CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background of the Study

Studying literature is an activity that gives us some new experience because it contains human feelings, human life, love, etc. Stableford (2007:10) states that literature means the production of written works having excellent form of expression and dealing with ideas of permanent interest.

Talking about literature means that we are talking about creative work of art, an object made by human to express their life through language. Writers commonly express what they see and do, even what they feel, and they often convey social condition in literary works. As many writers are inspired by social condition, literature can be said as a portrait of life.

Soepadjar (2000:54) states that literary work is defined as a media or way to express or view toward the condition around human feeling, such as politic, economic, social, and culture. It means that human being and literary work are closely related and cannot be separated each other.

Basically, literary works are not only in the written form but also in spoken language. One kind of literary works which combines written and spoken language is
drama. Usually, the story of drama is based on written form performed by actor or actress in spoken language with dialogue in front of the stage. However, nowadays people are developing drama to be simple and better in visual aspect called film or movie.

Film is one of media that contains sounds, video, animation, picture etc. It becomes more popular than drama because the audience could see it anywhere without sitting in front of the stage, such as in drama. Film 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.

Scorsese (2002:394) states that films are part of our artistic heritage – some say that film is history. In other words, film as history will show how people live in a certain place, how people think and act to certain things, and show the real life of the society. Film is produced by members of a community, because it is made in a certain period and has a direct relationship with the norms, customs, and social condition which prevail at the moment. It can also be said that film is a sketch of social reality life and it is supported by the behavior of individual with others, which could also describe inferiority feeling.

According to Frager and Fadiman (2005: 96), “Inferiority feelings are not in themselves abnormal. They are the cause of all improvement in the position of mankind”. It means that all people start their life with a sense of inferiority. This feeling is not only because of organic weakness but also lack of social life. The inferiority feeling is one aspect in individual psychology. It is a science or theory of
personality proposed by Alfred Adler, which emphasizes on the uniqueness of each individual and the processes by which people overcome their limitations and struggle to reach their life goals. From the explanation above, it means that individual psychology seeks to understand how human solve their limitation or sense of inferior by doing some efforts to become superior, perfect or complete in order to achieve their life goal.

In relation to this study, “Oliver Twist” is a 2005 British drama film directed by Roman Polanski and based on a novel by Charles Dickens. This film is interesting because it reflects Roman Polanski's concern for the fate of children in England during the revolution. The children at that time are forced to get down on the streets because of poverty. Now, many children in certain parts of the Third World have similar experience.

“Oliver Twist” film illustrates bad experience on children, particularly on their psychological environment such as in family, neighborhood, workplace, and school. It tells about an orphan who lives in poverty, crime, and suffering. Moreover, it shows the effect on Oliver’s psychology, how Oliver is able to face feelings of personal inferiority in his social life.

Noviana (2008) in her research entitled “Struggle for Life Reflected in Charles Dickens’s novel ”Oliver Twist” found that the struggle for life of Oliver Twist comes from his fictional finalism and it is supported by his inferiority feeling. It makes his strive to reach the superiority and power in emerging the struggle for life but his strive to superiority goes in wrong way.
After knowing the film’s case, it was chosen as the subject of the study for some reasons. First, film is a media of communication and education; it can be used as teaching materials in listening subject and pronunciation practice. Second, the events (the story of the film) which can be based on experience or phenomena or imagination can give the audience exploration of human personality, expression, problems and feeling. In film, there are many characters of people and human behavior. It means that film as a mirror of social situation will show what happens in society as a reflection and expression of human characteristic, human mind, feeling happiness, and sorrow. People can learn many things from film because it contains many valuable lessons, messages, and pleasure. By analyzing film, there are several advantages taken from it such as learning how to express something, how to solve problem from the film or even how they can face their life. Fadoli (2011) states that by analyzing film, it will be give us a new knowledge and experience. One advantage from it is we can save the message of film longer in our mind.

In this study, the film “Oliver Twist” is chosen instead of the novel because through the film, the inferiority feeling action of the main character would be seen more clearly than in the novel. Therefore, this study is focused on Oliver Twist’s inferiority feeling that influences his personality, so this study is entitled “An Analysis of Inferiority feeling faced by Oliver Twist in Roman Polanski’s Film “Oliver Twist”.”
1.2 Statement of the Problems

The problems of this study are as follows:

1. What are the causes of Oliver Twist’s inferiority feeling in the film “Oliver Twist” by Roman Polanski?
2. What are the effects of Oliver Twist’s inferiority feeling on his life?
3. How does Oliver Twist overcome his inferiority feeling?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Based on the statement of the problems, the purposes of this study are presented as follows:

1. To know the causes of Oliver Twist’s inferiority feeling in “Oliver Twist” film by Roman Polanski.
2. To describe the effects of Oliver Twist’s inferiority feeling on his life.
3. To explain how Oliver Twist overcomes his inferiority feeling.

1.4 Significance of the Study

In accordance with teaching and learning activity, firstly, it will be expected that this study is able to encourage readers, especially students of English Department to pay more attention to literature because it is part of human life that is as important as other primary needs. By introducing literature in some subjects such as poetry, drama, and prose it is expected to increase student’s knowledge about literature.
Secondly, this study is conducted to give description of the importance of learning human behavior and encouraging student’s motivation to learn literary work especially film. By analyzing inferiority feeling of the main character in “Oliver Twist” film by Roman Polanski, the students can at least learn how to overcome the inferiority feeling in their life, and try to improve the quality of their life by taking lesson from it.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of Study

This study is focused on the film “Oliver Twist”. There are several topics that can be analyzed in this film, but this study only focuses on inferiority feeling. In this film, there are also several inferiority feelings faced by some characters. However, the scope of the study is analyzing the inferiority feeling of the main character only, who is Oliver Twist.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

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

1. **Analysis** is trying to examine all parts of work in relation to the whole, investigate one aspect or element or part that relates to the whole.

(Jhonson, 2006: 6).
2. **Inferiority Feeling** is the highly intensified feeling of a child caused by social disability and he believes that he will never be able to compensate his weakness. (adapted from Frager and Fadiman, 2005:111)

3. **Oliver Twist** is the main character in “Oliver Twist” film

4. **Roman Polanski** is a French-Polish film director, producer, writer and actor directing a film “Oliver Twist (2005)”, a story which parallels his own life as a "young boy attempting to triumph over adversity”.

5. **Film** is a form of entertainment that enacts a story by a sequence of images that give the illusion of continuous movement (wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webn)