

## **Chapter I**

### **Introduction**

This chapter presents several subtopics such as (1) *background*, which explain the reason why this study must be taken; (2) *research question*, which shows the problem of this study that will be investigate; (3) *the objective of research*, describes the aim of the study which is related to the research question; and (4) *the significance of research*, draw the effect of this study to the reader that can be seen by several sides; (5) *scope of study*, which tells the limitation of the study that related to the psychoanalytic approach and the structural approach.

### **Background**

Personality is traits that someone is born with, where the traits could define as the types of personality such as extrovert and introvert. Moreover, it can be said that traits is define how the character is like by looking the expression, emotion and thought of someone.

In addition, it is believed that personality traits is a set of behavior that consist of feeling, emotion, and though which originate from the human soul. It is supported by McCrae & Costa (2008) who states “Personality, an enduring pattern of feelings, thoughts, and dispositions, is stable by definition” (as cited in Djikic, Oatley & Carland, 2012, p. 25).

However, there is a theory from Arlow (1995) who proposes “Personality is evolves out the inherent biological factors and the vicissitudes of experience”. It

can be said that an individual's personality is based on two factors such as internal and external factors.

In link to the social life, when people meet an individual for the first time, most of them usually will assess the individual's personality to confirm whether they will keep in touch or not, and also they will make a conclusion about someone's personality whether she/he is a kind person or not. However, people cannot judge an individual's personality based on their perception, because sometimes most people does not realize that their treatment such as words and actions could also influence other's behavior. Therefore, it is important to recognize the factors of someone's personality traits through another point of view.

Furthermore, to assess someone's personality by seeing from other point of view, people need literature as a media to learn/assess an individual's behavior.

Therefore, this study used novel *Tuesdays with Morrie* as the further reference in helping people deeply understand an individual's personality. Related to the issue, this study focuses on Prof. Morrie character.

Morrie Schwartz is a lecturer who has a power to change people's mind about life. Shortly, Morrie is a favorite professor to his students in his sociology class. It is because he always help his students solve their problem and difficulties, even when he is dying, Morrie still listens to everyone who asks for an advice. Overall, Morrie is an amazing lecturer who has a sad childhood and happy future that make Morrie become a wise professor and a caring father.

*Tuesdays with Morrie* novel is explicitly tell about Prof. Morrie's life which written by his special student, named Mitch. Shortly, Mitch has broke his promise to visit Prof. Morrie after graduation day, and one day after sixteen years Mitch and Prof. Morrie meet in every Tuesday to continue the lesson that Mitch yearning for. They were talking about life's problem. An old professor shared his experiences and gave a lesson to Mitch about *death, fear, aging, greed, marriage, family, society, forgiveness and a meaningful life* on their last class.

One of the lesson is how to remove the individual culture and become a lovely person. Literally, Mitch compared his culture and Morrie's on page number 13 with the title *Taking Attendance*. Mitch wrote, "*Morrie has his own culture long before he got sick. Discussion groups, walks with friends, dancing to his music.... He had created a cocoon of human activities; conversation, interaction, and affliction...—*", Where Mitch with his individual culture "*I had also developed my own culture (Work). I did four or five media jobs in England, back to the state.... Over the years, I had taken labor as my companion and had moved everything else to the side—*". The individual culture made Mitch uncomplete running his life, while Morrie with his culture gave a piece of lesson to Mitch Albom.

There are several considerations in choosing the novel *Tuesdays with Morrie* as the source of data: *the first*, this novel tells about a lecturer who has an interesting background, namely Prof. Morrie Schwartz, where the character is a real character. *The second*, due to personality traits, the main character has more than one types of personality with different cause. *The third*, this novel also provides various

features of fundamental principles of personality traits that is related to the research question.

Accordingly, study of personality traits usually does not present the features of personality factors. For example, there is an article which re-published in 2012 with the title "*A study of personality in literary autobiography; an analysis of Thomas Wolfe's look homeward, angel*" written by Rosenberg. This study used self-theoretical comparisons which refers to family and non-family, the result shows that Wolfe viewed his personality development caused by his father. The article above can be used as a reference in drawing someone's personality. In fact, there is still limited study in literary work concerning the issue of personality factors through several features.

Most issue in literary work, especially in the study of personality discuss about the correlation between the writer and the character of one story, or the effect of something to the personality. One of them is study by Maja Djikic, Keith Oatley and Matthew Carland which published by John benjamins publishing company in 2012 formed in an article with the title "*The effect of literature on personality*" through quantitative method. They tried to find out whether the kinds of literature would effect the self-perceived personality traits, and the result showed that the kinds of literature did not effect the variability in personality.

Regarding both articles above, it can be inferred that people usually does not care or aware about the personality factors of someone, whereas it can help people in understanding other's behavior. Therefore, this study puts forward several features of factors/fundamental principles that influence the personality traits of

one character, it specifically concern to Prof. Morrie character in Tuesdays with Morrie novel.

### **Research Question**

1. What are the personality traits of Prof. Morrie?
2. What factors/ fundamental principles of personality that influence Prof. Morrie's personality?

### **Research Objective**

The purpose of this study was to investigate:

1. The personality traits of Prof. Morrie.
2. The factors/ fundamental principles of personality that influence Prof. Morrie's personality.

### **Research significance**

This study can be beneficial to the reader and the researcher in both theoretically and practically. They are described as follow:

#### **Theoretically.**

This study can increase knowledge related to psychoanalytical approach that refers to personality traits. There are several theories that would be beneficial for the further researchers, especially to the students of English Department.

#### **Practically.**

This study can be useful to analyze someone's character whether in daily life or literary work. The theories in this study can help to categorize the personality traits of human, with the result people will know each other in the right way.

Moreover, the object of this study is able to increase the English ability by seeing the utterances and text. Also, this study is able to present a moral value which belongs to the personality traits in human life.

One of the parts which delivers a moral value from Morrie's life can be seen on page number 18, Morrie says "*.....sometimes you cannot believe what you see, you have to believe what you feel, and if you are ever going to have other people trust you, you must feel that you can trust them too—even when you're in the dark, even when you're falling*". The statement above teaches the reader to have a positive way of thinking in life.

### **Scope Of Study**

Study of personality is generally viewed by interview and test, whether in literature or another study. However, this study focuses on investigating Prof. Morrie's character that contains the fundamental principles of personality traits in *Tuesdays with Morrie* novel by using theory of personality (Arlow's theory), where the utterances/statements and the narration of the novel as the sources of data.