CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher presents the background of study, the statement of problem, the objective of the study, scope and limitation, purpose of the study and also the definition of key terms. It is important to discuss, to make clear what actually the researcher’s background conducting this research.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language takes an important role in human life. As a society member, we need a language to build a relationship with others. As a means of communication, language is not only used to give and get information but also to arouse humans feeling. By using language, we can share our feeling such as happiness, sadness, disappointment, and anger to someone else or about something.

According to Valery (in Koesnosubroto 1988:1), “Literature is, and cannot be anything but, a kind of extension and application of certain properties of language.” It means that there is a close correlation between language and literature which the literary work is a verbal of art and it is usually in written language. By using literature, we can express our experience, thought, ideas and also feeling in beautiful language form.

There is a close relation between literature and society. The theme of literature usually based on real condition or problems in one society. According to Wellek (in Agustin, 2005:5), “Literature is an expression of society because it is a mirror of social situation”. It means that literature shows what happens in society as a
reflection and expression of human mind, feeling, happiness, sorrow and culture through language form.

As a human expression, literature can be classified into songs, movies, drama, poems, short stories, and novels. They are called literary works. Basically, literary works are not only in the written form but also in spoken language. One kind of literary works which combined between written and spoken language is drama. Usually, the story of drama based on written form which performed by the actor or actress in spoken language with dialogue in front of the stage.

However, people are never satisfied. They always try to develop something new in their life included literary works especially drama. They created a new literary works to get simpler and better, the product of the development of drama is called as movie or film. Movie is one of media that contains sounds, video, animation, picture etc. Movie become more popular than drama because the viewer could see it anywhere without sitting in front of the stage, such as drama, movie also tells what happens in human life, fiction and non-fiction, in the past or future like the real situation. Usually it tells about human’s feeling, love, sacrifice, humanity, struggle and sorrow.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher chooses movie as one kind of literary works that is interesting to be analyzed. When watching a movie, viewers will not only get entertainment or education but also can find exploration of human personality, problems and feeling. In movie, there are many characters of people and human behavior. People can learn many things from movie because movie
contains many valuable lessons, messages and pleasure. Besides that, people can learn how to keep struggle in this life or how to survive, for instance.

People can’t live without struggling to get what they want or happiness because struggle is the most important thing in human life. Struggle is one of the characteristics that human should have. Struggle is not only needed for normal people but also for those people who have physical limitations or disabilities.

Disability is used to refer to physical disorder such as loss of a limb or some other crippling condition. It is also used with learning and behavior problems that may or may not be due to physiological cause (Harring and McCormick, 1986: 1). In other words, a disability may be physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, and developmental or some combination of these. Unfortunately, many disabled people were neglected and rejected from their society. Disabled people often felt depression, hopeless and social withdrawal because of their condition. Therefore, disabled people have to struggle to overcome their impairment to live as normal as other people. Some good movies tell about struggle of disabled people to keep survive.

“The Miracle Worker” is one of good movie which tells about the struggle of extraordinary teacher who teach disabled girl. The Miracle Worker is a cycle of 20th century dramatic works derived from Helen Keller’s autobiography *The Story of My Life*. The story is based on true story of Helen Keller life who was blind, deaf and dumb since she was child. She becomes disabled person after suffering a high fever when she was two years old. Helen Keller parent’s almost desperate with her
condition until they met Annie Sullivan. She was successfully changed the whole of Helen Keller’s life.

Considering the background above, the researcher focused on struggle of Helen Keller’s teacher, Annie Sullivan. The researcher is interested in analyzing her struggles to teach a student who has disabilities like Helen Keller because the researcher found a good education from her struggles in this movie especially for English Department students and the researcher herself. This movie contains of valuable lessons so the audience can learn how to teach someone who has disabilities because they needs special education and treatment.

Many researchers using similar perspective and some of them also discuss about struggle in different focus of discussion. Hamidah Nurnadifatul, wrote the thesis “An analysis of Akeelah’s struggles to become the winner in spelling bee at” Akellah and the Bee” Film. “. On this thesis Nurnadifatul focuses on struggle of the girl who names Akeelah to become the winner in spelling bee contest. She faced many problems, but finally she became the winner of spelling bee contest. The result of this research shows that struggles are important and interesting to discuss. People have to struggle to get what they want and face their problems.

Based on the description above, the tittle of the study is “An Analysis on Anne Sullivan’s Struggle to Teach Helen Keller As a Disabled child in the Movie “The Miracle Worker”.”
1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background of the study above, this research investigates the following problems:

1. What are Annie Sullivan’s struggles to teach Helen Keller in the movie “The Miracle Worker”?
2. What are the effects of Annie Sullivan’s struggle on Helen Keller’s life?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The purpose of the study is related to the problems of the study. The purposes of the study are as follows:

1. To identify the ways used by Annie Sullivan’s to teach Helen Keller.
2. To explain the effects of Annie Sullivan’s struggle on Helen Keller’s life.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

Movie has many elements such as plot, character, conflict, etc., which are interesting aspects to be analyzed. However, the scope of this study is Annie Sullivan’s struggle to teach Helen Keller and the limitations are the ways used by Annie Sullivan’s to teach Helen Keller, and the last is the effects of Annie Sullivan’s struggle towards Helen Keller life’s.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study is to enrich to the readers and an English Departement students to understand more literary studies especially movie. This analysis can be stimulus for them especially who want to spend their leisure time to
see the literary works as much as possible to get knowledge about life, especially about struggle to teach students who has disabilities.

For an English Departement students who become a teacher, the researcher hopes that they will get the understanding about the content of “The Miracle Worker Movie” that focuses on teacher struggle to teach a student who has disabilities like Helen Keller, because in the future maybe they are not only teaching students who are normal but also students who has disabilities like Helen Keller. Students with disabilities have their rights to get education. The researcher hopes that the teacher and reader can overcome the same problem that may happen in their personal life.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misinterpretations, it is necessary to give definition of key terms as follows:

1. **Analysis** is trying to examine all parts of work in relation to the whole, selects for examination one aspect or element or part that relates to the whole (Jhonson, 2006).
2. **The Miracle Worker** is the title of movie that will be analyzed.
3. **Struggle** is not natural. It is an unholy battle we fight with ourselves because it is a by-product of our personal imbalances; it's a condition we can easily go beyond (Wilde: 1987).
4. **Annie Sullivan** is one of the main characters of the movie “The miracle Worker “.
5. **Hellen Keller** is one of main the main characters of the movie “The Miracle Worker”.


Disability is a condition or function judged to be significantly impaired relative to the usual standard of an individual or group. The term is used to refer to individual functioning; including physical impairment, sensory impairment, cognitive impairment, intellectual impairment mental illness, and various types of chronic disease is a condition or function judged to be significantly impaired relative to the usual standard of an individual or group.

(http://www.disabled-world.com/disability/types/)

Movie is a form of entertainment that enacts a story by a sequence of images that giving the illusion of continues movement.

(wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webn)