

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

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### Introduction

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

The literature of any society reveals the values, the conflicts and the experiences both past and present of its people. Through the literature of people, it is possible to gain some insights into their attitudes, beliefs and problems, in order to achieve that by learning literary works. Through of learning literary works, the students do not only gain vocabulary but also the pleasure that they expect to experience in their daily life. According to Barnet (1963:1), "Literature has in it an element of entertaining or to afford pleasure". So in learning literary works can give the enjoyment in people's lives. Literature can also broaden students' knowledge and build their intellectual and personal. Robert (1977:2) states, "Literature helps us grow, both personally and intellectually, it provides an objective base for our knowledge and understanding". In the same harmony with Robert, William (1951:8) says "Literature is a vast

treasure from which readers can obtain the materials and build up their intellectual and moral knowledge".

All the reasons of learning literary works encourage the writer to choose literary study as the subject matter of her thesis.

There are three genres in literary works. They are prose fiction such as short story and novel, poetry and drama. These three genres have many common characteristics. Each of them requires structure, style and in varying degrees, they are based in dramatic or imaginative situations. They are also related to the truths of human life, it may be based that may happen or have never happened in surrounding us. Here, the writer of this thesis chooses to analyse a novel as the subject of her research since it is different from any other forms of literature. According to Little (1966:68), "the novel is the longest form of prose fiction, in which we may find most extraordinarily wide range of writing". In other words, novel has its length, which makes it possible for the writer to develop the elements of the novel that she wants. One of the elements that is greatly emphasized with novel is character. Little (1966:68) says "A good novel should concern in character because of its scope a novel will be expected to present one or a few considerable depth". While Little gives the stress to the length of the novel and the development of the character, Hawthorne says a

a novel may include references to real people, places and events but it contains on such reference and remain a novel. In other words , eventhough the characters fully or imaginary , they are in same sense representative of the real life so that it should not be in contradiction of the real people. Levine (1967:11) also states that the tendency of the readers when they read a novel is to become absorded in the characters and to think them as a real people.

The writer has choosen Charles Dickens as the novelist because he is one of the most successful English novelists. He is also one of the greatest. He has written a great number of novels , his brilliant example in writing historical romances ie Great Expectations.

Charles Dickens began writing his first produced novel, Sketches by Boz (1836), and publishing The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club, his first great success. Dickens followed the success of Oliver Twist with Nicholas Nickleby (1838-9), The Old Curiosity Shop (1840-41) and Barnaby Rudge (1841). After traveling from America, Dickens wrote Martin Chuzzlewit (1843-4) and the hugely popular Christmast Books. After the publication of Dombey and son in 1846-8 Dickens' novels increasingly sombre, with his social criticism more radical and his comedy more savage. The later period began with Bleak house (1853) and

included the following other major novels (1861), A Tale of Two Cities (1859), Great Expectations (1861) and Our Mutual Friend (1865). His last novel was never completed and was later posthumously.

Dickens is known because of the kind of novel that he must produce. In his works, he will be sentimental, especially over the orphans and outcasts from society. His sensibility will keep him always close to the public, studying its taste and playing with its smile and tears. He fights against injustice, he champions to the weak against the strong, he gives courage to the faint and hopes to the weary in heart.

The writer has been interested in Charles Dickens' novel Great Expectations since Dickens created whole words of characters, exaggerated but unforgettable. He also constructed plots which keep the reader's attention to the end. For the critical opinion Humphry House quotes George Bernard Shaw as saying that Great Expectations is Dickens most compactly perfect book...It is all of a piece and consistently truthful as none of the other books are".

Great Expectations is also known as the glories of the novel, because its characterization, his genius for creating extraordinary characters continued unflagging as a vehicle for his message of the triumph of good over evil comes his final greatness. This work is what made Great Expectations a master piece and Dickens one of the great

est writers who ever lived.

In this thesis the writer would like to discuss about the character development of the protagonist. It is taken because the protagonist character has a complex character. She also wants to discuss about the relationship between the protagonist and the other characters. In Great Expectations, Pip as the protagonist is an orphan. He is raised by his sister, Mrs Joe Gargery, befriended by her husband on the village Blacksmith. His career begins by meeting a convict, Abel Magwitch, on the marshes. One day he is introduced to the house of Miss Havisham, a rich lady, who in a spirit of revenge, has brought up the girl Estella to use her beauty as a means of torturing men. Pip falls in love with her and aspires him to become a gentleman. Money and expectations of more wealth comes to him from unknown benefactor which he believes to be Miss Havisham. Being a gentleman proves that he is now in the upper class. Therefore, he neglects his old friends because they are from the the lower class. Misfortunes come upon him. His unknown benefactor proves to be an escaped convict, Magwitch, and his expectations fade away because Estella marries Drummle. Having misfortunes makes him a good man. Through this character development, the writer feels sympathy toward Pip and makes her wonder why a man who can do anything to achieve his great expectations, neglect his best friends can change into a real gentle-

man. Therefore the writer of this thesis decides to analyse the novel deeply particularly about the protagonist and the character development. The writer also intends to analyse the relationship between the protagonist and the other characters.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

This study is intended to analyse and describe Pip's character development as a protagonist in Charles Dickens' novel Great Expectations. The writer would also like to analyse and describe the relationship between the protagonist and the other minor characters involved.

Therefore, the following questions are:

1. What are the character developments of the protagonist?
2. What is the relationship between the protagonist and the other characters?

### **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

In line with the problems statement the objective of this study is to find out the character development of the protagonist. The writer also wants to analyse and describe the protagonist character, Pip, as well as the relationship with the other characters.

#### 1.4 The Significance of the Study

This study hopefully can give an insight for the fellow students to understand literary works especially novel. With this thesis the writer also hopes that the study of character development of protagonist and the relationship between the protagonist and the other characters can be a good consideration for the students of English Department of Widya Mandala to understand novel better especially in Charles Dickens' novel, Great Expectations.

#### 1.5 Scope and Limitation

The writer limits her discussion on the protagonist, Pip, and the development of his character. The writer would also like to limit the discussion on the relationship toward Pip as the protagonist and the other four minor characters: Joe, Miss Havisham, Estella, Abel Magwitch. The reason why the writer wants to discuss her study on Pip is that because Pip is the protagonist character in Charles Dickens' novel who is capable of change and development in his life. Furthermore, Psychological Analysis is used here since this study deals with the behaviour of the protagonist character of Great Expectations : Pip. This is justified since every human being has

his own characteristics that indicate him to another person by his behaviour. He also has interesting relationship with the other characters that influence his life.

### 1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation, some key terms used in this study are defined:

- a. Literature is a kind of art, usually written that offers pleasure and illumination (literature, An Introduction to fiction, Poetry and Drama, 1983:v)
- b. Novel is a fictional prose written of considerable length, topically having plan is unfold by the actions, speech and thoughts of the character. (The American Heritage Dictionary, 1966:1239)
- c. Character is an extended verbal representation of human being the inner self that determines thought, speech, and behaviour a reasonable facsimile of human being. (Roberts and Jacobs, 1989:143)
- d. The protagonist is the central character in the conflict, whether he will be a sympathetic or an unsympathetic person. (Perrine, 1966:59)
- e. Development is a progression from a simpler or lower to more advanced, mature or complex form or stage :

the development of an aptitude into an accomplishment; the evolution of a plant from a seed; attempts made to foster social progress. (American Heritage Dictionary, 1966:511)

- f. Relationship is a particular type of connection existing between people related to or having dealings with each other: has a close relationship with his siblings. (American Heritage Dictionary, 1966:1523)
- g. Psychology is the science of behaviour, especially of human behaviour. (Lindgren, 1961:3)
- h. Psychology Analysis is any study of the characters in a literary work or the relationship between an author's life and his writing will include a certain amount of psychological means any study of the soul. (Guerin et al, 1986:8)

### **1.7 The Organization of the Thesis**

This thesis consists of five chapters, Chapter I deals with the Introduction while Chapter II concerns with Review of Related Studies. In Chapter III, the writer describes Research Methodology. Chapter IV presents the Analysis. Finally the fifth chapter is dealing with the Conclusions and Suggestions.