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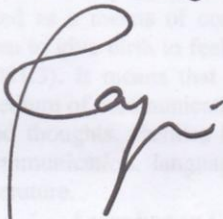
### **ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF “ THE LORD OF THE RING- THE RETURN OF THE KING” A NOVEL BY J.R.R TOLKIEN**

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**ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF “THE LORD OF THE RING- THE RETURN OF THE KING”  
A NOVEL BY J.R.R TOLKIEN**

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**ABSTRAK**

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisa karakter utama dalam novel “*the Lord of the Ring-the Return of the King*” dan untuk mengetahui pengkarakteran karakter-karakter utama dalam novel tersebut. Dalam mengumpulkan data digunakan metode observasi. Untuk menganalisis data digunakan formalist criticism dengan menggunakan teori Guerin (1992). Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah terdapat lima karakter utama dalam novel “*the Lord of the Ring-the Return of the King*”. Mereka adalah Frodo, Aragon, Sam, Gandalf and Gollum dan terdapat beberapa pengkarakteran dari karakter utama yaitu protagonis, antagonis, statik dan dinamik.

**Kata Kunci :** Karakter Utama, Novel, *the Lord of the Ring the Return of the King*

**ABSTRACT**

Purpose of this research was to analyze the main characters in the novel “*the Lord of the Ring-the Return of the King*” and to know the characterization of main characters in the novel. In collecting the data, the researcher used observational method. In analyzing the data, the researcher used formalist criticism based on Guerin (1992). The result of the analysis is: there are five main characters that exist on the novel “*the Lord of the Ring-the Return of the King*”. They are Frodo, Aragon, Sam, Gandalf and Gollum and the characterizations of main characters are protagonist, antagonist, static and dynamic.

**Key words:** Main characters, novel, *the Lord of the Ring the Return of the King*

**INTRODUCTION**

Language is a system of symbols that are meaningful and articulate sound (generated by said tool) that are arbitrary and conventional, which is used as a means of communication by a group of men to give birth to feelings and thoughts (Wibowo, 2001:3). It means that language can be used as a medium of communication to deliver human feelings and thoughts. Besides being used as a medium of communication, language has an important role in literature.

According to Esten (1978: 9) Literature is a form of creative art and the work that the object is a human being and language as the medium. From the definition above, it is clear that literature can not be separated from language, because language is the medium of literature. Human also have an important role in literature, because human are the object of literature.

Based on the distribution of Indonesian literary history, there are two kinds of literature; there are classical literature and modern literature (Rokhmansyah, 2013: 31). He added, novel is included in to modern literature. It consists of roman, popular novels and short stories. In classical literature includes an old prose that includes of folklore, tale, fable, epos, legend, mite, funny story, solace story, sage and pedigree. In this research the researcher focus on novel.

Depdikbud (1989: 618) states that novel is a long essay and prose that contains a series of one's

life story with others around him by accentuating the character and nature of each character. It clear that novel is a kind of literature that is use prose genre. From novel, there is a quality value of the author experience.

There are two components that are contained of a prose or a novel, namely intrinsic and extrinsic components. Intrinsic components are the components that build the literary work itself. The intrinsic components of novel consist of theme, character, plot, setting and point of view. Then extrinsic components of a novel are the components that exist on the outside of the prose itself. The extrinsic components of prose are biography components, psychology components, and the situation of environment and the writer view of life. So, a novel is built by two components namely intrinsic components and extrinsic component.

Based on the researcher's experiences when analyzed the components of a prose or a novel especially in analyzing the main characters of a novel, the researcher got difficulties to find out them. The researcher feels difficult to determine the main character in a novel because the contents of the novel are too long. The researcher got confused to determine the main character on a novel because the researcher do not know the strategy or the theory to find the main character of a story or a novel. The other cause is there are so many characters in a novel, so the researcher got confused to determine which one is the main character.

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Based on the explanation above, the writer interested in analyzing one of the intrinsic components in a kind of literary work. In this research the writer focuses on analyzed the main character in a novel. The writer want to analyze the main character of “*The Lord of the Ring- The Return of the king*” A novel by J.R.R Tolkien.

Concerning to the crisis problems, the purpose of the research were to know the main characters in *The Lord of The Ring- The Return of the king*” A novel by J.R.R Tolkien and to know the characterization of the novel *The Lord of The Ring- The Return of the king*” A novel by J.R.R Tolkien.

## METHODOLOGY

This is a descriptive qualitative research. It was a research design part of qualitative method that allowed the wrier to described a phenomenon by presenting the facts in rich detail without attempted to interpret them. Qualitative research was done without give priority in numbers, but focused on the deep understanding to interaction between concepts that is analyzed (Semi, 2012: 28). It was mean that the qualitative research focuses on the understanding in the concept of the research.

writers who use qualitative research adapted a person- centered and holistic perspective to understand the human experience, without focusing on specific concepts. The original context of the experience is unique, and rich knowledge and insight can be generated in depth to present a lively picture of the participants’ reality and social context. The researcher to described about the main characters of “*The Lord of The Ring- The Return of the king*” A novel by J.R.R Tolkien.

According to Widoyoko (2012:33) collecting the data in the research was intended to get the data, explanation, facts and accurate information. So the purpose of collecting the data was to find the data and to get explanation and information about the research. In collecting data, the researcher used observational method by using non participant observation (Sudaryanto, 1988: 32).

The researcher divided the sources of the data into two types; they were primary data and secondary data. Primary data were found in the stories. The method of collecting data was documentation. The secondary data were the researcher collected the data from internet. The researcher found the same novel and the same author in internet. The researcher also found the data from some references and book in relation to literature and the main character and others to support the subject matter. To get information about analyze fiction, the researcher found some articles from internet that explain about how to analyze fiction. The researcher looked for several books about literature. These can helped the Researcher to analyzed the main

characters in *The Lord of The Ring- The Return of the king*” A novel by J.R.R Tolkien.

After collecting the data, the researcher started to analyzed the data. The researcher analyzed the main characters in *The Lord of The Ring- The Return of the king*” A novel by J.R.R Tolkien by applying Formalist Criticism theory, a theory by Guerin (1996).

The primary method of formalism was a close reading of literary text, with emphasis. Formal analysis of novels and played can also focused on close reading of key passage (the opening and closing chapters of a novel, for example, or the first and last scenes of a play, or a climactic moment in the action of drama, poetry, of fiction). In addition, formalist criticism analyzed the large-scale structures of longer works, looking for patterns and relationship among scenes, actions, and characters. In reporting the analysis, the researcher used descriptive method. It involved the description, analysis and interpretation of condition that exist.

There were several steps in formalistic analysis. Firstly, intensive reading begins with sensitivity to the words of the text and all their denotative and connotative values and implications. An awareness of multiple meanings, even the etymologies of words, as traced in dictionaries will offer significant guidelines to what the work says. Usually educated for most readers is one of the standard collegiate dictionaries.

Secondly, for expanded information on meanings and origins of words, one occasionally may need to checked one of the huge unabridged dictionaries. The next, the researcher must be alert to any allusion to mythology, history, or liteture. Then the last, the writer looked for structures and patterns, interrelation ships, and ideally as intensively. It begin to see relationships of reference (pronouns to nouns, a voice to a speaker, an appositive to a name or place, time to a process, etc.), of grammar ( sentence patterns and their modifiers, parallel words and phrases, agreement of subjects and verbs, etc), of tone (choice of words manner of speaking, attitudes toward subject and audience, etc).

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### The main characters and characterization of main characters

The characters whose appearance was the most frequently appear in the story usually hold the most important part of the story in the novel, and their traits as the center of the action and the theme of the story called main characters. After analyzing the novel “*the Lord of the Ring-The Return of the King*” by using formalist criticism the researcher found that there are five main characters that exist on the novel.

a. Frodo

Frodo was one of the main characters in the novel *"the lord of the ring-the return of the king"*. He always produced a gentle and calm word when talk with others characters and always apologies when make a mistake. He always had responsibility with his task. He was also a forgiveness and sacrificial person. He had a good characterization like humbleness, responsibility, forgiveness and sacrificial. Because of that, Frodo was a protagonist characters. His characterizations were unchanging. Start from the beginning of the story until the end of the story, he has good characterization. Because of that reason, he was static character.

All of the characterization of Frodo was found by the researcher from the novel. Firstly, Frodo is humbleness. This character was found in the novel: *"Well you have now Sam, dear Sam."* Said Frodo, and he lay back in Sam's gentle arms, closing his eyes, like a child at rest when night-fears are driven away by some loved voice or hand. (page 224). The gentle and calm words that Frodo produced when talk with Sam and he also called Sam with word *"dear"* proved that Frodo was a humble person. The researcher knew the characterization of Frodo from choice of word of Frodo and also the voice frequency of Frodo when he was speaking. The other proof of Frodo's character was found in the novel:

*"O Sam!" cried Frodo. "What have I said? What have I done? Forgive me! After all you have done. It is the horrible power of the ring. I wish it had never, never, been found. But don't mind me, Sam. I must carry the burden to the end. It can't be altered. You can't come between me and this doom."*(page:226).

According to Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determine the characterization of the characters is their attitude. The attitude of Frodo above proved that Frodo was humbleness person because he always apologized when made a mistake. The soft words that he produced when apologize to his friend also saw that he was a humble man.

Secondly, Frodo was responsibility. It was found in the novel: *"I can manage it," said Frodo. "I must."*(page:254). Based on Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determined the characterization of the characters is manner of speaking. Frodo's statement and his sentence "I can manage it" and "I must" saw that Frodo was a responsibility person. Especially word *"I must"*, these word indicate that Frodo assume that his duties was a must for him and he has responsibility for it.

The next character of Frodo was forgiveness. Frodo still forgive Gollum even though he had hurt him. He never holds a grudge on his heart. This character was found in the novel:

*"yes" said Frodo. "But do you remember Gandalf,s words. Even Gollum may have something yet to do? But for him, Sam, I could not have destroyed the ring. The quest would Have been in vain, even at the bitter end. So let us forgive him! For the quest is achieved, and now all is over. I am glad you are here with me. Here at the end of all things, Sam."*(page:271).

According to Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determine the characterization of the characters was their choice of word. The conversation above proved that Frodo was very forgiving person. The researcher determined the character of Frodo from the word *"So let us forgive him!"* Forodo still forgive Gollum even thought Gollum had hurt him. The other proof of Frodo's character was found in the novel:

*No, Sam! Do not kill him even now. For he has not hurt me. And in any case I do not wish him to be slain in this evil mood. He was great once, of a noble kind that we should not dare to raise our hands against. He is fallen, and his cure is beyond us; but I would still spare him, in the hope that he may find it."*(page:360)

Frodo's attitude above, proved that Frodo was forgiveness. After the hobbits have retaken the Shire and defeated Saruman, Saruman tries to stab Frodo right in front of Bag End itself. There was a moment when it seems as though Sam or the assembled hobbits might kill Saruman out of sheer rage. But Frodo stepped in and stoped them.

The last character of Frodo was sacrificial. This character was found in the novel: *"Well here we are, just the four of us that started out together. We have left all the rest behind, one after another. It seems almost like a dream that has slowly faded."* "Not to me," said Frodo. "To me it feels more like falling asleep again." (page:332). According to Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determine the characterization of the characters was their choice of word. Frodo's word above proved that he was a person who was willing to sacrifice without ever complaining. The researcher determined the characterization of Frodo from his choice of word. After passing through a long challenging journey, he said that it just felt like falling asleep again. The word *"falling asleep again."* Means that a struggle that carried by Frodo was not a burden to him.

From the explanation above, the writer concluded that Frodo was a kind hobbit. He has the good characters. He was humbleness, responsibility, forgiveness, and sacrificial.

b. Aragon

Same like Frodo, Aragon also one of the main characters in the novel *"the lord of the ring-the return of the king"*. He always showed his gentle attitude when interacted with others characters. He

also had the high spirit of fighting. He had a good characterization like humbleness, healing, brave and he had the high spirit of fighting. Because of that reason Aragon was a protagonist character. His characters were also unchanged in the story. At the beginning of the story he was a kind person. Until the end of the story he still a kind person. because of that, he was a static character.

Aragon was the great king. There are some reasons that make Aragon become a great king. Firstly, Aragon was humbleness. This character was found in the novel: *Then Aragon laid his hand on Merry's head, and passing his hand gently through the brown curls, he touched the eyelids, and called him by name.*(page 173). According to Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determine the characterization of the characters was their attitude. The attitude of Aragon above proved that Aragon was a humble person. He woke Sam with a very gentle way. Although he was a king, but he did not mind to wipe the head of Sam and treat him.

The second, Aragon was a brave man. He has a bravery to take the paths of the dead. He consisted to take the dead paths even though does not have any friends. This character was found in the novel:

*"it is not madness, lady," he answered. "For I go on a path appointed. But those who follow me do so of their free will; and if they wish now to remain and ride with the Rohirrin, they may do so. But I shall take the paths of the dead, alone, if needs be".*(page:63).

According to Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determine the characterization of the characters was the voice of speaker. The loud voice of Aragon when express the sentence *"I shall take the paths of the dead, alone, if needs be"* proved that Aragon was a brave person because he dared to passed the paths of the dead which was very dangerous and no body dared to passed the paths.

The last, Aragon had the high spirit of fighting. His spirit in fighting was never down even though his body was down. He always gave motivation to his friends in fighting. This character was found in the novel:

*Then without turning Aragorn cried aloud so that all could hear: 'Friends, forget your weariness! Ride now, ride! We must come to the Stone of Erech ere this day passes, and long still is the way.' So without looking back they rode the mountain-fields, until they came to a bridge over the growing torrent and found a road that went down into the land.*(page:70).

This paragraph proved that Aragon was a person who has the big spirit and also has the high spirit of fighting. From the voice of Aragon which cried aloud when his friends on his way to the stone of Erech encouraged, it seems that Aragon was a person who had the big spirit and also had the high

spirit of fighting. The exclamation mark on the end of Aragon sentence showed that Aragon so excited to invite his friends to keep fighting.

From the explanation above, the writer concluded that Aragon is a great king. He has the good characters. He is humbleness, healing, brave, and has the high spirit of fighting.

c. Gandalf

Gandalf also includes of the main characters of *"the lord of the ring-the return of the king"* novel. He had the important part on the story because he now a lot about the ring devil that want to destroy. He was also an advisor in the ring bearer group. He had a good characterization like humbleness, had exceptional leadership, and commanding. Because of that, Gandalf was a protagonist character. His characterizations are never change in the story. Because of that he was a static character.

Gandalf was a magician who always uses cloak. It seen on the novel: *Pipin looked from the shelter of Gandalf cloak* (page: 17). On the other part in novel we also find: *"what is that?" cried Pipin suddenly, clutching at Gandalf cloak.* (Page: 2). The description from the author proved that Gandalf always used cloak.

Gandalf was humbleness. He always produced the soft and calm word when talk with an others person. his humbleness character was saw when he soothed Pipin. It was seen in the novel: *"sleep again, and do not be afraid!" Said Gandalf. "For you are not going like Frodo to mordor, but to Minas Tirith, and theretou will be as safe you can be anywhere in these day. If Gondor falls, or the ring is taken, then the Shire will be no refuge".* (page:18).

According to Formalist criticism (Guerin, 1996) one of the indicators to determine the characterization of the characters was manner of speaking. With a soft sentence, Gandalf soothed Pipin. The manner of speaking of Gandalf when soothed Pipin proved that he was a humble person.

Gandalf also had exceptional leadership. It was shown in the novel: *So it was that Gandalf took command of the last defence of the city of Gondor. Where ever he came men's hearts would lift again, and the winged shadows pass from memory* (page:114). He was willing to lead the troops when Denethor not want to lead the troops. It proved that Gandalf had a leadership soul.

The other character of Gandalf was commanding. His character was seeing when he talked with Lord Denethor. He chose the polite word to talked with Lord Denethor even though Denethor speak impolitely. It was seen in the novel:

*"To me it would not seem that a steward who faithfully surrenders his charge is diminished in love or in honour," said Gandalf. "and at the least you shall not rob your son of his choice while his death is still in doubt."*(page:154).

The versatility of Gandalf in the choice of word to respond the vanity of Denethor proved that Gandalf is a commanding person. He did not replay to rant with harsh words anyway. But he chose the gentle and firm words.

From the explanation above, the writer concluded that Gandalf was a good person. He had the good characters such as: humbleness, he had exceptional leadership and commanding person.

d. Sam

Sam Gamgee was Frodo's fellow hobbit and servant. He was a best friend of Frodo who always accompany Frodo to accomplish task. Because of that Sam became the main character on the novel. Sam was a merciful hobbit because Sam loves Frodo very much. He had a good characterization like merciful and also a hero. Because of that, he was a protagonist characters. The characterizations of Sam were unchanging in the story. Because of that he was a static character.

Sam was a merciful hobbit. The merciful character of Sam saw when he found Frodo lying weakly then he crying and hugging Frodo. It was found in the novel: *"Frodo! Mr. Frodo, my dear!" cried Sam, tears almost blinding him. "it's Sam, I've come!" he half lifted his master and hugged him to his breast. Frodo opened his eyes. (Page:223).* The event proved that Sam was a merciful person because he loves Frodo very much. He seems very happy when met with Frodo again. The writer determined the characterization of Sam his voice fluency. He pronounced the words with a very softly. The big love of Sam to Frodo was found in the novel:

*"Come Mr. Frodo!" he cried. "I can't carry it for you, but I can carry you and it as well. So up you get! Come on Mr. Frodo dear! Sam will give you a ride. Just tell him where to go, and he'll go" (page: 262).*

Because of the big love of Sam to Frodo, he was willing to carry Frodo to climb the death mountain. The attitude of Sam above proved that Sam was a merciful person.

Like Frodo, Sam also a hero. It was found in the novel: *"Look out!" cried Sam. "he'll spring!" He stepped forward, brandishing his sword. "Quick, master!" he gasped. "Go on! Go on! No time to lose. I'll deal with him. Go on!" (page:226).* Sam also has the important part in the mission to destroy the ring. It was seen when Sam struggled against Gollum. The attitude of Sam above proved that Sam was a hero.

From the explanation above, the writer concluded that Sam is a friendly hobbit. He had the good characters such as: merciful and also a hero.

e. Gollum

Gollum was one of the main characters on the novel *"the lord of the ring-the return of the king"* because he was the owner of the ring before

Bilbo. He was also has the important part in destroying the ring, because of he, the ring can be destroyed. He had a bad characterization like greedy and arrogant. Because of that he was a antagonist character. His characterization was change. At the beginning of the story, he was an ordinary hobbit. But after controlling by the power of the Ring, he turned into a greedy person. Because of that Gollum was a dynamic character.

Gollum was the figure of the greedy who want to have a ring for himself. He bite off Frodo's finger in an effort to get the Ring and then fell into the volcano and dies just as he thought he had regained his Precious. This character was found in the novel:

*"Precious, precious, precious!" Gollum cried. "My precious!" spasiand with that, even as his eyes were lifted unto gloat on his spasi prize, he stepped too far, toppled, wavered for a moment on the spasi brink, and then with a shriek he fell. Out of the depths came spasi his last wail precious and he was gone (page:269:*

His attitude in the novel saw that Gollum was a greedy person. He always does the bad way to have a ring for himself. He bite off Frodo's finger in an effort to get the ring and then fell into the volcano and dies just as he thought he had regained his precious.

From the explanation above, the writer concluded that Gollum was not a kind person. He had the bad character. He was a greedy person.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

After doing this research, based on the formalism theory by Guerin (1996), the writer found that there were five main characters that exist on the novel *"the lord of the ring-the return of the king"*. They were Frodo the hobbit, Sam the hobbit, the king Aragon, Gandalf, and Gollum.

By applying the formalist criticism theory, the researcher also found the characterization of the main characters on the novel *"the lord of the ring-the return of the king"*. Start from the king Aragon. In the story, the researcher found that the characterizations of Aragon were protagonist and static. The next character was Frodo. The characterizations of Frodo were protagonist and static. Then the next was Sam. Sam Gamgee was Frodo's fellow hobbit and servant. The researcher found that Sam had protagonist and static characterization. The other main characters was Gandalf. He was a protagonist and static character. The last main character was Gollum. The writerer found that the characterizations of Gollum were antagonist and dynamic.

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