

classify them into different categories. Qualitative researchers try to accurately describe, decode, and interpret the meanings of phenomena occurring in their normal social contexts. Ting-Toomey (1984) identifies three characteristics of qualitative research as follows: the study of the symbolic discourse that consists of the study of texts and conversations; the study of the interpretive principles that people use to make sense of their symbolic activities; and the study of contextual principles, such as the roles of the participants, the physical setting, and a set of situational events that guide the interpretation of discourse (as cited in Matveev, 2002).

This research is conducted to find out how the main character's psyche in Coelho's *Veronika Decides to Die* influences her psychological state before she entered Villette Mental Hospital and when she was in the hospital. The novel tells about a young woman named Veronika who entered a mental hospital because she tried to commit suicide. In line with the definitions of qualitative method explained above, the writer tries to accurately describe and interpret the meanings of phenomena taking place in the novel. In conclusion, qualitative method is suitable for this research.

3.2 Data Collection

3.2.1 The Data

The source of the data is a novel written by Paulo Coelho entitled *Veronika Decides to Die* and its main character is Veronika. The writer analyzes Veronika's id, ego, and superego in order to

find out its influence on her psychological state before she entered Villette Mental Hospital and when she was in the hospital.

3.2.2 Data Collection Procedure

To answer the proposed research problems, the data were collected from the text of the novel itself. Reading the novel *Veronika Decides to Die* by Paulo Coelho was the beginning of the process of collecting data. The novel was read several times in order to deeply understand the text and to decide which character that would be analyzed. Since the text mostly talks about the main character, the writer decided to observe her psyche. The next step was taking notes of events experienced by the main character. These events were used as the textual evidences for the data presentation.

Subsequently, the writer conducted library research to obtain relevant theories about novel, psychology, and Freud's psychoanalysis theory. The theories were collected from books and thesis. Additional information was taken from articles and journals downloaded from the Internet.

3.3 Data Analysis

Analyzing the data began with close reading. According to McClennen (2001), close reading skill is essential for interpreting literature. It means that one has to deeply understand and accurately

interpret the text, primarily on the words themselves. It also involves a thought process that shifts from small details to larger issues. As explained by Kain (1998), the first step in the process of close reading is observing facts and details about the text. The focus is either on a particular passage

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Research Method

The writer uses qualitative method in this research. Qualitative research attempts to critically investigate events or phenomena (Alwasilah, 2006, p. 91). Denzin and Lincoln state that qualitative research is a research that uses naturalistic setting in order to interpret phenomena that happen by doing some methods, such as interview, observation and document analysis (as cited in Moleong, 2007, p. 5). Qualitative research is conducted to understand the phenomena experienced by research subject, such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, and so on, holistically in descriptive way—in the form of words and language—in a particular naturalistic context using several naturalistic methods (Moleong, 2007, p. 6).

In line with the above definitions, Myers (1997) explains that qualitative method is used to study social and cultural phenomena. This method can also help researchers understand people and the social and cultural contexts within which they live. The data can be obtained from

Mental Hospital and when she was in the hospital.

Those textual evidences from both groups were categorized again based on the Freud's three components of human psyche—the id, the ego, and the superego. Every sentence, paragraph, and passage was read carefully to be determined which one belonged to the group of the id, ego, and superego. In fact, there was no event that can be categorized in the ego before the main character entered the hospital. So there were only five subgroups—in the form of five tables— analyzed in the next chapter.

Discussing the data was the last process. The writer elaborated the data based on the theories and additional information gathered from reference books, articles, and journals. The data are presented as data presentation in the form of tables as follows:

1. Veronika's psyche before she entered Villette Mental Hospital

Table 1. The Id

No.	Textual Evidence

Table 2. The Superego

No.	Textual Evidence

2. Veronika's psyche when she was in Vilete Mental Hospital

Table 3. The Id

No.	Textual Evidence

Table 4. The Ego

No.	Textual Evidence

Table 5. The Superego

No.	Textual Evidence