THE CONFLICT OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN SHAKESPEARE NOVEL *HAMLET*

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Abstract

The title of this research the conflict of the main character in Shakespeare novel Hamlet. It aims to identify and classify the conflict of the main character and analyze the way the main character solve the conflict in the novel Hamlet written by Shakespeare. In this research, the researcher analyze from the side of literary work and reveal the type of conflict in the novel. It is qualitative and it uses library research as the method of the research. The data are taken from the novel of Hamlet which has 477 pages from e-book and other books or another articles as supporting data. The researcher does some steps in doing this research, that is : collecting the data, read the novel and some books related to the research, identify and classify the data (conflict of the character), analyze the data and draw the conclusion. Based on the result of the research, there are 3 types of the conflict found at the main character Hamlet, there are : Men vs Self, Men vs Men and Men vs Social life out.
Keywords : Conflict, Character, Novel, Hamlet, Shakespeare

Abstrak

Judul dari penelitian ini adalah permasalahan (konflik) dari pemeran utama dalam Novel *Hamlet* karya Shakespeare. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasi konflik/permasalahan dari pemeran utama dan menganalisa cara pemeran utama menyelesaikan konflik/permasalahan dalam novel *Hamlet* karangan Shakespeare. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti membahas dari sudut literature dan juga menjabarkan jenis-jenis konflik/permasalahan yang ada dalam suatu karya novel. Penelitian ini bersifat kualitatif dengan mengambil penelitian kepustakaan sebagai metode penelitian. Data diambil dari novel *Hamlet* yang berjumlah 477 halaman dari e-book dan buku/artikel lain sebagai data pendukung. Peneliti melakukan beberapa langkah dalam melakukan penelitian ini yaitu : mengumpulkan data, membaca novel dan buku atau artikel terkait, mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasi data (Konflik pada karakter), menganalisa data dan mengambil kesimpulan. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian, konflik yang ditemukan pada pemeran utama *Hamlet* ada tiga bagian yaitu konflik dengan diri sendiri, konflik dengan orang lain dan konflik dengan lingkungan.
Kata kunci: Konflik, Karakter, Novel, Hamlet, Shakespeare.

I. PENDAHULUAN

L iterature is something that can be enjoyed by everyone in any age and any social level. It tends to be pictured as a writing that gives delights to people who reads it (Rexroth, 2019). It gives tranquility and pleasantness to those who understands how to enjoy it. Basically, literature is divided into three main branches which are poetry, prose and drama. But from these three main branches, prose is divided into more forms. The forms are novel, essay, article, biography, criticism and short stories. To be added, there are narrative and expository process.

In this research, novel is more than enough to be analyzed. Novel is known as a narrative book. A relatively long work of narrative book that contain a fiction story and mostly written in a form of prose. The point break for a novel is not only lays on the length, but also the quantity of it. A traditional novels offer a strong plot that poses a problem or set of problems to the characters in the narrative, some of which are resolved in the action of the novel. The situation of story has to built up the emotion of the reader for make reader get addicted to read more and want to know more. And it can determine either the writer has qualified as a successful writer or not. Doody (1996) states that "the term of novel itself showed up in 18th century as novella or novella in German and used generally in English and other European languages to describe a long story". Another taught claimed that it had been syncopated from its original Italian word novella, from the plural of Latin *novellus*, which mean new. Novel consists of some elements. They are plot, character, setting, theme and point of view. To be pointed, within the main plot of a novel there may be several subplots, there might be more than one theme, and point of view can certainly change as well. Characters inside the story tell about the plot which consists of the conflict itself from the main character or even from supporting characters. There are nine types of characters in the literature and all of them are important (Protagonist, Antagonist, Flat Character, Dynamic Character, Confidante Character, Foil Character, Stock Character, Round Character, Evil Character/Villain. Regardless of the intensity or the length of their role, they have a place in the story. They help the flow of a story go logically and smoothly towards the end.

According to Janovsky (2018), conflict is "…defined as any struggle between opposing forces". In short, every opposing opinion or idea will lead to a conflict. Any goals that face a blocking will be call as a conflict. Conflict always exist as part of everyone lives. It occurs to everyone at any time and it can't be always avoided. The reason might be because everyone has their own goal, idea, point of view and pride which often get crashed one after another. Another opinion comes from Donovan (2016) that believed that "…conflict occurs…when people spend a lot of time with each other, including business environment".

Shakespeare is one of the most famous novelist and writer of all time, and his work has been complies all the corner of literature space in library. William Shakespeare was born and raised in Warkwickshire, a landlocked country in the West Midlands, region of England. He produced most of his finest work between 1589 and 1613 (Taylor, 1987).The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, which also known as Hamlet, has remark as one of the best tragic story that written by Shakespeare between the years of1599-1602. It was one of Shakespeare's most popular works during his lifetime, and has been played for multiple times during his life.

One that really stole the attention the whole world that even can be a hot topic these days is *Hamlet,* Prince of Denmark, Hamlet, which is the main character for play and novel of *Hamlet,*is in a state of depression. To glossed these dark situation, Prince Hamlet gotten haunted by his father's spectre that demand a vengeance for his own death which shows that indeed his death is far from "clean". Based on the description above, the research questions to be answered are (1). What are the conflicts of the main character in Shakespeare's novel Hamlet? And (2). How is the main character deal with the conflict in Shakespeare's novel Hamlet?

The Significance of Research is theoretically, this research is going to give a contribution in analysis about character conflict, especially on the subject of Shakespeare's novel Hamlet and Practically, this research is expected to help the readers to know more about what is character's conflict and gain more knowledge about how the main character dealt with the conflict.

II. KAJIAN TEORI

Laconfly in his article *Conflict in Literature* states that there are two kinds of

conflict that exist in literature. They are internal conflict and external conflict. The descriptions are as follow:

1. Internal conflict

Man Vs Self: In literature, conflict is the central issue and makes the story move. Short stories have one conflict, while novels have many. Literary conflict includes internal conflict, also called man versus self-conflict, and external conflict which includes man versus man, man versus nature, man versus society and man versus fate. The way conflict is used and how the conflicts are resolved are all determined by the type of story being told.

2. External Conflict

2.1. Man vs. Man: Man versus man is the most fundamental type of external conflict. This form of external conflict occurs when a character struggles against another character. These struggles may be born from moral, religious or social differences and may be emotional, verbal or physical conflicts. Man versus man is almost always the conflict present when a hero fights a villain. This form of conflict may present alone, or in conjunction with other external conflicts. Star War's is an excellent example, where Luke Skywalker's fight with Darth Vader is a man versus man conflict that also treads into the realm of man versus fate.

2.2. Man vs. Nature: Man versus nature conflicts occur when a character or characters, find themselves at odds with forces of nature. A character struck by lightning, characters whose boat sinks in a storm and a character who struggles against hypothermia in a snow storm are all characters experiencing man versus nature conflicts.

2.3. Man vs. Society: This external conflict exists when characters struggle against the morays of their culture and government. Character's battle evil oppressive cultures are characteristic of man versus society conflict. One example of man versus society is Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451 a novel about a fireman who, though it's his job to burn books, secretly collects them.

Man vs. Fate: Man versus fate occurs when a character is compelled to follow an unknown destiny. Man versus fate conflict breeds internal conflict, while forcing a character to consciously, or subconsciously, act on his or her fate. The Star Wars example persists here because while Luke Skywalker chases his man versus man conflict, he is also

propelled into the life of a Jedi as his destiny, a destiny he is powerless to resist.

III. METODE PENELITIAN

The researcher uses library method as the method of research. Togia and Malliari (2016) believe that library research method is effective to conduct a research that need a library research method could provide a theoretical foundation and a qualified data. The researcher gets data from books that related with literature English. The information and data that have obtained are written by various writers and researchers. The data are analyzed by using Laconfly theory. The data are taken from the novel Hamlet that written by Shakespeare; it consist of 477 pages (e-book) and others books/articles are used as supporting the data. The required information are be collected by reading and studying as many references as possible related to the study. The researcher does some steps as follow:

1) Collecting the data
2) Reading the novel and books and related articles
3) Identifying and classifying the data (the conflict of the character)
4) Analyzing the data
5) Drawing the conclusion

IV. HASIL PENELITIAN

Some selected data that represent The Conflict of the Main Character and the way to deal with it are below:

4.1 The Conflict of the Main Character

4.1.1 Man Vs Self

This kind of conflict is exists within the character's mind.

1. "Just recently I've lost my appetite for life. I waste my time. Nothing delights me. I walk through this grey world and find it barren and full of nothing but despair." (p. 157)
2. "Maybe it already happened." (p. 40)
3. "A just and honorable king doesn't murder an honest man for speaking the truth." (p. 167)
4. "Liar." (p. 169)
5. "My father would have killed them both?" (p. 171)

4.1.2 Man Vs my Man

It is the most fundamental type of external conflict. Man versus man is almost always the conflict present when a hero fights a villain.

1. "Some wounds heal slowly." (p. 35)
2. "How's that possible?" (p. 34)
3. "And now, two months on, you've wed his queen." (p. 34)

4. Hamlet rolled his eyes, which always infuriated his uncle. (p. 37)

5. "I'm a student, not a warrior." (. 37)

4.1.3 Man Vs Society life out

This kind of conflict happens when characters struggle against the morals of their culture and government.

1. "He taxed the life out of his people and never spent it on anything but soldiers and whores." (p. 137)

2. "I'd like to take him out." (p. 146)

3. "And if I told you I was the Prince?" (p. 146)

4.2 The way the character deal with it

4.2.1 Man Vs Self

1. "Just recently I've lost my appetite for life. I waste my time. Nothing delights me. I walk through this grey world and find it barren and full of nothing but despair."

From the sentence, it can be implied that Prince Hamlet tells his two friends how he is in a deep grief and still not recovers from the loss of his father and it makes her lost in depression.

2. "Maybe it already happened."

From the word above, it can be defined that Prince Hamlet feels the struggle of his situation as if he carry on ten world's weight on his shoulders.

3. "A just and honorable king doesn't murder an honest man for speaking the truth."

Based on the dialog, it can be that Prince Hamlet tries to convince himself and also his best friend, Yorick, he doesn't believe that his father, the King, murderesYorick's father because of reported that he witnesses the Queen and the brother's King has a fair.

4. "Liar."

The dialog states that Hamlet tries to convince himself and also his best friend, Yorick, he doesn't believe that his father, the King, murdered Yorick's father because he reported that he witnessed the Queen and the brother's King have a fair.

5. "My father would have killed them both?"

From the sentence, it is indicated that Prince Hamlet questioned Yorick, but more to himself, for he couldn't believe that father of himself could kill a close relative.

4.2.2 Man Vs Man

1. "Some wounds heal slowly."

From the sentence above, it can be implied that Prince Hamlet shows rebellion for his mother, Queen Gertrude, for his mother that telling him to not grief no more of his father's death that have just been two months.

2. "How's that possible?"

The sentence above reveals that in this scene, after gives a derisive laughter for his uncle statement that says he mourned for the latest King death, Prince Hamlet asks the dignity of that statement.

3. "And now, two months on, you've wed his queen."

From the sentence above, it can be defined that in that situation, the conflict that appears is the disbelief of Prince Hamlet of how his uncle dared to wed his mother just two months after the burial of his late father.

4. Hamlet rolled his eyes, which always infuriated his uncle.

From the explanation above, it defined that Prince Hamlet hate the idea that being said by his uncle. This situation happens after Prince Hamlet stepfather, King Claudius, stop him to go to Wittenberg to study and ask him to stay for there might be war that occur Denmark.

5. "I'm a student, not a warrior."

The sentence above explains that Prince Hamlet refuses the command of his stepfather for his still see himself as a young Prince and has no intention of contributing in things like war.

4.2.3 Man Vs Society Life Out

1. "He taxed the life out of his people and never spent it on anything but soldiers and whores."

The sentence above reveals that this is a witnessing voice that comes from Horatio. When he discusses with some mercenaries that they would delay their attack to Denmark and try to attack another country, they ask if any country is wealthier than Denmark, but he says none. For the king is always presses too much taxed from his people but spend nothing on them. Here shows how the government held by a wrong hand.

2. "I'd like to take him out."

The dialog indicates that Prince Hamlet goes to horse ranch and sees his old favorite horse, Zeus. The horse was a gift from his father. Yet he leaves it when he goes to Wittenberg for his study. The caregiver there is too young to recognize young Hamlet so he thought that he isn't the Prince. So when Prince Hamlet requeststo take Zeus out for a ride the young boy stop him. The reason is actually quite reasonable, aside that this is the Prince's horse; Zeus is already too old to be rides by anyone. Yet Prince Hamlet still tries to argue with the rules that the horse ranch has.

3. "And if I told you I was the Prince?"

From the sentence, it can be implied that the caregiver there is too young to recognize young Hamlet so he thinks that he isn't the Prince. This also might be noted that as a royal family that has responsibility to take care of the people in the kingdom, he supposes to be known, and yet he couldn't even get a permission to ride his own ride for the caregiver doesn't know who he is.

V. KESIMPULAN

Based on data result about the conflicts that occur to the main character in the novel Hamlet, researcher has found that there are three different conflicts that exist in the novel. From 45 sentences, acts or scenes that contains conflict in this novel regarding to the main character, Prince Hamlet. The conflicts are as follow:

1. Men Vs Self

   There are nine utterances of sentences or act that contained conflict between Hamlet againsthimself.

2. Men Vs Men

   There are 33 utterances of sentences or act that contained conflict between Hamlet and other characters.

3. Men Vs Social Life Out

   There are three utterances of sentences or act that contained conflict between Hamlet and social or the government.

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