CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The chapter presents the research method to conduct the study of this research. It consists of the research question, the research design, the data source, the data collection and data analysis, the data presentation, and the summary of *A Study in Scarlet*.

3.1. Research Question

The purpose of the research is to analyze how sociopathic characteristics are attached to the character of Sherlock Holmes in the novel *A Study in Scarlet*. Hence, one research question has been formulated:

- To what extent are sociopathic characteristics attributed to the character of Sherlock Holmes in the novel *A Study in Scarlet* (2013)?

3.2. Research Design

The research used a textual analysis method to analyze the sociopathic attributes of Sherlock Holmes that are mostly described through the narration of Dr. Watson and the description of Stamford in the novel *A Study in Scarlet* (2013). Textual analysis, according to Bernard and Ryan (1998), involves the examination of words, sentences, paragraphs, documents, ideas, meanings, paralinguistic features, and what is missing in the text. After that, the researchers interpreted, marked, retrieved, and counted the information that they obtain based on the text by applying interpretive and numerical analysis

In relation to Bernard and Ryan (1998), Mckee (2003) explains that textual analysis is a method where researchers do an "educated guess" (p. 70), which is mostly an interpretation created based on the text they analyzed. He further explains that the method is not used to find a single correct interpretation as there are many possible interpretations that may be closer to be treated as 'true' in certain circumstances. Thus, the textual analysis method is suitable for the research since it focused on examining the sociopathic characteristics of the detective through the description of Dr. Watson and Stamford that concern Sherlock Holmes' characteristics and personalities. In the analysis, the present research utilized the theoretical frameworks of Hare's PCL-R theory (1998), Scarlet's (2011)

categorization of the sociopathic items of Hare's PCL-R, Genette's focalization theory (1980) and Minderop's methods of characterization (2005).

3.3. Data Source

The data were in the form of excerpts from a novel entitled *A Study in Scarlet* written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. It was originally published in the year of 1887 and contains the first appearance of the fictional detective figure of Sherlock Holmes. The novel itself has been reprinted and published by many publishers. In the research, the author chose to use the electronic text version of the novel converted by Nalanda Digital Library, published in 2013. The novel is in the form of pdf and consists of 266 pages. The story of the novel is divided into two parts, and each part consists of seven chapters. The first part tells about how Sherlock Holmes, Dr. John Watson, and the police solve the murder of Mr. Enoch, while the latter part tells about the background of Jefferson Hope, the culprit of Mr. Enoch's murder. Since the novel is an e-book, it was downloaded from www.lem.seed.pr.gov.br/arquivos/File/JuvenileLiterature/Scarlet.pdf

The novel was chosen as the data source of the research since it tells about the initial meeting and the starting line of the adventure of Dr. Watson and Sherlock Holmes in solving tough criminal cases. Therefore, Dr. Watson will more likely give readers information about the first impressions of Holmes' attitudes. The research only focused on analyzing all chapters from the first part of the novel since the second part mostly explains the background story of Jefferson Hope, the culprit of Enoch's and Joseph's murder case in the novel, and it does not contain any description of Holmes's attitudes

3.4. Summary of the Novel *A Study in Scarlet*

A Study in Scarlet by Sir Conan Arthur Doyle contains the story of the initial meeting between Dr. John Watson, a former doctor army, and Sherlock Holmes. The novel begins with Dr. Watson going to London in order to recover the wounds that he got in the Second Afghanistan War. Since he has no relation to anyone in London, he is confused about how he will live there. When he tries to find a cheap domicile to live on, he fortunately meets his old friend named Stamford, who suggests Dr. Watson to live with Stamford's acquaintance, Sherlock Holmes. Dr. Watson agrees and goes to meet Holmes. As time goes by, Dr. Watson

learns out many things about his roommate. One of the information that he uncovers is that Holmes mainly works as a consulting detective, which job is to give consultation and solution toward his clients' cases.

One day, they receive a letter from Gregson, Holmes' acquaintance who works as a police officer, to solve a difficult murder case of Mr. Enoch Drebber that the police cannot solve. Even though Holmes declines the request at first, but both of Dr. Watson and Holmes finally agree to take Gregson's request. In the murder scene, Holmes begins observing and investigating all areas and Mr. Enoch's body in order to find clues concerning the culprit of the case. With the help from Holmes, the police officers can uncover more evidences, one of them is a wedding ring. However, they are still in the darkness when it comes to the culprit. After investigating the scene for a while, Holmes decided to go with Dr. Watson to Lauriston Garden to interrogate one of the witnesses named John Rance, a police officer who patrols in the area near the murder scene at the time where the murder happened. In the conversation, Holmes learns the truth that Rance sees the person who most likely to be the one who killed Mr. Enoch, but Rance accidentally let the person go. Hearing this information, Holmes gets angry and decides to leave Rance's house immediately.

Days go by and Holmes tries another way to lure the culprit, which is to make advertisement of the wedding ring that he found before. Holmes then gets a call from a person who claims to know the ring. After waiting for the person's arrival in Holmes's room, he is shocked as that person is actually an old woman, not a man that shows up in his head. Still, Holmes tries to follow Mrs. Sawyer after she leaves the apartment and it turns out that she is actually a young man who disguised as an old woman. However, Holmes loses sight of that person who Holmes's think as the accomplice of Enoch's murderer. On the next day, Holmes gather a group of homeless who work under him called 'Street Baker Division' and he orders them to find the information concerning Enoch's case. After the group leave, Gregson comes to inform Holmes that he has found out the primary suspect of Enoch's murder case named Joseph Strangeson. But, all of them get a call from the police force that Joseph has also been killed.

Dr. Watson, Gregson, and Holmes decided to go to Joseph's murder scene quickly. In there, Holmes begins his investigation like the

last time in Enoch's murder scene, and he concludes that the same person kills both of the victims. His conclusion is based on some evidences, mainly on how both victims are killed with similar poison and there is the word 'Rache' written in both murder scenes. After uncovering this truth, Holmes begins to discuss the culprit with Dr. Watson, Gregson, and Lestrade. Suddenly, Holmes assures everyone that he already knows the culprit's identity but he is not willing to share the information as it will affect Holmes's plan in catching that person. While everyone feels disappointed of Holmes's action, one of the homeless kids from before shows up and tells Holmes that the cab he ordered is downstairs. Holmes then calls the cabman to help him move his stuff. The cabman then enters the room and put his hands down to assist Holmes, and then suddenly he is handcuffed by Holmes. While smiling to everyone Holmes introduces the cabman's name, which is Jefferson Hope, the culprit of both Enoch's and Joseph's murder case. Jefferson becomes panic and struggles to escape, but in the end, he is apprehended by the authorities. He finally confesses that his motive of the murder is because both Enoch and Joseph have killed two important people in his life, which are Lucy (his lover) and John Ferrier (Lucy's adopted father). The arrest of Jefferson Hope closes the curtain of the murder case and opens a new journey of Dr. Watson and Sherlock Holmes.

3.5. Data Collection and Data Analysis

The analysis began with the close reading of the novel, specifically on the narrations from Dr. Watson's perspective and descriptions of the other major characters, which consist of their view of the personality and characteristics of Sherlock Holmes. After the data were carefully selected, Genette's Focalization theory (1980), Minderop's Characterization method (2005), and Hare's Psychopathy Checklist-Revised theory (1998) were employed.

The analysis was divided into three parts. Firstly, the data were examined in terms of their types of focalization based on the theory of Focalization by Genette (1980). The data were discussed by finding out through which focalizer the data came from. After that, the present study analyzed what kind of characterization that appears in the data by using the theory of Characterization by Minderop (2005). This part explains which types of characterization the data fall into. Next, the study analyzed and related the obtained data to the twenty items of sociopathic attributes that are listed in Hare's (1998) PCL-R theory and Scarlet's (2011)

classification of Hare's PCL-R items (see Section 2.3). As Hare (1998) explains in his book, all of the PCL-R items are also given a score from zero to two. A score of zero means that the items do not match the diagnosed person, while a score of one shows that the items partially correspond with the attitudes of the patient, and a score of two implies that the items perfectly match the diagnosed person.

Thus, all of the sociopathic traits that appear in the texts were also investigated carefully by seeing how they are related to the data of Sherlock Holmes's attitudes and personality. Then, the data were measured based on the extent to which they match the items on the scale. Lastly, after all of the data have been investigated, a conclusion was made based on the analysis in order to show to what extent the sociopathic characteristics are attributed to Sherlock Holmes.

1.6. Data Presentation

The example of how the data were analyzed using the Hare's (1998) Psychopathy Checklist-Revised, Scarlet's (2011) categorization of Hare's PCL-R, Genette's (1980) Focalization theory, and Minderop's (2005) method of characterization is shown in the following table:

Table 3.1. Example of the Analysis of Sociopathic Attributes of Sherlock Holmes

Focalization/ Characterization	Textual Evidences	Hare's PCL-R Items	Focalizer	Analysis
Internal focalization/ Indirect characterization (character's behavior)	"Nothing could exceed his energy when the working fit was upon him; but now and again a reaction would seize him, and for days on end he would lie upon the sofa in the sitting-room, hardly uttering a word or moving a muscle from morning to night. On these occasions **I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes, that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic, had not the temperance and cleanliness of his whole life for -bidden such a notion." (p. 22)**	Need for stimulation/ proneness to boredom (Has an overindulgent need for stimulation which makes oneself find excitement by using drugs, or committing crimes)	Dr. Watson	In the excerpt, Dr. Watson gives information to the readers about his observation of Holmes's manners outside the investigation, and the explanation of Dr. Watson suggests that Holmes has a bad attribute of consuming drugs. Dr. Watson bases that conclusion on his detailed observation on Holmes's distant expression and the way Holmes, in some occasions, does not do anything for days starting from morning until night. All of this proof makes Watson, who is experienced in medical examination, suspicious that Holmes has a habit of consuming narcotics. So, Dr. Watson's assumption that Holmes has a trait of being a sociopath, namely need for

	stimulation/proneness to boredom, is proven.

The excerpt comes from Dr. Watson's description after he talks to Sherlock Holmes about Dr. Watson's favorite fictional detective. In terms of focalization, the bold line of the evidence shows that it is categorized as internal focalization. It can be seen from how the line is coming from the mouth of Dr. Watson himself, a character that is involved in the story, and by how the line only delivers what he thinks and sees. In the evidence, Dr. Watson does not know what Holmes is thinking and doing. Therefore, Dr. Watson makes the argument based on his own observation of Holmes' behavior. This matches the explanation of Toolan (1988, as cited in Shafiee-Sabet & Rabei 2012) and Genette (1980) that internal focalization involves a character focalizer from the story, and that the focalizer has equal knowledge with other characters.

In terms of characterization, the evidence is considered as indirect characterization. Minderop (2005) explains that indirect characterization occurs when a character from the story shows their or other characters' characteristics. In the same direction as Minderop's statement, the textual proof number one indicates that Dr. Watson describes Sherlock Holmes' attitude, which is his addiction with some narcotics. This also intersects with the subtype of characterization that Minderop (2005) states in his book, which is character's behavior, since in what Dr. Watson asserts in the line is one of Sherlock Holmes's behaviors. Hence, the datum is proven as indirect characterization with the subtype of character's behaviors.

For the sociopathic traits, one the initial trait from Hare's (1998) PCL-R that appear in the novel is need for stimulation/proneness to boredom. It is shown in the bold line of Dr. Watson's narration in the table, which is: "I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes, that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic, had not the temperance and cleanliness of his whole life forbidden such a notion" (p. 22). In this line, Dr. Watson points out that Sherlock Holmes is diagnosed with drug addiction. Dr. Watson concludes it by doing a careful observation on Sherlock Holmes, which is indicated in the beginning words of the line which is "I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes…" (p. 22). Since Dr. Watson is a former

army doctor, he has broad knowledge regarding medical things. Therefore, his judgment related to medical examinations is most likely accurate. Thus, based on his statement, it is true that Sherlock has the trait of need for stimulation/proneness to boredom by consuming drugs in order to maintain his behavior.

When it comes to the scores of Hare's (1998) PCL-R theory, Sherlock Holmes will be given a point of two for the sociopathic attribute named need for stimulation. The reason is that according to Dr. Watson, Sherlock has the symptoms of addiction to consume narcotics, which means that Holmes has been using the drugs periodically. Dr. Watson concludes this from his observation, which is stated in the lines "For days on end he would lie upon the sofa in the sitting-room, hardly uttering a word or moving a muscle from morning to night. On these occasions I have noticed such a dreamy, vacant expression in his eyes, that I might have suspected him of being addicted to the use of some narcotic" (p. 22). This implies that using drugs has become Holmes's habit. Therefore, since the item matches the habit of Holmes, the score given for the sociopathic trait is two.

3.7. Concluding Remarks

This chapter has discussed the methodology of the research, which includes the research questions, research design, data source, the summary of the novel of *A Study in Scarlet*, data collection and data analysis, and data presentation. The discussions of these subtopics are used as an example of how the obtained data are analyzed in the next chapter.