ELIZA DOOLITTLE'S PERSONALITY CHANGES IN BERNARD SHAW'S *PYGMALION*

A THESIS
As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
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By:
IRENE GRAVINA
1213099032

UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI
PROGRAM STUDI BAHASA INGGRIS
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This thesis entitled **A STUDY OF THE PERSONALITY CHANGES AS SEEN IN THE MAIN CHARACTER OF BERNARD SHAW'S PYGMALION** prepared and submitted by Irene Gravina has been approved and accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors.

Drs. Antonius Gurito  
First Advisor

Drs. B. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M.Hum  
Second Advisor
This thesis has been examined by the committee on Oral Examination with a grade of ___________________ on August 22nd, 2003.

Dra. Agnes Santi W, M.Pd. 
Chairperson

Drs. Antonius Gurito 
advisor I

Drs. B. Himawan S.W, M.Hum. 
advisor II

Davy Budiono, S.Pd. 
member

Mateus Yumarnanto, M.Hum. 
member

Dean of the Teacher Training College

Head of The English Department
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ABSTRACT


Literary works have a relation to human life. Through deeper analysis, literature offers many experiences and entertainments that increase the readers’ knowledge. Besides, the readers can learn the language used and put in the context that relates to human’s issues, which can be found in ordinary life. The writer chooses drama as her subject, because drama is natural and it is easier to observe the interaction of the characters in drama than in novel, poem, or other literary works. Besides, the interaction within characters in drama is presented through conversation in daily life.

Here, the writer takes Bernard Shaw’s Pygmalion, because the writer feels that this play is very interesting to be analyzed. Eliza Doolittle is the main character of this play. She speaks with the atrocious accent that bars her getting a place to become a lady in the florist shop. Shaw’s Pygmalion is Henry Higgins, an eccentric Professor of Phonetics, who makes a business as well as a hobby of recording and studying various dialects. Here, Professor Higgins hears and makes notes on Eliza Doolittle’s speech. Then, Eliza comes to Prof. Higgins asks to be given a course in correct speaking. Prof. Higgins wagers Colonel Pickering, an authority on Indian dialects, that in six months he will have transformed Eliza Doolittle to become a duchess. After six months of the treatments, Prof. Higgins presents Eliza at the ambassador garden party and Eliza succeeded in passing as a lady.

In analyzing Pygmalion, the writer deals with the personality changes as seen in the main character Eliza Doolittle, a cockney flower girl that becomes the writer focuses on studying Pygmalion. Thus, the statement of the problem is formulated as follows: “What are the personality changes resulting from the treatments given in the main character Eliza Doolittle?”. In analyzing the content of the play, the writer applies the principle of content analysis, which is used to identify and observe the data to answer the problem statement.

Finally, the writer concludes that as a lady, Eliza Doolittle is no longer the same person she was at the beginning. Eliza has changed in language, appearance, manners, and outlook. Thus, the result of the treatments given by Prof. Higgins has changed Eliza Doolittle in the complete personality seen as a whole.