

# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

In the first chapter, the researcher explains the background of the study, identification of problems, research questions, research objectives, significance of writing, and writing sequences.

## 1.1 Background

Literature is a broad category of written works that is notable for their literary form or expression, aiming to provide aesthetic pleasure rather than serving a utilitarian purpose. This includes a wide range of genres, such as poetry, drama, fiction, and non-fiction, which are distinguished by researchers' intentions and the perceived aesthetic excellence of their execution. According to Wellek and Warren (1956), literature is a social institution that uses language as a medium to convey the author's ideas and reflects social behavior phenomena in society. As a result, when writing a literary work, an author usually explores the phenomenon they are writing about in order to write about what transpired around them. Literature provides useful information on the most appropriate types of literature, such as short stories, Poems, Novels, Plays, and songs (Arafah, 2018).

In literature, the author's works are mostly inspired by the environment around them. The atmosphere and situation also become important aspects of creating masterpieces. Thus, when an author writes the novel, he or she writes his or her experiences, what the author has gone through in their life, and the condition of their environment. According to Wellek and Warren (1956: 95) The phrase "Literature is an expression of society," attributed to De Bonald, is typically used to begin discussions about the relationship between literature and society.

With written and visual stories as guides, and exploring the world through social reflection and our observation of a particular kind (Coles, 2010). It can be inferred that literature means that people talk about a work that is related to feelings, imagination, experience, and thoughts by authors. In general, literature may be understood as a written piece of art produced by a certain author (Arafah & Kaharuddin, 2019). Besides that, literary works are also the personal opinion of an author about something which is then passed through a work that also reflects the author (Mutmainnah et al., 2022).

Literature is a form of human expression. However, not everything is, even when organized and written down, is counted as that are primarily informative technical, scholarly, and are excluded from the rank of literature by most, though not all, is of writing, however, are universally regarded as belonging literary work is a form of reflection of human life, but it does



not mean that literary works reveal facts or truths. Literature is also called a mirror or reflection of society (Marliana et al., 2018).

Literary work and human life are difficult to be separated. Literary work refers to life, and life is an inspiration for an author to produce literary work. Literature is divided into three parts: poetry, prose, and drama; they all are the product of society and even become a part of society. In literature, we find stories designed to portray human life and actions through characters who convey certain messages for the purpose of education, information, and entertainment (Shalini & Samundeswari, 2017). Literature is a reflection of society and has been widely acknowledged. Literature reflects society, its good values, and its ills. In its corrective function, literature mirrors the ills of society with a view to making society realize its mistakes and make amends.

The literature also discusses social issues, especially concerning topics such as gender inequality, socioeconomic class, and intercultural conflict, which are indicative of societal issues. Authors of English literature frequently illustrate how these societal issues impact people's lives and society through intricate plots and compelling characteristics. Wellek and Warren (1956) also state that literature is a social institution that reflects the phenomena of social behavior in society, using language as its media to express the author's thoughts. Those things are certainly expressed explicitly and implicitly within the works, which are presented not only to inform or entertain readers, but also to educate them on values or good things found after reading the works (Arafah & Hasyim, 2019).

In English literary works, other social issue themes that are often raised include cultural conflicts and differences between social classes. Novels such as "In the Country of Others" by Leila Abuela and "People Like Them" by Samira Sedira depict how differences in culture and social class can affect the lives of individuals and society. These two novels discuss conflicts that occur between local residents and immigrants and how differences in social class can affect individual lives. Individuals, through their dress, behaviors, institutional and social affiliations, etc., signal meaning that helps others identify themselves as a particular kind of person. In this sense, identity reflects a broad set of domains co-constructed in moment-to-moment interactions over local time and a broader socio-historical context (Nasir & Saxe, 2003).

In English literary works, explanations of social issues are usually complex storylines and multidimensional characters. Literary works benefit readers because they reflect life (Arafah et al., 2019). These works use these themes to illustrate how social problems can affect individuals and society as well as to show the importance of the rights and social justice. According to Soekanto (1990), in the social department, "social" refers to community-based initiatives



meant to address issues covered in the social welfare field. Literary criticism in English literature, particularly social criticism, is a significant aspect of analyzing and interpreting literary works. Social criticism in literature involves the examination of social issues such as power structures, injustices, and cultural norms through the lens of literary texts. This type of criticism aims to expose and challenge societal flaws, often by using literary works as a platform for commentary on contemporary social issues. Social criticism in English literature can take various forms, including archetypal, biographical, cultural materialism, and ecocriticism. Each approach offers a unique perspective on how literature can be used to critique and comment on societal issues.

Criticism in literature is one way of expressing humans' opinions about the social life around them through literary works. We might think of such an interpretation as a private-person version of ideology. However, we live anxiously with our ideologies; they are stained and awkward they do not ring true, and we wait for some angry or indignant neighbor or friend or former friend, the private version of a social critic, to tell us so (Walzer, 1987:47). Criticism can take the form of depict social problems such as injustice, economic inequality, discrimination, or an imbalance of power. Through this criticism, researchers can highlight issues that are considered important or controversial in society, inviting readers to reflect on, question, and even act on existing social conditions. Criticism in the literature can also take the form of satire, irony, or direct criticism of institutions, norms, or values that are considered problematic. Thus, literature has become a powerful medium for reflection and social change. Social criticism in English literature is a vital aspect of literary analysis that offers insights into societal issues and cultural norms reflected in literary works. By examining literary texts using various theoretical frameworks and approaches, the social criticism of English.

*A Tale of Two Cities* is known as one of Dickens's finest works and has been considered one of the greatest novels in the history of English literature, with its profound and universal narrative power. "Tale of Two Cities" is not only a story of love, sacrifice, and social justice, but also a reflection on human nature and its ability to change and thrive amidst times of violence and uncertainty.

From the above statement, it can be understood that literary works portray human activities and expressions that include social life and social issues



The description of the novel *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens finds some conflicts that happened in novel. This researcher to analyze this novel, entitled *Social Criticism in Two Cities*.

## 1.2 Identification of Problems

After reading the novel *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens, the researcher identifies a number of problems in this novel related to the conflicts as follows:

1. The social condition happened during the period of the French Revolution of the 18th century, focusing on the two main cities of London and Paris.
2. The social issues that Dickens's portrayed in novel *A Tale of Two Cities*.
3. The social criticism portrayal of the issue addressed by Dickens.

## 1.3 Scope of Problems

In this study, the researcher focuses on Social Criticism in *A Tale of Two Cities* and how the researcher portrayal the social criticism addressed by Dickens with the Genetic Structuralism in the novel.

## 1.4 Research Questions

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

1. How is social criticism portrayed in novel *A Tale of Two Cities*?
2. What is the impact of the social criticism on intrinsic and extrinsic aspects conveyed by Dickens in the novel?

## 1.5 Objectives of the Research

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

1. To describe the social criticism in novel *A Tale of Two Cities*.
2. To explain how the impact of social criticism on intrinsic and extrinsic aspects are conveyed by Dickens in the novel.

## 1.6 Significance of the Research

The results of this study are expected to be useful both theoretically and practically. Thus, it can be useful for all parties involved in this research.

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this researcher is expect to enrich the research by using Goldmann's structural approach. The portrait of social criticism in "*A Tale of Two Cities*" expects all readers to engage with timeless of social injustice, inequality, and the human quest for justice redemption. Through Dickens' powerful storytelling and incisive , the research continues to resonate with readers and inspire on the pressing social issues of both the past and present.



## 2. Practical Significance

Practically, the researcher hopes that in the future, readers and others will be expressive to be more critical and share what they want to convey, especially in terms of social problems that exist around them. The researcher also hopes that future readers and everyone are more sensitive about the social issues around them, because not all forms of criticism have value as bad and negative, but criticism can also have good and positive value to build something better in the future. Criticism is a literary work that is a forum for giving suggestions and our voice for assessing something.



## CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter consists of previous related studies, the theoretical background, pertinent ideas, theoretical approaches, and conceptual frameworks.

### 2.1 Previous Related Studies

This second chapter includes the other research that supports the analysis of the study. Some of the literature reviews of researchers are related to the title of the proposed research, and some of the previous related studies on these objects are presented by Therese (2013), Dian (2014), and Nurmala (2023).

The first related research is related to *Suzanne Collins' Hunger Games Trilogy and Social Criticism* by Kjellaug Therese (2013), from The Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages University of Oslo. This thesis looks at Suzanne Collins' Hunger Games trilogy (The Hunger Games, Catching Fire, and Mockingjay) as a social criticism. It examines how the author is making observations about the society we live today, how we may try to improve it, and how to prevent such a situation from occurring in the first place through the themes and components of the trilogy. According to the theory, the Hunger Games trilogy is comparable to other works of fiction like Nineteen Eighty-Four. This is accomplished by drawing comparisons between the Hunger Games trilogy and other comparable works of fiction, including the Nineteen Eighty-Four. The thesis states that Suzanne Collins is making a statement on contemporary society through the Hunger Games trilogy. This statement is made in light of the events in the novels, the personalities and decisions made by the characters, the genre in which the books were written, and the target readership. The thesis acknowledges that Collins does not have all the answers, but it also states that Collins does help readers become more aware of the problems facing the world.

The second related study entitled *Social Criticism in William Blake's "The Lamb" and "The Tyger" A Structural Dynamic Study* by Dian A. M. (2014) from English Department Faculty of Humanities of Airlangga University. In this study, the researcher's discussion of *William Blake's "The Lamb" and "The Tyger"* was the poems' distinction from one another. The primary goal of the study is to comprehend the meaning of poetry, and the researcher uses metaphorical language to communicate societal critique as the main topic. This study's methodology is consistent with Mukarovsky's Structural Dynamic Theory. The



early reveal the structural elements that have created poems socially critical issues. The author then deduced the meaning by presuming that it represented his observations of society during the Industrial Revolution and had a significant impact on England at the time. The Industrial Revolution had a significant impact on England at the time, leading to changes in human values.

The third related study is entitled *The Analysis of Genetic Structuralism in The Lion King (2019) Movie Script*, which was conducted by Lola Nurmala (2023) from the English and Culture Department Faculty of Language and Culture Darma Persada University. The purpose of this study is to examine how *The Lion King's (2019) Movie Script* is analyzed by applying the theory of genetic structuralism. The relationship between text and social settings in the creation and understanding of artistic works is examined using the theory of genetic structuralism. The purpose of this study was to analyze the plot structure, story patterns, and themes found in *The Lion King (2019) Movie Script* by genetic analysis. *The Lion King (2019) Movie Script* served as the primary source for this interpretive analysis-style qualitative study. It is complemented with secondary materials, which are works of literature that discuss pertinent theories, concepts, and definitions. Following an intrinsic study of the characterizations, story, and setting found in *The Lion King (2019) Movie Script*, an extrinsic analysis employing the idea of genetic structuralism was used to characterize the script.

After the researcher read and reviewed the previous related study above, the researcher found several similarities and differences between the previous study above and this research. The similarities and differences are that several of the previous studies above analyzed different objects and different theories, one of the previous studies above used a sociological approach in its research. The research above analyzes different film scripts and modern novels, while this research analyzes the classic novel by Charles Dickens. Then the similarity between this research and the previous study above is that they both analyze the same cases, namely social issues and social criticism.

This study discusses different perspectives on issues in classic novels. This research not only discusses social issues, but also attempts to provide an overview of how they are expressed, express opinions, and criticize literary works. This research understands the social, political, or historical background that relates to real life, helping to trigger new thinking and providing more insight into the depiction of life and people.

## 2.2 Theoretical Background

### 2.2.1 Genetical Structuralism by Lucien Goldmann

Genetic structuralism is a basic component of genetic structuralism, as it is derived from both the intrinsic and extrinsic aspects found in literary works. The genetic structuralism approach means the arrangement of words in such a way that the pattern of sentence structure is mastered with the acquisition of vocabulary. The genetic approach is a structuralist theory. To teach language using this approach, the structure of the language must be understood. Each language had very language differs in structure.



Content words were also taught in the structure. The selection of content words is based on their usefulness, simplicity, and teaching 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 that what is meant by approach can be interpreted as basic assumptions that are used as guidelines for viewing an object.

Genetic structuralism emerged as a bridge between structuralism theory and the sociological theory of literature. As a pioneer, Lucien Goldmann provides analysis techniques in addition to articulating his ideas. Goldmann's theories regarding the fundamental characteristics of human behavior the propensity for transcendence, consistency, and significance make this theory simpler to comprehend. Every literary study begins with these fundamental characteristics. This idea states that the concept of human facts (human facts) is where structuralism theory genetics starts.

The emergence of Genetic Structuralism, one of the 20th century critical methods, cannot be separated from the development of literary theories at the beginning of the century. The sociology of literature, which focuses on the relationship between literary works and other factors outside the literary works, such as authors, society, and historical background, and structuralism, which emphasizes the autonomy of literary works, were at odds with each other at the time. The development of genetic structuralism serves as a link between them.

French sociologist Lucien Goldmann created genetic structuralism. In addition to outlining his theory, Goldmann provides a methodology for analyzing literary works. Goldmann lists the following essential traits of human behavior:

1. The inclination to adjust to the environment's facts and, consequently, to its features to relate to it rationally and give significance.
2. Propensity to establish structural shapes and general uniformity.
3. Its dynamic quality, or propensity to change and evolve its structure as a component.

According to Goldmann, three fundamental characteristics that manifest as certain internal tendencies have an impact on people throughout their lives. The first is the propensity to adjust to the circumstances surrounding them. They accomplish this through a process known as "rationality," which is the human attempt to address every issue they encounter in their environment. They consistently respond by directing it toward "significance." This implies that the



is appropriate or helpful for them, rather than just any  
The inclination of the essential quality of human behavior is the consistency" in its entirety, which refers to the propensity of consistent thoughts, behaviors, and feelings as a means of issue in their surroundings.

The third is the dynamic nature, or the propensity to modify and evolve previously established mental, behavioral, and affective frameworks. This type of tendency is known by Goldmann as "transcendency" tendency, which has the same meaning as Pascal's concept of transcendence (the dynamism, practicality, and activity of all social and historical movements).

The three fundamental characteristics of human action are the basic concept of Genetic Structuralism theory; in other words, the concept encompasses or becomes the basis of the other concepts in Genetic Structuralism. Goldmann also thinks that the fundamental characteristics of human action provide the basis of all literary researches. It seems that these three fundamental characteristics of human action are basic to all positive research in the literature.

Genetic structuralism begins, the theory is based on the idea of human fact. Human fact is synonymous with human conduct, according to Faruk (1988:70), who defines it as all actions and behaviors verbal and physical that humans engage in and that the sciences attempt to comprehend. This is comparable to how the social sciences use culture. Human reality can, therefore, take the form of specific social or individual behaviors, as well as artistic creations such as paintings, musical compositions, and literary works, much like culture.

Goldman employed the dialectic approach, a literary analysis technique that primarily focuses on coherency, that is, how a literary study results in a single, thoroughly cohesive meaning to gain a thorough comprehension of literary works.

The dialectic method perceives that there is no starting point that is absolutely valid, and that there is also no problem that can be thoroughly solved. Therefore, our thought never moves linearly but continuously goes in a circle without being identified at the beginning and end (Faruk, 1988:105). Nevertheless, Goldmann does not deny that research must consider at least one hypothesis that comes from a particular assumption. According to Goldmann, the assumption that human behavior is more or less significant as a result of interaction with the environment is the only general characteristic of human action that can be used as the starting point.

Goldmann employed the dialectic approach, a literary analysis technique that primarily focuses on coherency, that is, how a literary study results in a single, thoroughly cohesive meaning to gain comprehension. Goldmann developed two pairs of notions in his dialectical approach. The first is the idea of the "whole-part," which states that in order to determine the novel's cohesive and comprehensive

Goldmann's opinion, represents its worldview, an analysis of a begin with its smaller components and work its way up to the "the second is the idea of "understanding-explanation," which attempt to characterize a literary work's structure and determine integrating it with a wider framework. Since literary work is



thought of as the manifestation of a broader structure, the larger structure in this instance symbolizes the worldview as the deciding factor.

From the overall explanation, we can see that understanding Genetic Structuralism involves understanding its basic concept. It is the basic concept that develops the other important concepts in this theory. The emergence of Genetic Structuralism, one of the 20th century critical methods, cannot be separated from the development of literary theories at the beginning of the century. The sociology of literature, which focuses on the relationship between literary works and other factors outside the literary works, such as authors, society, and historical background, and structuralism, which emphasizes the autonomy of literary works, were at odds with each other at the time. The development of genetic structuralism serves as a link between them.

French sociologist Lucien Goldmann created genetic structuralism. In addition to outlining his theory, Goldmann provides a methodology for analyzing literary works.

According to Elizabeth and Tom Burns' edited volume "Genetic Structuralism in the Sociology of Literature" (1973: 119), Goldmann lists the following essential traits of human behavior:

1. The inclination to adjust to the environment's facts and, consequently, to its features in order to relate to it rationally and give it significance.
2. Propensity to establish structural shapes and general uniformity.
3. Its dynamic quality, or the propensity to change and evolve the structure of which it is a component

The second inclination of the essential quality of human behavior is the tendency towards "consistency" in its entirety, which refers to the propensity of humans to develop consistent thoughts, behaviors, and feelings as a means of reacting to every issue in their surroundings.

The third is the dynamic nature, or the propensity to modify and evolve previously established mental, behavioral, and affective frameworks. This type of tendency is known by Goldmann as "transcendancy" tendency, which has the same meaning as Pascal's concept of transcendence.

There are three fundamental characteristics of human action, based on the concept of Genetic Structuralism. In other words, these characteristics serve as the foundation upon which all other theoretical concepts are built. Lucien Goldmann also argues that these traits are essential to all literary research. Thus,

every analysis should begin with an understanding of the traits of human behavior.

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Goldmann developed two pairs of notions in his dialectical approach. The first is the idea of the "whole-part," which states that in order to determine the novel's cohesive and comprehensive structure that, in Goldmann's opinion, represents its worldview, an analysis of a literary work should begin with its smaller components and work its way up to the entire hypothesis. The second is the idea of "understanding-explanation," which is defined as an attempt to characterize a literary work's structure and determine its significance by integrating it with a wider framework. Since literary work is thought of as the manifestation of a broader structure, the larger structure in this instance symbolizes the worldview as the deciding factor.

From the overall explanation, we can see that understanding Genetic Structuralism involves understanding its basic concept. This is a basic concept that develops other important concepts in this theory.

### 2.2.2 Structuralism 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 with the acquisition of vocabulary. The structural approach is a structuralist theory. To teach language using this approach, we must learn the form and structure of the language. Each language has its own structure. Each language differs in structure.

In this approach, content words were taught. The selection of content words was based on their usefulness, simplicity, and teaching ability. An appropriate structure was created to practice the structure, relate its meaning to it, and



build up a vocabulary of content words, even if the structure is taught separately. The term is predated in an appropriate situation by the teaching according to Riswandi and Kusmini (2018:84) that what is meant by the approach can be interpreted as basic assumptions that are used as guidelines for viewing an object.

The structural approach is an intrinsic one, namely, discussing the work on the elements that build literary works from within. This approach examines literary works as autonomous works, regardless of their social background, history, author biographies, and everything outside of literary works line with this explanation.

Regarding structure, Wellek and Warren (1992:56) give the constraint that the sense of structure is put into content and form, as both are intended to achieve an aesthetic purpose. Therefore, the structure of literary works fiction is composed of both form and content. The form is the way one writes, while the content is the idea that a researcher expresses the writing.

The 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 to achieve the meaning of unanimity, while the construction approach views and understands literary works in terms of the structure itself.

### **2.2.2.1 Intrinsic Aspect of Social Criticism**

#### **2.2.2.1.1 Character**

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

The role of characters can be divided into two: antagonist and protagonist. Protagonist characters usually take good actions and follow the norms of the community. They are like a hero to help other characters in difficult situations and sympathize with the reader.

The positions of fictional characters that the researcher knows are the characters. The major characters are those that have an in the fictional story. They come full of all events of the story ce of problems. On the other hand, minor characters support creating problems. They just join in the events according to babysitters, servants, farmers, sailors, and so on. Thus, they ents in the story.



From the description, the researcher knows that a character is a change in the view of the character in a narrative. A character also shows a fictional figure of characters that are different from each other. Thus, character in the story is a figure of vital importance associated with character, which consists 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 features and traits of the apparent individual nature of a person or thing. Thus, the researcher concluded that characters become characteristic patterns that form real and natural individuals in some cases.

### 2.2.2.1.2 Plot

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

The plot differs from the story, but it cannot be separated from the story. The storyline is an event in a story, but the plot is something that drives these events to shape a story. Plots develop events with elements such as the introduction, early appearance of a conflict, rising conflict, climax, and problem solving. The plot elements consider five parts: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

#### a. *Exposition*

This was at the beginning of the story. It is the start of the researcher's description of the situation. The initial part serves as an exposition, namely the part that provides the information needed by the reader to understand the next storyline. Initially, 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. Initially, it usually ends with an unstable story because this unstable story triggers the next event.

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

#### b. *Rising action*

The rising Action begins with the related incidents. The rising is usually called the middle because it is in the middle of the rising Action is the one that starts things that can trigger because, in the middle of this story, there is a series of s whose intensity is becoming complicated. Starting with an t, it is the first incident to start the plot in an actual drama. The



incident is a conflict that becomes the basis of drama, which then develops and causes more complicated conflicts. Many issues are interrelated, but all of them still raise questions.

c. *Climax*

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

d. *Falling Action*

Falling occurs near the end of a story after the climax and resolution of the major conflict or culminate event. The falling action in the story is the completion stage for resolving all problems that occur in the story.

e. *Resolution*

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

### 2.2.2.1.3 Setting

Setting is a description of the time, place, and atmosphere of the events in a story. The setting has a close relationship with the character or actor in an event. It greatly affects the atmosphere of events, the subject matter in the story, and the theme of the story. Therefore, the setting is an important element of a story. The setting is the basis, leading to an understanding of the place, the relationship between time and the social environment, and the place where the events are told.

Settings also have different types, such as time, place, and social settings, according to Nurgiyantoro (2002:227). The setting of time is a certain time when events occur in a story. The setting of places 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 at 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



ally occur, or provide clear information about the situation in a  
The most important part of a literary work because it includes  
the story, such as the time, place, and atmosphere of the story.  
Setting affects the subject matter of the story. Setting not only

describes the situation in the story, but also relates to social behavior. Most importantly, the setting affects the subject matter in the story.

#### **2.2.2.1.4 Theme**

A theme is a main idea or thought idea about a thing, one of which is to make an author express the writing. All fictional stories must have a theme, because it is recommended to think about the theme that will be created. In writing short stories, poetry, novels, written works, and various types of writing must have a theme; 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 gives more value to the text.

The theme of a piece of fiction is a controlling idea or its central sight. It is a unifying generalization of the life started or implied by the story.

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

A theme is the main idea in a story that the researcher wants to convey. The themes in a story are woven throughout the storyline, and the actions, interactions, and motivations of the characters all mirror these themes. In addition, the theme is 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.

### **2.2.2.2 Extrinsic Aspect of Social Criticism**

#### **2.2.2.2.1 Social Class Inequality**

Social class is a social problem that has been described by the author. This aims to describe what the author wants to convey to readers. This social class is also an act of criticism by the author in literary works. The social organization of class relations is not an expression of natural law, but is one form of a systematic pattern of historical variation. The life experiences and interests of individuals living within these relationships generate patterns of conflict that have the potential to push these historical variations in ways that accomplish social transformation.

Every use of the word "class" in social theory raises a new theoretical agenda involving a different set of concerns, and consequently, a different set of concepts. All usage of the word insinuates in one way or another the difficulty of comprehending the systems of economic inequality. Social class in the literature that explores the hierarchical organization of societies based on wealth, occupation, education, and inherited status. This work for examining issues related to power, privilege, inequality,

In literature, social class is a useful instrument for examining and structures. It provides researchers with a platform to discuss the



themes of privilege, power, and inequality while illuminating the intricacies of social dynamics and human behavior. By analyzing how class affects characters and storylines, the literature offers a sophisticated comprehension of the ways in which social stratification impacts both individuals and communities. Social disparities in health, the most disadvantaged social groups, tend to accumulate health determinants, such as economic hardship, discrimination, and unsafe living and working situations.

#### **2.2.2.2 The Injustice of the Legal System**

The injustice of the legal system pertains to the failure of law and legal institutions to deliver equal protection and fair treatment for all members of society. Instead, the law often serves to reinforce existing power hierarchies by selectively enforcing rules and denying justice to marginalized communities. This theme is central in sociological and literary discourses because it unveils how institutions that are ostensibly neutral can perpetuate structural violence. Analyzing legal injustice in literature allows one to examine how legal systems are portrayed as instruments of oppression or arbitrariness: especially toward the poor, ethnic minorities, or political dissenters. This aligns with critical legal theory, which argues that law is not an autonomous moral order but is deeply embedded in political and economic structures.

#### **2.2.2.3 The Abuse of Power and Corruption**

Abuse of power and corruption are extrinsic social issues that describe the unethical use of authority for personal gain or systemic exploitation. These acts erode institutional trust, compromise public service integrity, and disproportionately harm disadvantaged populations. Corruption is not only a legal infraction but also a cultural and structural phenomenon that distorts governance, hinders development, and undermines the rule of law. In literature, representations of corrupted leaders or institutions are often used to critique real-world political systems or to highlight the moral decay embedded within hierarchical structures. From an extrinsic perspective, such narratives reflect sociopolitical conditions where power is concentrated and unaccountable, aligning with theories such as Gramsci's concept of hegemony and Foucault's critique of power/knowledge systems.

#### **2.2.2.4 Violence and Justice**

Violence and justice represent the tension between the means and ends of social order and equity. Violence may be institutional (e.g., state-sanctioned, or revolutionary), while justice often stands as the pursuit of a state of fairness, legality, and moral rectitude. In many real-world contexts, particularly those marked by inequality and repression, violence is a means through which disenfranchised groups seek redress when legal systems fail. The portrayal of violence in literature can illuminate



societal patterns of oppression, rebellion, or moral dilemmas surrounding revenge and justice. Literature thus becomes a vessel to examine the ethical ambiguity of violence, both as a tool of the powerful and as a reaction of the oppressed. The tension between justice and violence reflects real sociopolitical struggles, where the quest for fairness is often entangled with conflict and sacrifice.

#### **2.2.2.5 Trauma and Psychological Impact of Oppression**

Trauma resulting from oppression refers to the long-term psychological and emotional damage inflicted by systemic violence, marginalization, or social exclusion. This trauma can be personal, affecting individual identity and mental health, or collective, influencing entire communities or generations. In extrinsic literary analysis, trauma serves as a critical lens to understand how external social forces inscribe themselves upon the inner lives of individuals.

The concept of trauma is essential in understanding the lingering effects of slavery, colonization, war, political imprisonment, and social ostracism. Literary texts that depict mental deterioration, emotional numbness, or fragmented identities often symbolize the invisible scars left by external oppression. These representations align with psychological theories of post-traumatic stress as well as sociological critiques of systemic abuse.



2.3 Conceptual framework

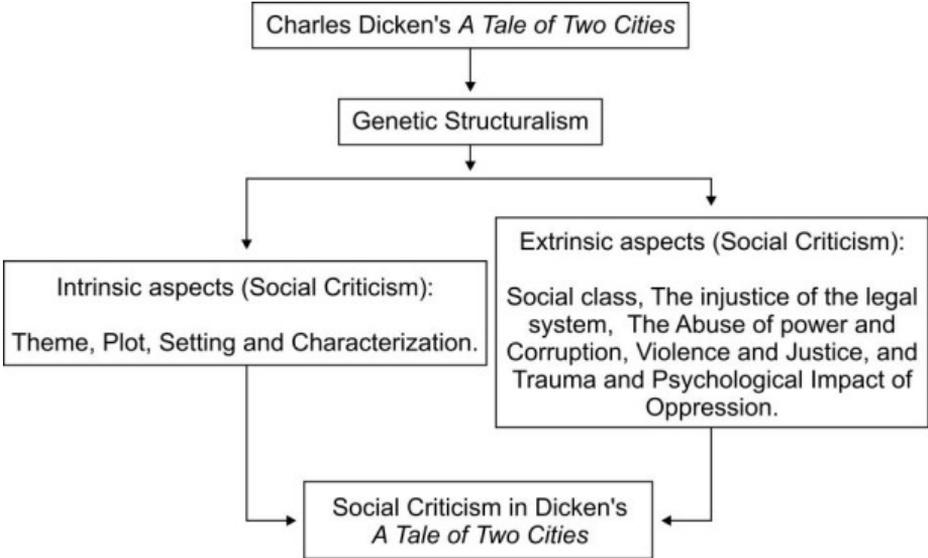


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

