

**ANALYSIS OF INNER CONFLICT OF THE MAIN  
CHARACTER IN AUSTEN'S, *LADY SUSAN***



**A Thesis**

*Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University  
in Partial Fulfillment of Requirement to Obtain a Sarjana Degree  
in English Literature Study Program*

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**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM  
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES  
HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY  
2020**



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**THESIS**  
**ANALYSIS OF INNER CONFLICT OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN AUSTEN'S,**  
**LADY SUSAN**

**BY**  
**ANINDI AULIA PUTRI**  
**Student Number : F21116035**

It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination

On 03<sup>rd</sup> December 2020

and is declared to have fulfilled the requirements.

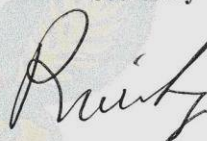
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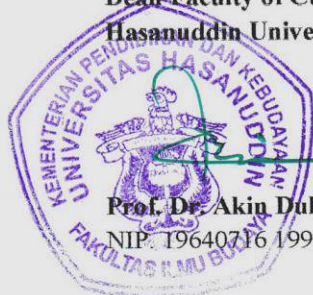
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Today, Thursday, 03<sup>rd</sup> December 2020, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **ANINDI AULIAPUTRI** (Student Number: **F21116035**) entitled:

**ANALYSIS OF INNER CONFLICT OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN AUSTEN'S,  
*LADY SUSAN***

Submitted in fulfillment one of the requirements of undergraduate thesis examination to obtain Sarjana Sastra (S.S) Degree at the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

Makassar, 04<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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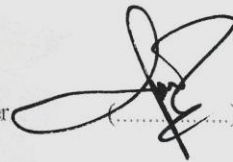
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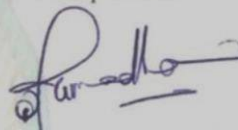
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Makassar, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020

The Writer



## ABSTRACT

**ANINDI AULIA PUTRI.** *Analysis of Inner Conflict of the Main Character in Austen's, **Lady Susan**.* English Literature program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences , Hasanuddin University. Supervised by **Abidin Pammu** and **Rezky Ramadhani**.

Lady Susan is a literary novel written by Jane Austen. It tells of an immoral widow who is manipulating everyone for her own benefit, namely her social survival. The purpose of this thesis is to explain how the inner conflict with the main character and to explain the impact of the main character's inner conflict on other characters in the *Lady Susan* novel.

To analyze the *Lady Susan* novel, the writer uses an intrinsic elements approach to detect characters, plot, settings and themes in the novel, and to make the context relevant to this thesis, the writer uses psychological theory to explain inner conflict of the main character Lady Susan and the impact of conflict for the other figures.

After analyzing this novel, the writer found that inner conflicts can be detected in literary works. The writer illustrates that inner conflict not only explained through the psychological theory, but can also explained through the plot of a story. The inner conflict of the main character Lady Susan arises because the need for love ,belonging and the self-actualization are not fulfilled. The result of these basic needs that is not fulfilled are sadness, hatred, anger and disappointment.

*Keyword: Lady Susan, inner conflict, psychological.*



## ABSTRAK

**ANINDI AULIA PUTRI.** *Analysis of Inner Conflict of the Main Character in Austen's, Lady Susan.* Program Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Hasanuddin. Dibimbing oleh **Abidin Pammu** dan **Rezky Ramadhani**.

*Lady Susan* adalah novel sastra yang ditulis oleh Jane Austen. Berkisah mengenai seorang janda tidak bermoral memanipulasi semua orang untuk kepentingannya sendiri yaitu kelangsungan hidup sosialnya. Tujuan dari skripsi ini adalah untuk menjelaskan bagaimana konflik batin terhadap tokoh utama serta menjelaskan dampak dari konflik batin tokoh utama terhadap tokoh lain di dalam novel *Lady Susan*.

Untuk menganalisis novel *Lady Susan*, penulis menggunakan pendekatan unsur intrinsik untuk mendeteksi karakter, alur, setting dan tema di dalam novel, dan untuk membuat konteks relevan dengan skripsi ini, penulis menggunakan teori psikologi untuk menjelaskan konflik batin pada tokoh utama Lady Susan dan dampak dari konflik tersebut bagi tokoh-tokoh lain.

Setelah menganalisis novel ini, penulis menemukan bahwa konflik batin dapat dideteksi dalam karya sastra. Pengarang mengilustrasikan bahwa konflik batin tidak hanya dapat dijelaskan melalui teori psikologi, tetapi juga dapat dijelaskan melalui alur dari cerita. Konflik batin tokoh utama Lady Susan muncul karena tidak terpenuhinya kebutuhan akan cinta dan memiliki dan tidak terpenuhinya kebutuhan akan aktualisasi diri. Akibat dari tidak terpenuhinya kebutuhan dasar tersebut adalah rasa sedih, benci, rasa marah dan rasa kecewa.



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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes about basic consideration (explain about the reason for choosing topic, short story itself), and also there are research question, objective of research and also sequences of the chapter.

### 1.1. Background

Conflict is disagreement over something and usually results in many problems. If individual is in conflict, they have a serious argument that have not reach to a mutual agreement. Conflict unexpectedly exists from their coming at any time, our lives contains a tension but conflict occurs because of the cause and it becomes a result of the conflict. Especially if we are experiencing conflicts with people around us and even with people we care about. For example, conflicts with families, relatives, friends.

The conflict in literary works is a lack of match between two or more characters. We all understand that everyone has a character, perspective, behavior, reaction to something, opinion, and different solution. So, in a discrepancy there will arise conflict. Conflicts can be experienced directly when we are engaged in it or indirectly, when we are not directly involved but we can be affected by the conflict.

Inner conflict is a conflict that is considered something that occurs and it is experienced by the character involved. Furthermore, the character that will an object contains endless conflict which is a conflict that occurs in repeats every time without a solution, and ends with mutual arguing.



Understanding inner conflict, according to. “is a conflict caused by two or more differences, or conflicting desires to master oneself so as to increase behavior.”(Alwi, 2005: 587)

Conflicts occur in situations where two or more parties disagree and argue about onething. Strangely, conflicts do not only occur with two or more people (characters with other characters), but also conflicts with the characters themselves. This kind of conflict is related to personality and character psychology which makes it difficult for them to solve their problems. The psychoanalysis approach can be applied to find the changes that occur in the character of the conflict, look for something that becomes the background of the conflict, and resolve conflicts. This study uses a psychoanalysis approach to analyzing novels. It is used in analyzing psychology based on the assumption that literary works always discuss various kinds of human life. Psychoanalysis is necessary for a better understanding of the deepest state of the human soul. A psychoanalysis study, a study by Sigmund Freud, is part of the study of human behavior. In literature, he tries to analyze the psychology of each character by looking at their strange behavior. Human psychology usually gets into trouble and affects them, it can make them more emotional, and unable to deal with problems because they already have different thoughts about their id, ego, and superego.

Psychology and inner conflict can also be seen in several literary works analysis. This is due to the fact that literary works are a reflection of people's erature work is an expression of society. Therefore the emergence of a work is closely related to the problems that arise at that time. This shows



that social problems do have a strong influence on literary form. In other words, the literary work is a reflection of one's relationship with others or with the community.

Lady Susan is talking about a girl named Susan Vernon that comes from upper class. Lady Susan is a widowed girl. She is in the sorrow because of her husband's death. At the same time, she who always lives in the treasury of wealth does not want to linger for long and lament her fate and must find a wealthy new husband for herself and for her daughter, Frederica. A passionate desire coupled with her beauty that cannot be denied by men raises bad rumors in London society. Lady Susan forcefully took Frederica to move to her sister-in-law's house in the village for a while to allay the rumors that lurked.

Jane Austen was born on December 16, 1775 in Hampshire and she was died on July 18, 1817. She is one of England authors who first gave the novel its distinctly modern character through her treatment of ordinary people in everyday life. She published four novels during her lifetime, such as *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814), and *Emma* (1815). *Persuasion* and *Northanger Abbey* was published together posthumously in 1817 and she describes English middleclass life during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Her novels defined the era's novel of manners, but they also became timeless classics that remained critical and popular successes two centuries after her death. One of her novels, *Lady Susan* is a short letters novel by Jane Austen probably written in

it was not published until 1871.



The reason of the writer to choose the title is because this novel illustrates the problems of society in the past and the same present, where in matters such as inner conflict where parents force their daughter to marry not according to their wishes and several factors that cause these problems, perhaps because they want to change their status family social for the better. Therefore, the writer chooses to examine the inner conflict because psychological conflict often occurs in real life and the writer has a desire to know whether the application of inner conflict in the novel can be analyzed in accordance with the science of personality psychology. So that makes it into a study entitled “Analysis of Inner Conflict of The Main Character in Austen’s novel, *Lady Susan*”.

## **1.2. Identification of the Problems**

After reading the novel *Lady Susan* by Jane Austen, the writer has found several problems related to the main character;

1. The inner conflicts experienced by the main characters such as, dispute, obsession and jealousy.
2. The existence of forced marriage experienced by the daughter of the main character.
3. The desire of the main character to find a wealthy new husband to change her social status.



### **1.3. Scope of the Problem**

In this study, the writer focuses on inner conflicts experienced by the main character. Conflicts related to the psychology of each character that ends without any solution.

### **1.4. Research Questions**

Based on the research title, the following questions reflect the analysis in the novel, as follows:

1. How does the inner conflict of main character, Lady Susan with other characters in the novel?
2. How does the psychology of the main character, Lady Susan influences family harmony?

### **1.5. Objective of the Study**

The purpose of the writer based on the above problem as follows:

1. To reveal the inner conflict of main character, Lady Susan with other characters in the novel.
2. To describe the psychology of the main character, Lady Susan in influencing family harmony.

### **1.6. Sequence of the Chapter**



This research writing consists of five chapters. The first chapter is the introduction that contains of background of writing, identification of the characters, statement of problems, objectives of the study and sequence of the

chapter. The second chapter literature review contains previous study and theoretical framework. The third chapter consists the kind of methods the writer uses in analyzing the novel, including method of collecting data, method of analyzing data, and the procedure of the research. The fourth chapter is the central of the analysis. It consists the intrinsic elements of the novel such as character, plot, setting, and theme. The last is fifth chapter which includes conclusion and suggestion. This last chapter describes the summary of the whole study in this research.



## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter will discuss about the differences in previous research objects using the same approach.

#### 2.1. Previous Study

This chapter includes the other research that requires the analysis of the study. Some of the literature reviews of researchers related to these titles and some of the literature review related to these objects are presented by Muhammad Syaiful Arif (2015), Rifa Alfina (2018), and Wa Ode Nia Fadillah (2018).

Muhammad Syaiful Arif (2015) a student of Hasanuddin University thesis discusses about *Inner Conflict of the Main Character in Well's The Invisible Man*. This thesis focuses on the psychology of the main character that affects to the inner conflict. The inner conflict is about a psychological struggle of Griffin, the main character, who makes him suffer. In his thesis, Griffin finds a solution to stop him being invisible. The difference with the writer's proposal is that this play does not have any solution. Although these are similarly discuss about the psychology of character, but in the writer's proposal there is no solution to solve the problem.

Rifa Alfina (2018) a student of Hasanuddin University thesis discusses about *The Obsession of Main Character in Austen's Lady Susan*. The writer

; the novel *Lady Susan*, the writer uses a structuralism approach to detect characters, plots, settings, and themes in the novel, and to make the context to this thesis, the writer uses the concept of obsession to explain the



obsession with Lady Susan's nature and the effect of that obsession for other characters in the novel.

Wa Ode Nia Fadillah (2018) a student of Hasanuddin University in her thesis entitled *Self Defense Mechanism of Character in Lawrence's Lady Chatterley's Lover*. The writer focuses on elements in literary works such as characters, plot, settings and themes. The identified data were analyzed using structuralism and psychoanalytic approaches. The intrinsic approach is used to analyze the storyline and characters.

## **2.2. Theoretical Framework**

In analyzing novel *Lady Susan* by Jane Austen, the writer uses psychoanalysis with theory of conflict, and to analyze the characterization of a literary work using intrinsic elements.

### **2.2.1. Intrinsic Elements**

Intrinsic elements are the elements that exist in a literary work. Without any intrinsic elements, a literary work will not form properly. In other words, intrinsic elements are the fundamental foundations of literary work. Every literary work, whether it is prose, poetry, or drama has intrinsic elements in it. However, each form of literary work has its own form of intrinsic elements. For the prose, intrinsic elements consist of themes, plot, setting and characters.

#### **a. Character**



According to Abrams in Nurgiyantoro (1995: 165), characters are people displayed in a narrative or drama work by readers of moral qualities and

certain tendencies as expressed in speech and carried out in action. From that statement, it can be concluded that people who experience the events in the story. While, based on Jones in Nurgiyantoro (1995: 165), characterization is the painting of a clear picture of someone who is featured in a story. So, it can be concluded that characterization is the identity of the character in the story. The roles of all characters are not always similar, as viewed from role sector or the important phase of a character in the story. Character consists of three dimensions. The first dimension is physiology including age, sex, body, face, skin color, etc. Sociology, this dimension tells about character's social status, work, education, social activity, ideology, family, etc. The last dimension is psychology, this case makes the character able to be understood from the inside or this section describes character's mentality.

A Glossary of Literary Terms, the term 'character' can be defined as follow: Characters are the person represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who is interpreted by the readers as being endowed with particular moral, dispositional and emotional qualities by inferences from what the person says and their distinctive ways of saying it the dialogue and from what they do the action. (Abrams, 1981: 32).

Character is very important in the story. A story without character is impossible to make storyline. Character can make story keep moving, without characters, the story cannot be formed as a literary work. In addition, character is

who develops the event in story of fiction until it can from a story. The s in the novel have a moral quality based on their expression through the



word and the act. The character in the fiction can be divided into some kinds based on the contradiction of the point of view and observation. There are two kinds of character in the story. The first, the main character is an important person and role in the story, their performance appears many times and continuously in the story. The second, Minor Character a person who appears in short description and their performance as the minor character appears when the story related to the main character. Besides, based on their role, the character is divided into protagonist and antagonist. Protagonists are the character who are admired. They also are call this character as a hero because this character has good appearance and positive characterization.

This character also gives positive values and lovable for the reader. While, there is in antagonist who this character is opposite from the protagonist and this character which causes the conflict in the story. The antagonist has a bad appearance and gives negative values. Based on the characterization, the character is divided into the simple and complex character. The simple in the character who has only one characteristic in the story. His act is flat and monotonous. The complex character is the character who has various of the life side and personality. He can present the various acts in the story. So, the writer concludes that the character is pretense individual in the story as a subject who suffers some events in the story.

#### **b. Plot**



Plot is the storyline in the novel, formulation as a series of events or in the story in cause-effect. The plot is the basic framework is very

important in the story. Plot divided into three parts that are beginning, middle and ending. The beginning tells about the exposition of conflict instability. Middle tells about the climax of the story. And the last part, the ending is the resolution of the conflict and the epilogue of the story. Plot is a series of events, situation, circumstances, and the action experienced by the characters in a story. The sequential set of events chronologically and have a causality relationship (Sumardjo,1986:141).

Aristotle in Abrams (1971:133) suggests, “a plot must be consisting the beginning, the middle and the end, the three stages are important to recognize, especially if we intend to examine the plot of the fictional work in question” Plot control how action should be related to each other, how the incident gad relationship with another, how characters should be represented and participated in those actions and how the situations and feelings of characters involve in acts that are bound in the unity of time (Keraf,1989).

A literary work has at least two basic elements, as Forster (1927:31-32) divides it into conflict and climax. He says that every work has internal conflict in it whether it is conflict between two characters or conflict between one character and the environment. A story should have more than one conflict, but the conflict that Forster means is the main conflict that involves the whole story. It does not mean that the other conflicts are ignored. The conflicts have a relation of causal-effect there for connecting all the conflicts produces a big main conflict that will



the whole story. Main conflict is important to analyze the plot because it  
a deep relation with the theme.

The second element is climax that is a moment when the conflicts are confronted. When a story has arrived to the climax, it is the time for the conflicts to solve. The same with conflict, there also several climax of a story because other conflicts also have a climax to solve. Sometimes it is hard to decide which part is the main climax remembering the number of conflicts happened. Furthermore, the main climax from the main conflict is what the writer needs to analyze the plot.

Conflict includes someone against himself called internal or internal conflict, a conflict that the writer wants to explore in this proposal. Inner conflict occurs compilation of characters who struggle within themselves and cannot choose in one choice. Hard he tries to make a choice to just guide him anywhere.

There are two main types of internal conflict, as follows:

1. Individual internal conflicts, conflicts that occur between ourselves. It was a compilation of people having to argue with themselves about something.
2. Conflicts that affect others, it means that someone who is in the compilation must answer or respond to others. To respond in the right way, prefers to make others happy by considering further considerations. Another situation is the compilation of someone who has an internal conflict with himself but also contributes to others.

**c. Setting**

Facing a work of fiction in essence it dealing with a world that is always

with characters and problems. But it is considered incomplete because characters and various problems need the scope of place and time. Setting



becomes very important role in a story because readers have to know where the character is often located. The setting is the imaginary world within a story. The setting is not only a simple background of a story but also shows cultural or historical contents as the influence of the plot in a story. The elements on setting can build the story and makes the story became real. According to Nurgiyantoro (2004: 227-233), background can be divided into three elements, which are the background of places, the background of time and social background.

In a story, the background of places refers to the place or location a story happened. The element may be used where the places with the specified name as well as certain initials. Furthermore, the background of time refers to the time of certain period a story happened. The description includes date, month, year, century, or even the natural condition such as morning, afternoon, and night. Background of time associated with the problem of "when" the occurrence of the events recounted in a work. The problem of "when" is usually with time. The last is social background which refers to the situation of environment a story happened and relating to the social behavior of people in a place that is told in a fiction. It includes habits, customs, traditions, beliefs, existing norms, the way of thinking and way of life. With this description, the readers expected to understand the conflict of the certain time of period in the social life of the community.

For the explanation above, setting of the place is meant as explanation on place where the events in the story take places. Setting of time means everything about the time or age of event the story. Social setting is defined as the historical



context within which the story take place. It encompasses the phenomena taking place at a certain time period in history, social trends, and parameters behavior.

#### **d. Theme**

Stanton (2012:36) states that theme is the aspect of the story that becomes the main idea and has a similarity to the human experience. The theme describes as the experience of human because it becomes more important when the experience is memorable and unforgotten. It is the same with theme because theme is the main point of a story that should not be forgotten and will memorable when one literature is mentioned, the theme is the first thing to remember. In addition, Fcholes (1981: 195) says that every fiction or literary works have theme. The theme includes ideas and point of view. The theme can be found by seeing the author, how they present their interest, how to treat a common theme, how they shape a moral, how they use the important speech and important event. The presence if the theme in a literary work is one element in building a story together with other elements to form a unity. The theme is often also referred to as the basic story. "The theme is the notion, idea, or the main thought in both the revealed literature and that has not been revealed" (Sudjiman, 1990:79). The meaning of the themes particularly in an essay can be seen from two sides. First, from the point of writing that has been completed. The theme is a massage delivered by the writer through his writing. Second, in terms of the formulation process of the topic that will be achieved through the topic.



In addition, theme is one of important intrinsic aspects that has a role to the literary work because theme is the basic of the author to build a story.

Theme can from some topic of the story. It can be defined as the instruction that is presented by the author in the story. The main function of theme is giving an input for the other intrinsic elements such as character, setting, and plot. It becomes the last element that unites the whole of the story. It means that the author creates and forms the plot, presents the character, in the basic, it is an act that is led by theme. Therefore, theme is possible consist of moral or moral teachings. Before making literary works that he will create which will be useful for the readers, besides that, theme is soul of the story so before analyze other elements, the writer should analyze about theme first, because theme will always relate and connect to the other elements.

### **2.3. Psychoanalysis**

Psychology is a science learns about the human psychiatric. In general, psychology learns about the human behavior that affect to their daily activities. At first, Freud (1920:24) found psychoanalysis to analyze the human behavior by the medical situation. In psychoanalysis of medic, the patient and physician have nothing to do but interchange words of them. By analyzing the reactions, it will show how something different of that patient. In relation with literary, characters in a story could be known have unusual behavior by seeing the way they talk and react.

Psychology can be defined as the science of activities of the individual. The "activity" is used here in very broad sense. It includes not only motor activities like walking and speaking, but also cognitive (knowledge getting)



activities, like seeing, hearing, remembering, and thinking, and emotional activities like laughing and crying, and feeling or sad. (Woodworth and Marquis 1957:3).

A study of psychoanalysis, a study by Sigmund Freud, is a practice of psychology, a practice of academic, or as a theory. Susanto (2012:47) states that as a study of psychology, psychoanalysis is a kind of therapy the psychologist do to heal their patients. As a practice of academic, psychoanalysis is a term tries to create knowledge about the construction of human identities in relation with the historical background and culture. Psychoanalysis explores the dimensions of unconscious behaviors in culture phenomena, such as gender, literature, art, etc. Psychoanalysis as a theory is an analysis integrated with social science, because it centralizes the human unconscious as a process to be continued. Relationship between literature and psychoanalysis could be seen in literary work as language. In Sigmund Freud book entitled Repression (1915), he said that unconscious thoughts can be able to reveal their self in another shape, such as actions, words, or fantasy. Susanto (2012:58) tells that unconscious thoughts coming from sexual factors (instinct) through a non-static energy and change into conscious actions. There are some reasons why people sometimes do things unconscious. One of the reasons is that the hidden pressure or repression comes from inside and appear through physical symptoms, dreams, actions, not able to pronounce words, stutter, or even talkative. All of these actions are the symbol of that hidden pressure of a side the body and reveal what the true life of that person unconsciously.



Based on the explanation above, psychoanalysis is a part of science learns about the human behaviors. In literature, it tries to analyze the psychology of each character by seeing their strange behaviors. Pectocz Agnes says that the psychoanalysis appeared to reveal the psychology that more beyond the sterile (2004:3). It shows that human more like to do things unlikely the normal human being because they want to show off and receive what they deserve, which is attention. Furthermore, being different not only to get people's attention, sometimes people do it just because that is what they need to do in case to make them happy.

The psychology of human is usually gets problem and affects their behavior, makes them more emotional, and unable to face problems because they already have different thought of their id, ego, and superego. Psychology approach is necessary when it comes to fathoming a character. More explanation by Barry (1995:96) who states that the relationship between psychology and literature is in term of a form of literary criticism which uses some of techniques of psychoanalysis in the interpretation of literature.

#### **2.4. The Theory of Conflict**

In the story, the writer describes characters with different characteristic. When the characters in the story interact with each other, it creates a conflict, whether it is a conflict between individuals, groups, or with themselves or so-  
ner conflict. In the absence of conflict, a story will go unordinary, and  
ing. Conflict occurs because of two or more ideas or conflicting desires.



According to Saul McLeod (2011) psychology is a science that learns about thoughts and behaviors. Thus in analyzing conflicts in the novel, the author takes one of the theories of conflict in the field of psychology that supports the theory of psychology in the field of literature, namely the theory of Buehler (1998). This theory describes the style/manner of the conflict. Buehler (1998) described that it is likely that the family will avoid conflict at a time of signal trouble. Conflicts might be seen as overly soul-searching or considered in appropriate between family members.

In general, conflicts can be recognized because of several characteristics, are as follows:

1. Conflict occurs in each person with different reactions to the same stimulation. It depends on factors of a personal nature.
2. Conflict occurs when motives have a balanced value or about the same so as to cause concern and tension.
3. Conflict can last a short time, maybe a few seconds, but it can also last long, days, months, even years.

