1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

*Twelfth Night* is a drama by William Shakespeare, believed to have been written around 1601 for the close of the Christmas season. The play centers on the twins Viola and Sebastian, who are separated in a shipwreck. The play focuses on the Countess Olivia falling in love with Viola who is disguised as a boy, and Sebastian in turn falling in love with Olivia. The play expanded on the musical interludes and riotous disorder expected of the occasion.

In this paper, the writer has chosen *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare as the subject of this paper. The writer is interested in describing the characteristic of figures in the drama because all the main figures have different characteristic in performing the drama. Perhaps the characteristic of the main figures still exist in our real life. This drama is also interested to read since it contains comedy that makes reader laughing.

A play or drama is one of classical literary form that has continued to evolve over the years. It generally comprises chiefly dialogue between characters, and usually aims at dramatic or theatrical performance rather than at reading. During the 18th and 19th centuries, opera developed as a combination of poetry, drama, and music. Nearly all drama took verse form until comparatively recently. Shakespeare could be considered drama. Romeo and Juliet, for example, is a classic romantic drama generally accepted as literature.

Edgar and Henry (1995:1) say that Literature refers to composition that tell stories, dramatize situations, express emotion, and analyze and advocate
Before the invasion of writing, literary works were necessarily spoken or sung, and were retained only as long as living people performed them. They also say that literature helps us grow, both personally an intellectually. It provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding. It links us with the broader cultural, philosophic, and religious world of which we are a part. It enables us to recognize human dreams and struggles in different places and times that we would never otherwise know. It helps us develop mature sensibility and compassion for the condition of all living things like human, animal, and vegetable. It gives us the knowledge and perception to appreciate the beauty of order and arrangement, just as well-structured song or a beautifully painted canvas can.

About literature, Raymond (1982:2) says “if language is the most advanced form of communication, literature maybe seen as a special use of language, and perhaps as the highest use to which language can be put”. We do not have to learn a new language in order to find the maximum appreciation of literature. What we have to do is to develop new ways of receiving the language and understanding what it is capable of doing. Literature, like the other arts, can give us new ways of looking at the world and finding significance which the daily use of language in its more common place way has concealed.

However, all of the ideas which have been described by the linguists have relation each other, that literature generally is a mirror of human life that portrays the human feeling, thought, imagination, and perception can be viewed based on personal judgment.
Based on Robert and Jacob in their book about Literature: an introduction to reading and writing (1995:2) say, “Literature is classified into four genres: prose fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction prose.

Drama is the specific mode of fiction represented in performance. The term comes from a Greek word meaning “action” which is derived from the verb meaning “to do” or “to act”. The enactment of drama in theatre, performed by actors on a stage before an audience, presupposes collaborative modes of production and a collective form of reception. The structure, unlike other forms of literature, is directly influenced by this collaborative production and collective reception.

Drama makes events and emotionscome to life before the eyes of the audience. More than any other literary form, drama is visual experience. Whether we read it or see it onstage, a play leaves pictures in our minds. These pictures, along with the echoes of the characters’ words, create the emotions and ideas that together make up that play’s themes (Judith, 1941:67)

Edgar and Henry say that drama is literature designed to be performed by actors. Like fiction, drama 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. Although most modern plays use prose dialogue, in the belief that dramatic speech should be as lifelike as possible, many plays from the past, like those of ancient Greece and Renaissance England, are in poetic form.
1.2 **Problem of the Study**

Based on the background of the study, the problem of the study may be recognized as follows:

1) How is the characteristic description of main figures in the drama?
2) Does the characteristic exist in our real life?

1.3 **Scope of the Study**

There are some basic elements in Drama that can be discussed; they are plot, character, point of view, setting, language, tone, symbolism, and theme. However, the writer is only focused on the characteristic of main figure and the existence of the characteristic in our real life which is found in the drama.

1.4 **Purpose of the Study**

In writing this paper, the purpose of the study is to describe about the characteristic of the main figure in *Twelfth Night* drama and to find out the existence of the characteristic in our real life.

1.5 **Method of the Study**

The writer uses descriptive qualitative method. The first step is the writer read and understood the story in Twelfth Night drama. Then writer read and collected literary books especially books that relevant to the topic that can support the analysis and as reference in finishing this paper. The writer also searched and collected data from internet to enrich the data. Finally, the writer described and analyzed the data and made the conclusion.