1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Human beings as one of the three alive-creatures besides animal and plant have a particular ability, which makes him so special, that dominates the others. They are able to adapt, to survive and to analyze the universe phenomenon, which make their quality of life better and better since the past. They have the whole ability because God has granted them brain. Their curiosities are so great that they learn more and more. Besides, something that makes them more special than the others is they know the way to express their feeling, thought, and emotion. Something to provide “a place” for all of the people’s expression is literature.

Moleong (2000:13) says, “The knowledge which is earned by human beings arise conduct and it is used to reflect and express experience. Another opinion said that literature is one of the great creative and universal means of communicating the emotional, spiritual, or intellectual concerns of mankind.” It seems that something human being does deals literature, especially in communicating. To communicate to each other may be done by a means, such as by a letter, speaking directly, by phone etc. Even something they wrote or said, no matter what its content, could be called a literature. Well, in this life, in purpose or not in purpose, they have involved in a literature.

By using their mind they produced an expression of their feeling, emotion and thought to communicate with others. And this result of literature is called
a literary work. Literary work consists of two types, namely imaginative and non-imaginative. Both literary works are basically the same, that is both are expressed aesthetically, but they have a different in expression. Imaginative type is commonly using connotative sentence to express an idea, while non-imaginative type is more realistic than the imaginative one. It uses denotative sentence.

Non-imaginative type consists of essay, criticism, biography, autobiography, history, memoir, diary, and letters. And imaginative type consists of poetry, fiction, and drama. In this paper, the writer takes a drama as an object that will be further analyzed. Reaske (1966:5) says, “Drama may be defined as a work of literature or a composition which delineates life and human activity by means of presenting various actions of – and dialogues between – a group of characters.”

Drama was firstly introduced by a Greek philosopher Aristotle. He also identified six elements of drama that enhance not only the story telling, but also the instructive and aesthetic values of a play. The first four of the elements is plot, character, thought, and diction (relate to drama/written script). And the last two elements are music and spectacle (relate to theatre/the play in performance).

To analyze a drama in a study or paper there must be minimally two elements that support each other, such as plot and character. Plot and character are two significant elements and very needed in a story. Plot is the arrangement of the incidents or events in a story, which are connected with each other, that makes a story more interesting and easy to be comprehended. Meanwhile, character is the player in the story; it may be humans, animals, or other imagination creatures created by the author. The story contains problems appearing within the actions that make the character struggle to overcome the problems. Therefore, the writer
takes a topic “The Analysis of Conflicts in Oscar Wilde’s Play *The Importance of Being Earnest*”. The writer analyses the characteristic of the main characters and the plot to find out the character’s conflicts in the play.

1.2 Problem of the Study

After reading the story of the drama, the writer concludes that there are many conflicts found which dealing with the main character. And of course the conflicts may influence the main character. Therefore, the writer can illustrate the objective of the study into three objectives. First, to find out the Earnest Worthing’s and Algernon’s characteristics and their characterizations in Oscar Wilde’s *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Second, after analyzing the main characteristics, the writer tries to find out the conflicts dealing with them, either internal or external conflicts. Then the last, the writer will try to elaborate the plots one by one.

1.3 Scope of the Study

As there are many aspects in the Oscar Wilde’s *The Importance of Being Earnest*, the writer makes a limitation of discussion to make sure the theme of this paper’s analysis, namely the main characters, Earnest Worthing and Algernon, and the characterization of the main characters by Oscar Wilde; the internal and external conflicts which deal with the main characters; and the plots.

1.4 Purposes of the Study

The purpose of this study is to explain the main character’s conflicts and the plots in Oscar Wilde’s play “*The Importance of Being Earnest.*”
1.5 Method of the Study

In this paper the writer applies the method of the study is descriptive method of analysis.

The library research applies to support the analysis of the drama, collecting some data and information needed from the relevant books or other resources. Then reading and comprehending the data, making some notes until making the conclusion. Beside the library research, the writer also search from internet to enrich information which are related with the topic to analyze the main characters’ characteristics in order to find out the characters’ conflicts and the plots.

Author

Data Sources:
- Written Script
- Reference Books
- Internet

Take the quotations from the script

Interpret the quotations

Analyze the quotations

Get the conclusion