**CHAPTER I**

**INTRODUCTION**

This introductory chapter presents the background of the study, formulation of research problem, purpose of the study, and significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, definition of key term, and organization of the study.

1. **Background of the Study**

We are as human being, in our daily life we need to see, hear, and feel something around us. Reading is the way to gets information from written and words. By reading, we can increase our knowledge on the development of the world. Then, literature is reading that, by means of imaginative and artistic qualities, provides pleasure and understanding. Literature introduces us to new world of experience.

Literature is the expression of life in the word of truth and beauty; it is the writer record of man’s spirit of the thought, emotion, and expression. Literature is traditionally described as the body of writing that exists because of inherent imaginative artistic qualities (Luken*,* 2003:3). While Hudson (1965:10) stated that literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it, which have the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us. It is thus fundamentally an expression of life through the medium of language (Husna, 2011:1).

1

Literature has been regarded as human creation to express ideas or thoughts. It has also been regarded as a great treasure. Literature is something that gives pleasure and understanding. It has an aesthetic that can’t be divided and described. It is just like other aesthetic such as music, dance, painting, and movie. Literature is creativity of art, which has beauty aspect like the diction of word, the use of rhythm, and other. Literature is more than a collection of well-written stories or poems.

There are two kinds of literature, fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is a kind of literature that serves the text discusses in the world or imagination, but it is still use rational truth, for example of fiction are poems, novels, stories, and plays. In other hand, non-fiction is the real world. It is based on the fact, experience (real story), research, or analysis of problem, for example newspaper, journal article, text book, editorial and legal document.

Relating to the literary work, the researcher implies the novel to study. The word “novel”, which wasn’t ever used until the end of the 18th century, is an English transliteration of the Italian word “novella”, in used to describe a short, compact, broadly realistic tale popular during the medieval period. Novel is written form in narrative style. The oxford dictionary defines that “novel is a fictitious prose narrative of considerable length, in which character and action representative of real life are portrayed in a ploy more or less complexity”.

Novel is the story. Everyday, people are always find a story in their life. A story can relate to anything, like factual stories, jokes, or just illustration. For readers, novel will be easy to read, because it is used denotative language. In other hand, novel is a story that happens in their daily life. Most novels always include some elements of suspense in the plot. These elements make a reader curious the plot of novel. Therefore, the readers do not stop reading a novel before the story was finished.

Novel is a long narrative work that roots from medieval and early modern romance. Novel is longer (about 40.000 words) and more complex than short story. The difference both novel and short story are the problem that is delivered by writer. Novel is more complex than short story. By reading novel, the reader will found conflicts in around the character’s life. In other hand, novel is presenting value and giving fun and sadness of the characters in the story. Therefore, novel is a literature that tells about episodes of human life (Aziez & Hasim, 2010:8).

Novel presents both entertainment and information to the readers. Entertainment means that the readers will laugh when they are reading humorous part of novel and sad when they are reading grievous part of novel. Further, the next is information. The readers can take the contents of story. It can be meant as science, news, inspiration, etc. From the definition above that novel is able to be an effective media in English teaching learning process.

Novel has some elements; they are plot, character, theme, characterization, and conflict. Plot is the sequence of events showing characters in conflict (Luken, 2003:97). Speaking about plot, we had to mention about character. Character is the “action” in a story. According to Tomlison (2001:25) “characterization is the way an author helps the reader to know a character”. Conflict is a form of interaction in which people (individual or group) perceive themselves as being involved in a struggle over resources or social values. It is essential of literature. The readers will find these elements when they had finished the novel. They are knows the conflict or character of novel after they are read all of novel.

In literary work (for example novel), there are three types of conflicts. The First type is physical conflict. The conflict happens between man and nature. The second is social conflict; it means that one person against another. The last type is internal or physiological conflict is between a character and his/herself or man vs. his/herself.

From the previous research, Binti Ma’rifatul Husna (2011), the researcher conducted the research about conflict that happen in main character from the novel “Officially Dead”. The researcher had found external conflict and internal conflict of a novel. Another research, Jannah (2009), has studied about An Analysis of Main Character’s in Charles Dickens “Oliver Twist”. In this study, she finds out the conflict of the main character in the novel Charles Dickens. Here, the writer discuss about the conflicts faced by main character focusing on psychological, physical, and social conflict. Object novel that used in this study also differs from the previous study.

Conflict always happens in our daily life. If we have a conflict in real life, so novel has it, too. Novel without conflict will be loss of sense. The readers are interesting to read if the conflicts run well. Conflict is the important part of novel. In addition, conflict is very interesting to be analyzed. Because of that, the writer decides to *analyze the conflict of the character in Thomas Hardy’s The Return of the Native.*

In this study, the writer chooses a novel entitle “*The Return of the Native*” written by Thomas Hardy. In this novel the writer find some interesting conflicts that show variety of love expression, such as symbol, act, falling in love, and description’s expression. This novel also has many conflicts experience of the characters in marriages and they are brought into unresolved conflicts until the tragic deaths happen. Moreover, the conflict stories presented are able to make the readers is curious. Unique characterization, antagonist, protagonist that exist among the main character, so that the reader should be able to follow the example of their properties.

Hopefully, this study may give contribution to the students of STAIN Tulungagung, especially to the students of English Department (TBI) as one of literature researches also to the readers.

1. **Formulation of the Research Problem**

Related to the background of the research above, then the writer determines of the research problem of the study in which will be analyzed in this study, they are:

1. What are main character’s physical conflicts?
2. What are main character’s social conflicts?
3. What are main character’s phychological conflicts?
4. How do the main character’s conflicts build the plot of the novel?
5. **Objectives of the Research**
6. To explain the main character’s physical conflict.
7. To explain the main character’s social conflict.
8. To explain the main character’s phychological conflict.
9. To explain main character conflicts build the plot of the novel.
10. **Significance of the Research**

The result of this study is expected to give contribution for the readers and researcher :

1. For the readers

By studying the conflicts of the story on novel *the Return of the Native,* the reader gets the messege from the novel. The novel describes tragic love story among the main character in the return of the native.

The writer hopes that the student of the State College for Islamic Studies (STAIN) Tulungagung and other readers will know about Thomas Hardy work and ideas. Beside that, the writer hopes that from this study of literature the students will be interested in reading and analyzing Thomas Hardy’s work. Generally, this study is expected to give contribution to the improvement knowledge for readers especially for English education program students of STAIN Tulungagung.

1. For the researcher

For the researcher, the result of the study can used as a reference to conduct the study about literature, especially novel focusing on one of the element of literature, particularly conflict.

1. **Scope and Limitation of the Research**

The study of literature, especially novel, covers a lot of aspects. These aspects are plot, theme, character, characterization, and subject matter. In this research, the writer only analyzes one novel entitled “*The Return of The Native*”. Furthermore, the writer of the study limits this study by focusing on one aspect of the novel. That is conflict especially of the main character’s conflict in “The Return of The Native”.

1. **Definition of Key Term**

There are some important terms in this study. Therefore, it is necessary for writer to give the definition of the key terms used in the title. They are:

1. Literature is the expression of life in word of truth and beauty, it is the written record of main spirit of his thought, emotion, aspiration, and it is the history and only history of human soul.
2. Novel is a picture of real life and manners, and of the time in which it was written.
3. Plot is the action of the story.
4. Main character is the main actor or actrees in story. In this study, main character is prominent figure who become focus of this story.
5. Conflict is a conflict is struggle againts opposing forces, occurs when the protagonist againts an antagonist, or opposing force (Luken, 2003:99-100). In this study conflict is a struggle among opposing force.
6. Physical conflict is the conflict in the story that the characters struggle against other external force. In other word, physical conflict is the conflict happens between man and nature.
7. Social conflict is the conflict in the story that the character struggle against another character or may be with environment and it has relationship with social condition.
8. Phychological conflict is the conflict in the story that the characters struggle him/herself. The struggle is to make a decision about love.
9. Thomas Hardy is the author of *The Return of The Native* novel.
10. **Organitation of the Study**

To make better thesis, the researcher arrange this systematically. The study has a title “ An analysis of Conflicts of the Main Character in Thomas Hardy’s the Return of the Native ”. There are divided in 5 chapters:

First chapter : Introduction consists of background of the research, statement of research problems, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, theoretical framework and definition.

Second chapter : Review of related literature covers various theories supporting the research. It presents discussion literature, novel, character, plot, conflict, theme, setting, and conflict analysis.

Third chapter : Research method consists of research design, approach of the study, data and data source, data collection and data analysis.

Fourth chapter : Finding and Discussion

Fifth chapter : Conclusion and Suggestion