

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This research focuses on analyzing a literary work that explains about hero analyzing in a novel. The writer analyzed the values of heroism in the science-fiction novel, *The Maze Runner*. As a general introduction, this chapter presents background of research, statement of problem, the purpose of the research, the significance of the research, definition of key term and organization of paper.

### 1.1 Background of Research

Novel is a prose fiction of considerable length showing characters in action, and capable of greater complexity in both character and plot than the short story, but we can, therefore, agree on the vogue definition that novel is a book length piece of imaginative fiction (Singleton and Millet, 1996: 1194). Furthermore, when studying a text novel, there are several aspects of the novel, which the readers would need to know well, such as theme, plot, character, characterization, point of view, style, tone, language and setting. The intrinsic elements are very important in the novel to describe story, which make a story come to life.

The writer takes a novel as an object that will be further analyzed. According to Cuddon (1999: 560) novel derived from Italian *novella*, 'tale, piece of news', and now applied to a wide variety of writings whose only common attribute is that they are extended pieces of prose fiction. Novel also fiction that offering world, a world contains ideal life's model imaginative world that built with the various intrinsic elements.

Character influences how someone makes decisions, or chooses to act or not to act; it summarizes the general way in which a person deals with others. According to Bennett and Royle (2009: 73) that character is:

“The life of literature: they are the objects of our curiosity and fascination, affection and dislike, admiration and condemnation. Indeed, so intense is our relationship with literary characters that they often cease to be simply ‘objects’.”

Character is a person in literary work. Character is what a man or woman is morally, it based on a sense of self-esteem and self-confidence. Schirova defined in his book entitled *How to Analyze Fiction* (2006: 23) Character may be *major* and *minor*, *flat (simple)* or *round (complex)*. Without character, there is no a novel. Because of character in the novel will control the plot of the story in the novel. Character in the novel can be divided into major, minor, flat or round. Characters are all the product of characterization, that is to say, they have been made in particular way. Characters are what they like because the way they have been made. The kind of conversation they have, the things they do, their appearance and so on are the particular ways in which the author has chosen to characterize of his or her characters.

The main character is the figure that takes precedence in a novel. It is a figure of the most widely told, both as object of events and subject of events (Nurgiyantoro, 2007: 177). The main character has a big part in the story; it always develops the story, and mostly appears on the text. It is also an important role in a story and become a central attention in novel. Character consists of the several kinds. The one of character is hero. (Schirova, 2006: 22) The terms hero (heroine) and villain may also be

used to describe the leading character and his opponent. They do not sound neutral and imply the presence or the absence of outstanding virtue. The hero is a person who has performed a heroic act and is regarded as a model or ideal. Hero that explains by Bennett and Royle on the book entitled *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory* (2009: 67) is the person with whom we 'identify', with whom we sympathize or empathize, or whose position or role we imaginatively inhabit.

According to Garry and El-Shamy (2005: 10) the culture hero then undertakes a series of adventures, quests, and/or tests during which he may slay monsters or search for something of value. In the story of novel, the value character of hero is the standards of behavior considered acceptable and right or quality of being useful or important. In most modern fiction, however, the leading character is much more ordinary. Such a character is sometimes called the antihero, not because he opposes the hero, but because he is not like a hero in stature or perfection (Schirova, 2006: 23). Based on the definition, the hero's moral stature is unquestionably the most fundamental. An uncompromising commitment to morality is the foundation of heroism. The hero character has been shown to be brave, courageous possessing or displaying courage, able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching. The writer can define heroism as the characteristics of the hero. According to Rampan (1999: 146) Heroism is a trait brave unyielding in any situations. The values of heroism have been portraying in many ways in literature.

In this research, the writer uses the element of hero on the main character to study about heroism valued in the novel of the main character, Thomas. As the main character, Thomas becomes an object of the research because he is the most dominant character who makes the story become interested. The writer want to analyze this novel, the writer have to know the intrinsic element first, and then the writer can see the extrinsic element. Furthermore, the writer can avoid three main point, they are main character, main conflict and then main theme. These three points have a deep connection to form the unity in fiction. They also influence the development of the story in the novel because they can make novel become more interesting and valueable.

*The Maze Runner* is the science-fiction story although it is not happen in the real life. Thomas wakes up in a place completely unknown to him, and he forgets all about his life. Thomas was very curious about who had sent him to the Glade. In his new place, Thomas made friends with some Gladers (Newt, Alby and Minho). From the first time he comes to the Glade, Thomas amazed with Minho, Thomas also feel like he have to be Glader like Newt, Alby and Minho. Thomas doesn't know the situation in the Glade filled with Griever. Thomas, though in the state completely dangerous, he doesn't give up to encourage his friends to get out of the Glade even though some of his friends died because of many attack. While Thomas finally becomes the Glader, Thomas with his friends finally escapes from the labyrinth.

Although there are many Gladers (Newt, Alby, Minho, and Thomas himself) that can bring all of the people out in the Maze, Thomas is chosen to be the central heroic in this novel. The statement above becomes the writer's reason to analyze the novel *The Maze Runner* which is focused on the intrinsic element especially the main character. In this research, the writer wants to know deeper about the characteristic of the main character and is supported by the plot to find out the influence the character's values of Heroism from the novel of James Dashner, *The Maze Runner*.

This research is chosen because the writer is interested in studying literature. By reading and analyzing literature work automatically it can develop our knowledge and science. Besides it arranged the works that are chosen by the author. In addition, the writer can also get the feeling or experiences author from the object of the study in novel *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner. After reading and studying this novel, the writer can give some information concerning the novel through the way of play based on the character.

## 1.2 Statement of Problem

According to the background of the research, the writer formulates the statement of the question as:

1. What are the characteristic of hero on the main character in *The Maze Runner* novel?
2. What are the values of heroism do the main character have?

### 1.3 The Purpose of the Research

According to the main problem of the research, the writer formulates the purpose of the research as:

1. To understand the characteristic of hero on the main character in *The Maze Runner* novel.
2. To know the values of heroism do the main character have.

### 1.4 The Significance of the Research

Through this research, the writer hopes it can develop potential in literature, and especially to make the writer understands about the values of heroism in *The Maze Runner's* novel deeply, also in improving skills deeper analysis of values of heroism in literary works. Moreover it will stimulate students to get more understanding of Thomas existence as the main character by some values of heroism that make him capable to out of the labyrinth in *The Maze Runner* novel by James Dashner.

This study has significance for the students. First of all, this study is meant to encourage the students to study more about literature. This study also gives information concerning the novel through the role play based on the plot and character. Then, to give the information to the reader to study the novel as one of literary works and to the reader have a better understanding about the content of the story. The most important thing is this study is meant to provide a model for those who are doing literary study. The writer hope that this research make everyone think that novels are exciting thing to be analyzed.

## 1.5 Definition of Key Term

In order to minimize misinterpretation on the key terms used in this research, the writer clarified some key points as follows:

### 1. Novel

According to Cuddon (1999: 560) novel derived from Italian *novella*, 'tale, piece of news', and now applied to a wide variety of writings whose only common attribute is that they are extended pieces of prose fiction.

### 2. Character

The characters were short prose sketches of different types of people moulded to a pattern (Schirova, 2006: 23).

### 3. The Main Character

The main character is the figure that takes precedence in a novel. It is a figure of the most widely told, both as object of events and subject of events (Nurgiyantoro, 1995: 177).

### 4. Hero

(Schirova, 2006: 22) The terms hero (heroine) and villain may also be used to describe the leading character and his opponent.

### 5. Hero Culture

According to Garry and El-Shamy (2005: 10) the culture hero then undertakes a series of adventures, quests, and/or tests during which he may slay monsters or search for something of value.

### 6. Heroic Character

Hero that explains by Bennett and Royle on the book entitled *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory* (2009: 67) is the person

with whom we 'identify', with whom we sympathize or empathize, or whose position or role we imaginatively inhabit.

#### 7. Characteristic of Hero

Such a character is sometimes called the antihero, not because he opposes the hero, but because he is not like a hero in stature or perfection (Schirova, 2006: 23)

#### 8. Values of Heroism

According to Rampan (1999: 146) Heroism is a trait brave unyielding in any situations. The values of heroism have been portraying in many ways in literature.

### **1.6 Organization of Paper**

This research is ordered into five chapters, chapter one (introduction) consist of background of the research, research question, the purpose of the research significance of the research, and organization of the paper. Chapter two (theoretical review) contain some theories which used in the research; include the explanation related to the theory applied in the research. It provides definition of language and brand names also its relation. This chapter also delivers the theory of word formations processes as the main supported theory of the research.

Chapter three (research method) elaborate the research design that used in this research; include some steps that the writer did in the research. This chapter also explains how the data were collected and analyzed to find the final result. Chapter four (findings and discussions) discuss the result of the research which consists of data presentation, findings and the



results of the counted word formation processes and also its interpretation and discussion. Chapter five (conclusions and suggestions) present the conclusion; include result of the research in summary. Chapter five confirming what the writer has research and then tried to give the suggestion to the reader based on the result of the research. This part also gives answer of the research questions. As the last phase, it is also presents the suggestions for repairing in further research.

