

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains research background, problem identification, scope of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, and definition of key term.

1.1 Research Background

In this era, the character becomes one of the important things that must be considered. Character is everything related to personalities, attitudes, behaviors, mindsets, dispositions, temperaments, and social & emotional skills on each individual (Bialik, Bogan, Fadel, & Horvathova, 2015). According to Gunawan (2017), a person's character can be known through the person's behavior and attitude in daily life. People who can be responsible, disciplined, polite, respect each other can be said as someone who has good character. Good character can be a guide for someone to lead a better life. Someone who has good character will be preferred in society rather than someone with bad character (Pradhan, 2009). However, many phenomena and problems that occur at this time show a character degradation, especially among teenagers. According to Saidek, Islami, & Abdoludin (2016), In Indonesia the problems that arise due to a decrease in character such as corruption, a fight between students, bullying, free sex, drugs, abortion, etc. To overcome these problems, the government began implementing character education in every school in Indonesia.

Character education is important for everyone, especially for children because they are the next generation of the nation. Character education should be instilled since childhood so that children can grow into a person who has good character. According to Sutarman, Hermawan, & Ahmad (2017), Character education is one of the government's efforts to create children who have good personalities. Similarly, according to Demirel, Ozmat, & Elgun (2016) stated that the purpose of character education is to shape the good character of each individual, school, and society. In Indonesia, character education has begun to be implemented since 2010. The government has developed a Strengthening Character Education Movement (*Penguatan Pendidikan Karakter*) which is implemented in several schools in Indonesia. According to Kemendikbud (2017, pp. 8 - 9), five core values developed as a priority of Strengthening Character Education Movement (*Penguatan Pendidikan Karakter*) namely Religious, Nationalist, Independent, Mutual Cooperation, Integrity.

Kemendikbud (2017) stated that the problems that occur in Indonesia make the government increasingly pressing character education in schools. Students spend more time in school to learn so that the school and teachers play an important role in teaching character education. Schools must be able to incorporate character education into students' lives by creating an environment that has positive values, high ethical standards, and respect for each other (Demirel, Özmat, & Elgün, 2016). The role of a teacher in teaching character education is to create a learning process that provides activities to build character values in students. Besides, The teacher must be able to provide examples of good behavior and attitude because the teacher is a role model for students. The

implementation of character education in schools is expected to be able to create students who have good character. The importance of good character for students will help them to face this millennial era and overcome the problems that occur in their social life (Zurqoni, Retnawati, Arlinwibowo, & Apino, 2018).

Besides at school, students also need to learn about character education at home. According to Berkowitz & Bier (2005, p. 64), students' character development such as behavior, attitudes, social, and students' academic is influenced by their families, especially parents. Home is the first school for every child and parents will act as their first teacher. The development of children's character depends on how parents educate their children. If parents cannot educate their children by teaching good character values, the children may have bad character. This makes the parents also need to teach character education to their children. Parents must set a good example of attitude and behavior because children tend to imitate the thing that they hear and see directly. Parents also have to explain which are good or bad things so that the children will know what they need to imitate or not. In addition, parents must be able to devise strategies and provide effective media to teach character education to their children in a fun way.

One of the media that can be used to teach character education is children's literature. Generally, children's literature is books created especially for children because it has a storyline that easily understood by children (Schneider, 2016, p. 10). Children's literature also commonly read by adolescents and adults. Children's literature is an effective medium for teaching moral values and character values to students. According to Dimakos (2006), many students like reading children's literature because they can learn about moral values from the

characters in the story. In his research also showed that students get a better understanding of good character through the use of children's literature in collaboration with group discussion activities. Not only to teach character education, children's literature can also be used to practice students' English skills. By reading children's literature, students can practice their reading skills and increase their vocabulary. Students will be more interested in reading if they get a reading book that has an interesting adventure story and has a moral message in the story.

Novel is one part of children's literature that is commonly read by children, adolescents, and adults. According to Ikawati (2016), novel is a literary work written to describe human life in real life. The writer usually will make stories that are similar to events that occur in real life. Novels are not only used as media that entertainers but it can also be used as a media to educate children's characters. Some examples of popular children's novels include Harry Potter, Alice in Wonderland, The Little Prince, The Chronicles of Narnia, Peterpan, etc. In the novel there are several elements such as plot, setting, theme, character, and moral values. A character is someone who is told in a novel. The character takes an important part to make the story run based on the plot. A major character is one type of character. Major character is a character who often appears from the beginning until the end of the story. In children's novels, the characters are created to provide moral values that can be used as examples for readers.

The Chronicles of Narnia is one of the popular children's novels. This novel can give a positive impact on children because it contains the values of character education. This novel is a children's fantasy novel by the author Clive

Staples Lewis or commonly known as C.S Lewis. The Voyage of The Dawn Treader is the third title of the seven series of novels in The Chronicles of Narnia. This novel tells the continuation of the adventures of the Pevensie in Narnia. But in this novel, only Edmund Pevensie and Lucy Pevensie can return to Narnia because Peter and Susan have grown up so they can no longer adventure in Narnia. In the third novel, there is a new character named Eustace Scrubb who is the cousins of Edmund and Lucy. Eustace disliked his two cousins and he also hated being involved in the adventures. Their adventure begins when they enter a sea painting that has one of the sailships in it. The painting took them back to Narnia and adventured to find the seven Lord who disappeared after being sent to explore the eastern sea by the uncle of King Caspian. In this adventure also told the change in the character of Eustace who started having a bad character and then turned into a boy who has a good character.

The popularity of The Chronicles of Narnia made several researchers interested in analyzing this novel. For example, the study conducted by Prayitno (2010) and Gravita (2016) who analyzed one of the characters named Edmund Pevensie in the novel The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe. They focus on analyzing the characteristics of Edmund Pevensie. Another study conducted by Sari (2016) also analyzed one of character in the novel The Chronicles of Narnia, however, she focus on analyzing the characteristics of Eustace Scrub in the novel The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader. In the present study, the researcher also analyzed the character of Eustace Scrubb in The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader but the researcher focus on analyzing the character education

values in the characterization of Eustace Scrubb. Eustace Scrubb was chosen to be the focus of this study because the character of Eustace Scrubb can be an example for students that children who have bad characters can turn into children who have good character through character education.

1.2 Problem Identification

The problems that occur regarding the decline of character in Indonesia such as a fight between students, bullying, drugs, free sex, etc can be caused by several factors. The first factor is the lack of time given by parents to teach moral education to their children. This happens because of the lack of information that is known by parents about the importance of character education for children. Parents who rarely spend time with their children will make the children get less attention and education about good character. The second is environmental influences such as family, school, friends, and society which can cause a decline in the character of children. Children easily imitate what they see and hear. If they often see the actions that are not good or not right they will quickly imitate these actions without knowing the consequences of that action. And the last is the influence of the internet in the development of children's character. Children have high curiosity, so they often access content on the internet that is not appropriate for their age. This can give a negative effect on the children's character. From the three problems described above, character education needs to be managed more deeply in school and at home so that those problems can be solved. This research

is expected to help parents and teachers in finding and selecting media that can be used to teach character education to children.

1.3 Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is focus on character education on Eustace Scrubb's characterization as a major character in the novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader*. As mentioned in the background, Eustace was chosen in this study because this character can be an example for students especially children that those who have bad characters can turn into children who have good character through teaching character education. The character change in Eustace also gives many good values that can be imitated by children. The elements of the novel are the plot and setting will be used to support the characterization of Eustace Scrubb.

1.4 Statement of the Problem

Based on background explained above, there are two specific problems of this study, they are:

- 1.4.1 How is the characterization of Eustace Scrubb describe in the novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader*?
- 1.4.2 What are the five core values of character education that reflected in the characterization of Eustace Scrubb?

1.5 Purpose of the Study

Based on the problem mentioned above, it can be seen that there are two purposes of this study, they are:

1.5.1 To analyze the characterization of Eustace Scrubb in the novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader*.

1.5.2 To analyze the five core values of character education that reflected in the characterization of Eustace Scrubb.

1.6 Significance of the Study

Significance of this study is divided into two parts, namely Theoretical significance and Practical significance.

1.6.1 Theoretical Significance

The results of this study are expected to give contribute to the analysis of novels that focus on character education existing in the novel. Especially in children's fiction novels that provide many benefits including educating and entertaining. Many people still like reading activities, especially reading novels. Reading novels has many benefits for children who want to learn English. One of the benefits of novel is that it can provide an understanding of real-life through the story told in the novel. The novel can also develop and train children's skills in foreign languages (Oda & Khaz'al, 2009).

1.6.2 Practical Significance

This practical significance of this study is expected to give significance to a teacher, parents, students, and other researchers.

a) For Teacher

This study can be one source of information for teachers to teach character education through novels. In the novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The*

Voyage of the Dawn Treader there are educational character values. In addition to teaching character education to students, teachers can also use this novel as a medium for teaching reading English.

b) For Parents

This study can be a medium to guide children in teaching character education. Character education is not only found in schools but children also have to get character education at home. Parents play an important role in teaching character education to their children at home. One of the media that can be used to teach character education at home is novels. The Chronicles of Narnia is one of the novels that are easy to understand and has a character education value. Parents also have to read the novel to provide information about the educational character values in the novel.

c) For Children

This study can be used as a medium for knowing and learning about character education. This research can also be used as a reference in choosing a suitable novel to be read by children. The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader is a novel that is suitable for children because it has an interesting storyline and most importantly has character education values that can be used as an example by children. Besides, learn about character education, children can also practice their English skills, such as reading skills and increase children's English vocabulary.

d) For Other Researchers

This study is expected to be one of the references for other researchers who want to conduct similar research, especially research on character education.

In addition, this study can also be used to find out what has not been discussed in previous studies.

1.7 Definition of Key terms

In this study, three key terms will be explained. The Key terms will be explained conceptually and operationally.

1.7.1 Conceptual Definition

1.7.1.1 Character

According to Gill (1995, p. 127), a character is a person in a story created by the author who has own identity. A character can be also animal or thing personified who appears in literary work (Fauzan, 2016). Characters are made to express the thoughts, actions, and words of the author. A characters also help the reader in understanding the stories that exist in literary works.

1.7.1.2 Characterization

Gill (1995, p. 127) states that characterization is the author's way to create characters in literary work. Characterization is a process used by the author to reveal the character's traits in the story. Characterization also makes it easier for readers to know in detail how the personality of the character. Direct characterization and Indirect characterization are two technique to reveal the characterization of a character.

1.7.1.3 Character Education Values

According to Lickona (1993, pp. 6 - 11), character education is an effort to create a good character so that someone can understand and act based on the main ethical values. The goals of character education are to build a positive

mindset, a good attitude, and be responsible's person (Amini, Syamsuyumita, & Hasnidar, 2017).

1.7.2 Operational Definition

1.7.2.1 Character

In this study, a character is a person who is told in the story and has own characteristics. The character analyzed in this study is Eustace Scrubb who is the major character in the novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader*.

1.7.2.2 Characterization

Characterization is a characteristic of Eustace Scrubb who is the major character in novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader*.

1.7.2.3 Character Education Values

Character education is a process of teaching five core values promoted by The Ministry of Education and Culture (2017) namely religious, nationalist, independent, cooperation, and integrity for Indonesian students to build a better generation.

