CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Analysis

The term of literature has been widely known by many people in the world. The term of literature is derived from Latin ‘littera’ means letter. It refers to the written or printed words, but literary also can be oral. As Roberts (1995:1) said, “literary refers to compositions that tell stories, dramatize situations, express emotions, and analyze and advocate ideas. Before the invention of writing, literary works were necessary spoken or sung, and were retained only as long as living people performed them.” Literary is different from the other informative writing such as geography or history because it has different language in use. Literary usually uses diction or imagery, while informative language used the daily language. That is why literary language usually has implicit meaning and we need to analyze it. In the other hand, literature refers merely to imaginative works; it has identified particularly with artistic forms of verbal expression. Wellek (1963: 22) states that seems beat if we limit it to the art of literature, that is, to imaginative literature. Literature is a creative writing by an author with aesthetic values, which makes literature regarded as an art. Literature as a writing from differentiates it from the other art products, and its aesthetic or artistic values make it different from other writings.

As we know, literature has three genres. Genre means a type or a class of literature. The three genres are drama, poetry and prose (Peck, 1984: 1). The word ‘drama’ is derived from Greek word ‘dran’ that means ‘to do’ or ‘to act’. Drama is literature designed to be performed by actors (Robert, 2005: 2). Therefore, drama is one of the proofs that literature is not printed but is oral. Drama is interpreted on the stage, while it is written it is not drama but it is play. Poetry is part of literature where the writer can express his idea, feeling and thought
in the most beautiful and artistic way. Prose is a fictitious narrative kind of writing. Based on the form it can be classified as romance, novel, and short story (Kasim, 2005: 13)

One of the forms of prose is novel. Novel is one of the fictitious stories. Fiction describes invented people and event, not real ones. It originates not in historical facts but in the creative, imaginative powers. It means that novel is made by the author to express their idea about something based on their experiences or other people around him, but not all the real story. As Wellek (1963:94) says, literature ‘represent’ ‘life’; and ‘life’ is, in large measure, a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual have also been objects of literary ‘imitation’.

Literature and society have close relation to each other as the extrinsic approach of the literature theory by Wellek and Warren. Society is a group of people with a shared and somewhat distinct culture, who live in a defined territory, feel some unity as group, and see themselves as distinct from other peoples (Persell, 1987:48). As Wellek (1963:94) says, “literature is a social institution, using as its medium language, a social creation”. It is also said that literature is an expression of society. The author himself is a part of society, he expresses what he sees or he feels in his life and environment. Literature is produced by imagination of the author. It means that he gets idea from surround him. The relation between literature and society is usually discussed by starting with the phrase, derived from De Bonald, and that ‘literature is an expression of society’ (Wellek, 1963:95). Some relations between Literature and society are; literary works absolutely is the part of society and use language as the part of social institution, literary works is for the reader as the members of society, and literary works is a picture of society.

When we talk about society, it means that we talk about human life. In our life, we have primary need such as food, clothes and shelter to live. To fulfill our needs we need material. As Riddell (1944:104) says, “materialism concerns the notion that what is basic to
the real life of human beings in their activity in the world. To understand the world, we must focus on real people and their day-to-day activities – especially those concerned with production for continued survival in this world”. However, the time is changing and the human’s need is changing. The material is not only to fulfill the human’s primary need but also it is for the more money. In this thesis I use will apply Karl Marx’s concept. As we know that one of Marx’s contribution is class struggle in the society. So every one needs an existence, to get it human need more money than others people. As Persell (1987: 10) says, “one of Marx’s central contributions is the emphasis he placed on material condition and how they affect social life”. Material becomes the measure of the success. Human makes money as a symbol of happiness because at the beginning is considered as the life necessities turn into human obsession to reach the happiness. Because they think that, they can do everything by using money. Time after time, money which created by the people can control the human life. “People begin to use money to facilitate exchange of goods and services, but money soon becomes an end rather than a means. In these and other ways, people become alienated from their own creation” (Persell, 1987: 11).

Furthermore, this thesis focused on the term of materialism reflected in The Stars Shine Down (1992) by Sidney Sheldon (February 11, 1917 – January 30, 2007). The novel tells the story of Lara Cameron, a successful real estate in Nova Scotia. She wants to prove that she is able especially to his father, because in her life, her father never loves her until his death and looks down on her. However, her ambitious life gives the bad effect. She needs a success, and she makes the material becomes the parameter. The material controls her self and changes her behavior.

The material leads her into the sense of human degradation, only focus on herself without thinking other. She does not care of what she did has damaged or hurt others even against moral values. She also becomes cruel and selfish. Even in her first carrier she has a
sex with the man, she does it to get what she wants. Having an affair with the man who can help her and becomes a liar just to get what she wants. She wants to have the world in her hand. She never feels satisfied of what she has. This dissatisfaction results the greediness to attain material success. She becomes material oriented. In her mind, she never forgets to think how to get more and more material. Even she wants to own the other’s own. However, in the end of the story, she can realize that all she has done is nothing for her life. She feels empty.

The explanation above becomes the reason why the writer chooses this novel as the object of analysis. Actually there are many topics that can be analyzed but the writer is interested in the materialism through the major character, Lara Cameron, in *The Stars Shine Down*. This novel portrays materialism in such away which make the writer chooses this novel to be analyzed. So the writer is curious to analyze more about the materialism by using Karl Marx’s concept.

1.2 Problems of Analysis

During the process of analysis, it is important to make the specification of problems that are going to be analyzed in order to avoid the ambiguity of the analysis and to support the writer to get clear description about the object of analysis itself. Therefore, in this analysis, the writer finds and decides some problems that needed to answer further. They are:

1. How is materialism reflected in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon?
2. What are the effects of the materialism in the life of Lara Cameron, the major character of the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon?
1.3 Objectives of Analysis

The objectives of analysis are the statement about activities and objects that are going to be analyzed based on the problems of analysis. The objective of analysis tends to answer the problem of analysis. Based on the problems above, the purpose of this analysis mainly:

1. To find materialism reflected in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon

2. To find the effects of materialism in the life of Lara Cameron, the major character of the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon.

1.4 Scope of Analysis

In doing analysis, the writer must restrict the field which is going to be analyzed in order not to be wider and out of the topic. So, in this thesis the writer limits the scope of analysis by only focus on the term materialism found in *The Stars Shine Down (1992)* through the main character, Lara Cameron.

1.5 Significance of Analysis

The analysis of this thesis is expected to be able to give significance for the reader, both theoretical and practical. Theoretically, the significance is to enrich the literary study through novel. The write hopes this thesis can give the information about the relation between the literature and the society as the extrinsic approach of the novel and also it can enrich the knowledge of English Department students in studying about materialism as a part of sociology literature.

Practically, it shows how materialism can make human becomes greedy, cruel, and loose their sense of humanity. Material success could make people become very selfish, do
whatever to get what they want even though it is the bad way because of the being ambitious, never feel satisfied even feel lonely in their lives.

The writer hopes this analysis would be useful for the readers to enrich their knowledge especially of literature student who have interest in this kind of analysis.

1.6 Review of Literature

In order to find and get the data and information, the writer uses some books as sources. They are:

1. *Theory of Literature* by Rene Welek and Austin Warren (1963). In this book, they explain about the theory of literature. One of the theory is the relationship between literature and society. The says that literature ‘represent’ ‘life’; and ‘life’ is, in large measure, a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual have also been object of literary ‘imitation’.

2. Sheldon (1993) in her novel *The Stars Shine Down* is the main object of the thesis. Through this novel he portrays how money can control human life, because the people never feel satisfied of what they have, they need more and more but still feel lonely.

3. *Literature: An Introducing to Reading and Writing (Fourth Edition)* (1995) by Edgar V. Roberts and E. Jacob. In this books, they explain about what is literature and the genre of literature. It is very important to know about literature first before analyzing one of the genre of literature.

4. *Tesis-tesis Pokok Marxisme* by Mandel, Ernest. 2006 translated by Mahendra. K. in his book, he explains about the theory of Marxism and also the historical about materialism. It is said that material make alienation or human feel lonely and also the social class. The things the people produced for example money control themselves.
5. *Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology (Second Edition)* (1987) by Caroline Hodges Persell. This book tells about the sociology talks about the society and the first sociologists. One of the sociologists is Karl Marx with his central contribution is the emphasis he placed on material conditions and how they affect social life. It is also talks about class stratification and also alienation.

6. *Economics: a tools for Understanding Society (Fourth Edition)* (1944) by Tom Riddell, Jean Shackelford & Steve Stamos. In this book, they explain about economics. One of the parts of economics that told is about Karl Marx political economist and revolutionary. They say that materialism concerns the notion that what is basic to the real life of human beings in their activity in the world.

7. *A thesis: Materialism in novel The Great Gatsby by F, Scott Fitzgerald* by Nurul Nayla Azmi, the students of English Department, USU. In this thesis, she explains how the materialism reflected in novel The Great Gatsby by F, Scott Fitzgerald.