AN ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS’ SOCIAL CONFLICTS IN ROBERT MONTGOMERY BIRD’S DRAMA “GLADIATOR”

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ABSTRACT

Drama is a work of literature, which delineates the life and human activities by means of presenting various acts and dialogues between groups of characters. A play has a theme and introduces characters who play a role in it. In other words, it can be said that drama differs from a work of a fiction in another essential: a play is addressed not to a solitary readers (nor to many solitary readers) but to a group of people who seat together in a theater.

The writer of this thesis chose a drama because he could get many experiences and knowledge which are necessary for his life. Moreover, he is interested in learning personality of people and the real life.

This study was to analyze Robert Montgomery Bird’s drama ”GLADIATOR”. It focused on the social conflict of the main characters, the ways they solved their social conflicts and the lesson that could be learnt from the story. The purposes of this study were: (1) to know the main characters’ social conflict, (2) to know the way main characters solve his social conflicts, and (3) to know what lesson can be learnt from the story.

The study applied a descriptive qualitative method. The approach of this study was an objective approach, because it was not necessary to study the author’s life, the background of the work, or the background of society. The object of the study was drama “GLADIATOR” by Robert Montgomery Bird and the data were quoted from some paragraphs and dialogues or events in the drama ”GLADIATOR”.

Based on the finding and discussion, the writer found the social conflict between the main characters in the drama ”GLADIATOR”. The social conflict that happened in the drama “GLADIATOR” includes: the confrontation between Spartacus and Batiatus Lentulus and the confrontation between Spartacus and Marcus Licinius Crassus. The social conflict happened because Spartacus was ordered to fight as a gladiator by Batiatus Lentulus and Marcus Licinius Crassus but Spartacus refused it. To solve their social conflict, Spartacus wanted to fight. At the end both of them agreed to fulfill Spartacus’ want...