CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a very important aspect of a human's life (Waingankar, 2018). It can be in a form of spoken or written. Anushka Raghava (2016) states that "Language's main purpose is to inform the people around us of what we feel, desire, and question/understand in the world around us". Language helps humans to communicate and interact with one another (Hillary, 2003). "Language is important because it opens up doors that normally many people wouldn't be able to open." (Preston, 2016). The Oxford English Dictionary defines language as a method of human communication, either spoken or written, consists of the use of words in a structured and conventional way.

In order to improve one's language, the development of words is needed. In the process of language development, there is literature that is used as language enrichment (Carvalho, 2016). "The use of literary texts provides an authentic model for learners that supports their language enrichment." (Mart, 2016). Unlike informational materials, literary texts stimulate the language acquisition process. Cağrı Tuğrul Mart (2016) states that the role of literature in language is considered very beneficial in language learning because it advances learners' competence in all language skills.

Furthermore, Mario Klarer (1998) explains that "Literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression with the restriction that

not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word". Literature itself is divided into two major divisions (Follero, 2016). The first one is Poetry, (from Greek) means "making". The second one is Prose. Kitty Locker (2013) defines prose as the most typical form of written language, applying ordinary grammatical structure and natural flow of speech rather than rhythmic structure as in traditional poetry.

Drucker (2010) emphasizes that prose is written in complete sentences and organized in paragraphs. Instead of focusing on sound, which is what poetry does, prose tends to focus on plot and characters (Drucker, 2010). The prose is divided into fiction and non-fiction according to its story. The fiction type of prose includes fairy tales, mythologies, legends, fables, novels, allegories, etc. Prose is also divided into 3 types based on their story length: the longest one is a novel, the shortest one is a short story and a novella is in between (Barry, 1995).

Syed Hunbbel Meer (2016) argues that a novel is one of the more common literature works that people encounter. A novel often involves multiple major characters, sub-plots, conflicts, points of view, and twists. The plot moves forward through many characters, actions, thoughts, time periods, and situations. A novel is usually no shorter than 40,000 words. For modern publication, editors often consider it to spread over 80,000 – 120,000 words. Meigan Gates Goodyer (2008) states that form is free in a novel, and a novelist's only imperatives are to entertain and to cling to the genre's reason (raison d'être): to reflect on human nature (Kundera, 1990).

In this study, the writer will use a novel entitled "Wonder" by RJ Palacio. The writer will use the objective theory of analysis in which she

will see the work as the way it is. The writer chooses the novel because of its recognition background. The novel is an international bestseller novel according to The New York Times and also has won some awards such as the Texas Bluebonnet Award Annotated 2013-2014 Master List, Children's Book Award Winners Announced at Maine Reading Conference, 2015 Nene Award, and Champagne Library Illinois Award Winner.

The novel *"Wonder"* tells a story about a boy named "August" who was a special need child. He was born with a facial deformity, a combination of Treacher Collins syndrome and a hemifacial microsomia characteristic. In the novel, August parents sent August to a regular school because they wanted him to experience the real world. Because of that decision, August faced many challenges. Olivia, her sister, despite her own problems, shared love and motivation that greatly helped August through his hard times. At the end of the story, August achieved an award from his school and he also made some friends.

Furthermore, the values or human experience samples of a novel can be seen from "Wonder" by R.J Palacio. This study is going to serve the love and affection from Olivia Pullman, the main character's sister. The writer chooses her because people often misinterpret Olivia as a girl who only seeking attention. Her thoughts about having treated unfairly make her looks two-faced. It is like she is jealous and hates her brother so much. However, that is not necessarily the fact. Behind her thoughts, she does not express any of her thoughts towards other people. She only has those thoughts for herself, but her attitude is quite in a different way. She loves her brother more than anything. Olivia's love is genuine, and she does not ask anything in return. In this research, the writer will analyze

the novel to clarify the statement. The writer will observe how Olivia expresses her 'love and affection' and how August reacts to Olivia's attitude. Therefore, the writer decides to take Olivia from "Wonder" novel as the subject for this research on love and affection.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

1. How does Via express her love and affection towards her brother?
2. How does her attitude affect her brother?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out:

1. The way Via expresses her love and affection towards her brother.
2. The way Via's attitude affects her brother.

1.4 Theoretical Framework

1. Theories of literary analysis:

M.H. Abrams (1953) developed a way of categorizing literature and literary criticism based on deciding the most important aspect of text in general. Literary theories can be divided into four main groups. The following are the classification of literary theories according to Abrams's book *The Mirror and the Lamp* (1953):

- Mimetic Theory: a literary approach which focused on the relationship between text and the universe (means all things of the world apart from audience, text, and author).

- Pragmatic theory: a literary approach which interested in the relationship between text and the audience.
- Expressive theory: a literary approach which concerned about the text and author relationship.
- Objective theory: a literary approach in which the major point is to see the work (the art) as the way it is (interested in close reading of the Work).

In this study, the writer will focus on the objective theory because the purpose of the objective theory meets the purpose of this research.

2. Love and affection:

Love is a strong feeling or deep affection for somebody or something, especially a member of a family or a friend (Hornby, 1948). Love is a strong feeling for another arising out of kinship or personal ties. It is also defined as an unselfish loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another. (Webster, 1981).

Affection is the emotional state of liking or loving somebody or something very much and caring about them (Collins, 1979). Affection is kind feeling tender attachment: love, good, will. Affection is a strong emotion or passion (such as anger, fear or hatred) (Webster, 1981). Affection produces feelings of intimacy, security, significance, and respect in a relationship. Affection results in the tender feelings that are often called love (Davis, 2008).

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to beneficial for:

- The readers to understand how love and affection reflected inside the novel.
- The readers to understand that a character is not only seen by the thoughts inside the mind but also the attitude.
- The researchers to conduct further research with a similar topic.

1.6 Scope and Limitation

- The scopes of this study:
  1. The novel. The writer uses a novel entitled "Wonder" by RJ Palacio. The writer sets aside the story in the movie, because there may be some differences between the movie and the story in the novel.
  2. Love and affection. The writer will examine only love and affection values in the novel.
- The limitations of this study:
  1. In the lights of objective theory, the writer will use the theory of literary analysis from Meyer Howard Abrams (1953).
  2. The writer will examine the main character's sister, Olivia, inside the book.

1.7 Definition of Key-Terms

Followings are the definition of important key terms in this thesis:

1. **Love:** is the most powerful emotion a human being can experience. It is used as an expression of affection towards

someone else based on compassion, affection and kindness (Catron, 2014).

2. **Affection:** is a deep, long-standing commitment to understand what other's needs and the willingness to consistently strive to meet those needs (Davis, 2008).

3. **Novel:** is a relatively long work of narrative fiction, normally in prose, which is typically published as a book (Lukács**,** 1971).

4. **Olivia Pullman:** is the main character in Wonder. She is the older sister of August and the daughter of Isabel and Nate Pullman. She is a student at Faulkner High School. (Lacanilao, 2016)

5. **Wonder:** is a novel about children by Raquel Jaramillo, under the pen name of R.J. Palacio, published by The Random House Group on February 14, 2012.

6. **R.J. Palacio:** is a pen name of Raquel Jaramillo Palacio (born July 13, 1963) an American author and graphic designer (Palacio, 2017).