

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The researcher presents the background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, assumption, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study and definition of key term.

A. The Background of the Study

The literature is a socially purposive discursive activity (sign practicing and organizing) that we suppose to serve some specifiable roles within the totality of different discursive practices composing what we call society (and how any society understands itself) (Reis, 1992:1). A literature also contains several elements; they are intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. There are some aspects of intrinsic elements. One intrinsic element is a character.

Character is an important element or aspect in intrinsic element. Especially in novels, characters in literature are created by authors to convey their ideas and feelings about something that is happening in this world. The character has the power to dominate the whole story in a literature. To present the character of literature there is a way called the characterization. The characterization is the hallmark of fictional forms such as short stories, novels, drama, and narrative poetry (Grolier, 1977:291). When we read a novel, there will be feelings and seeing stories about the lives of each character in the novel. When the author writes a novel, he will not only cause feelings of pleasure to the reader but also convey a message about the events

and actions of the people the character in the novel. The author describes that everyone has difference in character, such as temperamental, feeling of belonging or sense of humor.

The Character is important because character is the foundation of building a quality nation. With the character of state officials will not eat public money for personal gain. With the character of a teacher can pass on his knowledge properly and correctly without expecting a reply. In education, characterization also is very important because to know and understand the character of a student, the teacher must be able to master the characterization. Moreover, now in curriculum K.13, the character is mainly emphasized on characterization. Therefore, characterization is very important to be applied in education for the success of the K.13 curriculum. Someone is said to have character if his behavior is in accordance with moral and religious values. To analyze the characterization, there is some media used by the researchers. One media used by the researchers is a novel.

The researcher interests to analyze the characterization of the A Beautiful Mind novel because the theme of this novel is not only about love but also about the struggling of a genius mathematician named John Forbes Nash, who succeeded in creating economic concepts that are now used as the basis of economic theory. Nash is a simple man from the village of Virginia described as a loner, shy, inferior, introverted and strange at the same time.

When the researcher read and chose this novel, the author was interested in the main characters John Forbes Nash and Alicia Lard (Nash's

wife). These two characters are interesting characters. They bring readers in the events that they experienced and other changes in other lives. The researcher focuses more on research on the main character of John Forbes Nash in the novel *A Beautiful Mind*. Nash's way of thinking about mathematics is different from scientists in general. And Nash's character according to the author has its own uniqueness. This is what makes this novel worthy of being read and becoming the best-selling novel of the century. *A Beautiful Mind* novel is a work that is not enough to be enjoyed, but needs to get a scientific response.

Based on the reasons above, the researcher is interested to conduct the research entitled “An Analysis of Characterization of John Forbes Nash in the Novel *A Beautiful Mind* by Sylvia Nasar”.

B. The Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the problems above, the researcher formulates the problem of this research as follows:

1. How is the characterization of John Forbes Nash as the main character of the Novel “*A Beautiful Mind*” by Sylvia Nasar?

C. The Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem, the purpose of this research is:

1. To describe the characterization of John Forbes Nash as the main character of the Novel “*A Beautiful Mind*” by Sylvia Nasar.

D. The Scope and Limitation of the Study

This research only focuses on analyzing the characterization of John Forbes Nash of the Novel “A Beautiful Mind” by Sylvia Nasar.

E. The Assumption

This research is based on the assumption that the characterizations of the main character John Forbes Nash in the novel *A Beautiful Mind* by Sylvia Nasar can be identified by the language expressions (Edgar V. Roberts, 1983). There will be several ways used by the researcher to reveal the main character’s characterization.

F. The Significance Of The Study

The significance of this analysis is to give more understanding of the characterizations found in literary works especially novels. In literary works, such as short stories, poetry and drama, there are characterizations that the author wants to send and emphasize to the reader.

1. For English Teacher

The results of this research can provide an overview for the Language and Literature Teacher at the level of high school or equivalent that the novel *A Beautiful Mind* by Sylvia Nasar is either used as material or learning the material in accordance with the applicable curriculum about characterization.

2. For Student

Expected to be able to improve students' ability to understand and appreciate one's character

3. For other Researchers

The result of this research can be used as a reference for other researchers.

G. The Operational Definition

1. Characterization is a method used by the author to bring up or describing the character of the actor.
2. The character is a personal trait that belongs to someone or something.
3. Characteristic is a character that stands out from someone's personal or something different from others.
4. Novel is a long story that describes imagination or life that has many roles and contains several intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements.
Written in a series of stories and published in book form by a writer.

