

Chapter I

Introduction

This chapter describes Background of the Research, Statement of the Problem, Purposes of the Research, Significance of The Research, Scope and Limitation, Definition of Special Terms and Organization of the Research

1.1 Background of the Research

In this world, study literature is a general thing, especially for students of English faculty. Literature is important study because the literature itself is actually dealing with human life. Based on some definitions above, it can be concluded that literature take main roles toward our life because it is reflection of our life. In literature, there are kinds of literature they are fiction, poetry, prose, and non-fiction. In literature, poem can be said as poetry. Poetry is a result of imaginative thinking by the author.

According to Frost in Kennedy's book (1966:30) poetry is a rhythmical composition of words expressing an attitude, designed to surprise and delight, and to arouse an emotional response. Kennedy's states that the study in poetry is important because it tries to help the reader look at a poem closely, to offer you a wider and more accurate vocabulary with which to express what poems say to you. Therefore, this theories can be conclude that should we know when read poem is what meaning that contained in the poem. Actually meaning of poems is influenced by the author because when the author write down the poem, it means authors has contributed to the

content or meaning of the poem. And when they are writing, it must relate to their heart's condition of the author when writing it.

Figurative language is any way of saying something and meaning the words, which cannot be mean literally (Perrine, 1992:61). The culture can be influence in the way we speak to the other people. Figurative language can be a general term for a group of linguistic devices called figures of speech. Similar to Perrine, Furniss states that figure of speech is a word or phrase which cannot be, or is not meant to be taken literally (1996:106). Usually figures of speech occur in all kinds of language uses and situation. According to Perrine, there are 10 kinds of figure of speech. Those figures of speech are metaphor, simile, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, symbol, hyperbole, verbal irony, metonymy and litotes.

The literary work that will be analyzed was the poem of Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Elizabeth Barrett Browning is an English poet of the Romantic Movement. She is Robert Browning's wife. Elizabeth Barrett Browning had poetry 44 sonnets. From poetry 44 sonnets the writer chose only two sonnets of them. There are: "How do I love Thee?" and "If Thou must love me" are two poems that written by Elizabeth Barret Browning from 44 sonnets which are written by her as his expression of feeling for her husband to be. Her poetry 44 sonnets is named "Sonnets From The Portuguese" a sequence of love sonnets addressed to her husband. She was a better-known poet than her husband. It was published in 1850. Elizabeth Barrett Browning was known as one of the most influential poets in Victorian era and most of her poems are considered among the greatest contributions to english poetry for the

nineteenth century. These poems which included in her book of poems “Sonnets from Portuguese” was considered as her best-known book of poems. Also, these two poems become very interesting choices to analyze because they poems were written by Elizabeth Barrett Browning based on her love life with her husband, Robert Browning (Bildir, Biography of Elizabeth Barrett Browning. 2008)

These poems was popular in Victorian Era. These poems contain many kindof figures of speech, marked by the attractive diction and ornamental words. Based on this reason, the researcher is interested to study about these poems using theory of figurative language. To know the figurative language and the possible meaning of the poems grabbed the researcher’s attention to analyze and observe the poem. Thus, as far as the researcher it expected to analyzed this poems because this study can give some contribution to the study of literature in general and poetry in special.

1.2Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the researcher above, the researcher formulates some questions that lead the researcher to conduct her study.

1.2.1 What are figures of speech are used in Elizabeth Barret Browing’s poems “How Do I Love Thee” and “If Thou must Love Me”?

1.2.2 What are the possible meanings of the figures of speech used in those poems?

1.2.3 How do the figures of speech contribute to the meaning in those poems?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

Based on the question of the research above, this thesis will have purpose.

1.3.1 To identifyfigures of speech in Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s poem.

1.3.2 To identify the possible meanings of the figures of speech in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poems.

1.3.3 To describe how figures of speech contribute to the meaning Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poems.

1.4 Significance of the Research

The result of this research is expected to give contribution in studying poetry especially in terms of figures of speech. Also, the research is expected to give a better view on studying poetry using literature approach related to the poet's background. Moreover, by studying figures of speech, the student or teacher can apply this knowledge into teaching and learning activity.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is conducted using the theory of figures of speech, especially in literature approach. The researcher intends to find some types, the possible meanings, and contribute to the meaning figure of speech from Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poems "How Do I Love Thee?" and "If Thou must Love Me?". The analysis between the types of figures of speech found and the possible meaning are tightly bounded in one discussion in order to ease the readers to understand the united idea in this research.

1.6 Definition of Special Terms

The definition of special term is used to make the learners of this study easy to read and easy to understand. So, it is written some terms that relative with this study, those terms are below:

- 1.6.1 Literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the words (Klarer, 2004:1). In addition, Jones states that, Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination (in Qory's thesis 2013:1). It can be concluded that literature is an important study because the literature itself is the simple way for the people to express their imagination, feeling, idea, emotion and experience based on human life.
- 1.6.2 Poetry is one of the oldest genres in literary history (Klarer 2004:27). In addition, Drew said poetry is the earliest and remains the most concentrated and intense form of communication among the arts of language (1959:15). It can be concluded that poetry is a very luxurious form of art which writes its own because in poetry consist of fine word, rich word, and it can make poetry more powerful.
- 1.6.3 Figurative language is any way of saying something and meaning the words, which can not be mean literally (Perrine, 1992:61). In addition, Holman and Halmon said figurative language is writing embodies one or more of the various figures of speech (1986:203). It can be concluded that, figurative language give literally meaning and can be strengthened in every words.

1.7 Organization of the Research

The researcher organizes her thesis into five chapters. Chapter I (one) is the introduction which consists of the background of the research, statement of the

problem, purpose of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation, definition of special terms, and organization of the study. Chapter II (two) is the review of related literature that consists of the literary theory. Chapter III (three) is the research methodology. Chapter IV (four) is the analysis. And the last, chapter V (five) is the conclusion and suggestion that the writer will get after doing analysis.