

CHAPTER I
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1.1 Background of the Study

Reading is one of the good habits for everyone. Through reading people can know everything such as politics, economy, social life, and life style. Reading can help the readers stimulate their knowledge and remember some important information. Mariam (1991) proposes that “A major avenue of learning is through reading. Yet, if we do not understand what we are reading, we cannot learn or remember it.” It shows that by reading, people can also learn something new. In reading people have to understand what they have read, if they do not understand it they will not get anything or learn anything.

In Dr. Seuss’ opinion (1978), “Reading means the more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” Based on Dr. Seuss’ statement above, it can be seen that reading gives readers a lot of benefits. There is a connection between reading and future life. Reading has become a fundamental need in life. It is to prepare the younger people to be more productive in the future. People who like reading have more knowledge than those who do not. The benefits of reading are to enhance intelligence, to reduce stress, to improve analytical thinking, to increase vocabulary, to improve memory, and to improve writing skill. As stated by Chitravelu et al (1995), “Reading is not a single skill that we use all the time in the same way but it is multiple skills that used differently with kind of test and fulfilling different purpose.”

There are many kinds of books that people can read such as novel, poem, play, comic, magazine, and newspaper. According to Guerin et al (1986: 1137) “Novel is an extended,

fictional, prose narrative that portrays character in a plot.” The genres of the novel are comedy, romance, horror, crime, adventure, action, science fiction, fantasy and mystery. The elements of the novel are setting, character, plot, theme, and point of view.

A novel is efficient and simple book. It is easier to bring everywhere and easier to understand. The way the writers express their ideas, the issues, and the language used are easier to understand. Novels also talk about life in places or time. Some writers write their novels based on their real life or their imagination. It also gives more appeal to the readers if the writers write the novel based on their true story.

In most novels, there are moral values in the story. Esteban as quoted by Adisusilo (1990:57) states that “Moral values are universal truths which man holds to be good and important; they are the ethical principles which he struggles to attain and implement in his daily life. They are the ideals which transcend all time and space; those which are valid for all men regardless of race or religion; the ones which unite strangers, families, nation – all of humanity – with God.” Moral values can reflect on the real life. Moral values can give readers a reflection about life. Moral values can give additional appeal for the novel itself. They can find out the moral values in the novel only after reading and understanding it.

This novel tells about an old man named Santiago. He is a fisherman who spends his life in the sea. He waits for about eighty four days to catch a fish, but he loses his fisherman’s luck. He has a friend named Manolin. Manolin is a young boy who always accompanies him, even though his family does not want him to. One day, Santiago wants to catch a big marlin fish. He spends two days and two nights to catch this fish. After catching the big marlin fish, he gets problems that make him lose it. However, although he loses his fish, he can survive and go back home safely.

As cited from Biography website "*The Old Man and The Sea*" becomes one of the bestselling works in 1952. It published on September 1, 1952. The first edition print ran 50,000 copies. The illustrated edition featured black and white pictures. Ernest Hemingway gets a Pulitzer Prize in 1953 through "*The Old Man and The Sea*". It made him an international celebrity. "*The Old Man and The Sea*" is a classic novella. Hemingway writes a great deal about hunting, fishing, prizefighting; with directness and vigor; with the accuracy of a man who has handled the artifacts of a sport, taken them apart, loved them. In "*The Old Man and The Sea*" consists of education and entertainment, so that it makes "*The Old Man and The Sea*" got Pulitzer Prize.

According to Effinger, in "The Old Man and The Sea", Ernest Hemingway presents the fishermen Santiago as an ideal man, independent in his action, eager to follow his calling, and willing to take chances in life. The old man's most notable attribute, however, appears to be his unquenchable spirit: no matter how his body is beaten, his spirit remains undefeated, undefeatable, through all trials. As stated in Pryor's article, "*The Old Man and The Sea*" is the last novel Hemingway published before his death. In 1951, Hemingway wrote "*The Old Man and The Sea*" in two months when in Cuba. He was proud of his own work. The slim novel received a lot of critical and commercial success. It was a major factor in Hemingway being awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1953 and the Noble Prize in Literature in 1954. The novel is still widely taught in schools today.

Schatz (2011), in his article about lesson in manliness from *The Old Man and The Sea*, says that there are many lessons found in the novel. One of the examples is "A man is not made for defeat". He says that Santiago never gives up in every situation. When Santiago gets a big marlin fish, he faces problems. Unfortunately, his marlin fish is attacked by sharks.

Santiago keeps fighting those sharks, even though he does not have much energy anymore. Here, Schatz finds another lesson in *The Old Man and The Sea*.

After reading Schatz's article, the writer is interested in analyzing the moral values of *The Old Man and The Sea* by Ernest Hemingway. The writer wants to find further the moral values. The writer hopes that the moral values of *The Old Man and The Sea* novel can inspire people to live in calm or tough condition. In analyzing this novel, the writer also learns something new as pragmatic theory, elements of fiction in the novel such as setting, plot, character, theme, and point of view. Based on the background above, the writer then decided the title of study "Moral Values in Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and The Sea*."

1.2 Statements of the Problem

According to the background of the study, the writer would like to analyze the moral values of the novel entitled "*The Old Man and The Sea*." The problems of this study are:

1. Which moral values does Ernest Hemingway want to show through Santiago's character in "*The Old Man and The Sea*" novel?
2. How does Ernest Hemingway communicate those moral values?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to find out the moral values in Ernest Hemingway's "*The Old Man and The Sea*". Furthermore, this study also attempts to find out how Ernest Hemingway reveals those moral values throughout his novel.

1.4 Theoretical Framework

The Theoretical Framework used for this study is theory of novel and moral values. According to Kennedy (1983:180), “Novel is a lengthy story in prose, whose author tries to create the sense that, while we read we experience actual life.” While Esteban (1990:57) explains “Moral values are universal truths which man holds to be good and important; they are the ethical principles which he struggles to attain and implement in his daily life. They are the ideals which transcend all time and space; those which are valid for all men regardless of race or religion; the ones which unite strangers, families, nation – all of humanity – with God”. The theory of moral values is used to get the values of the entire story. The writer will apply the pragmatic theory of literature.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study is an analysis of moral values. The scope of analysis is the moral values in Ernest Hemingway’s “*The Old Man and The Sea*” and the writer limits the sources that the writer only wants to focus on the published novel and will not cover the released movie.

1.6 The Significance of the Study

This analysis hopefully will give clear information about the moral values of the novel. In this way, this study will inspire, first, lecturer of English Department in teaching literature especially about moral values. Second, students of English Department to make further study on analysis of the moral values and also as a comparison or reference for those who are making a study on an analysis of moral values in the novel.

Third, for the reader in general, the analysis of moral values in this study can help to understand moral values through Santiago in Ernest Hemingway’s novel entitled *The Old*

Man and The Sea. The writer hopes by reading this study the readers will get more knowledge and values of the story.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid ambiguity and misunderstanding, the writer would like to give the definition of the key terms used in this study. The title of this study is “Moral Values in Ernest Hemingway’s *The Old Man and The Sea*”. The major terms defined in this study are: Pragmatic Theory, A Novel and Moral Values

- Pragmatic Theory

Pragmatic theory is an instrument for getting something done and tends to judge its value according to its success in achieving that aim (Abrams, 1953:15).

- A Novel

A novel is an extended, fictional, prose narrative that portrays character in a plot (Guerin et al, 1986:1137).

- Moral Values

Moral values are universal truths which man holds to be good and important; they are the ethical principles which he struggles to attain and implement in his daily life. They are the ideals which transcend all time and space; those which are valid for all men regardless of race or religion; the ones which unite strangers, families, nation – all of humanity – with God (Esteban, 1990:57).