CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter elaborates background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, and also presents the significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language function is description of how an utterance can achieve a communicative purpose by looking behind the literal, formal meaning of what the sender of the message intends to achieve it. Halliday (1973) stated that a functional come up to language means, investigating how language is used, trying to find out what the purposes that language provide for us, and how people are able to attain these purposes throughout speaking and listening, reading and writing. Language function refers to the way we can use language to attain communication process to get listeners to comprehend with our utterances or what we are saying (Kessler, 1992: 92). It means that language function is important in doing communication because it leads the hearer to achieve the purpose of someone's utterances. When people speak to others with purpose, certainly the hearer might be able to get the message of talking. Opposite, if the speaker's utterances with no purpose, of course the hearer will be confusing because the speaker does not know the point or idea of his or her utterances.

A series of researches have been conducted by some researchers who focus on language functions. Some researchers have conducted the researches in various subjects, such as Machmudha (2015) in her research "A study of Language Function Used by Alicia and dr.Rosen in "A Beautiful Mind". She analyzed the kind of language functions used by Alicia and dr. Rosen to John Nash as well as the language functions mostly used by them. While, Yunita (2013) has been conducted language functions in utterances produced by Carl to Russel, the characters of movie Up. She used the Halliday theory of language functions and she found seven language functions in the utterances produced by Carl to Russell in movie Up.

Other previous studies also come from Arum (2015), Syafitri (2014), Hasits (2007) and Arista et al. (2009). They analyzed the main character on the movie. Arum (2015) analyzed kind of language functions as well as the aspects of language in Enchanted movie script, and how can the language functions help the reader in understanding the message. She founds seven language functions based on Cook's theory. Syafitri (2014) focused on spoken utterance. The result of her study is she found five language functions: emotive, directive, phatic, referential and poetic function. Hasits (2007) analyzed Bad Boys II film by Marcus Burnett. He tries to find out language functions interference in English language which is used by the main character. He only found emotive function in this film. Arista (2014) analyzed kinds of language functions and the most dominant type of language functions used by the main character in Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows movie. The data were the dialogue of the main character in Sherlock Holmes movie. The findings show that there are six types of language functions. They also found the dominant of language function that is used in this movie is metalingual function.

Sidtis et al. (1981) and Whitehouse et al. (2008) have been done in hemisphere cases. They contrasted two parts of brain which is called left hemisphere and right hemisphere. Sidtis et al. (1981) analyzed language function of variability in right hemisphere After Callosal Section: Avidence for A Continuum of Generative Capacity. Then, compare the using of the patience's right and left hemisphere. Whitehouse et al. (2008) analyzed language function with Specific Language Impairment in adult. They contrasted adults that have problem of their language. The findings show that there are left hemisphere works better and there are right hemisphere works better. While, Mitchel et al. (2005) analyzed about language function and schizophrenia sufferer. The result of their study is disposed using right hemisphere for their language function.

Other previous studies have been done by Andayani (2013), Hidayat (2014) and Nissa et al. (2012). The study by Andayani (2013) analyzed language functions in english used by receptionist in Bali Brasco. She used the theory of Van ek and she found several functions of language: asking information, giving situation, denying something, offering something, certain or uncertain, permission, expressing hope, repeating, suggesting, offering assistance, greeting and thanking. After she found those, then she

implemented it into language teaching. The study by Hidayat (2014) analyzed language function that used by Mario Teguh and he found the referential function is the most used by Mario Teguh in Golden Ways Show. While, Nissa et al. (2012) analyzed about language function in advertisements in catalogue magazine. They show that the advertisement's slogan/headlines employed language functions that were used to deliver particular messages with different kinds of objectives.

Death of Salesman Drama is a play authored by Athur Miller in 1930s. Its tells about the course of life and career of willy Loman as a salesman. It describes the situation of America when they were facing a great depression. This drama not only tells about the career of salesman, but also the problems of Loman's family which is influenced by his past life. This drama is reflection of Athur personal experiences when his family felt the effect of capitalism during the Great Depression in America in 1930.

Death of Salesman actually has been analyzed by researcher before, but analyzed in Literature. The researcher is Loyanda (2009). Loyanda (2009) focused on Marxism that illustrate from Loman's family because the effect of capitalism.

Thus, this study will be the first study which makes the analysis of language function in drama. This study will focus on Linda's utterances, because the researcher is interested in Linda when talking with Willy Loman who suffers stress. She uses her language function to make a verbal communication with the stress sufferer in better way.

1.2 Research Problems

This study is conducted to answer the problems formulated in the following questions:

- What types of language functions and mostly used by Linda in Death of Salesman drama?
- 2. In what context does Linda use language functions in Death of Salesman drama?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the problems above, the objectives of the study are aimed:

- To get understanding the types of language functions and mostly used by Linda in Death of Salesman drama.
- To know in what context Linda uses language functions in Death of Salesman drama.

1.4 Significance of the Research

This study is to make a contribution to the development of Discourse Analysis Theory. The researcher hopes this study can enrich information for the people who concern about language function. Through the result of this study, the researcher wants to show the functions of language found in the utterances which is made by Linda and language function mostly used by Linda when talking with Willy Loman who suffer stress, so that the reader of this thesis will understand how to make a verbal communication with the stress sufferer in a better way. Therefore, the reader will be realizing that someone who sufferer stress can give response by using language functions

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is related to discourse that focusing in language functions. The researcher is related focused on Linda's utterances when having a verbal communication with Willy Loman who suffer stress in Death of Salesman drama. This research is limit just on the theory of Roman Jakobson (1960) and focuses on six kinds of language functions; they are emotive functions, conative functions, referential functions, phatic functions, methalinguistic functions, and poetic functions. On other hand, the researcher uses theory of context that purposed by Dell Hymes (1974) to answer the second of problem statements. The emphasis of this research is to find the Linda's utterances which consider can achieve the communicative purpose and also focuses on the language function only.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

1. Language Function: what we say for a specific purpose, whether asking permission, expressing a wish, or apologizing to accomplish our purposes.

- Death of Salesman: a play which is written by Athur Miller in 1930s and describes the situation of America when they were facing a great depression.
- 3. Drama: the literary genre which is most like naturally occurring conversation (Short, 1996: 168).

