1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a body of written works related by subject- matter, by language or places origin, or by dominant cultural standard. Literature has long been related to the collection of poem, prose, novel, and drama. The term of the novel can be defined as a literary composition. It tells a story which usually shows the human conflict through writing a dialogue (Koesnosoboeto, 1998: 78). Some of novels are fiction and based on true stories. Both of those not only entertain but also give meaning messages and impression to readers. Most novels are concerned with ordinary people and their problems in the societies in which they find themselves (Peck and Martin Coyle, 1998: 102).

Today, many novels are published to the people. The novel that I discussed is about politic which titled The Ghost Writer by Robert Harris, one of his best seller. The author is really creative so that the messages of the story can be sent to the readers.

The Ghost Writer is a story of an unnamed successful British ghostwriter, he is called as the ghost. When the ghost agrees to complete the memoirs of the former British Prime Minister Adam Lang, his agent assures him it is the opportunity of a lifetime. But the project seems doomed from the start, not least because his predecessor on the project, Lang’s long-term aid, died in an apparent accident. The ghost writer flies out to work on the project, in the middle of winter,
at an oceanfront in the fictional village of Old Haven. But the day he arrives, a former British foreign minister named Rycart accuses Lang of authorizing the illegal seizure of suspected terrorist and handling them over for torture by the CIA. Adam Lang faces the threat of prosecution by the International Criminal Court, unless he stays in the U.S or goes to another country that does not recognize that court.

The controversy brings reporters and protesters swarming to the security perimeter of the island home where Adam Lang is staying with his wife, Ruth, and his personal assistant Amelia Bly. As the ghost writer works, he uncovers clues suggesting his predecessor may have stumbled on a dark secret concerning and that somehow this information is hidden in the manuscript he left behind. The next morning, the ghostwriter follows the GPS in the car of the previous writer, which leads him to the estate of Professor Paul Emmett. The ghostwriter can tell that Emmett is hiding something. As the writer leaves Emmett's estate, he is followed by a car, but eludes it. The writer boards the ferry, but then flees the boat as he sees the car that had followed him drive onboard. He decides to spend the night on the mainland, and stays in a small motel and while there, finds information on the Internet that points to Paul Emmett as a CIA agent.

The writer then contacts Rycart, whose phone number had been among the effects of his predecessor, and who tells him that the previous writer had said that he had hidden information in the "beginning" of the book. The men cannot, however, find anything in the manuscript's early pages. Lang then calls and the
writer is told by Rycart to go with Lang. The writer warns that Lang will be able to avoid Rycart no matter what he does. On the plane, the writer accuses Lang of being a CIA agent recruited by Emmett, but Lang derides his suggestion. Upon departing the aircraft, Lang is assassinated by an anti-war. Despite Lang's death, the ghostwriter is asked to complete the book for posthumous publication.

Realizing that the clues were hidden in the original manuscript at the beginning of each chapter, he underlines the words at the beginning of each chapter and reveals the message, "Lang's wife Ruth was recruited as a CIA agent by Professor Paul Emmett of Harvard University." Ruth Lang has shaped Lang's every political decision to benefit the U.S as directed by the CIA. After passing a note to Ruth of his discovery, the ghostwriter leaves with the original manuscript in hand.

The Ghost Writer (The Ghost: UK title) is Robert Harris’ best seller novel. The story of The ghost Writer is a contemporary political fiction. Robert Harris is recognized English novelist and journalist.

This novel is chosen not only for the story, but also to let the readers know and understand the story, the main characters and the political intricacy.

1.2 Scope of the Study

This novel is a fascinating fiction that can take the readers into the main characters’ feeling and thought. To make this paper easy to read and understand, I
limit the discussion into the main characters only. I will discuss each characters clearly and completely.

1.3 **Purpose of the Study**

In this study, I have two main purposes. First, to understand the whole story and the main characters in this novel. Second, to inform that politics are also interesting to be learned.

1.4 **Significance of Writing**

In general, I hope this paper can enrich the readers’ knowledge, especially the students of English Diploma Study Program.

1.5 **Method of the Study**

The source of this paper analysis is novel. In this paper I discussed The Ghost Writer. The focus of analysis is the main characters.

The method used in writing this report is library research and internet research. In this research, all the data and information related to the analyses are taken from books and other sources.