

Chapter I

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature cannot be separated from environment, culture, social life where it is made from. Human social life is one of important element to build and create a good literature. Sociology is branch of science which studying the relationship between human in society (Horton and Hunt in Usman, 2012 : 4). In daily life, the society needs to interact with one of each other. One of ways for human to interact is through communication.

Liliweri (2011:37) said that *communication is process of sharing and changing ideas, information, knowledge, attitude or feeling between two or more person which have and use similar sign and symbol*. By sharing our ideas and opinions, other people or listeners will know what someone is thinking about and understand what someone was felt or how to react toward it.

The real life of someone can be found in literary work which is played by the character in the story. Character has problem as individual generally. In human life, there are so many realities which can influence human life itself. The influence of this reality could be better or worse is depending on how man accept it or where human is.

Literary work generally contained about the problem which complete human life. The problem could be the problem which happened in his or herself.

Therefore, as Setianingrum stated (2008: 1) that literary work has its own world which is the result of writer observation toward life itself. It has been created either in form of novel, poem, or drama which is useful to be enjoying, understanding and wielding by society.

This research identify the social related problem of the characters inside the literary works stories, that is communication. Communication is important for the characters in a story as well as human in daily life. The characters in Anne Frank's Diary: *The Diary of a Young Girl* (1993) and Mark Haddon's book entitled *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* (2003) have some issue in putting forward their ideas or opinion. They have their own problems to speak up freely what is inside their mind. In Frank's Diary, Anne couldn't freely tell what she was thinking about, because at that time, Jews freedom it's really forbid by Nazi. She, her family and another Jews acquaintance should escape and hide in the secret Annex for about two years.

“...We don't want our belongings to be seized by the Germans, but we certainly don't want to fall into their clutches ourselves. So we shall disappear of our own accord and not wait until they come and fetch us...”
(Anne Frank's Diary, 1993:12).

Anne Frank's diary is not an ordinary diary. It is part of someone's account about something unbelievably terrible, part of history that is written in form of diary. Vanson (1984:2) think it contains Frank's feeling, thought,

knowledge about what was happened during Holocaust time. The diary is not a novel or a tale of imagination of someone. It is life's document of Frank herself.

But like ordinary teenager around her age, she is just a grown up girl who lived in extraordinary time. She faced common problem which is same with any girl around that age. Her voice is very contemporary and her thoughts are very much like those of any grown up girl both then and now.

She does not have friend to share about her emotion or opinion instead she pour it into papers named Kitty, her diary. She wrote about everything was happened, about Nazi's treatment toward Jews, the Holocaust, her daily life in hiding at Secret Annex, her family, her neighbor, her feeling and thought as adolescent also as Jews in her remarkable diary. Hollingsworth (2013: 12) has a notion that Kitty is Anne's best friend during war time. It is her comfort source which she can write about common things such as her daily life or even the important matter like the World War II.

The diary the writer will use to do this paper is the 1993 version diary. It is not the definitive version but the version before the definitive edition or the b version. It is the diary that Anne originally writes in around two years in Secret Annexe. It is the edition before she is edited when she is 15 years old.

As for Christopher himself, in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* (2003), he could not speak what is inside his mind freely because he is a kid with special need with Asperger's syndrome. Asperger's syndrome or

simply Asperger, is an autism spectrum disorder. An autism child has difficulties in communicating and interacting with other people on its nature. Those kids have difficulties in expressing what they and other people think or feel about something.

“...It was very difficult to decide which of the diagrams was most like the face they were making because people's faces move very quickly... (The Curious Incident of the Dog, 2003: 3)”.

This book itself is unique because the main character is not someone people can find in most of books. It would be seen how a kid with special need like Christopher shares his thought, feeling, about things that was happened around him as Schulteis (2004: 193-194) stated in her journal. She thought Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* (2003) is a little gem that illuminates autism matter.

Thus, it seems both of characters have similarities in putting forward what is inside their mind freely because their own problem. The characters in both of stories could not communicate well with the world. And the writer has opinion that both of the characters use book to speak up what is inside their mind freely. By writing the books, they can express what they think or what they feel about something. They can put forward their opinion freely without being judge by other's opinion. The books also have intention to explain about the characters social condition with all of the problems that encountered them. Both of characters also have same setting place which is Europe. Anne Frank in Frank's

diary comes from German while Christopher in Haddon's novel comes from England. The other similarities also that it seems both of them are living in their teenager age.

In this paper, the writer tries to analyze the problem that encountered the characters to speak up the ideas, opinions, or what they feel about something by comparing both of stories inside the books. The writer thought the appropriate way in comparing both of novels is by using comparative literature method.

Comparative literature is a study of texts across cultures. Cited from Bassnet (1993:1), it is an interdisciplinary which is more focus on the relation between literature and both time and space. In time aspect, comparative literature could compare two or more different period. Time and space in this paper, will be a crucial matter especially in Frank's diary. The time in Frank's diary more or less influence the development of character inside the novel. The diary content of someone who choose to be Jews, written in Nazi imperial or Holocaust time might be different with the diary which is written in modern era. Meanwhile in space aspect, it will bound comparative literature with literature geographic area. It discuss about where the literature was made. Guillén (1993:63) said that comparative literature would study the relations between two or more literature. In comparative literature, the object of study will discuss about the similarities or differences in two or more literary works. Author tries to find the similarities which arise, the social related problem, the way how the character communicate by comparing both books.

Anne and Christopher in both stories seem have similarities in their way of communicating. They have their own problem that cause them could not communicate well with other people. Therefore, the writer in this paper, tries to analyze the problem that faced by the main characters in both stories by using comparative literature method. The title is “A Comparative Study of Characters in Frank’s Diary *The Diary of a Young Girl* translated by B. M. Mooyarart-Doubleday and Haddon’s *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*”.

1.2 Research Questions

1. Who are the main characters in the stories in Frank’s Diary: The Diary of a Young Girl and Haddon’s The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time?
2. How the intrinsic element (plot, character, and setting) portrayed the communication problem in the stories in Frank’s Diary: The Diary of a Young Girl and Haddon’s The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1. To know the main characters in the stories in Frank’s Diary: The Diary of a Young Girl and Haddon’s The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time.
2. To know how the intrinsic element (plot, character, and setting) portrayed the communication problem in the stories in Frank’s Diary: The Diary of a Young Girl and Haddon’s The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time.

1.4 Significances of the Study

1. Theoretical Significances

This study is hoped to enrich the knowledge, especially in comparative literature study in order to make it useful for the development of literature in Indonesia in particular.

2. Practical Significances

- For Reader

- Making the reader know about the books and be able to appreciate both of books.
- Making the reader know theme and problem in a story in a novel or literary work.
- Making the reader know some history which portrayed in a novel.

- For the Student

- Making the students know how to read literature in order to be able appreciate and analyze both of books properly.
- Making the students know how to do comparative literature study appropriately.
- Making the students know how to understand the problem and theme in a novel or literary work.

- For Similar Research

- Making it become some preferences in the future study about literature.

- Making it become some preferences to do comparative study which related with communication problem in a novel or literary work.
- Making it become some preferences toward similar study with the similar history theme.

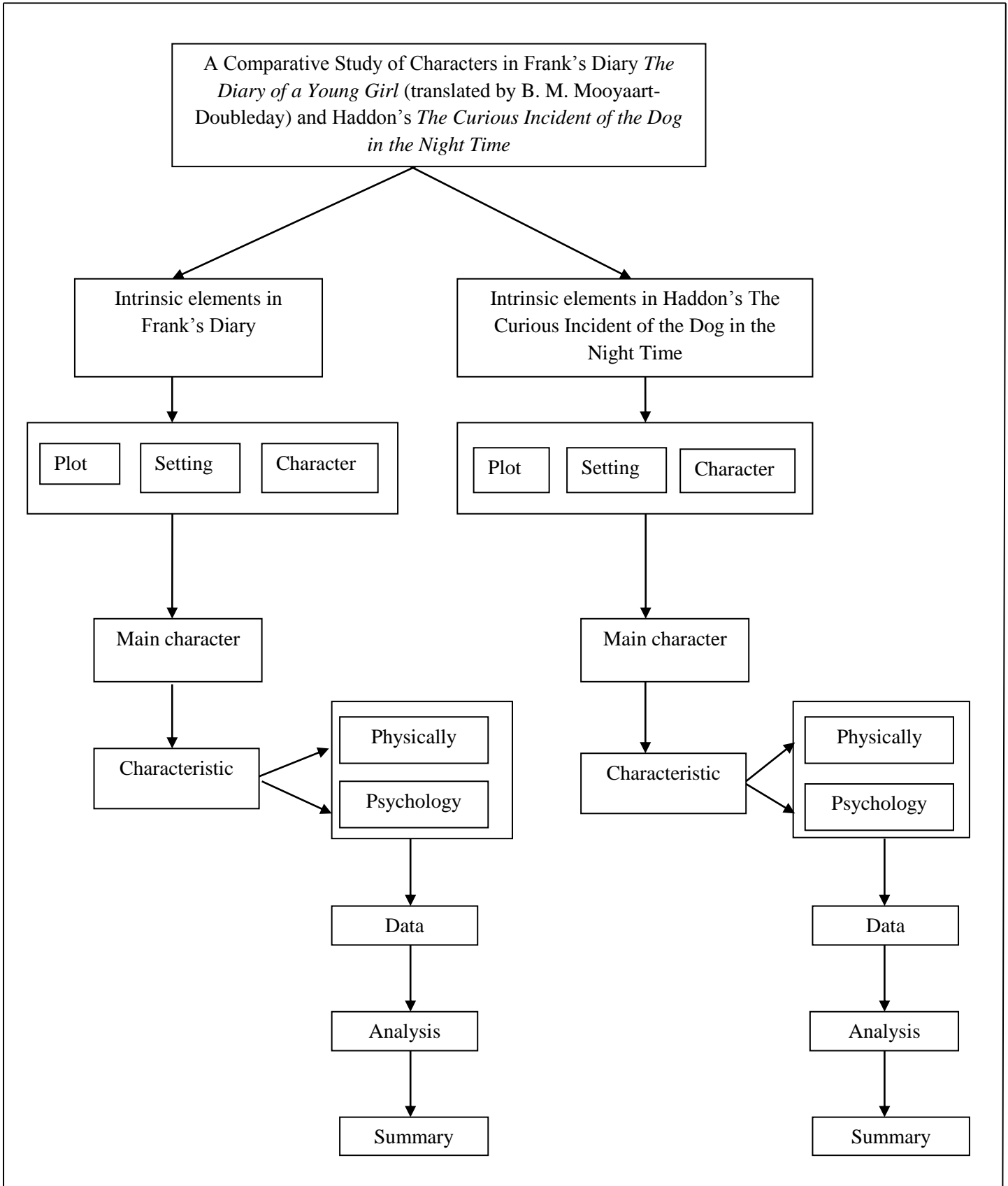


Table 1.1 Framework