CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

There have been various attempts to define what literature is. Literature can be considered as a written imagination of what human thinking, it reflects the result as the value of an art work. Taylor (1981:1) says that literature, like other arts, is essentially an imaginative act, that is, an act of the writer’s imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experience.

The major forms of literature are novel, poem, drama and short story. In this paper a novel is used as the material of the discussion, which the novel itself belongs to the literary work. Reeve (1785) says that novel is a picture of real life and manners, and of the time in which it is written. Based from the quotation above, a novel seems as the portrayal of human life and behaviour in reality. On the other words, the novel tends to be the representative of the activity of human real life, which concerns too many things and aspects such as: ambition, feeling, emotion, desire, obstacles in life, problem, etc.

Fananie (2001:93) says that plot is the construction which is made to read on of a sequence of events that are logically and chronologically related, and
caused or experienced by actors. It means an entire series of events contained in the story, caused or experienced by actors.

The Novel which deals in this paper are written by J.R.R Tolkien entitle *The Hobbit*. John Ronald Reuel Tolkien was born January 13, 1892, Bloomfontein, South Africa. It was sometime after 1930 that Tolkien gained an unexpected inspiration to start writing *The Hobbit*. Due to the success of *The Hobbit*, Allen and Unwin encouraged J.R.R. Tolkien to write a sequel. Thus over a period of many years, J.R.R. Tolkien began writing *The Lord of the Rings*. In 1972, Oxford University conferred on Tolkien the honorary degree of, Doctor of Letters. He spent most of his adult life in Oxford apart from when he was in the army during WWI and short spell in Yorkshire in the 1920s.

The focus of this analysis is the plot used in this novel. According to Robert and Jacobs (1995:52) says that the plot is the pattern in which protagonist meets and resolves the conflict, which has been compared to the story’s *map, scheme, or blueprint*. The plot is based on the interaction of causes and effects as they develop sequentially or chronologically. That is, the story’s action follow one another in time as the protagonist meets and tries to overcome the forces of opposition.

Finally, the research of this paper focuses on the plot used in the novel written by J.R.R. Tolkien entitle *The Hobbit*. This is the background as well as the reason why this paper focus on the analyzing the plot used in this paper.
1.2. Problem of the Study

Referring to the explanation of the background of the analysis above, problems that the writer would like to analyze is that search plot used in J.R.R. Tolkien’s novel *The Hobbit*.

1.3. Scope of the Study

The analysis of this paper is limited to plot used in the novel. Therefore, the scope of the analysis is restricted to the plot used in this novel.

1.4. Objective of the Study

The objective of this analysis is to refer plot used in J.R.R. Tolkien’s novel *The Hobbit*.

1.5. Significance of the Study

Theoretically, the significance of this analysis is to increase the literary understanding in terms of literary works and plot used in novel *The Hobbit*. Practically, it has significance for the readers to understand what plot is.
1.6. Method of the Study

1.6.1. Research Method

Method of the analysis in this paper is a library research. The writer collects some data to support the analysis, finding the related data to the research then narrowing the collecting data of the library research to the related element which are about plot.

1.6.2. Data Collecting Method

In process collecting of the data, this paper obtained the supporting data from several books as the sources of the data, the primary source of the data acquired from the novel which is being discus in this paper, which is that novel is written by J.R.R. Tolkien entitle The Hobbit, this novel as the primary source of the data that this paper used to obtain the plot used in the novel to analyze. Then the secondary data is drawn from others books as the references which the books are the most concerned about the intrinsic elements in the fiction work especially novel.

Several steps are applied in the data collecting procedure for this paper. Firstly, the data acquisition from the novel is gathered by reading the novel. The entire novel is read while identifying the plot used in the novel based on the plot definition itself, then marked the plot that found in the novel in order to ease in classifying which types the plot used. Secondly, the secondary data are gathered from several books that related to the topic of this paper. The related books that concern to the subject matter being analyzed are used as the source of idea to
support the analysis of this paper and also to give additional information and statement that can be drawn for this paper, the important and the relevant information from these books are marked and underlined so that it can be used to support the analysis of this paper, these books finally also used as the references for this paper.

1.6.3. Data Analyzing Method

The data analyzing procedure is applied when all the primary data from the novel is collected and selected, as the data from the novel is in a form of written text, which concern about the classification of plot used in the novel that has been chosen to the most significant data, then the data will be interpreted and to be brought into this paper as the subject matter of the analysis, that is the plot used from the novel. Next, the analysis will be stated by explaining the plot based on the definition and the classification which reflected in J.R.R. Tolkien’s \textit{The Hobbit}. 