CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains background of the study, statement of the problems, purpose of study, significance of the study, the scope and limitation, and the definition of key terms. Each section is presented as follows.

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is actually a reflection of life experience that includes various aspects of both personal and social lives. People who know more about literature will be able to understand about the humanity better because they will have sensitivity toward life. According to Klarer (1999), that there are many literary works categorized as literature such as prose, poetry, and drama. In prose and drama, extrinsic elements are social aspect, cultural aspect, esthetical aspect etc., and the intrinsic elements are plot, setting, characterization, theme etc.

Literature has a very close relationship to human life. Literature also reflects the life, thoughts, feelings, behavior and attitudes of human beings. In this study, the writer takes one sort of literary as the object of this study, namely novel. Manning and O’Neill (1999) stated that novel has its own structures and styles over that time and continue to change. Novel is primarily creative, using events, characters and situations invented by the author. To express ideas, feeling, and experiences, the author used elements of story basic structure of novel. They
are intrinsic elements (plot, setting, characters, point of view and theme) and extrinsic elements (the background of the author, cultural background, and so on).

Furthermore, novel is selected because it tells about the condition of the society, in which value becomes the concept about what people think important in life. Eagleton (1996) stated that value also becomes a basis to reach a purpose in human’s social life. This means that to continue human’s social life, people must fulfill their social needs well according to the value that are agreed and held. Therefore, every human’s behavior should be suitable with the value in order not to cause conflict continually.

Moreover, this study takes “Pride and Prejudice” novel by Jane Austen as the object of the study. “Pride and Prejudice” is a novel of manners by Jane Austen, first published in 1813. The story follows the main character, Elizabeth Bennet, as she deals with issues of manners, upbringing, morality, education, and marriage in the society of the landed gentry of the British Regency. Elizabeth is the second of five daughters out of a country gentleman living near the fictional town of Meryton in Hertfordshire, near London.

In addition, the main characters’ social conflicts are selected to be the focus of this study because it is closely related with human daily life and the readers can learn from it when they face the same problem.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the above background of study, the problems which are investigated in this study are formulated as follows.
1. What are social conflicts faced by the main character of “Pride and Prejudice” novel?

2. What are the causes of those conflicts?

3. How does the main character overcome the conflicts?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this analysis should be stated clearly from the beginning as the principle guidance to answer the statement of the problems. The purposes are formulated as follows.

1. To know what social conflict faced by the main characters of “Pride and Prejudice” novel.

2. To know the causes of those conflicts.

3. To know the solution offered by the main character of “Pride and Prejudice” to overcome the conflicts.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give special information, generally for all readers and especially for the students of English Department of University of Muhammadiyah Malang. It may motivate the readers to love and to conduct more literary studies because studying literature, especially novel, will give values of education and valuable lessons.

It is also hoped that the readers understand the social conflicts that are faced by the main characters of the novel “Pride and Prejudice”. In other words, it
is expected that the readers will be more critical in learning human behavior, especially when they face problems in their life like those faced by the main characters in this novel. Accordingly, the readers can anticipate the similar problems that may happen in their own life.

1.5 Scope and limitation

The scope of discussion in this study is the novel written by Jane Austen, “Pride and Prejudice” especially in relation to the conflicts. There are some aspects that can be analyzed in this novel, such as the experience of the main character, lesson, theme, etc. In this novel, however, the writer only focuses on main characters’ social conflicts which are found in the novel, because they are closely related with human daily problems.

1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

The definition of the key terms used in the study is aimed to avoid misunderstanding of the terms which exist in the research. The terms which are necessary to be defined are as follows.

- Conflict is when the reader involves emotionally in what is happening (Jones, 1986). Meanwhile, Jones (1968) says that a conflict consists of three categories: social conflict, psychological conflict, and physical conflict.
• Social conflict is a conflict which happens to one person against the other, that is the conflict between the individual and outside forces society, destiny, or fate. (Perrine in Rochmah, 2000)

• Novel is long narratives which generally consist of 200 pages. More novelists can tell more richly detailed tales than that the authors of briefer literary forms can do. Many readers consider novel as the most flexible type of literature (Mackay, 2010).

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