CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Novel is one of human creations. Some novels are fiction and some based on true story. It is not only as an entertainment but also giving the message and deep impressions to the readers. Most novels concern with ordinary people and their problem in the society. They also concern much with characters. Besides that, reading a novel is very influential, because we can understand as well as realize the real condition and life of the society described in the novel.

1.1 Background of Study

Characterization is one of the elements in a novel. A novel will not exist without it. Sometimes characterization in a novel can influence the readers after reading a novel. It can influence the reader attitude or even change their mind on anything. Therefore, many people excite in reading a novel.

The writer is very interesting with the information about novel Angela’s Ashes and this novel raise of real-life story of the author, Frank McCourt, who spent childhood and adolescence in a poor family in Ireland. Story how to survive surrounded by poverty, unfriendly weather, disease, death, and the power of religious leaders, and fight for a better life. After reading the novel, I would like to study the major characters, minor, protagonist and antagonist characters in frank McCourt novel Angela’s Ashes. Angela’s Ashes is a massive success novel, becoming one of the most highly acclaimed nonfiction works of the decade. The book won numerous awards, including the National Book Critics Circle Award, Royal Society of Literature Award and the Pulitzer Bestseller list for over two
years. Angela’s Ashes novel is an emotional and wonderful autobiography that captures Frank McCourt’s personal history with great depth and appeal. It allows its audience to gain much insight into his life, and to who McCourt is as a person. Through his clever choice of events and themes, pure honesty, use of techniques such as characterization, humors and emotional and dramatic language, McCourt allow his personal history to come alive in the memoir Angela's Ashes. This novel is full morality values and significant messages for the readers. By this description, the readers will know which character is good and which is bad.

1.2 Scope of the Study

In writing a paper, it is important to limit the topic in order to make the paper easily and clearly understood. In this case, I would like to concentrate on characterization on how they play the role in the story on Frank McCourts’ novel Angela Ashes.

1.3 The Purpose of Study

I have the main purpose when I decided to write the paper. I want to introduce the novel to all of the readers who have not read it yet. I realize that it is important to study about the novel, especially in studying about characterization as described in Frank McCourt’ novel Angela Ashes. And to fulfill the requirement in Diploma III English Study Program Faculty of Letters, University of Sumatera Utara.

1.4 Significant of the Study

In writing this paper, I would like to give information to the readers about Frank McCourt’ novel Angela’s Ashes. I hope this paper can enrich the
knowledge and as the references for other writers, who do the same study in the future, especially for English Diploma Students. I also want to inform that this paper is very interesting and can be useful for the readers to understand about character in literary work in generally and in novel in particularly.

1. To improve my English skill and to profound my comprehension more about the grammatical properties, especially subordinating conjunctions and some related elements.

2. To give some contribution to the study of linguistic for grammar reader through this paper.

1.5 Methods of Study

In completing this paper, I collect the data by applying library research, reading novel, and online research. By applying library research, I collect several books which are relevant to the topic. And by online research, I collect the data by browsing and researching some information, projects of the internet analysts on the sites and some information which is relevant to the topic.