

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction. It contains some subjects which explain about background of the study, research problem, objective of the study scope and limitation, significances of the study, and definition of the key terms.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Language is one of the most important cultural elements among other elements. Through language, people can express and describe what they are doing, thinking, and what they are wanted. Through the language, people can communicate with another people. In fact, in Indonesian context, language became a useful instrument in the life of the nation and state building. In the language contained some of words and every word have different meaning. Language is a system that is presented using words and sentences which also contain meaning. One of the means of human communication is language. Without language, we cannot communicate with each other. Language is very important in humans because without language we cannot express emotions, feelings, etc.

The word is a form of expression that has meaning. People sometimes have their own words to express something special to them, they create some words with a specific meaning. There are two types of word meanings, the first type is the conceptual or denotative meaning and the second one is the connotative meaning (Rababah, 2015). One language as well as one word may have terms that are not found in other languages and words, but it is always

possible to find a new language or word to express what is meant. Anything that we can imagine or think, we can express in any human language. Denotative meaning is a meaning that does not contain other meanings or values (Saifuddin, 2018), and is based on a dictionary meaning. On the other hand, the connotative meaning is the meaning with added value or meaning that is indirect and not real

In addition, denotation is the literal or linguistic meaning of the expression, and connotation is a contrast from denotation which means social and affective meanings. Therefore, a word can have more than one meaning within its boundaries which expresses people's thoughts and feelings beyond its literal meaning. Every aspect of human life uses language, such as economics, science, technology, education, and also art.

Poem is a type of art. Some people express their feeling through poetry, and even poetry has become a very attractive means of communication for children, adolescents and the elderly. Verses of poetry use words that are unusual and seem beautiful, compared to words used in everyday speech. Some poems sometimes also use words that are unusual or sometimes cannot be understood literally to make the poem more interesting. In poetry, there is a lot of language manipulation compared to other literary works (Cavanagh, Gillis, & Keown, 2011), so people sometimes have difficulty understanding and finding the meaning. Therefore, the research objective in this analysis is to explain the denotative and connotative meanings of the words contained in William Blake's *Song of innocence*. In addition, as many people in various

countries know, William Blake was a poet and a painter who was born in Soho in London in 1757. He is an important figure of the Romantic age. Which was a time when artists and writers reacted to the massive changes happening in Europe, such as new machinery and big factories making cities much bigger and industrial. Romantic artists were excited by emotions and tried to reflect the awe and wonder of the natural world.

### **B. Research Problem**

Based on the research background above, the researcher states the research problem. Therefore, it is the research interest to focus on :

1. What are the Connotative meanings found in William Blake's *Song of innocence*?
2. What are the Denotative meanings found in William Blake's *Song of innocence*?

### **C. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the research problem the writer has objectives of this study is :

1. To know the analysis of Connotative meaning found in William Blake's *Song of innocence*.
2. To know the analysis of Denotative meaning in William Blake's *Song of innocence*.

### **D. Scope and limitation of the Study**

The scope of this research is the connotative and denotative meaning in seven poems of William Blake's *Song of innocence*.

The limitation of this research is that the writer only analysis connotative and denotative meanings in seven poems of in William Blake's *Song of innocence*. There are three stages of interpretation according to the Griffiths theory, so this research with the first stage uses literal meaning to analyze denotative meaning and uses the second and third interpretation stages, namely the explicature and implicature for the analyze connotative meaning.

#### **E. Significance of the Study**

When the research completed, the researcher hopes that this research can provide additional knowledge for readers about connotative and denotative meanings. In addition, readers also more understand about Connotative and Denotative meaning in seven poems of William Blake's *Song of innocence* based on the Griffiths theory. After readers have more understanding the connotative and denotative meanings, they can apply them in their daily lives, either when reading or listening to poem or others.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misunderstanding, the researcher wants to provide some key terms that can help readers better understand the content, those are:

##### **1. Semantic**

Semantics is a subfield devoted to the study of meaning as well as the study of how people try to interpret the meaning of expressions, sounds, context and so on. It is often used in ordinary language to show problems of understanding that lead to the choice of words or connotations.

## 2. Connotative

Connotation is the second order meaning that can be given to symbols by referring to cultural values which are therefore at the second level.

## 3. Denotative

The denotative meaning is the objective first order meaning that can be assigned to a symbol. Namely, by connecting directly between the symbols and the reality or phenomena that are designated (Saifuddin, 2018). Denotation is generally defined as a literal meaning or a word that has only one particular meaning.

## 4. William Blake

William Blake was born in London on November 28, 1757, to James, a hosier, and Catherine Blake. Two of his six siblings died in infancy. From early childhood, Blake spoke of having visions at four he saw God "put his head to the window"; around age nine, while walking through the countryside, he saw a tree filled with angels. Although his parents tried to discourage him from "lying," they did observe that he was different from his peers and did not force him to attend conventional school. He learned to read and write at home. At age ten, Blake expressed a wish to become a painter, so his parents sent him to drawing school. Two years later, Blake began writing poetry. When he turned fourteen, he apprenticed with an engraver because art school proved too costly. One of Blake's assignments as apprentice was to sketch the tombs at Westminster Abbey, exposing him to a variety of Gothic styles from which he would

draw inspiration throughout his career. After his seven-year term ended, he studied briefly at the Royal Academy.

#### 5. Poem

Poem is included in the art of literary works, a variety of literature that results from the expressions and feelings of a person whose language is bound by rhythm, dimension, rhyme, and arrangement of lines and stanzas.

#### 6. Song of innocence

Song of innocence is a collection of illustrated lyrical poetry. A few first copies were printed and illuminated by William Blake himself in 1789. Its companion volume is Songs of Experience. Song of Innocence contains poems either written from the perspective of children or written about them.

#### 7. Stanza

A group of lines forming the basic recurring metrical unit in a poem.