

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

As human beings, people cannot be separated with language because it is an important means for them to communicate. In their life, human needs to interact with others because they are social creature. Therefore, they cannot live without others. Through communication, people can change their minds, thoughts, intensions and ideas. Heidegger (1971) states one of the language characterization is speaking. Language allows people to say and express something to each other. Therefore, language is an important thing for human as their tool for communication. Language is not only media communication for one person to other person speaking. It also can be used by people to create literary works, either in spoken or written form. For example poems, novels, songs, short stories and the others, which are commonly called literature.

Allah Almighty also explains in the Holy Qur'an in *surah Ar-rum* verse 22 as follow:

Based on the verse above Allah created sky and earth, many languages even many variations in every language and also variety of societies. The writer supposes that it purposes to be learned, thought, and researched by human. Therefore, human needs to learn, thought and research the language.

Literature is considered as written experience and imagination of what human have in mind, which has the value of an art work that exposes about ideas and things in a real life. Literature has three main divisions; they are drama, poem and prose. In this study the writer focuses to analyze the poem.

Hudson (1913, p. 83) defines (as cited in Leigh Hunt) “poetry is the utterance of a passion for truth, beauty and power, embodying and illustrating its conception by imagination and fancy, and modulating its language on the principle of variety and unity”. Poem is also one of the literature that the writers can express their feelings deeply.

There are many things that people can learn from poem; one of them is figure of speech. Alden (1923, p. 142) states that “the most important and largest aspect of the imaginative concreteness of poetical style is its use of what is called as figured or figurative language”. Figure of speech can be used by poets to express their mind with beauty words and deep meaning. It also can add color and variety to the literary works. So that the readers can feel engrossed when read them. Therefore, figurative language or figure of speech has an important role in a poem.

Besides that, the imagery of figure of speech has written in the Holy Qur'an in *Al-Kahfi* verse 109, as Allah Almighty said:

The verse above describes about figure of speech. Allah says that even if those oceans were ink for the Words of Allah, and all the trees were pens, the

pens would be broken and the water of the sea would run dry, and the Words of Allah would remain, for nothing can outlast them.

Many poets in the world use figure of speech in their poems, including Robert Frost. He used figure of speech in his poems such as simile, personification, metaphor, etc. Robert Frost is an American author who wrote many popular poems. He uses nature as situations in his poems. In writing a poem, Robert Frost used the words that are easy to understand. His poems also involve to modern poems.

In this research, the writer also analyzes the moral value in Robert Frost's selected poems. Robert Frost is a poet that gives much inspiration for people. His poems describe about human life especially about village and nature.

Moral value is the standard of good and evil, which govern an individual's behavior and choice. Moral value is also a message that the reader can take by reading something, including poem. Therefore, many readers can get inspiration after reading a poem that contains moral value.

In short, the writer chooses the Robert Frost poems because he uses many figure of speech that make his poems beautiful and have deep meaning. His poems also use easy words to understand and modern poem. Besides that, his poems also inspire many people. He also ever got Four Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry.

This research had ever researched before but in this research the writer tries to make it different with before. At this time, the writer is interested in adding the moral value in this research. It is because of the writer thinks poems

have moral value that can give inspiration and motivation to the readers. So, in this research the writer presents the different thing with the previous research. Also, the writer wants to limit the scope of this research with only search three figure of speech in Robert Frost's selected poems; simile, metaphor and personification.

Based on the explanation above, the writer tries to do a research about **The Analysis of Figure of Speech and Moral Value in Robert Frost's Selected Poems**. In this research the writer tries to present poems because as writer knows this study is seldom researched before. This case has purpose to learn more and develop knowledge related to the poems, because it is one of the literature that we can learn deeply.

B. Statements of Problem

Based on the background above, the writer gives limitation in this study as follow:

1. What are the types of figure of speech that can be found in Robert Frost's selected poems?
2. What type of figure of speech mostly appears in Robert Frost's selected poems?
3. What moral values are found in Robert Frost's selected poems?

C. Objective of The Study

Related to the statements of the problem, the objectives of this study are:

1. Finding the type of figure of speech in Robert Frost's selected poems.
2. Finding the type of figure of speech mostly appears in Robert Frost's selected poems.
3. Finding the moral values in Robert Frost's selected poems.

D. Significance of The Study

The significances of this study are:

1. Enriching the writer's knowledge and experience through this research.
2. Increasing readers' knowledge, especially about figure of speech and moral value in poems.
3. Giving information and knowledge about importance of learning English through literature, especially in the poems.

E. Research Method

1. Subject and Object of the Research

The subject of this study is six of Robert Frost's poems. They are "The Road Not Taken", "Fire and Ice", "Stopping by Woods a Snowy on Evening", "Tree at My Window", "Birches" and "Nothing Gold Can Stay."

The objects of this study are figure of speech and moral value in Robert Frost's selected poems.

2. Data and Source of the Data

There are two kinds of data are investigated in this research, they are primary and secondary data.

a. Primary Data

- Poem texts
- The analysis of poems

b. Secondary Data

To complete the primary data, the writer also collects the supporting data. These data consist of:

- Description about figure of speech (simile, metaphor, and personification)
- Description about moral value
- Biography of the poet
- The works of the poet

3. Technique of Data Collecting

To collect the data in this research, the writer uses the technique by exploring some literatures which are related to the study (documentary).

4. Technique of Data Processing and Analysis

The technique of data processing and analysis involves several activities as follow:

- a. The writer collects the poems that will be analyzed.
- b. The writer rereads the poems and tries to find the figure of speech.
- c. The writer categorizes the types of figure of speech.

- d. The writer analyzes the moral value in the poems.

5. Research Procedure

Some steps that are passed through in this research are as follows:

- a. Preliminary step
 - 1) To read the relevant literature.
 - 2) To discuss with the writer's academic advisor.
 - 3) To make a research design proposal to be submitted to the Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Thesis Bureau to have approval.
- b. Preparatory step
 - a. To hold a seminar on the research design proposal.
 - b. To ask dean of Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Faculty for written mandate to conduct the research.
- c. Research step
 - a. To collect all the needed data from the source.
 - b. To process the data in the procedural way, then to analyze them properly.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation toward the title that is adapted in this research, the writer feels necessary to explain some terms concerning the title as follows:

1. Analysis means study of something by examining its parts (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 2000).

2. Figure of speech is a word or phrase used in a non literal sense to add rhetorical force to a spoken or written passage (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 2000). It is different from usual meaning. It is used to make the work (poem) beautiful. In this research, the writer is going to analyze three figure of speech in the poems. They are simile, metaphor and personification.
3. Moral is concerning principles of right or wrong; following standards of behavior considered acceptable and right by most people (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 2000). Moral value is also the standards of good and evil, which govern an individual's behavior and choices. In short, moral value is a message that the reader can be gotten from literature work, including poem.
4. Selected poems means six of Robert Frost poems that have moral value, figure of speech and also popular. They are "The Road Not Taken", "Fire and Ice", "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening", "Tree at My Window", "Birches" and "Nothing Gold Can Stay."
5. Robert Frost is one of the famous American poets. He is the winner of four Pulitzer Prizes and a special guest at President John F. Kennedy's inauguration (<http://www.biography.com/people/robert-frost-20796091>).