

## **CHAPTER III**

### **METHODOLOGY**

This chapter deals with the discussion of: research questions, research method, subject of the study, data collection, data analysis, and research procedure. The description of the items above is presented in the following sections.

#### **3.1 Research Questions**

The research is conducted to reveal the answers for the following questions:

1. How is Jing-mei the main character developed in short story “Two Kinds” by Amy Tan?
2. What is the author’s intention in developing the main character in relation to cross-cultural settings?

#### **3.2 Research Method**

The study is based on descriptive method in qualitative approach. Nazir (1983: 63) states that a descriptive method is a method used in the research of an object, a set of condition, a system of thought and an event which takes place at the present moment. Furthermore, descriptive method aims to describe or illustrate the facts, characteristics, and relationship of the researched elements systematically, factually and accurately.

The data are analyzed based on CDA. This study applies Fairclough's theoretical framework (1989: 110-111) that prescribes several questions in analyzing text to see the linguistic (grammatical) features to reveal the hidden meanings of the text that is delivered by the author.

Fairclough's method is based on the three components. They are description, interpretation, and explanation. Description is the stage, which is concerned with formal properties of the text. Interpretation discusses the relationship between the productive and interpretative process, it means that the text (story) analyzed are interpreted. Explanation process is discussing the story's relationship between discursive and social practice.

The tool of systemic functional grammar used is transitivity. Transitivity aims to see what process and participants in the story. Transitivity is used to see how the main character is building (represented) in two cultural setting.

### **3.3 Subject of the Study**

*Two Kinds*, a short story by Amy Tan taken from her story compilation *The Joy Luck Club*, is a fictional short story that tells a young Chinese American woman who lives in San Francisco with her immigrant parents. The story tells the trials and tribulations that a young girl and her mother experience. The girl feels that her mother pushes her too hard to become a child prodigy.

### 3.4 Data Collection

The data of the present study was taken from the book of Edgar V. Roberts and Henry E. Jacobs which is entitled “*Literature: an Introduction to Reading & Writing*”. Actually this is one of the short stories in her interlinked collection of stories *The Joy Luck Club* (1989).

This study only analyzes the clauses about main character in the form of “I” or “me”. Such as: (1) *I* was Cinderella stepping from her pumpkin carriage with sparkly cartoon music filling the air. (2) *I* was filled with a sense that I would soon become. (3) My mother dragged *me* off to the bathroom (4) She yanked *me* by the arm.

This is to see how Jing-mei characterization is developed by the author. Nevertheless, characters “I” & “me” are also related to other characters, especially her parents to see the relation / interaction between them as factor influencing character building.

### 3.5 Data Analysis

To figure out the representation of character building in Amy Tan’s short story, the data were analyzed under Fairclough’s analytical framework of CDA in which transitivity is employed as a tool of analysis for this study.

Fairclough (1998) offers three stages in analyzing the text. The analysis begins systematically from description stage in which the data are examined by using functional grammar (Transitivity) (see Halliday 1994). Then it continues with the interpretation which is concerned with the relationship between text and

interaction. This stage is to answer the question “What does the writer mean by the text?” Finally, in the explanation stage, the ideology is explained. It is conducted by considering the linguistic features and the interpretation towards the features that are used as clause to help uncover the ideology.

This research will be conducted based on five steps. The first step is determining the research subject that is short story written by Amy Tan “Two Kinds”

The second step is identifying the problems, which are formulated in two following questions:

1. How is main character Jing-Mei developed in short story “Two Kinds” by Amy Tan?
2. What is the author’s intention in developing the main character in relation cross-cultural setting?

The third is collecting the data by reading the short story closely. In all at once the researcher decides analytical framework of the study and the tools of analysis. .

After reading closely and thoroughly, the researcher tries to find out clauses about the main character and writes them down. Then the clauses are grouped as the textual evidences. The researcher also searches the idea and theory of: short story, representation in short story, character & characterization, ideology and etc that support this study.

The fourth step is analyzing the data based on the research questions. The first questions will be answered by firstly presenting the analysis of the utterances of main character as clauses based on Systemic Functional Grammar, Transitivity. Then the second question will be answered based on the result of the findings in the answered of the first question.

The fifth step, which is the last step, is drawing conclusions.

### **3.5.1 Transitivity**

Transitivity is concerned with the analysis of the processes, which consists of three elements, namely processes, participants and circumstances. Central in transitivity are the processes. Halliday (1994) divides the processes into seven categories: Material; Mental; Behavioral; Verbal; Existential; Relational and Meteorological. However, Goatly (2000) asserts that there are only four basic categories of processes types: Material; Mental, Verbal, and Relational.

Transitivity is realized through a set of process types. "Each type has associated with its certain functional participant roles (Eggins 1994, p. 229)." Each process type is concisely described and exemplified in order to have clear description.

#### **Material Process**

It is a process of doing, someone or something does action. Participants involved in this process are Actor, Goal, Range and Beneficiary.

Below are examples of material process in active and passive forms.

My jewelries      were robbed      by the robbers  
Goal                  Process: material                  Actor

Different to Goal, which is quite simple as an object, Range is rather difficult to explain. The best way to understand the difference is by looking at the following examples.

Steven                  kicked                  the ball  
Actor                  Process: material                  Goal

Steven                  kicked                  a goal  
Actor                  Process: material                  Range

Beneficiary is further divided into Recipient and Client. The earlier is participant to whom something is given and the latter is participant for whom something is undertaken.

Her teacher      gave      her      a good mark      last semester  
Actor                  Pr: material                  Recipient                  Goal

My mother                  made                  a cake                  for me  
Actor                  Pr: material                  Goal                  Client

### **Mental process**

This process relates to thinking, sensing and feeling. Two main participants here are **Senser** and **Phenomenon**.

I                  couldn't understand                  his attitude  
Senser                  Process: mental                  Phenomenon

His attitude                  couldn't be understood                  (by me)  
Phenomenon                  Process: mental                  Senser

## Behavioral process

Behavioral process exists in between Mental and Material processes, which is approximately the process of physiological and psychological behavior. Similar to Actor in Material process, **Behavior** is the main participants in this process.

<u>She</u>	<u>smiled</u>	<u>a broad smile</u>
Behavior	Process: behavioral	Phenomenon

She                      laughed                      loudly  
Behavior    Process: behavioral    Circ. of manner

## Verbal process

As the name implies, verbal process covers all verbal activities.

Participants involved in this process are **Sayer, Receiver and Verbiage**

In traditional grammar, Receiver can be called direct object and Verbiage is indirect object.

The examples below are verbal process in direct speech.

She said “Can you move aside?”  
Sayer Pr: verbal Actor Pr: material Cir.: location

Additionally, these examples belong to indirect speech, which is also called reported speech.

She asked him to move aside  
Sayer Pr: verbal Receiver Circ.: location

The grandma      told      her grand daughter      a story  
Sayer                  P:: verbal                  Receiver                  Verbiage

### Relational process

Relational process is a process of being with rather complex category of constituents. It involves two categories, attributive and identifying. Each are also subdivided into intensive, circumstantial and possessive. But only intensive type will be briefly explained and exemplified here.

The obligatory participants in attributive sub-category are **Attribute** as the epithet and **Carrier** which is the epithet assigned to.

<u>You</u>	<u>are</u>	<u>an interesting guy!</u>
Carrier	Process: intensive	Attribute

<u>You</u>	<u>are</u>	<u>very interesting!</u>
Carrier	Process: intensive	Attribute

Meanwhile, **Token** and **Value** are participants obligatory in identifying type.

<u>You</u>	<u>are</u>	<u>the most interesting guy</u>
Token	Process: intensive	Value

<u>The most interesting guy</u>	<u>is</u>	<u>You</u>
Value	Process: intensive	Token

At last, another prominent experiential aspect in transitivity system is Circumstance. Circumstance also functions as participants who take the form of adverbial group and prepositional clauses. The types of circumstances are: extent (encodes duration and distance); cause; location (refers to time and space); matter; manner (has the meaning as means, quality and comparison); role; and accompaniment (explains reason, purpose and behalf).



### 3.6 Technique of Analysis

In the Transitivity system, the world of experience is construed into a manageable set of process types (Halliday 1994). The basic semantic framework for the representation of the process is very simple. The process itself consists of three components: (i) the process itself, (ii) participants in the process, and (iii) circumstances associated with the process. Halliday (1994) further mentions that the different types of processes are categorized into several categories. The first is the process of Material doing which is called Material Process. Material Process is a process of physical action. The example below illustrates the process:

I            was            waiting            the right music that would send me floating on my tiptoes.

<u>I</u>	<u>was waiting</u>	<u>the right music that would send me floating on my tiptoes.</u>
Actor	Material : Transitive	Goal

In the example above, the first clause shows 'I' as actor, 'was waiting' as Material Process and 'the right music that would send me, floating on my tiptoes' as Goal. In its literal definition, 'was waiting' shows a process of doing something which may be done to another thing. Consequently, there appears an actor of the action (I) and the goal of the action conducted by the actor ('the right music that would send me, floating on my tiptoes').

The second process is that of feeling, thinking and perceiving known as Mental processes. Gerot and Wignell (1994) mention three types of Mental processes, i.e. affective or reactive (feeling), cognitive (thinking), and perceptive (five senses). An example of a Mental process can be seen in ( )

- I liked the haircut (and it made me actually look forward to my future fame.)

<u>I</u>	<u>Liked</u>	<u>the haircut</u>
Senser	Mental : Affective	Phenomenon

The words 'liked' are obviously categorized as a Mental process in the sense that they express personal affective feeling. In other words, it is clear because the word *like* itself shows one of the Mental process categories mentioned above, that is affective (feeling).

The third Process type in the Transitivity system is Relational process. According Gerot & Wignell (1994), Relational Processes involve states of being (including having). they can be classified according to whether they are used to identify something or to assign a quality to something. Process which establishes an identity is called identifying process and process which assigns a quality is called Attributive process.

To elaborate more on the transitivity analysis in short story's of Amy Tan "Two Kinds", it is essential to see the following analysis:

- I was Cinderella stepping from her pumpkin carriage with sparkly cartoon music filling the air.

<u>I</u>	<u>was</u>	<u>Cinderella stepping from</u>	<u>with sparkly cartoon</u>
<u>her pumpkin carriage</u>		<u>music filling the air</u>	
Carrier	Attributive	Attribute	Circ. Of Accompaniment

From the analysis above there appears one type of Relational process: Relational Attributive process. The verb "was" appeared in the clauses above is obviously categorized into Relational Attributive process because the meaning of an Attributive process that 'x carries the attribute 'a. thus, the sentence above basically shows that "I" carries the attribute "*Cinderella stepping from her pumpkin carriage with sparkly cartoon music filling the air.*"

The fourth is verbal process, i.e. process of verbal action: *saying* (Eggin 1994). This process type is illustrated as that can be seen below:

<b><u>I</u></b>	<b><u>wish</u></b>	<b><u>you weren't my mother,</u></b>
Sayer	Verbal	Verbiage

The word “wish” found out in the Transitivity analysis above is categorized into verbal process. The basic message of verbal process is saying or asking for information.

The fifth process type available in the transitivity system is Behavioral process. Eggins (1994) states that Behavioral process is process of physiological & psychological behavior like breathing, smiling, snoring, hiccupping, dreaming, looking, watching, listening and pondering. Example (no. ...)

- I began to cry.

<b><u>I</u></b>	<b><u>began to cry</u></b>
Behaver	Behavioral

The verb phrase “*began to cry*” belongs to the category of Behavioral process. Like the existential process, there is also principally no basic that can be taken from the occurrence of the Behavioral process.

