CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background of Study

Language as a means of communication can be delivered in both written and spoken forms. Language is used to express the ideas of the writer, which has a different way of thinking from the reader. And it can be in the form of literary work.

Literature not only gives a series of events but also useful messages and values for the reader. A literary work is an art which deals with life. Literary work also gives very deep comprehension of what we know. Besides, reading literature is one of the ways to improve knowledge.

According to Kennedy (1983), “literature is a kind of art, usually written, that offers pleasure and illumination”. It means that literature is human thinking or expression of someone usually in a written form that gives pleasure for readers. Literature not only gives pleasure, but also encourages people to try it out in people imagination. According to Meyer (1990:03), “Literature does not lend itself to a single tidy definition, because the making of it over the centuries has been as complex, unwieldy, and natural as life itself”. Based on the statement, it means that literature needs some complements to be good of literary works.

One of literary works that can impress the readers and give them some values about life is novel. Novel concern with human beings and often provides valuable messages for readers through given story. In reading novel, readers will not only get enjoyment but also experience in to a vast, close, and fresh relation to life. The readers gets a better view of
things that happen in people’s mind. So readers become richer through their literary experience.

In this study the writer chosen a novel entitled “Helen Keller” by George Sullivan and tried to focus on the way of communication of the main character, that is Helen Keller. This novel was chosen because it is an interesting novel which shows about the reality of life of woman’s struggles to interact and socialize in her surrounding. The story is about a woman who got a mysterious ill which caused her to become deaf and blind. She had faced difficulties especially in her communication with people around her. Many people do not understand what Helen Keller’s wants, including her family. She got discrimination in society. Although she lived in a silent and darkness world, Helen Keller had become a college graduate and best-selling author.

In this case, the writer would like to discuss communication used by main character, Helen Keller in George Sullivan’s novel “Helen Keller”. It is interesting to be analyzed because this novel tells about the difficulties of communication of Helen Keller, such as her struggle in socialize and interaction with society, and also her difficulties in her surrounding.

The writer of this thesis would like to study Helen Keller’s in “Helen Keller” novel especially about her communication. It is interesting because her difficulties was very strength and she tries to overcome this big problem by herself.

1.2 Statement of Problems

Based on the background of the study above, the thesis writer formulates the research problems as follow,

1. What kinds of communication are used by Helen Keller in her surrounding?

2. What are the difficulties of Helen Keller to communicate?

1.3 Purpose of Study

In this research, the thesis writer presents purpose of study as follow:
1. To know kinds of communication used by Helen Keller in her surrounding.

2. To describe the difficulties of Helen Keller to communicate.

1.4 Significance of Study

This study is conducted in order to know more about the way of deaf blind person to communicate and what kinds of communication that suitable for him or her. The findings can be useful for the development of language for deaf blind when they interact with others.

This result of this study is also expected to give contribution for next researchers in English Department students’ who want to know more about study literature especially communication in deaf blind person.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study focused on the communication of the deaf blind person. The scope of this study is communication that used by deaf blind main character. The researcher limited this study in deaf blind main character in “Helen Keller” novel written by George Sullivan.

1.6 Definition of key terms

The definition are intended to avoid the ambiguity in understanding or perceptions of some terms used in this study. It means to avoid misinterpretation. The following definitions as follows:

1. **Analysis** is a description about the element that has a purpose to comprehend the relationship between one element and others in supporting the meaning of literary works (Sudjiman, 1964 : 4).

2. **Communication** is any process in which people share information, ideas, and feelings. It involves not only the spoken and written word but also body language, personal mannerisms, and style anything that adds meaning to a message. (Saundra Hybels, 2004 : 7).
3. **Hellen Keller** is one of the main protagonist characters in Gorge Sullivan’s novel “Hellen Keller” who is deaf blind. (Based on “Helen Keller” Novel written by George Sullivan)

5. **Deafblindness** is the condition of substantial impairment of both vision and hearing and is sometimes referred to as dual-sensory or multi-sensory impairment. (Kathleen, Fiona. 2009)

6. **Hellen Keller** is the the title of novel which be studied by George Sullivan.

7. **Novel** is a long work of narrative prose fiction, because of its length; a novel can picture life with all of its richness, complexity, and contradiction (Macmillan, 1987:491).