Chapter I

Introduction

1.1 Background of the study

Learning is not just about math, science, or language. Sometime we must learn about culture, love, politic, criminal, social, and the other. Internet, television and radio all these instruments help us to increase our experience of learning, of going place, and of doing things in our imagination that we might have a chance to do otherwise. Long argue that literature is one way to understand the world around us through our imagination. Literature is a document that holds an expression of human life that is poured in the beautiful words and is a manifestation of emotions, thoughts, aspirations and experiences experienced by humans (8). While Jones say literature includes all written material such as, history books, philosophical works, novels, poems, plays, scientific articles, dictionaries, instructional manuals, travel folders, magazines, and school textbooks. (Jones1).

In the world of literature, there are many works that can be discussed, such as novel, poetry, and drama. "Literature is the expression of life in words of truth and beauty. It is the written record of man's spirit, of his thought, emotions, aspirations, it is the history and the only history, of the human soul" (Long 8). Some issues relating to human's life are usually discussed in literary works combined with artistic skill, thought and emotions of the authors. Author's artistic skill will make the literary work become beautiful so that the readers might enjoy the works. One of literary work is drama or play that will be discussed here.

The writer is interested in talking about play because it has its own elements different from other literary work. Most types of literature, including novels, short story and poems are written to be read, usually in silence by a solitary reader (Carlson 2). In drama, the words are mainly dialogue; people talking is the basic dramatic action (Reinert 9). (Carlson 2) also state that although works of drama, called plays, are often read in this manner, they are created primarily to be presented in public by a group of performers, each of whom pretends to be one of the character in the story the play is telling.

So, in the play, the characters are the narrators of the story telling by themselves what they though what they feel and what happens to them. The character are free to express their feelings, emotions and thoughts according to the roles they are characters. And audiences or readers can know the event and the issue of the play through their performance. Furthermore, the readers can directly track the conversation spoken by the characters so that the readers can guess or interpret the traits of the characters by reading or watching the play. The readers also might enjoy the conflict among the characters from their conversations and they will know how the characters way of expressing their anger directly from what they are talking about.

One type of drama is tragedy. A tragedy is a type of drama where the characters go through some form of suffering (Carlson 7). Most definitions of tragedy that we use today come from some parts of the work The Poetics written by the philosopher Aristotle. In the simplest terms, Aristotle defined tragedy as a form of drama whose plot is centered on human suffering for the purpose of

evoking feelings of pity and fear in the audience. This feeling, which Aristotle called catharsis, helps the audience move beyond the feelings of pity and fear to find peace by the end of the play (Gremmler 34). According to (Carlson 9), a tragedy is dominated by a serious tone, concern kings and princes, deals with profound issues and usually concludes with the death of the leading character. Tragedy remained the genre used most often to explore the profound philosophic question of good evil and humankind's place in the universe.

However a tragedy is more than just a play about suffering. In the poetics, Aristotle explains that the plot in a tragedy is more than just the story itself; it is the arrangement of the incidents, or chain reaction of cause and effect events, that happen in the story. The plot is the most important piece of the tragedy and, according to Aristotle, should be whole, with a beginning, middle and end. But, he also believed that the plot must have unity of action, where all of the events are dependent on the previous and lead to the next. Because they are all tied together, and usually to the same person, this creates unity.

Aristotle states, tragedy as a whole must have six elements which make it what it is: they are plot structure, style, spectacle, lyric poetry, character, thought. (Gremmler, 38). Based on the datation Aristotle puts plot in tragic, as important element. Because without plot, the reader cannot know what happen in the story. Tragedy as "an imitation of an action that is serious complete and of a certain magnitude, (Kimmcy, 4). Aristotle admired, the action has been clear in beginning, middle, and the end. And he relate the action here as the action in life. So tragedy as action's imitations means that's tragedy can represents in real life

The next important element after plot is character. He makes moral ambiguity the essence of tragedy; the tragic hero must be neither a villain nor a virtuous man but a character between these two extreme (Lechter & smith 1). He must be one who comes to his misfortune because of some weakness or error in judgment (Kimmcy 5). So, the character experience a tragic flaw leading him to his downfall that later on causes audience pity and fear for the hero's tragic fate. And the action of plot is the way to know the characterization and the effect, can influence audiences' state of emotion.

The thesis writer choses Shakespeare's work to be analyzed because he is great playwright and poet. Who had a unique view of the world that was advanced for his time. He saw the minor details and noticed things a lot of other people would have missed that may seem confusing to us in present day but the underlying stories are brilliant pieces of literature. Shakespeare is not just famous in his home country England, but also worldwide. It is because his works have been inviting many attention and criticism from many writers. TS Elliot, for instance considers Hamlet as Mona Lisa 'of literature (Essay on Hamlet 57)

Shakespeare's play Hamlet is about the prince's efforts to carry out his father's message of revenge. Along his way for revenge, Hamlet is always overwhelmed by his weaknesses that disable him to act and lead him into depression. He has dilemma by speculating his actions he should take that afterward generates his inner conflict. In addition, he also too much makes excuses for the sake of running away from problems so that he often delays his actions.

Hamlet is the main character of this play. As prince of Denmark, he must deal with some problems in his life that makes his mind have full of confusion, doubt and uncertainty. Furthermore, his inability to accept reality seems to put him in deeper grief. Unfortunately, he has difficulty to cope with his problems. The hardest responsibility he must carry out is to take revenge against his uncle. He is always speculating but is unable to make decision since he is full of inner conflict that prevents him to take actions. Being overwhelmed with such barriers, he gets depressed and, worse, it leads his behavior to act improperly.

The topic of this study is about depression. The writer realizes that depression is one of psychological problems that is often suffered by people nowadays. Inability to accept the reality as it is and the nature of human weaknesses can be one of the factors that will be able to generate depression in real life.

People have many different ways to cope with their weaknesses. In *Hamlet*, Shakespeare portrays how the great prince's reaction to cope with his problems. His inability to accept the fact of his father's death and his mother's remarriage leaves unpleasant felling inside Hamlet. Further, his weaknesses, harshness and hesitation, always prevent him to act. It leads him to suffer from depression. The way Hamlet overcomes his depression is very tragic. Thus, the writer intends to analyze a character that is unable to handle himself as he gets depressed. Instead of performing certain actions, he tries to escape from his unpleasant feeling that makes him perform certain strange behavior that other people consider to be madness. Hence, the writer is interested in analyzing Hamlet

depression in terms of its effects. From that topic we can learn about, how when we must be patient we get into trouble. Because people in this world are nothing a perfect:

1.2 Statement of the problem

Hamlet, the main character in this play, experiences depression. Therefore, the writer curious to know

- 1.2.1 Why does Hamlet get depression in his life.
- 1.2.2 What are the effects of his toward his personality and his family members.

1.3 Purpose of the study

In this study, the writer intends to explain and to answer the problem study above by giving detailed explanation in order:

- 1. To reveal the reason why Hamlet experience of depression.
- To know the causes and Effect of Hamlet's depression in Shakespeare's Hamlet.

1.4 Significance of the study

One of the significance of the study, is to give fact to the readers about depression in terms of its causes and effect, and the thesis writer hopes that the readers will get some benefits. Theoretically, the thesis writer hopes the readers will have more interest in William Shakespeare works especially in *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*. The thesis writer expects that by reading this

thesis, the readers will have further view of depression especially about the causes and the results of the depression. Practically, the readers can be aware of the causes and the result of the depression and when they are depressed. They will be able to overcome their depression.

1.5 Scope and limitation

The scope of this study is the depression in terms of its causes and effects on the behaviors. The discussion is limited on Hamlet, the main male character in Shakespeare's Hamlet play. Furthermore. To make clear in this analysis the writer uses psychology concept of depression as supporting theory to analysis.

1.6 Method of the study

1.6.1 Research Design

In here the writer uses library research to collect the data and answer the problems. Library research is called qualitative research in which the data are in the form of text, written word, phrase or symbols; it concerned with any numbers (Neuman in Wigayanti 8). This study uses *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark* Written by William Shakespeare. Thus, through qualitative methods the study want to get valid description about the character personality in the drama. Based on the problems above, this study uses the psychoanalysis depression theory, as the literary tool.

1.6.2 Data

The data consist of two part. They are main data and supporting data.

a. Main data

The main data are taken from William Shakespeare drama *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark* which consist of his memoir.

b. Supporting data

The study uses the theory which related to the topic, such as psychoanalysis depression theory. Afterwards, there are some journal and article or another book to supporting the data

1.6.3 Data collection

To get the data, the study uses literary approach to explain the topic under discussing. First, the study read the text of drama. Taken some note to collecting the valid data, then read it carefully and analyze the text of drama act by act in details

1.6.4 Data analysis

In analyzing the data, the study identifies and classifies the problems which deals with the purpose of the study in his thesis. The thesis writer is going to apply psychology concept of depression as supporting theory analysis. Hopefully by using these psychology concept of depression, the writer will be able to answer the questions mentioned in the statement of the problems

1.7 Organization of the study

The thesis writer divides his thesis into four chapters. The first chapter consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the

study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, method of the study, organization of the study. In the second chapter is review of related theory used in analysis and review of related study. The third part is the discussion in which the writer applies with theory to the analysis of the causes of Hamlet depression and the effect of it in his action. Finally, at the end of the discussion, the writer concludes all the discussion in the last chapter

