A STUDY ON THE MAIN CHARACTER OF CHARLES DICKENS' NOVEL GREAT EXPECTATIONS

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching

By

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ABSTRACT

Literature is taught step-by-step at the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya, from literature I, II, III, to Literary Appreciation. By studying literature, students would get knowledge and understand about the culture of the other countries and learn how to analyze a literary work. Literature motivates students by touching on themes they care about, such as love, fear, changes and dreams. Good literature is about the human experience; it is meaningful to the students from different cultural backgrounds.

After comparing with other literary genres, the writer chooses novel to be analyzed. Novel grows as realistic conception of the individual in an actual society. She takes Charles Dickens’s novel because he is one of the most famous and successful author off all time. He uses novel as a social force that is against unjust laws, the school system, and other institutions that seem to need reform. Great Expectations is one of his glorious novels. In Great Expectations, people can learn about how human character changes in life.

There are some questions that are used to guide this study of Pip as the main character. The writer is interested in studying the development of Pip’s personality, sees the other characters influence on Pip, and finds out human values in the story.

All the analyses are based on some literary theories. They are novel, the elements of novel and human values. These theories are used to get the clear picture about the main character through analyzing the events happened in the surrounding to get his great expectation.

In analyzing the novel, the writer uses intrinsic approach. Intrinsic approach is the approach that concentrates on the literary work itself. The methodologies consists of research design, the subject of the study, the instrument, the procedure of collecting data, and procedure of analysis in interpretation of the finding.

The main character of the novel is Pip. He is an orphan who has been brought up by his sister named Mrs. Joe. Some one as his benefactor wants him to be a gentleman; as a result, he has to move to London to achieve his great expectation. Pip has achieved his expectation so he becomes proud and selfish. Finally, Pip realizes his bad behavior in refusing his real benefactor and forgetting his friends.

The writer is interested in studying the development of Pip’s personality. In analyzing the main character, the writer finds out that Estella’s behavior makes Pip very ambitious to be a gentleman. As a good friend of Pip, Joe still helps Pip and takes care of him when Pip is sick. Biddy, who is an orphan too, helps Pip in reading and writing before he gets his great expectation. They are very close as good friends. As an orphan Pip feels lonely and hopeless but he is sensitive about his sister.

The writer hopes that this study would be useful to the readers who will analyze literary work, especially for the students at the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University.