CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Analysis

We use language in order to communicate with each other, to express our personal reaction to situations, to stimulate a response in someone else. Language may be described as a means of conveying something that the user of language wants to convey. Seasure (1974: 16), says “language is a system of sign that expresses ideas”.

Leech (1981: 23) says, “When we use a word (or combination of words) either in speaking, or writing, our most obvious purpose is to indicate something, or some relation, or some property. “What the word is used to indicate is sometimes called its “meaning”.” Sometimes we are not sure about message we should get from something we read, or hear because there are many speaker, or writer do not mean what their words mean but they mean something different from their utterance. This can cause misunderstanding between the speaker and the listener, or between the writer and the reader. That is why it is very important to study the analysis of meaning.

The systematic study of meaning in language is Semantics. Based on semantics, there are two types of meanings in language, they are literal meaning and non-literal meaning. If we are speaking literally, then we mean what our words mean. For example, ‘you are so clever.’ When someone is saying ‘you are so clever’ the speaker really means that ‘you are intelligent’. The speaker means exactly what
his words mean without having hidden meaning or particular intention. In other words, literal meaning means true meaning.

Sometimes, the speaker means something different from his/her literal meaning, he has other intentions from what is meant by the words he/she said. It means that the speaker speak non-literally. When a speaker speaks non-literally, the listener sometimes finds it difficult to understand what the speaker wants to convey.

For example: - her pen is dancing on a paper.

- his eyes are bright as stars.

Those sentences above are non-literal (figurative) meaning. Therefore, the sentences above must be interpreted non-literally, because if we interpret the sentences literally, it will be odd. The first sentence above uses personification figurative expression. ‘pen’ is a thing is considered having human ability to ‘dance’. While ‘dancing’ is something that only can be done by animate. Of course, in literal, such expression is illogical. So, figuratively, the sentence ‘her pen is dancing on a paper’ means ‘she is using a pen to write on a paper.

The second sentence above must be also interpreted non-literally because eyes are different from stars. Stars are shining, but the eyes are not shining and those cannot illuminate. Therefore, the sentence ‘his eyes are bright as a stars’ must be interpreted figuratively, that means ‘his eyes are very beautiful as the shining stars’. This sentence uses simile figurative expression.

The example of figurative expressions that I found in the novel “My papa hair like a broom” (page 6). That sentence is simile because that sentence compares two different kinds of things, hair and broom.
The House on Mango Street is a novel wrote by Sandra Cisneros, it tells about a young girl Esperanza Cordero who was growing up in the Latino section of Chicago. In this novel, Esperanza tells about her daily activity on Mango Street with her family and neighbourhood. From them Esperanza gets many experiences how to be safe in this life, because on Mango Street there are a lot of story which make her to be a strong girl. As states on page 58 until page 61 Esperanza tell about what she does with her aunt Guadalupe who gives her support to be a writer. In this novel Esperanza wants go out from Mango Street, she wants a house for her self, a real house not like the house on Mango Street where she live with her family. Finally she has it, but she never forgets her family and her neighbourhood on Mango Street.

Sandra Cisneros was born in Chicago in 1954 as, the third child and only daughter in a family of seven children. She studied at Loyola University of Chicago (B.A. English 1976) and the University of Iowa (M.F.A. Creative Writing 1978). She worked as a teacher and counselor to high-school dropouts, as an artist-in-the schools where she taught creative writing at every level except first grade and pre-school, a college recruiter, an arts administrator, and as a visiting writer at a number of universities including the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Her books include a chapbook of poetry, Bad Boys , two full-length poetry books, My Wicked Wicked Ways and Loose Woman, a collection of stories, Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories, a children's book, Hairs/Pelitos and two novels, The House on Mango Street and Caramelo. Vintage Cisneros, published in 2003, is a compilation of selections from her works.

I chose The House on Mango Street is because after I read this novel I found a lot of figurative expression although I read unserious to find figurative expression.
1.2 The Scope of Analysis

There are many kinds of figurative expressions that can be found in a poem, a song or in daily conversation. In this thesis, I will analyze the figurative expressions, which exist in novel *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros.

I will analyze eight types of figurative which exist in the novel *The House on Mango Street*. They are: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, and paradox.

Realizing that the pages of the novel are great enough and I will face some difficulties, especially the energy, time, and fund, so I set 50% from all pages of the novel *The House on Mango Street*. The reason for taking this number based on Arikunto’s idea (1996: 120) says that if the population consists of a large number (more than 100), the sample can be taken from 10% - 15% or 20% - 25% or more, it depends on the ability of the researcher by considering her energy, time, and funds.

So, if I set 50% from all pages it is enough to used as data. The reason why I didn’t set 25% because *The House on Mango Street* typed with a big font and there are some pages didn’t type with fully. And 50% from all the pages is 55 pages. From the reason above I will analysis all pages with random sampling based on Arikunto’s idea (1996: 124), there are some ways to do random sampling one of them is ordinal, ordinal is make some role of papers with the options in them. Based on Arikunto’s idea above I will divide the whole pages to be 22 groups that I write on 22 papers and every group consist 5 pages. Than I will takes 11 groups or 11 papers randomly to be data.
1.3 Problem of The Analysis

The problems of this analysis are:

1. How many figurative expressions are found in the novel of *The House on Mango Street*?

2. What are the types of figurative expression classified in the novel of *The House on Mango Street*?

3. What are the meanings of each figurative expression in the novel?

4. What which is dominant type of figurative expression found in the novel?

1.4 Objectives of The Analysis

The objectives of the analysis are:

1. To find out the numbers of figurative expressions in the novel of *The House on Mango Street*.

2. To classify the types of figurative meaning in the novel of *The House on Mango Street* based on the types of figurative expressions, such as simile, hyperbola, metaphor, etc.

3. To describe the meaning the novel *The House on Mango Street*, which have figurative expressions.

4. To find the dominant types of figurative expressions.

1.5 The Significance of Analysis

The significance of this analysis is to help the readers especially for the learners of English in understanding about figurative meaning found in a novel and to make easier for the readers in using the figurative expressions in written, or spoken language.