

**THE MORALITY MESSAGES OF MAIN CHARACTER IN
DICKENS'A *CHRISTMAS CAROL***



THESIS

*Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University
in Partial Fulfillment of Requirement to Thesis
in English*

MARWA AWALIA TANG

F041 171528

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES
HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY
MAKASSAR
2021**

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A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

BY

MARWA AWALIA TANG
Student Number: F041171528

It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination on September 17th
2021

And is declared to have fulfilled the requirements.

Approved by

Board of Supervisors

Chairman



Dr. Abidin Pammu, M.A., Dipl. TESOL

NIP. 196012311986011071

Dean Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Hasanuddin University



Prof. Dr. Akin Duli, M.A.

NIP. 196407161991031010

Secretary



Abbas, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197507222000121002

Head of English Department Faculty of
Cultural Sciences



Dr. Abidin Pammu, M.A., Dipl. TESOL

NIP. 196012311986011071

HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Today, October 6th 2021, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **MARWA AWALIA TANG** (Student Number: **F041171528**) entitled:

THE MORALITY MESSAGES OF MAIN CHARACTER IN DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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, October 6th 2021


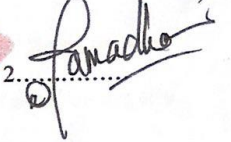
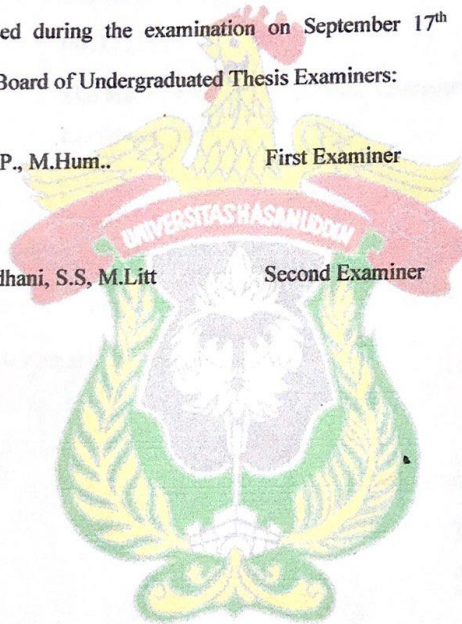
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DECLARATION

The thesis by **Marwa Awalia Tang** (Student Number: F041171528) entitled, **The Morality Messages of Main Character in Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*** has been revised as advised during the examination on September 17th 2021 and is approved by the Board of Undergraduated Thesis Examiners:

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2. Rezky Ramadhani, S.S, M.Litt Second Examiner


.....

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APPROVAL FORM

With reference to the letter of the Dean of Cultural Sciences Number 1934/UN4.9.1/KEP/2020 regarding supervision, we hereby confirm to approve the thesis draft by **Marwa Awalia Tang** (F041171528) to be examined at the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences.

Makassar, 10th August 2021

Approved by

First Supervisor,

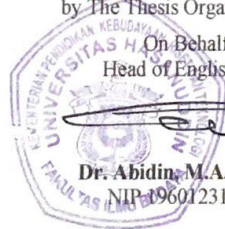
Second Supervisor,

Dr. Abidin, M.A., Dipl. TESOL.
NIP 196012311986011071

Abbas, S.S., M.Hum.
NIP 197507222000121002

Approved for the Execution of Thesis Examination
by The Thesis Organizing Committees

On Behalf of Dean
Head of English Department



Dr. Abidin, M.A., Dipl. TESOL.
NIP 196012311986011071

STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY

The undersigned

Name : Marwa Awalia Tang

ID : F041171528

Title of this Thesis : *The Morality Messages of Main Character in Dickens' A Christmas Carol*

Hereby, the writer declares that this thesis is written by herself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by other people, and it does not cite other people's ideas except the quotations and references.

Makassar, October 6th 2021

The writer



Marwa Awalia Tang

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, the writer would like to thank and praise Allah SWT for all his blessing, love and guidance that he gave to the writer which is blessed the writer until his thesis could be completed. Also, the writer would like to greetings to the prophet, Muhammad SAW as the leader of all Muslims.

In arranging this thesis, a lot of people have provided, motivation, advice, support and even remark that had helped the writer. In this valuable chance, the writer aims to express her gratitude and appreciation to all of them. First of all, the writer's deepest appreciation goes to her beloved parents, Muh. Tang and Sufiana Arief for the endless love, pray, and support. Also thanks to the writer's brother and sister who always helped and reminds the writer to complete this thesis.

It is impossible for the writer to complete this thesis without great assistance from my supervisors Dr. Abidin, M.A., Dipl. TESOL., and Abbas, S.S., M.Hum. The writer would like to thank very much for their support, helping, motivation, and guidance to complete this thesis. Thanks also for Head and Secretary of English Department, all lecturers in Hasanuddin University.

The writer delivers appreciation and thankfulness also goes to all her friends Nita, Aul, Widia, Anggi, Yustika, Andin and all of my friends that cannot be mentioned one by one. Thank you for all the supports, advices, helps and moments for sadness and happiness during four years in college until this thesis finished, the writer has a lot of unforgettable experienced moment with them since their togetherness at the time in Hasanuddin University.

Finally, the writer considers that the thesis is still far from being perfect. Thus, critics, and suggestion are acceptable to the writer for the improvement of her writing in the future.

Makassar, 09th August 2021
The writer,

Marwa Awalia Tang

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover	i
Approval Letter.....	ii
Acknowledgement.....	iii
Table of Contents	v
Abstrak.....	vii
Abstract.....	viii

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background	1
1.2 Identification of Problem	5
1.3 Scope of Problem.....	5
1.4 Research Questions	6
1.5 Objective of Study	6
1.6 Sequence of Writing	6

CHAPTER II. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Previous Study	8
2.2 Structuralism Approach	9
2.3 Definition of Moral Messages	16

CHAPTER III. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodological Design	18
3.2 Method of Collecting Data	19
3.3 Method of Analyzing Data	19
3.4 Procedure of Research.....	20

CHAPTER IV. ANALYSIS

4.1 Structural Aspects of the Novel <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	21
4.1.1 Character	21
4.1.2 Plot	32
4.1.3 Setting	37
4.1.4 Theme	38
4.2 The life happend of main character in <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	40
4.3 The Morality messages addressed by main character in the novel	44

CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

1.1 Conclusion	48
1.2 Suggestion.....	49
Bibliography	50
Appendixes	51
1. Synopsis of Novel <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	51
2. Biography of Charles Dickens	52

ABSTRAK

Marwa Awalia Tang, 2021. *The Morality Messages Of Main Character in Dickens' A Christmas Carol*. (Dibimbing oleh **Abidin** dan **Abbas**).

Skripsi ini bertujuan untuk Pesan Moralitas Tokoh Utama dalam novel *A Christmas Carol* karya Charles Dickens. Penelitian ini juga mendeskripsikan bagaimana kehidupan tokoh utama dalam novel tersebut.

Pendekatan yang digunakan oleh penulis dalam tesis ini adalah Pendekatan Strukturalisme yang ditempatkan pada unsur-unsur instrinsik karya sastra seperti tokoh, alur, latar dan tema yang ada pada novel. Penulis menganalisis data dari novel *A Christmas Carol* karya Charles Dickens menggunakan teknik deskriptif. Digunakan untuk menjelaskan hasil analisis dari data. Untuk mengumpulkan informasi dari analisis ini, penulis mengambil dari studi kepustakaan dengan menggunakan beberapa referensi yang relevan.

Setelah menganalisis novel *A Christmas Carol*, penulis menemukan bahwa pesan moral pasti akan selalu ada dalam setiap karya sastra dan merupakan bagian yang terpenting dalam sebuah karya sastra yang ada. Kejadian-kejadian yang terjadi pada tokoh utama dalam novel sangat membantu penulis dalam menemukan pesan-pesan moral yang dapat di ambil dan di jadikan pelajaran untuk para pembacanya.

ABSTRACT

Marwa Awalia Tang. 2021. *The Morality Messages Of Main Character in Dickens' A Christmas Carol.* (Supervised by **Abidin** dan **Abbas**)

This thesis aims to the Morality Messages of Main Character in the novel A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. This study also describe what is the life happened of main character in the novel.

The approach used by the author in this thesis is the Structuralism Approach which is placed on the intrinsic elements of literary works such as characters, plots, settings and themes in the novel. The author analyzes data from the novel A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens using descriptive techniques. Used to explain the results of the analysis of the data. To collect information from this analysis, the author draws from the literature study using several relevant references.

After analyzing the novel A Christmas Carol, the writer finds that the moral message will always exist in every literary work and is the most important part in an existing literary work. The events that occur in the main character in the novel really help the author in finding moral messages that can be taken and made into lessons for his readers.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In the first chapter, the writer explains about the background of the study, identification of problem, statement of problem, objective of problem, significance of writing, and sequences of writing.

1.1 Background

Human being life is like a spinning wheel, sometimes it's up, sometimes it's down, and sometimes the road isn't always as smooth as you want it to be. When we are at the top, we must be very happy to live it with gratitude. But when we are under, even though we have to be grateful, on the one hand, we must feel frustrated. So, Human needs some encouragement, advice, or messages from family or close friends that will make us much better so we don't think too much about the problems that are happening.

Literature in history of English literature, has been used since the 18th century. This word is used to distinguish writings that do not have aesthetic value from writings that have aesthetic value (Abrams et al, 2012: 198). According to Luxemburg et al (1989: 5), at the definitive level, literature is understood as a creation, a creation, which is not merely an imitation of reality. Indeed, reality is a source of ideas for a writer in creating literary works. However, that means a writer only rewrites the reality he faces in his literary work. In the implementation of literary works, a writer also expresses his opinions and thoughts on something or the scenery he faces by considering aspects that will later be contained in the literary work he creates. Therefore, literary works are ordinary written works. Aspects of

beauty and aspects of thoughts and feelings make literary works unique, because they contain personal and message value.

Literature is a form of human expression. But not everything expressed in words even when organized and written down is counted as literature. Those writings that are primarily informative technical, scholarly, journalistic would be excluded from the rank of literature by most, though not all, critics. Certain forms of writing, however, are universally regarded as belonging to literature as an art. Individual attempts within these forms are said to succeed if they possess something called artistic merit and to fail if they do not. The nature of artistic merit is less easy to define than to recognize. The writer need not even pursue it to attain it. On the contrary, a scientific exposition might be of great literary value and a pedestrian poem of none at all.

Moral messages are messages that contain teachings, discourses, oral and written, about how humans must live and act, so that they become good human beings. The direct sources of moral teachings are various people in positions of authority, such as parents, teachers, community leaders, and sages. The sources of these teachings are traditions and customs, religious teachings, or certain ideologies.

Moral messages are only limited to the teachings of good and bad actions and behavior (morals) spontaneously and easily without being made up and without the need for thought and relating to discipline and progress in the quality of feelings, emotions, and human tendencies. While moral values are defined as thinking, said, and acted well. So the moral message referred to in this thesis is where the display of each image and language conveyed in the news conveys a moral message.

In literary works usually reflect the views about the life in question, views on the values of truth and what he wants to convey to the reader. Moral in the story is a suggestion related to certain moral teachings that are practical, which can be taken and enjoyed through relevant stories by the reader. It is a clue that the author wants to give about various things related to life problems, such as attitudes, behavior, and manners. It is practical because the instructions can be displayed or the model can be found in real life as the model shown in the story through the characters.

Charles John Huffam Dickens Dickens or commonly known as Charles Dickens is one of the greatest writers in the history of English literature. His most outstanding literary achievement is his realistic novels. Charles Dickens (born in Landport, Portsmouth, Hampshire, England, 7 February 1812 - died at Gad Hill Place, Higham, Kent, England, 9 June 1870 at the age of 58 years) was a romance writer or famous novels from England from the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain.

Dickens is even still popular today and all his books can still be bought. Many of the books have also been made into films. Throughout his career Dickens achieved worldwide popularity, gaining a reputation for how to write excellent stories and for the characters of his story. He is considered one of the most important English writers. He is the most famous and best novelist in the Victorian era and also someone who is active in social work.

The popularity of novels and short stories during his lifetime to this day can be proven from the fact that the publishers never run out of them. During his life, Dickens wrote novels with several series, a technique commonly used to write

fiction at that time. Every part of the story written by Dickens is highly expected by the public who read the story.

A little story about the novel *A Christmas Carol*, this story takes place on Christmas Eve when Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by three spirits. The name Scrooge has become synonymous not only with greed but also hatred of Christmas cheer. He is described at the beginning of the show as a man who only cares about money. His business partner Jacob Marley had died years earlier and the closest thing to a friend he had was his employee Bob Cratchit. Even though his nephew invites him to Christmas dinner, Scrooge refuses, preferring to be alone. That night Scrooge is visited by the ghost of Marley who warns him that he will be visited by three spirits. Marley's soul had been cursed to hell for his greed but he hoped the spirits would be able to save Scrooge. The first is a ghost of Christmas past who takes Scrooge on a journey through his childhood Christmas first with his younger sister then with his first employer Fezziwig. His first employer was the complete opposite of Scrooge. He loved Christmas and people. Scrooge was reminded on how much to fun he had during those years.

The second spirit is the ghost of Christmas Gifts, who takes Scrooge on a holiday tour of his nephew and Bob Cratchit. We learn that Bob has a sickly son named Tiny Tim and that Scrooge paid him so little that the Cratchit family lived in poverty. Although the family has many reasons to be unhappy, Scrooge finds that their love and kindness towards one another brightens even in the most difficult of situations. As he grows to care for Tiny Time, he is warned that the future does not look bright for the boy. When the Christmas Ghost is coming, things take a grim turn. Scrooge sees the world after his death. Not only is no one mourning his loss,

the world has become a colder place apparently because of him. Scrooge finally saw the error of his ways and begged for a chance to make things right. He then wakes up and finds that only one night has passed. Full of Christmas cheer, he bought Bob Cratchit a Christmas goose and became a more generous person. Tiny Tim was able to fully recover.

Based on the decription of the novel *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, the writer finds some life issues and spritis related to human morality. It motivates the writer to analyze this novel entitled *The Morality Messages Of Main Character in Dickens 'A Christmas Carol*.

1.2 Identification of Problem

After reading the novel *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, the writer identifies a number of problems in this novel related to the moral massages as follows:

1. The life happened related to the human morality found in the main character in novel *A Christmas Carol*.
2. Themorality messages in novel experienced by the main character such as Ebenezer Scrooge.
3. The plot that explains the life and moral messages experienced directly by the main character.

1.3 Scope of Problem

In this study, the writer focuses on the life happened of main character *in A Christmas Carol* and what is the Morality Massages addressed by main Character in the novel.

1.4 Research Questions

The writer found several aspects that can be determined as the questions for this research as follows:

1. What is the life happen of main character in the novel *A Christmas Carol*?
2. What are the morality messages addressed by main character in the novel?

1.5 Objective of Study

The objective of problem is based on the research question of problem that will be discussed, such as following:

1. To find out the life happen of main character in novel *A Christmas Carol*.
2. To explain the morality messages addressed by main character in the novel.

1.6 Sequence of Writing

This writing consists of five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction that consists of background of writing, identification of problems, scope of problem, research questions, objectives of the study, and sequence of the chapter. Chapter two provides of the previous study of the research, structural approach, and the theory of personality. Chapter three as method of research includes methodology, data resources, method of collecting data, method of analyzing data, and procedure of analysis data.

The fourth chapter consists of finding and discussion. It consist the structural aspects of the novel *A Christmas Carol*, the life happen of main character, and the morality messages addressed by main character. The last chapter includes the whole research summary of analysis and suggestion.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Previous Study

This second 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 Lia Pipit Anggaraini (2015), Dede Nugraha (2012), and Sabri Reskiawan (2017).

Lia Pipit Anggraini (2015). English Educational Department. State Islamic Institute (IAIN) of Tulungagung. She write a thesis with a tittle *A Study on The Characterization of The main Characters of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens*". In her thesis she explain about the physical appearance is one of the human beings who explains the physical state of the main character. Also she is focuses on Characterization and Characters are people in narratives and characterization is explains about things done by a character. Meanwhile, the writer chooses this thesis because they had same approaches and each analyzed the main character.

Dede Nugraha (2012) from English Department of Faculty of Letters JemberUniversity. In his thesis entitled *An Analysis of Atticus Moral Values in Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird*. He writes the thesis that concerns with one characterization in literary works to the attitudes moral value. He used structuralism to analyzed his research. The writer choose this thesis because they had the same analyzed they both discuss about moral value but in different novels from each other.

Sabri Reskiawan (2017) from English Department Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University. In her thesis entitle *The Conflict of the Character in Dickens A Christmas Carol*. She used structuralism approach to analyzed her research that focuses on setting and character.

After observing the previous studies above, the writer found in Lia Pipit Anggraini (2003) used the novel *A Christmas Carol* focused Characterization and Characters are people in narratives and characterization is explains about things done by a character. Meanwhile, Sabri Reskiawan (2017) in her thesis used structuralism approach as the writer used the same approach. Also, Dede Nugraha (2012) his concerns with one characterization in literary works to the attitudes moral value.

2.2 Structural Approach

The structural approach means the arrangement of words in such a way as to form a suitable pattern of sentence. The mastery of sentence structure is considered to be more than the acquisition of vocabulary. Structural approach is based on the theory of behaviorist. To teach language through this approach we have to understand the pattern and structure of the language. Each and every Language has its own structure. Every language differs structurally.

In structural, content words are also taught. The selections of content words are directed by their usefulness, simplicity and teach ability. An appropriate situation should be created to practice the structure and to relate its meaning to it and to build up a vocabulary of content words even structure is separately taught. The term is predated in an appropriate situation by the teaching according to Riswandi and Titin Kusmini (2018: 84) that what is meant by approach can be interpreted as

basic assumptions that are used as guidelines in viewing an object. Furthermore, Riswandi and Titin Kusmini (2018: 85) argue, *"Apabila kajian suatu karya sastra menggunakan struktural berarti ia menyelidiki makna karya sastra dengan mempelajari unsur-unsur strukturnya dan hubungannya satu sama lain, kemudian setelah makna dipahami, dapat dibuat berbagai interpretasi"*.

Satoto (1993: 32) explains that the structural approach is an intrinsic approach, namely discussing the work on the elements that build literary works from within. This approach examines literary works as autonomous works and regardless of social background, history, author biographies and everything outside of literary works. In line with this explanation, Teeuw (1984: 135) suggests that the structural approach tries to describe the relationship and function of each element of a literary work as a structural unit that together produces a comprehensive meaning.

Regarding the structure, Wellek and Warren (1992: 56) give the constraint that the sense of structure put into content and form, as both are intended to achieve an aesthetic purposes. Therefore, the structure of literary works (fiction) is composed of form and content. The form is the way writes, while the content is the idea that a writer expresses the writing, Jan Van Luxemburg (1984: 38) stated that the structure that is intended implies a reciprocal relationship between the parts and the whole thing.

Structural approach is an approach in literature that analyzes the structural aspects or intrinsic elements that make up literary works within, and looks for the relevance or interrelation of these elements in order to achieve the meaning of unanimity. The construction approach is also an approach that views and understands literary works in terms of the structure itself.

2.2.1. Character

The character that separates traits is always admired as signs of virtue, virtue and moral maturity of a person. Etymologically, the term character from Latin means character, mental characteristics, personality and character. The definition of character above gives description that the characters are the term for people in fiction to handle a story. Even though, the fictional people are resulted from the imagination of author but they reflect the human reality problems as in family, love, faith, view, norm, value, culture, and social affair. So, the author put each characters a story has analyzed the attitude and behavior of their roles.

The role of characters at least can be divided in two, namely antagonist and protagonist. Protagonist characters usually have a good action and follow norms values of community. They are like a hero to help other character from difficult situation and have sympathy from reader. On the contrary for antagonist character, related to good characters, Lictona states, "*Character consists of operation values in action. We progress in action. We progress in our character as a value become virtue, a reliable inner disposition to respond to situations in a morally good way*" (1991:51).

The position of fictional characters what the writer knows that they are major characters and minor characters. The major characters are the characters that have the important position in the fictional story. They come full in all events of story and become source of problems. On the other hand, the minor characters are the character of supporting major character to create problems. They just join in the events according to functional like babysitters, servants, farmers, sailor's, and soon. So they are rarely appearing totally events of story.

From the description, the writer knows that character is a change in view of is character in a narrative. A character also shows a fiction figure of characters which is different each other. So, character that in the story is a figure of vital importance person associated to character. The character consist of the values, in fact, character as value to become the kindness where character a disposition in it reliably to do everything to situation go the good road or morally. Character is the aggregate of feature and traits that from the apparent individual nature of some person or thing. So, the writer concludes that characters become characteristic patterns to form the real and nature individual in some cases.

2.2.2. Plot

The Plot is a structure of a series of events in a story arranged chronologically. Or the definition of the plot is a series of stories from beginning to end. Plot regulates how the actions contained in the story must relate to one another, for example, such as how an event relates to other events, then how the characters depicted and play a role in the story are all related to a time unit.

The plot is different from the story but it cannot be separated from the story. The storyline is the events in a story but the plot is something that drives these events to shape a story. Plot develops the events with elements such as the introduction, the early appearance of a conflict, the rising conflict, the climax, and the problem solving (Sumardjo and Saini K.M, 1997:49). Meanwhile, according to Mochtar Lubis (1951:10), the plot elements considered of five parts such as exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

a. Exposition

It is the beginning of the story. It is the start for the writer to describe the situation. The initial part serves as an exposition, namely the part that provides the information needed by the reader in order to understand the next story line. At the beginning, it usually contains the names of the characters, gender, age, occupation, social conditions, place of residence, and things that the author thinks are important for readers to know. At the beginning, it usually ends with an unstable story because this unstable story will trigger the next event.

The exposition provides information to the audience to the previous events, the current situation or the characters. Most in a drama from the beginning the author has emphasized one important question or conflict.

b. Rising action

Rising Action is the related incidents begin. Also Rising Action usually called Middle because it is in the middle of the story, Rising Action is the one that starts things that can trigger conflict because in the middle of this story there is a series of conflicts whose intensity is getting complicated. Starting with an incident, it is this first incident that starts the plot in an actual drama. Because the incident is a conflict that becomes the basis of a drama, which then develops and causes more and more complicated conflicts. Many issues are interrelated, but all of them still raise question marks.

c. Climax

Climax is very important in plot structure such as conflict and climax are the main elements of plot in fiction. Conflict and climax are closely related because conflict by conflict, both internal and external, reaches its climax and causes a climax. That is what makes the relationship between conflict and climax very relevant and important in plot structure.

d. Falling Action

Falling action is what happens near the end of a story after the climax and resolution of the major conflict or the event culminate. The falling action in

the story is the completion stage of to resolve all the problems that occur in the story.

e. Resolution

Resolution is a part of closing or completing the collection of various events and conflicts that occur in each story. This section brings the situation to a new and clear conclusion. The results can be satisfying, but may also disappoint the expectations of the readers because everyone's appreciation is different according to their creativity.

2.2.3. Setting

Setting is a description of the time, place, and atmosphere of the events in a story. Setting has a close relationship with the character or actor in an event. And also greatly affects the atmosphere of events, the subject matter in the story and the theme of the story. Therefore setting is one of the important elements in a story. Santosa (2011:7) states that setting is the basis, leading to the understanding of place, the relationship of time and the social environment and the place where the events are told.

Settings also have different types there are setting of time, setting of place, and social settings according to Nurgiyantoro (2004: 227). Setting of time is a certain time when the events in the story occur. Setting of place is the location or other physical building where the events in the story occur, while the social setting is a picture of people's lives in a certain time and place described in the story. The setting in the story aims to provide a clear picture so that the events that occur in a literary work actually occur or provide clear information about the situation in a story.

Setting is the most important part in a literary work, because setting includes important parts in the story such as the time, place and atmosphere of the story. Not only that, the setting also affects the subject matter in the story. Setting is also not only to describe the situation in the story, but also relates to social behavior. And most importantly the setting affects the subject matter in the story.

2.2.4. Theme

Theme is a main idea or thought idea about a thing, one of them in making an author expresses the writing. All fictional stories must have a theme because in it is recommended to think about what theme will be created. In writing short stories, poetry, novels, written works, and various types of writing must have a theme. So if assumed like a house, the theme is the foundation. The theme is also the main thing seen by the readers of an article. If the theme is interesting, it will give more value to the text.

The theme of piece of fiction is its controlling idea or its central sight. It is unifying generalization about life started or implied by the story. To drive the theme of a story must ask what its central purpose is what view of life it supports or what insight into life it reveals according to Selly (2011: 104) in the following as:

That theme may come from the experience, the research or observation, the opinion or belief, and the imagination. The theme is different than the topic and the title is the name given to the writing, the theme is a main message which is conveyed by the author.

The theme is a noun that is defined as the central idea or the holding control, unifier, and constructor of a story. The theme can also be said as the issues in a story. The theme usually implies a purpose or a message from the author. It may be in the way of character's life or character behavior in the story.

Theme is the main idea in a story that the writer wants to convey. The themes in a story are woven throughout the storyline, the actions, interactions and motivations of the characters all mirror the themes. Not only that, the theme is also the main discussion of something that will be fought for through a work that is implicit and neat so that readers can easily understand it.

2.3 Definition of Moral Messages

Moral can be interpreted as a person's action to judge correctly in one's way of life about what is good and what is bad, namely knowledge and insight concerning civilized human character.

Morals are about or relating to what is right and wrong in human behavior, considered right and good by most people according to the standards of appropriate behavior in that group or society according to Merriam-Webster (2006: 25)

Moral, like the theme, seen and understood the form of the content of a literary work is an element of content. It is something that the author wants to convey to the reader, is the meaning contained in a work, the meaning suggested through the story. Moral, sometimes, is identified with the meaning of the theme even though in fact it does not always suggest the same meaning. Morals and themes, because they are both contained, interpreted, taken of the story, can be viewed as having a resemblance. However, themes are more complex than morals inside it has no direct value as a directed suggestion to readers.

Morals in literary works usually reflect the views of the author concerned, his views are against the values of truth, and that is what he wants to convey to him reader. Through stories, attitudes and behavior. It is the behavior of the characters

that the reader is expected to take wisdom from of the moral messages conveyed, which are mandated. Moral in literary works can be seen as a mandate and message.