CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Analysis

Literature is one of the great creative and universal means of communicating. The emotional, spiritual, or intellectual concern of man kind. The basic material of literature is experience. Through literature, an author tries to express his or her ideas about what he/she ever experienced in his/her life time or what was happening around them from natural phenomena to the lives of the people in their community. The word literature, basically comes from the latin “littera” which refers to the written or printed works. Literature helps people grow, both personally and intelectually as it provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding.

Literature has been widely known and used by many people all around the world. The term literature refers morely to imaginative works. Literature is the expression of feeling, passion and emotion caused by a sensation of the interestingness of life. It also has a direct relation of actual life. It reflects an actual experience such as social, philosophical and moral concern. Literature is supposed to be an imaginative creation which is far from factual truth. It has been widely known of its three genres. They are poetry, drama, and novel (nonfiction prose).

Poetry expresses a conversation or interchange that is grounded in the most deeply felt experiences of human beings. Poetry exists in many formal and
informal shapes, from the brief haiku to the extensive epic. More economical than prose fiction in its use in words, poetry relies heavily on imagery, figurative language, and sound.

**Drama** is literature designed to be performed by actors. Like fiction, drama may focus on a single character or a small number of characters, and it enacts fictional events as if they were happening in the present, to be witnessed by an audience.

**Novel (nonfiction prose)** is the literary genre that consists of news reports, feature articles, essays, editorials, textbooks, historical and biographical works, and the like, all of which describe or interpret facts and present judgments and opinions.

Edgar Robert (1993:1) says that literature is the art of written works. Literary is writing which expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings, and attitudes toward life.

Novel is one of literary work that represents the ideas or the thoughts of the author. Novel is the main object to be discussed. Novels are stories of book length written in prose. They are about imaginary people and events. Novels are about individual human being, living in a particular time and place, caught up together in a series of events. Novel is included into the prose fiction besides myth, parables, romance and short stories.

Based on Robert statement in literature: *An Introduction to Reading and Writing* (1995:2), prose fiction, poetry, drama, and non fiction prose are classified as the literature gendres.
In a novel, the author can build a new world of his or her own and also can create the characters and also the plot of the story and then make it in to a composition that is arranged into a writing. Novel is one of human creations. Some novel are fiction and some based on true story. It is not only as an entertainment but also giving the massage and deep impressions to the readers.

Peck and Coyle (1986:102) say that, Novel is prose story telling with a great amount of detail on every page, and usually reveal human values.

There are two ways to analyze a literary works, namely intrinsic unsure and extrinsic unsure. Intrinsic is an approach which analyzes literary work based on the text and the structural points of literary work which comprised the characters, plot, setting, theme, style and point of view. While extrinsic is a kind of approach which analyzes the literary work and its connection with other knowledge and external factors such as biography, history, society, religion, psychology and so on.

In analyzing a novel, one should apply a series of steps in order to get better understanding about the novel.

Theme is simply the moral of the story. It is the message that wish to convey or lesson that the reader should learn. Theme is revealed through the values of characters when confronting obstacles and resolving conflict in pursuit of their goal. It can be considered the foundation and purpose of your novel. Without purpose, the story becomes trivial.

Plot is the movement in a story toward the resolution. Nothing happens at random. Every scene should further the plot. Plot is shown through the actions
and agendas of the characters. Throughout the story, they overcome obstacles until they finally reach their goal(s). If the novel is well plotted, the stakes will get higher and higher thereby creating tension.

According to Aminuddin (2000:72), **style** is: “cara seorang pengarang menyampaikan gagasannya dengan menggunakan media bahasa yang indah dan harmonis serta mampu menunaskan makna dan suasana yang dapat menyentuh daya intelektual dan emosi pebbaca.”

**Point of view** is who is telling the story. This can be done by several ways. In first person, one character is speaking in the ‘I’ voice. Second person, which uses ‘you’ is the least common point of view. Third person, who can be handled in a variety of ways, is the most often used method. In third person limited, the narrator can only go inside the head of the character telling in the story. This requires the character to be in every scene which must be told through their eyes. Third person gives the author the freedom in writing. Using this point of view, the author can have different point of view characters for different scenes.

**Setting** is another aspect traditionally included in analysis of prose fiction and it is relevant to discussion of other genre. The term ‘setting’ about the location, historical period, and social surrounding in which the action of the next develops. Setting can be defined as the place and period of the story, the canvas on which dramatic events are drawn in details. These entire elements built a qualified completeness of literary value. One of the elements is character. People in a novel are related to the characters, they are members of society, and the
author’s distinctive view of how people are related to society and reflected in the presentation of every character.

**Character** is the persons presented in dramatics of narrative work, who are interpreted by reader as being endowed with the moral and disposition qualities that are expressed in what they say and what they do in action. Character is very important in real made creation of literature work. The character is divided into major character and minor character. Major character is the character that is important and special. In novel, the major character always appeared in almost of event and can be found in each page of novel. Minor character is the characters that are as the supporting characters and appeared once or may be relatively in short portion.

A novel may not be without the characters, because the character is element from a novel and the character makes a novel more life.

In a sure novel there is conflict to make the novel more interesting. Conflict is a central element of most fiction. It is defined as the problem in any piece of literature and it is often classified according to the nature of the character.

This study analysis conflict found in a novel written by Nicholas Sparks entitled *Dear John*. The focus of analysis is conflict that face by the major character.

According to Munn, conflict occurs in situations where the individual must choose between alternatives and also in those where what he or she wants to do has undesirable as well as desirable consequences.
Conflict as a part of literary aspect can be found in the plot of a story, as it is a part of actions and incidents. There are several types of conflict. The opposite characters, protagonist and antagonist meet in one sequence, must deliver a conflict. This kind of conflict is also called as external conflict. External conflict may also exist between individual and larger forces, such natural object, ideas, modes of behavior, public opinion, and the like. Beside external conflict, there is another conflict, internal conflict or dilemma is the existence of difficult choices within an individual’s mind. But Lewin identified the conflicts most of us commonly face as: approach-approach conflict, avoidance-avoidance conflict, and approach-avoidance conflict.

In this thesis, the writer analyzes the major character conflicts in the novel *Dear John* by Nicholas Sparks and found three major types of conflict described by Lewin (1935).. The writer choose this novel because *Dear John* is a good book and it’s a short easy to read.

The novel that the writer would describe about John Tyree (special forces army sergeant) is home on two week leave from Germany. He meets Savannah Curtis, and fall in love at the first sight. Savannah is a college student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. When Savannah goes back to college, and John goes back to Germany, she promises to write John overseas during the next 12 months until he returns to her after completing his enlistment. But it is made conflict started. Savannah can’t wait that long.
1.2 Problem of the Analysis

During the process of analysis, it is important to make the specification of problems that are going to be analyzed:

1. What types of conflict in this novel caused by major character?
2. Which type of conflict occurred dominantly in this novel?

1.3 Objective of the Analysis

The objective of analysis is statements about activities and objects that are going to be found based on the problem of analysis.

There are two objectives found in this analysis, there are:

1. Types of conflict in this novel caused by major character
2. Types of conflict occurred dominantly in this novel.

1.4 Scope of the Analysis

In this thesis, the writer would like to analyze about major character’s conflict as found in novel Dear John. They are John and Savannah’s Approach-Approach conflict, John and Savannah’s Avoidance-Avoidance conflict, John and Savannah’s Approach-Avoidance conflict depends on Kurt Lewin.
1.5 Significance of the Analysis

The significance of this analysis contains theory and practical intention. Theoretically, it may enrich the knowledge about literature especially novel. This analysis is expected to make the readers understanding more about literature. And by reading this thesis, people can know about novel, character, conflict, and types of conflict. Since there are so many conflict in the novel.