

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language learning is so essential for man's life. It serves people some various uses, understanding someone else, for instance. They can introduce to each other and build a warm conversation. Principally, the advantage of that learning is for communication among others. Language learning can be taken out from many sources. Literary work is one of them. There are many kinds of literary work. They are : novel, drama, and short story. A reader may find out a number of expressions from novel. This means that he is learning a language. For that reason, literature is defined as a subject in schools and colleges. But in fact, not all students are interested in learning literature.

Generally, a number of the students face some difficulties in learning any pieces of literary work. Some of them have had trial and error to handle the matter, but nothing changes. As a result, it arises a kind of disattraction toward literary works. Some others regard that literary work has no connection with the education. In fact, the analysis in literature might be able to give contributions to education. It may inform much about culture, facts of daily life, values, and many other things.

Literature is something expressed excellently which is offering pleasure. It contains the record of man's values, thoughts, problems and conflicts since literature relates to the main elements of man's culture (Graham Little, 1966, p.1). One's perception toward a literary work might have differences. The estimation of a good literature is quite subjective.

The main purpose of analyzing literature is to enable the readers to understand and evaluate the terms of literary works, in order to be able to gain the meaning well. It must consider two major points included in a literary work. Literature says something worth saying. A good literature helps much to understand about life surround us. It

embodies thoughts and feeling as a whole, for instance : love, hatred, death, and so on. Next, literature is something well and that is expressed beautifully (Little , p.2).

There are two types of literary work. First of all is oral literature that might consist of fable and tale. Fable talks more about morality and truths. A story describing about strange and wonderful events without detailed character drawing is called tale. The next one is written literature. Novels and short stories, here, have dominated the modern English literature (X. J. Kennedy, 1983, p.4).

A novel is a part of literary work which teaches people about life, facts and truth. It might reflect man's attitude and behavior towards life and society. By following the story inside a novel, a reader can judge one or more characters making mistakes and he knows how they should be. One may feel sorry about a bad thing happened or even, he can consume a solution of the same problem that he experiences. Various kinds of human emotion will be found in literature, especially in narrative works. According to Kennedy,

" A novel ..., whose author tries to create the sense that, while we read, we experience actual life " (Kennedy , p 231)

From the quotation above, the writer would like to say that by reading novels, one learns much about life. He might realize which one is good and evil! It is just not such an entertainment, but it also helps people to be aware of this life.

Hence, the writer, takes novel as his subject matter of this thesis. He chose one of the major authors, Franz Kafka, as his study. This author was born to a Jewish family in Prague. Kafka graduated from the German university in Prague and received his law degree in 1906. He did not write a lot and in general, the theme of his novels is the frustration, bewilderment, and loneliness of modern man, who struggles against incomprehensible forces (Irving Howe, 1966, p.562). The writer here is interested in Kafka's The Metamorphosis better than the others since it serves more challenging ideas. Actually, the title, itself, has a term 'change'. He wonders and would like to analyze whether the 'change' happens toward each character in that story. This novel,

moreover, is a study of complication and complexities of the poor and harassed little man, a clerk or salesman trembling before superiors, who is always afraid of losing job, and really wishes to go by life unnoticed and unrebuked (Howe, p.399). What Kafka showed in his novel might happen to anyone, might occur in one's daily life. And how could one overcome this problem? Should one do the same thing as what Kafka showed through his main character or the other ones? This is the reason why the writer would like to choose the characters as the topic to be analyzed in this study.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There are some questions arise here. What kind of characters are they inside the novel, the major ones, and in particular, the protagonist? Furthermore, in connection with the title *The Metamorphosis*, what changes does each character experience? How does each of them change?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

Concerning with the problem, the purpose of this study is to analyze those major characters inside the story, and in particular, the protagonist. The writer here would like to have the character analysis by considering some points suggested by experts. Then, he will discuss about the changes experienced by those characters. This involves the analysis of the crisis, the conflict that happened, and what solution that might appear among them.

1.4 The Significance of the Study

This study is expected to be able to give some contributions to the students of the English Department in understanding and evaluating literary works

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In this study, the writer would like to limit the discussion to the question of how to study the main characters and what changes they experienced

1.6 The Methodology

In analyzing this literary work, the writer intends to apply the content analysis to the following items :

- 1.6.1 Analyzing the major characters of *The Metamorphosis*, and in particular, the protagonist.
- 1.6.2 Discussing the changes experienced by each character of the novel.

1.7 The Organization of the Paper

There are five chapters in this study. Chapter I concerns with the introduction : background of the study, the statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, scope and limitation, the methodology and the organization of the paper. Chapter II deals with the review of related literature, the details of characterization, and the critics upon the novel. The data are obtained basically from the novel being discussed which are analyzed to get the conclusion.

The analysis of the characters then is presented in chapter III. Chapter IV is concerned with the analysis of some changes that are experienced by each of those characters. And chapter V consists of conclusions and suggestions.