

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents introduction of the research which covers background of the study, research questions, aims of the study, scope of the study, methodology, clarification of the terms, and organization of the paper.

1.1 Background

Freedom may be related to the concept of equality. Everyone should have equal chance to get a job or to get an education. Rousseau (cited in Amezquita, 1992) divides freedom into personal freedom and social freedom. Meanwhile, Gairdner (2006) identifies six kinds of freedom; internal freedom, self-freedom, external freedom, political freedom, collective or higher freedom, and spiritual freedom. In line with it, the development of the concept of freedom has been colored with conflicts, for example conflicts that happen between self with society or self with other people.

The issue of freedom may become one of the issues dealt in novels. One of such novels is *Into the Wild* written by Jon Krakauer which tells about main character's escape from his family to do his journey to Alaska in his quest of freedom.

There has been research investigating the issue of character and freedom in novels. For example, Machatton (2002) investigated the characterization of doctor as a horrible man in *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck who acted cruelly. In relation with it, there is also research about representation of the character in literary

works. Skillz (2004) analyzed the main character in *Barn Burning* by William Faulkner. He investigated the representation of father that appeared in the story because the figure of father in the story is different from the figure of father in reality.

The study that specifically relates to the character(s) and freedom is in the study of theme of the individual versus society conducted by Halsey (2006) in *The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand. He observed through comparison and indirect analogy of the character in *The Fountainhead* that portrays the struggle of the character to maintain individual integrity and absolute freedom and oppose mainstream societal values. It looks at how Howard Roark's actions throughout the novel to illustrate the struggle between the individual and corrupt society.

Relating to freedom, Malinowski (2001) said that freedom is the most dynamic, essential, and general factor in people's problem. In conclusion, freedom is one of the problems that occur in men and it still increases as long as men could not solve it. Meanwhile, Mork (2009) believes that when character struggles with moral and emotional dilemmas, the character faces the conflict with the character's own soul. Like Mork, Nelson (2007) found the representation of freedom in characters of Hester Prynne in *The Scarlet Letter*, George Milton from *Of Mice and Men*, and Celie from *The Color Purple*. All of those characters shape their own freedom and independence through personal battle, not only from outside influences, but also from themselves, through their bravery, feelings, beliefs, and actions. They are able to overcome the repression, to free their souls from the shackles that bind them.

Inspired by those studies, this research aims to analyze how main character represents freedom. The research also analyzes the conflicts the main character faces in Jon Krakauer's novel entitled *Into the Wild* in his quest of freedom. The research uses psychoanalysis theory proposed by Anna Freud as the framework of the research.

1.2 Research Questions

The study is geared towards answering the following questions:

1. How does the main character represent freedom as evidenced in the novel?
2. What conflicts are experienced by the main character as evidenced in the novel?
3. How does the main character deal with the conflicts he experienced as evidenced in the novel?

1.3 Aims of the Study

The study is aimed:

1. To find and explore the representation of freedom by main character.
2. To investigate the conflict experienced by main character in his quest of freedom.
3. To explore the action of the main character in dealing the conflicts experienced by him.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The research is limited to investigating only how the main character represents freedom and conflicts he experiences in his quest for freedom in Jon Krakauer's *Into the Wild*.

1.5 Methodology

The research employs descriptive qualitative method. The research describes the phenomena in the form of how the main character represents freedom and the conflicts he experiences in the *Into the Wild* novel by Jon Krakauer. The research uses textual analysis. The textual evidence of the phenomena is then analyzed and interpreted by categorizing it in scope of an identity, social or anti-social, and independent.

1.5.1 Data Collection

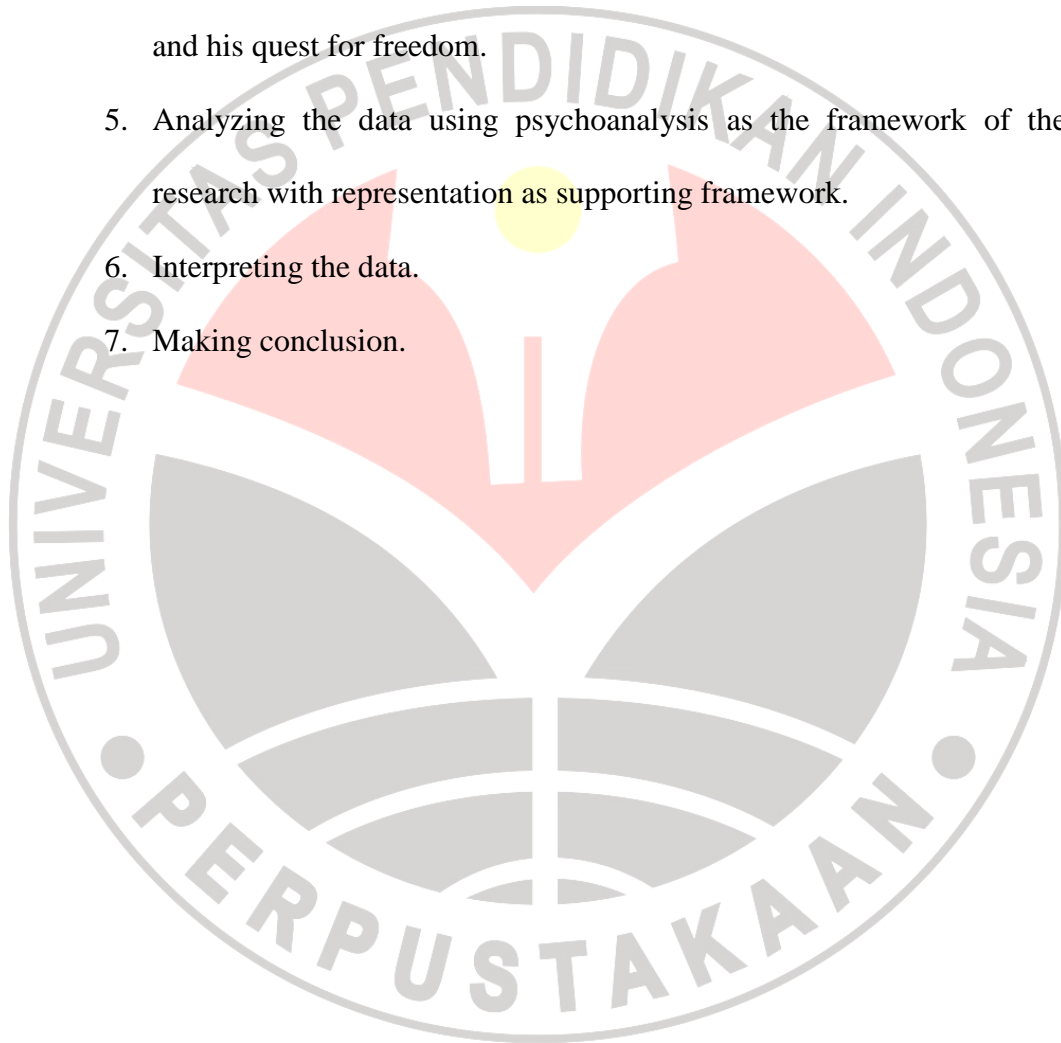
The data are in the form of words, phrases, and sentences. The data are collected by reading the novel closely then selecting the words, phrases, and sentences which serve as the textual evidence that answers the research questions.

1.5.2 Data Analysis

The collected data are then analyzed using the framework of psychoanalysis theory proposed by Anna Freud. The collected data are categorized into how the main character represents freedom and the conflicts he experiences in his quest of freedom.

In conducting the research, the following steps have been taken:

1. Selecting the topic of the research.
2. Reading the novel closely.
3. Selecting the data that answers to the research questions.
4. Classifying the data into how the main character represents freedom and his quest for freedom.
5. Analyzing the data using psychoanalysis as the framework of the research with representation as supporting framework.
6. Interpreting the data.
7. Making conclusion.



1.6 Clarification of the Terms

To avoid misunderstanding, the following is the clarification of the terms used in the research:

1. Novel: An invented prose narrative that is usually long and complex and deals especially with human experience through a usually connected sequence of events. (Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 1973).
2. Character: The set of qualities that make somebody or something distinctive, especially somebody's qualities of mind and feeling; somebody considered in terms of personality, behavior, or appearance. (Encarta Dictionary Tools, 2005).
3. Conflicts: As stated by Eiland (1998), there are three kinds of conflicts, commonly called man against nature, man against man, and man against himself.
4. Freedom: The quality or state of being free; as the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice or action. (Merriam-Webster Dictionary, 2009).
5. Psychoanalysis: branch of the literary studies as mode of interpretation and theory about language, identity, and the subject. (Culler, 1997).

1.7 Organization of the Paper

The paper of the research is organized as follows:

Chapter I

This chapter covers introduction which discusses background of the study, research questions, aims of the study, scope of the study, methodology, clarification of the terms, and organization of the paper.

Chapter II

This chapter presents the theories of the study in specific, the procedure which is used, and the object that being analyzed.

Chapter III

This chapter deals with the research method and explains how the data are collected and analyzed from textual analysis as a research tools.

Chapter IV

This chapter deals with the process of the analysis based on the method that used. Then, the result are interpreted and discussed by the representation on of insider viewpoint with contextual description.

Chapter V

It contains conclusions and suggestions for further study.