peter matched the exact line-to-line of his digital version and the first edition.