

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

In this section, researcher explores some reasons why the researcher does the research, include: why does the researcher analyze the teacher's interaction with students in the classroom? Why does she use the film "*To Sir With Love*"? Here are the following statements of research background:

Base on researcher experience when she teaching private students, one of her students, Jayanti Mayang Sari, 9, student grade 4 at Elementary School in Surabaya admits that she has a poor mark for English subject because she doesn't like the teacher and her teacher always giving unclearly instruction. Vera (48) admits that she remembers most the English lesson she has learnt in Grade 5 Senior High School because she learnt English from her friendly teacher. Both of them state that the teacher is very important in influencing their curiousness to master language. Students grades IX SMP YPM 7 Sidoarjo also hardly ever do the homework in English subject, unwillingly to come to the class, and have a bad mark and attitude, the reason is because they hate and don't care with the teacher. If the reason of those problems related with the teacher, thus the language of teacher becomes important.

The language here is related to the teacher's language interaction in teaching-learning process which is a main factor in education successfulness. It is written

in Penilaian Kinerja Guru “*Teacher is the decisive factor which very dominant in education because teacher takes hold on the important role in the teaching-learning process, where the process of learning is the core process of education in its totality (translated)*”<sup>1</sup>. The importance of teacher is also strengthened by Jeremy Harmer. In 1998, Harmer did the research about “What Makes a Good Teacher”. He interviewed students of different nationalities studying at Private Language School in Britain, and Secondary School student studying at Cambridge Comprehensive School. The answers are representative as follow:

- *A teacher must love her job. If she really enjoys her job that'll make the lesson more interesting.*
- *I like the teacher who has his own personality and doesn't hide it from the students so he is not only a teacher but person as well*
- *A good teacher is an entertainer, and I mean that in positive sense not in negative sense”.*<sup>2</sup>

By far, most of the students not only concern on teacher's knowledge but also about the teacher's personality and how the ways they interact to the students. Harmer also collects the students' responses as follow:

- *“A good teacher is...somebody who has an affinity with the students that they're teaching*

---

<sup>1</sup> *Penilaian Kinerja Guru*. Departemen Pendidikan Nasional (2008) 8

<sup>2</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *How to Teach English* (England : Longman, 1998), 1-2

- *A good teacher should try and draw out the quiet ones and control the most talkative ones*
- *He should be able to correct people without offending them*
- *A good teacher is... someone who helps rather than shouts*<sup>3</sup>

The answers above proved the importance of teacher's personality that they are not only able to influence the students' curiousness in learning but also makes them to be reminded. Moreover, in reality now days, we often find that teachers only focus on their knowledge but neglect the ways they interact (how teachers can improve their teaching practice by investigating actual language use in the classroom) to the students. Therefore, the researcher uses the term "Language interaction" in this research.

The study of language that is related to teacher's language interaction in classroom teaching is called classroom discourse analysis. The analysis of classroom discourse is, necessarily, the type of language use (*parole* or performance) that is found in classroom situations.<sup>4</sup> From this point of view it is clear that only the language in its authentic natural form must be analyzed so that the study is meaningful.

Now days, there are many film or movie present about the interaction of teacher. The film tells about trial and error and also the successfulness of

---

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Richards, J.C. et.al. 1992. *Longman dictionary of language teaching and applied linguistics*. Essex: Longman.

them. Such as the character of *Bu Muslimah* in defending 5 precious students in the film “Laskar Pelangi”, the effort of *Miss Sullivan* in helping deaf-blind children *Hellen Keller* to learn language in the movie “The Miracle Worker”, or strategies used by *Dr. Joshua Larabee* in helping student mastering spelling in the movie “Akeela and The Bee”. Those movies contain lessons. But many people watch the movies only for entertaining. Therefore, Eky Imanjaya, the Indonesian movie critic, deems that analysis on film is necessary. Analysis also can be used to emphasis lesson contains on the film.

Film or movie, whether produced recently or in long time ago has big role influence audience. Even though the movie is generally fiction, in fact, the movies highly influence audience. Film, Hollywood or Bollywood, Local or International, presents the model that can be adapted, imitated or can be used as a reference. The watcher of *Laskar pelangi* can be inspired by Bu Muslimah who has high dedication in education. Action movie such as *Kungfu* or violence can be simulated by the children if they consume without parents’ guidance. Hence, film not only media of entertainment but also as a trendsetter which can lead into good or bad effect. As stated by in Mukaddimah Anggaran Dasar Karyawan Film dan Televisi 1995.

*“Film and TV programs is not only commercial products, but it is tools of education and providing information which has very big*

*power influence in society, construct nation and character building*”<sup>5</sup>(translated)

Furthermore, analyzing movie also considered has more benefit in education, because movie is more lasting. If the real classroom activity ends at the time, the movie can be watched more times. Movie mostly created adapted from real situation in daily life. Tony Rayn, International critic, explain that “*Based on some theories, film is file or social archive which apprehend the soul of era (zeitgeist) people at that time*”. He also states that “*In Indonesia, there are not many critics of the film, but if no criticism on film, it is only consumerism*”<sup>6</sup> (translated)

Researcher believes that analyzing another matter which has same situation and context can represent the real situation. Sigmund Freud also studies and refers to the similar cases to deal with his patient’s problem. Based on the reasons above, researcher aroused to analyze the movie then use it as an object of research.

The movie which makes the researcher aroused is the movie “*To Sir With Love*”. This movie is a 1956 autobiographical novel by Guyana-born E.R. Braithwaite. The novel is based on his experiences as a black schoolteacher working in a predominately white school in the East End of London. The language used is English. The main issue in this film is social and racial issues

---

<sup>5</sup> Ekky imanjaya, A to Z about Indonesian Film. .( Bandung: Mizan Bunaya Kreativa, 2006) 28

<sup>6</sup> Ibid,p.17-19

in an inner city school. The movie explores that the students disruptive behavior to distasteful pranks. Moreover the teacher who taught them to judge them likes children. But in the researcher's perspective, the bad behavior of the students is not necessarily caused by themselves; the behavior of each person influenced and affected from many reasons and factors.

Here, in the researcher perspective, this movie implied the issue about the teacher interaction in teaching students, because based on the statement about teacher above, the teacher holds the main role regarding student's outcome. In this movie, narrated that the teacher success to treat them (students) as adults thus researcher takes it as study. The aim of its study is to know the language interactions of teacher who can help students to reach the better achievement. It will be benefit to prevent those happen on teacher in the next generation.

Compared with other movies about teacher or teaching, this movie considered more interesting and important because the scene in this movie can represent the reality in Indonesia now days and *To Sir, with Love* holds a 92% "Fresh" rating on the review aggregate website Rotten Tomatoes. The movie grossed \$42,432,803 at the box office in the United States. Also the movie ranked number 27 on *Entertainment Weekly's* list of the 50 Best High School Movies.<sup>7</sup> If another movie such as "Miracle Worker" presents the strategies of a private teacher to teach blind and deaf student in more than one century ago, the movie "*I Not Stupid Too 2*" presents the characteristic of teacher in one

---

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.vhscollector.com/movie/sir-love> accessed on 02 October 2013 at 10.00 am

classroom that mostly can be found in a lot of places in Indonesia previously and recently. Another movie “Akeela and The Bee” presents how teacher uses strategies in teaching student mastering spelling. But in Indonesia, enriching words through spelling and the contest of spelling is not occurred.

Many researches discuss about analyzing movie, such as “Dakwah Dalam Film Syahadat Cinta”, written by Syifauroh Rohmah, 2009,<sup>8</sup> “Analisis Semiotik Film Layar Lebar Virgin” by Linayaroh<sup>9</sup>. These researchers are focus on Religious Preaching (da’wa), whereas in this research, researcher focuses on developing quality of teacher in education. Thus, researcher decided to analyze the film “*To Sir With Love*” which expected that the result of this study can be reference for teacher and use it by the principles of ATM “*amati, tiru, modifikasi*” that means observe, imitate, and modify.

## **B. Research Problems**

1. What kind of the language interactions to be found in *To Sir With Love* movie?
2. What are the meaning of those language interactions in *To Sir With Love* movie?

## **C. Objectives of the Study**

1. To describe language interactions to be found in the *To Sir With Love* movie.
2. To describe the meaning of those language interactions in *To Sir With Love* movie.

#### **D. Significance of the Study**

The researcher expects that the result of its study can be reference for education discipline, because in this global era, teachers have to take the reference from many sources, not only from local but also International, not only from teacher or lecturer but also from experience, not only from books but also from films.

The researcher takes this research in order to give contribution for education discipline, especially in UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, for teachers, readers or student teachers who are ready to be a teacher or everyone who want to develop their teaching professionalism.

Researcher expects that the outcome of its study which contains the messages from this film can lead the reader of this thesis, and especially teachers as an icon of education, to know the importance of teacher's language in achieving students' successfulness in learning foreign language, second language or any lessons, and able to place self in the good position but still in the "Shoes of Teacher".

The outcome from this study could also be the basis for the researcher, as a candidate of teacher and mother-to-be, which want to develop her knowledge to success in teaching, and want to develop her student and children to success in learning.

### E. Scope and Limitation

The coverage of this study is:

1. The researcher analyzes the language interactions of teacher focusing on Mr. Thackeray in the movie "*To Sir With Love*".
2. The researcher doesn't analyze all of the activities or dialogues in the film, she only takes part of the film that presents the problem and the important point which probably shape the problems. Researcher identifies the answer of the research problem above from the actor's conversation, dialogue or monologue which represents students' feelings.
3. As the candidate of language teacher, researcher limits the research as in a broad limit. Researcher not merely does research in how to teach language, but it more related with how the teacher ways in facing the students in class.

### F. Definition of Key Terms

**Classroom Discourse analysis** is the study of the process of face-to-face classroom teaching.

**Language interaction** is how teachers and students communicate by actual language use in the classroom.

**The Movie "To Sir With Love"** is a 1956 autobiographical novel by Guyana-born E.R. Braithwaite. The novel is based on his experiences as a black schoolteacher working in a predominately white school in the East End of London and the movie release on 1967. In this research, this movie is the object of study.