

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about research background, research questions, research objectives and research significance, previous research, research method, and organization of the research.

A. Research Background

Choosing the appropriate word in our daily conversation is easy. But the information being talked about is not that easy to be understood by the listener. Consequently, people often meet someone who misunderstands his/her friends' saying. For example in daily conversation, if we do not know the content of the conversation well, we can not catch the information, moreover in the text. The readers need to predict the idea from the writer.

Some of us choose to express our feeling through letter/message etc. We should know how the process of meaning realized. Many people meet this problem, moreover for the students. Students often meet many problems in the text they read/analyze such as newspaper, textbook, magazine, speech, letter, novel, etc. Here, discourse analysis is important to solve the problem.

The terms 'text' and 'discourse' are interchangeable. Some people argue that discourse is language in action, while a text is the written record of that interaction. According to this

view, discourse brings together language, the individuals producing the language, and the context within which the language is used.¹

Discourse analysis could be applied in both spoken and written discourse. In spoken discourse, it can focus on the pronoun used by speaker in his/her sentence to indicate the personal relationship. Meanwhile, in written discourse it can focus on the existence and message of the text. Finally, people who analyze the task can use discourse analysis to get a better understanding. Besides, they are also able to use it as the tool for conveying the message and helping the reader to understand the text they wrote.

Halliday defined a text as a language that is functional.² By functional, he simply meant that he is doing some jobs in some contexts. So, any instance of living language that is playing some parts in a context of situation, we call a text. This text would be either spoken or written or indeed in any other media of expression that we like to think of. For short story can express someone's feeling toward something, it can be included as a kind of text.

¹David Nunan, *Introducing Discourse Analysis*, (London: Penguin English, 1993), p.6

²M.A.K.Halliday and R. Hasan. *Language, Context, and Text: Aspect of Language in a Social Semiotic Perspective*, (Melbourne: Deakin University Press, 1985), p.10.

Short stories are frequently used to introduce students to the study of literature. As a form they are brief, and therefore easily apprehensible as completed works, usually entertaining, frequently intriguing in both form and content, and not at all intimidating. In short, they form an excellent means of demonstrating that the study of literature, although a serious pursuit, is also enjoyable and satisfying on many levels.³

A story exists for reading, according to its literary merits and availability. The readers of stories might desire to access different viewpoints, so readers need to have some worldly knowledge and critical competence to understand the stories.⁴“A short story is a brief work of prose fiction”⁵. Short story is so very much smaller (usually under ten thousand words, instead of sixty, eighty, a hundred thousand or over), the result would be more like a summary than a story. A short story is not only smaller than a novel, not only simpler and more compact, but it is single with a more intense concentration.⁶ In this situation, the reader should know how the meaning inside the short story realized.

³Mairi elizabeth fulcher, *The Short Story: a Non-definition*, Thesis (Ontario: McMaster University, 1983).

⁴Cited in Mei-Fei Su, (2013). *The Application of Appraisal System in the Three Narrative Texts of O. Henry*. Thesis.NationalPingtung Institute of Commerce, Pingtung, Taiwan, R.O.C.

⁵M.H Abrams, *A Glossary of Literary Terms: Seventh Edition*, (Boston: Heinle&Heinle, 1999), p. 286

⁶Geoffrey Ashe, *The Art of Writing*, (London: Heinemann, 1981), p. 140.

To comprehend the content of the short story and the writer's stance, it can be seen from Appraisal System produced by the writer. Appraisal is a system of interpersonal meaning in which it deals with how language users express their attitude. "Appraisal is a system of interpersonal meaning in which it deals with how language users express their attitude".⁷ Appraisal is concerned with evaluation: the kinds of attitudes that are negotiated in a text, the strength of the feeling involved, and the ways in which values are sourced and readers are aligned. Appraisal is the linguistic elements in a text that show the stances of the speaker/the writer concerning to the issues he discusses in the text. It relates to the power of a text and makes the text meaningful.

Generally, most texts are not free from negotiation. This kind of negotiation is gradable from the rarest to the most often of negotiation. This includes a short story text. A writer, based on his mission, usually writes the short story with the attitude and value he believes in. That is why readers may often find similar occurrences presented differently in stories of different short story.

وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِن كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ⁸

⁷Martin and Rose, *Working with Discourse: Meaning beyond the Clause*, (London: Continuum, 2003), p. 22.

⁸Departemen Agama Republik Indonesia, *Al-Qur'an dan Terjemahnya*, (Surabaya: Duta Ilmu, 2009), p. 345

And *remember also the time* when your Lord declared, ‘If you are grateful, I will, surely, bestow more *favours* on you; but if you are ungrateful, *then know that* My punishment is severe indeed.’⁹ (QS. Ibrahim:7)

The verse explains that our attitude determines our happiness. God will give us mercies if we thank for every single blessing, he will add our blessing. On the contrary, we will get many burdens in our life if we deny it. Furthermore, in the short story we know that Hester is a materialistic woman from her attitude in defining luck as having much money. Yet, she never feels that she has enough money for her family. She wants more and more.

Attitude is an important thing for human being who always need other people in their life. It can be used to understand someone’s feeling and someone’s personality. Moreover, according to Islamic point of view, good attitude and utterance are included into charity. Besides, attitudes are also important in education. It can be used to analyze the text in reading and students’ writing. So, study about appraisal is needed.

A writer should always be aware of the appropriate use of Appraisal Devices so that he may be successful in negotiating his meanings realized in the story with the readers. Appraisal has an important role to interpret people’s attitudes. It makes the text

⁹Maulawi Sher ‘Ali, *The Holy Qur’an: Arabic Text and English Translation*, (UK: Islam International Publication, 2004), p. 284

meaningful. Consequently, people should feel and understand the idea of the short story text. It shows that using Appraisal while people read a text would be very important. As a reader, on the other hand, he/she should devise him/herself with adequate understanding of and working knowledge about the Appraisal System used in the text which is being read in order to come to the appropriate understanding and interpretation of the meanings negotiated by the writer through the text.

By considering those components, in this research, I analyze how language works to unfold Social Discourse. In this research, language is central in the short story, works to explain social discourse. This research focuses on how the use of linguistic aspects, i.e., the Appraisal System to express the writer's attitude towards characters in the short story.

I took short story as a medium to know the power of the short story itself and its author. I chose the short story because it is one of literary texts that presents truth of human life. "Short story can establish its own kind of relationship to things-in-general-and does, far more often-by simply dropping hints at some larger truth, illustrating it, turning a momentary spotlight on it, so as to set the readers' thinking about general issues, although the story cannot state them".¹⁰It also consists of dialogues being supported by context of culture so that it becomes meaningful.

¹⁰Geoffrey Ashe, *The Art of Writing*, (London: Heinemann, 1981), p. 141.

I appraised the writer's attitudes toward characters in *The Rocking-Horse Winner* based on Appraisal Devices. I analyzed it since the short story deals with serious psychological and sociological issues-family relationships, materialism, as well as the nature of love.¹¹ So, I could appraise the characters on short story, understand the meaning beyond it, and learn many valuable things from it objectively.

B. Research Question

In order to conduct this research, I formulated the problem which emerged in the background of the research and its focus on one scientific question: "What kinds of attitudes are expressed David Herbert Lawrence towards Hester's Family in *The Rocking-Horse Winner* viewed from Appraisal Devices?"

C. Research Objectives and Research Significance

Based on the question above, the objective of this research is to describe the attitudes expressed by Lawrence towards *Hester's family* in *The Rocking-Horse Winner* viewed from Appraisal Devices.

It means that the goal of this research is to describe how the writer expresses his interpersonal meanings in the work through Appraisal Devices he uses in his writing. This research is intended to facilitate reader for appropriate understanding and

¹¹Jane Bachman Gordon, Karen Kuehner, *Fiction: The Elements of The Short Story*, (Illinois: National Textbook Company, 1999), p. 224

interpretation of the text. In other words, this research is also aimed to familiarize the knowledge of Discourse Analysis in order to enable readers to share and interpret the interpersonal meanings conveyed and written in the short story.

I chose Hester's family because they equate love with money and luck with happiness. This story reflects the common conflict both social and psychological in the social life. Hopefully, it could enable readers to become aware of the reality in their society and share the concerns negotiated by the writer in the short story.

The result of this research is expected to have advantages theoretically, practically, and pedagogically.

1. Theoretically, researchers may use them as consideration for further research. English learners and teachers, especially in higher education, may use it as a reference to study genre and discourse. For the writers who care about their writing, feeling and attitude, this research may provide knowledge that can make their short story beautiful, so that it could influence the readers.
2. Practically, researchers may re-study the finding for further understanding.
3. Pedagogically, English learners and teachers, especially those in higher education, may find it beneficial as valuable input in the teaching of writing in making the meaning of a text clearer for readers, since the knowledge about Appraisal

System will be very important when they write or produce texts.

D. Previous Research

The first previous research was conducted by Behnam and Bahar (2013), entitled “The Demonstration of Sexism in Thomas Hardy’s Short Stories via Appraisal Analysis”.¹² This research was aimed to consider Appraisal System in some short stories written by Thomas Hardy, to discover the way of appraisal resources contributing to the creation of ideologies in the lines of the stories and to transfer them to the readers’ minds. The Appraisal framework developed by Martin and Rose was used to analyze the clauses in the stories to manifest writer's point of view towards male and female characters. The results asserted that the appraisal can detect the ideology applied implicitly and improve the readers' awareness on the attitude written in the short story.

The similarity of the research and my research is the use of Appraisal System. Then the difference is that the research focused on *The Demonstration of Sexism in Thomas Hardy’s Short Stories*. Then this research focuses on Lawrence’s attitudes towards Hester’s family in the *Rocking-Horse Winner*.

¹²Behnam, B., and Bahar, G, *The demonstration of sexism in Thomas Hardy’s short stories via appraisal analysis*, *Journal of Language Teaching and Research*, Vol. 4, No. 2, pp. 291-300, (2013), Retrieved on August 28th 2015 from: http://www.researchgate.net/publication/260309862_The_Demonstration_of_Sexism_in_Thomas_Hardy%27s_Short_Stories_via_Appraisal_Analysis

Another research was done by Ardianto, “Appraisal System in Kurt Cobain’s Suicide Letter”.¹³ This study aimed to describe appraisal devices used by the writer (Kurt Cobain) in his suicide letter and to discover the meanings of his letter. This research used descriptive qualitative method. The collected data were in form of sentences, phrases, clauses and words. Then, they were classified into their categories to get conclusion. The data were analyzed by identifying appraisal items used by Kurt Cobain in his suicide letter, classifying appraisal items into appraisal devices, interpreting appraisal items, and drawing the conclusion. The result shows that in amplifying his attitudes, Kurt Cobain tends to use gradable words than non-gradable one.

The similarity is both of the researchers use Appraisal System and the difference is that this research focused on the writer’s attitude.

The next previous research was done by Toohey, “Wired Valentines and Webs of love: An Examination of the People’s Attitudes and their Intention to Use the Net to Form Romantic Relationships”.¹⁴ He analyzed the way people express romance attitude over the internet. That study analyzed how people convey

¹³Kris Ardianto, C11.2010.01119, *Appraisal System in Kurt Cobain’s Suicide Letter*, A Journal Article, Faculty of Humanities, UDINUS Semarang 2014.

¹⁴Raiza A Toohey, *Wired Valentines and Webs of love: An Examination of The People’s Attitudes and their Intention to Use the Net to Form Romantic Relationships*, Thesis, Georgia State University, 2007.

it with unconventional ways. Besides, this study aimed to apply the theory of Systemic Functional Grammar in a way comparative study.

The similarity of the research and my research is the focus on attitude as one of the research objects. Then the difference is the study aimed to apply the theory of Systemic Functional Grammar in a way comparative study meanwhile the present research used descriptive qualitative research.

The last previous research was done by Sayyidatul Fadlilah (2008), "Paul Burrel's Attitude towards The Royal Family in A Royal Duty".¹⁵ This research was aimed to describe appraisal devices used by the writer (Paul Burrel) in his novel and the types of attitude that are used in the novel. This research used descriptive qualitative method. The collected data were in form of sentences, phrases, clauses, words, and they were classified into their categories to get conclusion. The data were analyzed by identifying appraisal items used by Paul Burrel in his novel, classifying appraisal items into appraisal devices, interpreting appraisal items, and drawing the conclusion.

The similarity between this thesis and the present research is the use of Appraisal System to analyze the novel, whereas the difference is the thesis used novel as the object and this research used short story as its object.

¹⁵Fadlilah, S, 2201504019, Paul Burrel's Attitude toward the Royal Family in A Royal Duty Viewed from Appraisal Devices, Thesis, Semarang: Graduate Program, State University of Semarang, 2007.

E. Research Method

1. Type of research

Qualitative research means a kind of research that is not found the statistic procedure or counting form such as biography, history and attitude on human beings. Besides it is also about role of organization, social movement, and interrelationship.¹⁶ Arikunto explains qualitative research is research which does not use or deal to number in collecting the data and interpreting the data.¹⁷ It means that in qualitative research there is no numerical data procedure that found in resource of the research. Qualitative method can be used to reveal and comprehend something behind hidden phenomena which doesn't be known any more. This can also be used to gather the information about something that only known by a few people.¹⁸

From the definition above, the researcher used qualitative descriptive research. This research described Lawrence's Attitude towards Hester's Family in the *Rocking – Horse Winner* Viewed from Appraisal Devices by choosing library research as a research approach. Library research was

¹⁶Anselm Struss and Juliet Corbin, *Dasar – Dasar Penelitian Kualitatif*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2009), p.4.

¹⁷Suharsimi Arikunto, *Metodologi Penelitian*, (Jakarta: PT. Rineka Cipta, 2006), p.12.

¹⁸Anselm Struss and Juliet Corbin, *Dasar – Dasar Penelitian Kualitatif*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2009), p.5.

used to obtain and collect the materials that needed by the writer either it had been published or not.

2. Source of data

In the research, source of data is the subject from which the data can be found.¹⁹ According to Lofland and Lofland, source of data in qualitative research are words and action, the other is addition document etc. The data can be gotten from words and pictures. Furthermore, there are four sources data in qualitative research: interview, observation, documents, and audiovisual.²⁰ The data on this research “The Rocking-Horse Winner” short story. It was written by Lawrence and published in 1926.

3. Limitation of the research

This study focuses on the investigation of Lawrence’s Attitude – the feeling and values that are negotiated with readers (Affect, Judgment, and Appreciation) – towards the Hester’s family in *The Rocking-Horse Winner*. The short story *The Rocking-Horse Winner* is a short story written by Lawrence which talked about family relationship, materialism, and nature of love. It consists of 5.437 words and was published in July 1926.

¹⁹Arikunto Suharsimi, *Prosedur Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik*, (Jakarta: Bina Aksara, 1989), 6th ed., p.102.

²⁰John W. Creswell, *Penelitian Kualitatif & Desain Riset: Memilih Di antara Lima Pendekatan*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar), 3rd ed., p. 70.

4. Reason for choosing the topic

I choose a topic on discourse field, in this case Appraisal System, based on the reason that this field talks a lot about the nature of the participants. Appraisal as a discourse system has an important role to interpret people's attitudes. It relates to the power of a text and makes the text meaningful. Consequently, people may feel and understand the ideas of the text. I consider it could be very essential for people to use Appraisal while they create or read a text.

Many researchers conducted research on this field by making use of drama, short story, speech, news, etc. as objects of their study. In this thesis, I tried to investigate Appraisal from a different kind of text that is short story to provide new source for readers in analyzing a text using Appraisal System.

Learning Appraisal System through a short story provides students new insight to their writing skills and it also may give them enjoyment. I analyze *The Rocking-Horse Winner* based on Appraisal Devices since the short story deals with serious psychological and sociological issues-family relationships, materialism, the nature of love.²¹ So, I could appraise the characters on it and learn many valuable things from them objectively.

²¹Jane Bachman Gordon, Karen Kuehner, *Fiction: The Elements of The Short Story*, (Illinois: National Textbook Company, 1999), p. 224

This study focuses on appraising the writer's attitudes towards the characters on *The Rocking-Horse Winner*. This story contains unrealistic elements and more of a sociological than psychological study. Therefore, this study may be very important for researchers, teachers, or students to understand *The Rocking-Horse Winner* and its author through the Appraisal Devices used.

5. Technique of data collection

According to Arikunto, there five methods in collecting data, namely questionnaire, interview, observation, test, documentation.²² In this research, I used documentation. The documentation technique was employed as the data. The documentation included the following steps:

a) Reading

Reading *The Rocking-Horse Winner* short story.

b) Selecting

Breaking down the short story into manageable chunks and selecting each chunk based on Appraisal Devices realizing Lawrence's Attitudes towards Hester's family in *The Rocking-Horse Winner*.

²² Arikunto Suharsimi, *Prosedur Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik*, (Jakarta: Bina Aksara, 1989), 6th ed., p.203.

c) Identifying

Identifying appraisal items used by Lawrence in the short story.

d) Classifying

Classifying appraisal items into appraisal devices

e) Interpreting

Interpreting appraisal items, and then drawing the conclusion.

6. Technique of data analysis

In analyzing the data, I will follow Martin and Rose's analysis because this theory is suitable for a written data analysis. Some steps will be undertaken in doing so. Firstly, the data will be obtained from the short story *The Rocking-Horse Winner* which is available. Then, the short story will be set out in its entry for comprehending the text as a whole. Secondly, the short story will be broken down into manageable chunks for the purpose of analysis. Thirdly, for each chunk there is general analysis. Finally, each chunk will be analyzed based on Appraisal Devices realizing Lawrence's Attitudes towards Hester's family in *The Rocking-Horse Winner*.

7. Organization of the Research

This research is organized into five chapters. The first chapter presents the research background, research questions, research objectives and research significance, previous research, research method, and organization of the research. Review of related literature that underlines the study is presented in chapter II. The third chapter is general description about the short story. Then it will be followed by findings, which is presented in chapter IV. Finally chapter V, that presents conclusions and pedagogical implications, will end the thesis.

