

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Basic Consideration

People have various personalities. Good or bad sights of one's can be valued by others through the performances directly or indirectly. For example, someone will be judged as cruel person because she/he is doing something criminal. Then another will be judged as kind person because she/he is doing something favor. However, it is believed that it doesn't stop there. It is because there is possibility when what have been shown is not bad or good in all. It is convinced that there is goodness in badness and there is badness in goodness of a person's characteristic.

Synonymously, in real life a person describes and values a characteristic of another just like audiences analyze the characterization in a literary work. The way of an author to show the characteristic of characters is defined characterization (Dugana, 2006, p.2). For an instance, in a novel exists a character that is arrogant then readers will automatically criticize that character such what is shown or reversely.

In the core of analyzing a character, it is existed an excessive approach that introduced by a phenomenal philosopher from French namely Jacques Derrida. It is called *Deconstruction*. An approach that is applied to examine the elements of a reading text to be more understood is called deconstruction (Eiselein, 2006, p.1). It is firstly advanced in the middle of 60s (cited in Derrida,

2004, p. 1). Moreover, another statement reveals that deconstruction is used to find out meaning that not presented directly (Bressler, 1998, p.131). In the same meaning, it states that by using deconstructive approach it can be established present value from a previous value of something in a text. Thus, it changes what is disappeared becomes appeared.

To use this kind of approach, furthermore, it is obligatory to categorize something reverse or pair thing which cannot be separated in the text. Male and female, rich and poor, beautiful and ugly, wise and arrogant are some examples. It is what familiar thing called *binary oppositions* by Derrida (Bressler, 1998, p.125). When it was done, further it is freely to interpret the text as much as we want. It is conveyed by Bressler (1998) that “by identifying the binary oppositions that exist in the text, deconstructors can then show the preconceived assumptions on which most of us base our interpretations” (p.130). It keeps similar meaning with the researchers may deduce the meaning of the text creatively after finding out two differing pair things within the text.

Davis and Schleifer defines that deconstruction is an approach to read a text. Deconstruction also begin its power from a metaphysical order where into binary opposition one is categorized as ‘more powerful’ or universal item and another is categorized as ‘powerless’ or extraordinary item (cited in Derrida, n.d, p. 1). Derrida (2006, p.2) gives the example of how deconstructive approach applied to analyze text. ‘Essence’ and ‘appearance’ essence is more treasured than appearance. Whereas deconstruction opposites it to be appearance is more treasured than essence.

Additionally, Balkin (1996, p.2) assumed that in the analysis of deconstruction, the analyzer is used to find out what is ignored, not realized, and not obvious in the text. This assumption seems has similarity with the previous statement. Based on Balkin's assumption above it can be mentioned that a researcher who applies deconstructive approach in his/her analysis of a text would like to show what is hidden within the text. For example, a character in novel acts a wise person. Before analyzing this character, a reader may assume that the character is a lovely person that needs to be imitated. However, after analyzing the character by using deconstructive analysis, thus, it may be different. It is because the reader finds other sides that the character has. The finding may be the character is not wise at all but also a dishonest person through the way of the reader thinks and finds the truth in text.

Through its development by the era, deconstructive approach becomes familiar strategy and some researchers get interest to analyze a character in film/movie by using this approach. Castle (2007) mentions that deconstruction becomes a powerful critical device in the analysis of literature, film, and other cultural phenomena since it being applied as a critique of phenomenology (p.82). Besides, deconstruction holds two characteristics. They are literature and philosophy. It is how to deduce text where the discovery is crucial to discover what is concealed within the text which concerned by literature characteristic. Additionally, what philosophy involves is 'metaphysics of presence' where it generates binary opposition that stresses one term is indicated as the more prior term than another (such as presence is prior than absence, speech is prior than

writing, etc.) (cited in Derrida, 1930-2004, p. 3). There is a recent study about *Deconstruction Analysis on Major Female Character in the Film a Destiny of Her Own*. This study has focused on the analysis of a female character's characteristic and relays it by using the concept of deconstruction and feminist (Fadhilah, 2011, p.44).

Nevertheless, this research is quite different than the previous study. It is because it focuses its analysis on single character in a movie. In another point, it applies the deconstructive approach only. Moreover, the selected movie is an American movie that directed by Thomas Bezucha in 2011. Monte Carlo is the title of the movie. It is rolled by Selena Gomes as Cordelia Winthrop Scott and Grace, Katie Cassidy as Emma, and Leighton Meester as Meg. However, the analysis focuses on Cordelia Winthrop Scott. It is caused by the characterization of Cordelia is more fascinating. Even though she has similar shape of face with Grace but she has different characteristic. Grace is a simple good young girl and Cordelia is a rich and little bit arrogant. These part of Cordelia's characteristics, then, make her being marked as more stimulating character to be deconstructed.

In addition, it is more understood by giving example of how deconstruction works. There are some sentences quoted from script of Monte Carlo movie that presents Cordelia's characteristic.

*Emma* : *Mmm!*  
(00:30:52,584 --> 00:30:54,916)  
"Jet-setting heiress Cordelia Winthrop Scott..."  
(00:30:55,520 --> 00:30:56,544)  
**You're an heiress.**  
(00:30:57,021 --> 00:30:59,785)

"...was caught by paparazzi in Reykjavik when she..."  
 (00:31:01,392 --> 00:31:02,381)  
**Oh Escandalo.**  
 (00:31:04,229 --> 00:31:05,924)  
 Grace : What?  
 (00:31:06,030 --> 00:31:08,555)  
 Emma : **Cordelia, you are a bad, bad girl.**  
 (00:31:08,700 --> 00:31:09,894)  
 Meg : Give me that.  
 (00:31:10,001 --> 00:31:11,161)  
 Grace : What did I do?  
 (00:31:12,737 --> 00:31:14,432)  
 Meg : What didn't you do?  
 (00:32:03,988 --> 00:32:05,046)

Based on that conversation Cordelia is marked as a bad girl. It is because Cordelia did a scandal. It is written in bold that Emma said "*Oh Escandalo*" and "*Cordelia you are a bad, bad girl*".

However, by using deconstructive approach Cordelia is a good girl. The reason is Cordelia is an heiress. Such Emma said "*You are an heiress*". Cordelia, thus, with her wealth can help many people under her level through social action. For instance she may donate half of her wealth to build school and hospital.

Hence, this research owns huge power by applying deconstructive approach as the strategy. It is for a reason that deconstructive approach reveals another fact of a character in the movie through the utterance. Moreover, it gives important lessons. It teaches how to discover the hidden meaning within the text. Besides, it instructs to be a smart and critical thinker. It is because by using deconstructive approach not only to find the hidden meaning but also to clarify what has been discovered itself by our own way of thoughts and understanding. Furthermore, for special case by learning this strategy we also can know

something that happens in our lives that never being realized. This becomes the crucial reasons why this research is needed to be conducted.

#### B. Research Question

Based on the basic consideration above, thus, this research raises the following questions:

1. What are the characterizations of Cordelia?
2. How is the deconstructive analysis of Cordelia's characterization?

#### C. Objective of study

The prior aims of this study are

1. To find out the characterization of Cordelia.
2. To deconstruct the characterization of Cordelia.

#### D. Significance of study

Theoretically, this research keeps unbelievable contributions. It can be described into three categories. They are language theory, literary theory and language teaching. The explanation of each will be described clearly as follow.

##### a. Language Theory

Through studying this research would help to understand the study of meaning or semantics. Thomason (2012, p. 1) explains that "semantics is the study of the meaning of linguistics expressions". For example somebody says "I don't want to sing" means that I do not want to sing, but it doesn't mean that I cannot sing. It is very important to be understood, because meaning of a sentence sometimes changes depend on the reader/listener and the context. Take another example, a student tells to

his/her teacher when she/he comes late in the class “My father was sick”.

This sentence can be an apologizing and a statement. It is because in semantics there are two meanings, literal and lexical meaning. It is a literal meaning if it is a statement and it is a lexical meaning if it is an apologizing. A literal meaning is called also a dictionary meaning.

However lexical meaning is a meaning in context.

b. Literary Theory

The phenomena of deconstruction always happen in our real life. However, it is not realized. Often, one may say “I don’t like that girl. She is so wicked” or “I love that girl because she cares”. Explicitly these both statements discriminate one side where a care girl becomes more valuable than a wicked girl. However, deconstruction would change this kind of thought. How could this be? Davis and Schleifer defines that deconstruction is an approach to read a text. Deconstruction also begin its power from a metaphysical order where into binary opposition, one is categorized as ‘more powerful’ or universal item and another is categorized as ‘powerless’ or extraordinary item (cited in Derrida, n.d, p. 1). The binary opposition in those sentences is wicked and care. Based on the previous example the second sentence indicates as the more powerful or more valuable term than the first sentence. In another word, care is privileged over wicked. In deconstruction, it will be reversed to be wicked is privileged than care. It means that wicked can be special one and care can be universal one.

Clearly, it explains us how to judge people around us. It may be possible for someone who is judged as wicked person can be a care person behind and reversely. Unfortunately, if you do not understand about it, that would be the problem. Hence, this research is believed would contribute better lessons for you to learn it. Besides, it teaches how to make judgment for other people in our everyday lives in the right way.

c. Language Teaching

Language teaching is very important to improve teaching and learning quality. This research contributes a learner-centered model of teaching. Instructors may use movie as a media to teach students. The instructors may give students particular title of movie then students are recommended to find out meaning contains in the movie. For an instance, movie of Cinderella is recommended to the students. Then, the instructors give them the script of that movie and highlight the sentence that needs to be worked. For example in Cinderella there is a sentence said by Prince “People like you are my desire”

E. Focus of study

This research excessively maintains the limitation to the deconstructive analysis of the characterization of Cordelia in Monte Carlo movie. It focuses to analyze Cordelia’s real characterization as bad person to be good person by using deconstructive approach.