

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. The Background of Analysis

The word Literature derives from the Latin 'littera' ('letter') that refers to the written or printed works (Wellek 1965:1). But, not all of the written and printed works can be said as literature because literary languages are different with the other writing text. The subject matters of literature is subjective because its language is connotative, while other writing such as the medical, history, geography use the scientific language, so they can not be classified as literary works.

According to Wellek and Warren (1965:15) literature is creative, an art. Said creative because literature is product of mind; it means that literature comes from the imaginative mind of author who had the talent to create stories. He perceived what was happening around them from natural phenomena to the lives of the people in their community, and makes them in a written form. However, here the writers did not just tell what had happened, they select the sources or the events they had seen or read and organized a series of related events into a plot and combine them to be an artistic writing. Literature said as art because the language used is beautiful in terms of exaggerate such as the using of figure of speech.

Novel is a form of literary work. Novel is normally a prose work of quite some length and complexity, which attempts to reflect and express something of the quality or value of human experience or conduct (Taylor 1981:46), it means that novel made by the authors as an expression their idea about their life experiences. Every novel is an account of life; every novel involves conflict, characters, action, setting, plot and theme. Novels are usually about people, scenes that represent of real life and happenings such as might be met in real life.

Character is an important element in novel. Character is a person who acts in the story. Characterization is the author's way in describing his characters in a literary work, or it is the author's means of differentiating one character to another, how the behavior of every characters, whether she/he is a good person or a bad person.

Novels may provide their readers with some knowledge, since novels contain some aspects of human life such as social aspects, cultural aspects and moral aspect. Through the moral aspects the readers can get some lessons that conveyed by authors in their novel. Usually moral values are described through the characters' attitude, conduct and behavior; whether the characters have good value or bad value according to moral standard. Moral standard form some rules which acceptable in society, appreciated and believed is truth.

According to Oxford Dictionary (2004:98) defines moral is concerned with goodness or badness of characters or disposition, or with the distinction between right and wrong. A person said has moral if he/she good in character or conduct, virtuous according to civilized standards of right and wrong, capable of understanding right and wrong. In addition, Rachels (2006:2) said that moral is the attempt to achieve a systematic understanding of the nature of morality and what it requires of us, how we must live and why. It means that everyone cannot separate from the arrangement based on the principles of right in their custom and obey to life norm as a moral standard which acceptable in society.

In this thesis the writer would like to discuss novel that written by Charles Dickens 'A Christmas Carol'. She would like to discuss about moral lesson depicted from this novel. Writer choose to discuss about moral lesson because from my experience in reading this novel, that this novel has so many moral value which can teach every one to be a good person. Writer would likes to discuss some moral value

from this novel such as about greediness, charity, goodness, miserly and selfishness that described through some characters of this novel and what the relations of them with the moral are.

A Christmas Carol is one of the most recognizable stories in English literature. The story tells about Ebenezer Scrooge as the protagonist. He is an owner of a London counting house. A wealthy, elderly man, but Scrooge is known as miser, greedy, never help the poor person, and misanthropic: he has no wife or children and have no friend; he throws out two men collecting for charity; he underpays his loyal clerk, Bob Cratchit; and he dismisses the Christmas dinner invitation of his kind nephew, Fred. He does not like about Christmas, he said it as a humbug.

When he prepares for bed on Christmas Eve in his solitary, dark chambers, the ghost of his former partner, Jacob Marley, visits Scrooge. In life, Marley was very similar in attitude and temperament to Scrooge: remote, cruel, stingy and miser. In death he has learned the value of compassion and warns Scrooge to change his ways before it is too late. Marley announces that three more ghosts will visit Scrooge: the Spirits of Christmas Past Present, and yet to Come. The Ghost of Christmas Past takes Scrooge back to his unhappy childhood, The Ghost of Christmas Present, while, the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come shows about the future death of Scrooge. Scrooge realizes that he will die alone and without love, and that he has the power and money to help those around him. Then, Scrooge begs the ghost for another chance and wakes in his bed on Christmas morning, resolved to changing his life by being generous and loving to his family, employees, and the poor.

## **1.2. The Problem of Analysis**

There are some problems in this novel, which need to find out. The problems that the writer find out as having relation to:

1. How the greediness, miserly, selfishness, kindness, charity, described in *A Christmas Carol* through the characters?
2. What are relations of greediness, miserly, selfishness, kindness, charity, with moral?

## **1.3. The Objectives of the Analysis**

Concerning with the problem above, this analysis is intended to achieve some objectives:

1. To find out greediness, miserly, selfishness, kindness, and charity, in *A Christmas carol*.
2. To find out relations of greediness, miserly selfishness, kindness, and charity with moral.

## **1.4. The Significance of the Analysis**

There is some significance in writing this thesis. The first significance of the analysis is to make me understand about literary works especially of Charles dickens' works.

Second, writer wants to convey some moral lessons from this novel through the character, so that we as readers can find some moral lessons as the way in correctly our life. Furthermore, through this thesis writer hope that the readers especially the students of faculty of letters can enlarge their knowledge of English literature and get some moral lesson to be done in their own daily life.

### **1.5. The Scope of Analysis**

In writing this thesis, the writer limits the scope of my analysis. In Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, only discuss about moral lesson through the characters, which described in this story. Moral lesson can be found just from what they say and do as portrayed in the novel, whether that is bad or good according to moral value.

### **1.6. The Review of Related Literature**

To support my analysis, I have used some books, which are related to this topic. The following books are the main sources in finding data and information to analyze this novel, such as:

- 1 Theory of Literature by Rene Welleck and Austeen Warren. This book describes how literature as a social institution using language as its medium in creating social relationship and the novelist becomes the member of the society.
- 2 The elements of moral philosophy by James Rachels. This book tells about what is moral.
- 3 Literature an Introduction to reading and writing by Edgar V. Roberts and Henry E. Jacob. This book tells about what is literary work, kinds of literary works and elements of literary works.
- 4 *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens