

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of study, significance of study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

#### **A. Background of the study**

Reading is a very important thing for us. By reading, we can increase our knowledge on the development of the world; here we can use literature as reading material. Literature can be in form of poetry, plays, short stories and drama. They are all interesting to read and analyze, but here the writer finds it is more interesting to read and analyze a drama rather than other forms of literature. The researcher is interested in the story of this *Macbeth* drama because the writer thinks that by reading drama the reader can enjoy great amount of details inside the story. By reading great amount of details, the reader can understand better about the main characters in this *Macbeth* drama.

Reading literature is an interesting thing that answers our psychological needs, in certain moods and on certain occasions. Most plays of William Shakespeare's drama have exciting narratives that can be read without criticism because they give solution to the problems and responsibilities in our everyday lives and to participate in the experience of others, so it has power to alter our attitudes and expectations. Generally,

literature course is given at university especially for English Department student.

The students of English department mostly learn literature. They feel they understand much about it. However, in reality, they do not. They find many problems in it. They do not know how to understand so much and how deep enjoyable in literature. These make them less interested in literature, although literature is a compulsory lesson in university. They think that studying literature is difficult and boring. Therefore, there are many students dislike it. Actually, studying literature is not difficult. If they learn about literature deeply and everything that is connected to literature, by reading they can get many sources about literature. By reading it, they will be improving their understanding. Beside that, they will get experience, improving their reading competence and open their mind into the broader and deeper imagination of human life with all of possibilities they may never imagine before.

There are many lessons on literature in university. Those lessons must be taken by the students. They are classified into several courses, for instance introduction to literature, English prose, English drama, and English poetry.

Drama is imitation of human life that is projected on the stage. It is the portrait of society. Sometimes, conflict that is showed in drama is the same as their conflict. Drama is a picture of human being life such as human joys, sorrows, struggles, loves, desires, and everything felt by people. There are two

kinds of literature, they are fiction and non-fiction. but this script will only explain about fiction that is taken from reality on Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

Macbeth is once the most violent of the major tragedies and the one whose violence has been most securely recuperated by criticism.<sup>2</sup> Many characters are showed in drama *Macbeth*. Every character has different characterization in this drama. There are many controversies between one character and the others. Therefore, the researcher is interested in examining the characterization of the main character in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, because the main characters are the important things in determining the story. Beside, the characterization in main characters is always appears in drama. In accordance with this, Shakespeare says that the character is revealed not just for the sake of character but most characters in plays reveal them self though physical interaction and dialogue with other character<sup>3</sup>

According to the whole explanations above, the researcher decides the title of this thesis as "The analysis on characteristic of the main characters in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*".

## **B. Statement of problem**

Based on the background above, the writer would like to specify the problem.

The Specific research question is:

"How is the characteristic of the main characters on shakespeare's *Macbeth*?"

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<sup>2</sup> David Scott Kastan, *Shakespeare After Theory*, (New York: Rutledge, 1999), page 165

<sup>3</sup> Malcolm Kelsall, *Studying Drama An Introduction*, (Great Britain: Edward Arnold, 1985), 50

### **C. Purpose of study**

The writer would like to find out and describe the characteristic of the main characters in Shakespeare's *Macbeth* drama clearly.

### **D. Significance of the study**

The writer hopes that the reader will know the problem of the element of drama especially in characteristic. Also as being human that need art which is part of our life we should care about literature's problem that become part of art. Additionally to know and increase our insight about literature.

The researcher hopes this research will be useful for:

#### 1. Reader

It can add the knowledge for the reader, understand and enjoy the story and also make them interested in reading and studying literature especially drama.

#### 2. Researcher

This research can be used as a reference to next researcher who is interested in doing further development of this matter. So, researcher gets experience in analyzing the aspect in this literary work especially in drama.

#### 3. Teacher

It can give input for developing of material in teaching literature especially in teaching English drama when they teach in English Department or Senior High School.

#### 4. Student of English Department

Usually, English department students are expected to be more interested in studying literary work. They can enlarge their knowledge of culture and have capability in analyzing the literary work.

#### E. Scope and Limitation

William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* has many characters. However, to know about characteristic of the main character in *Macbeth*, it does not need to know all of the characters, so the writer will focus his analysis on the main characters only.

#### F. Definition of the terms

Based on the title and the problems, the writer will explain about:

##### 1. Characteristic

Characteristic is a distinguishing trait, quality, or property; an element of character; that which characterizes.<sup>4</sup>

##### 2. Character

Character is all the mental or moral qualities that make a group, person, nation, and etc. different from others.<sup>5</sup> The character is mostly often used to refer to a person in a story.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://hrsbstaff.Ednet.ns.ca/engranja/elements.html>. Retrieved, 29-03-2008

<sup>5</sup> Oxford, advance learner's dictionary, (Oxford University Press, 1995) hal 186

### 3. Drama

Drama is the specific mode of fiction represented in performance<sup>6</sup>.

Drama also presents the satisfaction for the readers through actions and dialogues among characters in a play. Drama is a kind of literature that contains dialogues, story, and conflict.

### 4. Main character

Main character has the most serious problem in the story<sup>7</sup>. Or the important character that always appears in the dialogue of drama. Most of the story tells about it and main character is pre-dominated in a story.

### 5. Setting

Setting is environment of each in the imagine world in which the action occurs. Or setting is the time, location and circumstances in which it takes place<sup>8</sup>.

Setting consists of:

- a. The actual geographical location including topography, scenery, event of the detail of room interior.
- b. The time in which the action takes place or the historical period.
- c. The occupation and modes of day exits of the characters.
- d. Religious, moral, intellectual, social and emotional environment of the characters.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/drama>, 07-07-2008

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/gnps/emb/lizhome/literaryterms.htm>, 07-08-2008

<sup>8</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/setting\(fiction\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/setting(fiction)), 07-07-2008