

ANALYZING FOUR IDENTITY STATUS on SAIKAKU'S SHORT STORY "TWO OLD CHERRY TREES STILL in BLOOM" to ENHANCE CRITICAL READING

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ABSTRAK

Cerpen bisa menjadi media untuk mengajarkan sesuatu kepada pembacanya. "Dua pohon sakura tua yang masih mekar" misalnya, ditulis oleh Saikaku. Melalui karyanya, Saikaku ingin menunjukkan kepada pembaca tentang penerapan 4 status identitas. Dia membawa pembaca ke dalam bacaan kritis untuk membantu mereka menemukan identitas. Untuk menganalisis 4 konten status identitas dalam cerpennya, digunakan analisis pengkodean. Dari hasil analisis dapat diketahui bahwa 4 kategori status identitas yaitu difusi identitas, penyitaan identitas, moratorium identitas, dan pencapaian identitas. Setiap status memiliki dua kode yaitu ketidakpastian dan ketidaktahuan dalam penyebaran identitas, kekaguman dan simpati dalam penyitaan identitas, perjuangan dan pengejaran dalam moratorium identitas, dan penetapan dan penyelesaian dalam pencapaian identitas. Melalui analisis, Saikaku menunjukkan kepada pembaca bahwa untuk menyelaraskan diri sebagai individu dan anggota masyarakat, seseorang perlu menumbuhkan rasa ingin tahunya melalui penerapan moratorium identitas untuk memenuhi kurangnya latar belakang pengetahuannya. Selain itu, mengembangkan rasa cinta sangat penting untuk membuat seseorang dengan menggali sesuatu melalui penyitaan identitas untuk mencapai tujuan akhir hidup.

Kata kunci: difusi identitas, penyitaan identitas, moratorium identitas, pencapaian identitas, pembentukan identitas, status identitas

ABSTRACT

The short story could be the media to teach something to the readers. "Two old cherry trees still in bloom" for example, is written by Saikaku. Through his work, Saikaku would like to show the readers about the implementation of 4 identity-statuses. He brought the readers into critical reading to help them find the identity. To analyze the 4 identity status content in his short story, the coding analysis was used. By analyzing, it could be seen that 4 identity-status categories comprise identity diffusion, identity foreclosure, identity moratorium, and identity achievement. Each status has two codes like uncertainty and unknown in identity diffusion, admiration and sympathy in identity foreclosure, struggle and chasing in identity moratorium, and settle and completion in identity achievement. Through the analysis, Saikaku shows the readers that to harmonize oneself as an individual and community member, someone needs to develop his curiosity through implementing identity moratorium to satisfy his lacking of background knowledge.

Moreover, developing a sense of love is very essential to keep someone digging something out sufficiently through identity foreclosure to reach the ultimate goal of life.

Keywords: *identity diffusion, identity foreclosure, identity moratorium, identity achievement, identity formation, identity status*

A. INTRODUCTION

In daily life, we often face some stimulus triggered by our response to interacting with each other (Nunan, 2004). It is a kind of process which involves our feeling, thoughts, memories, and sensation to adopt into the environment. This kind of thing is so-called consciousness. It happens in each step of individual or social interaction. It reflects our intention to do something in order. To achieve the success of interaction, people develop their speaking. It is a way to produce and receive information (Koşar&Bedir, 2014).

Thus, to anticipate the failure of doing something, we need to plan it rigorously. People need to think about the steps they need to accomplish their plans. Some efforts need to be enhanced to solve some probable obstacles. They need to think of their consciousness. The capability of implementing consciousness in daily life is very important. It could lead people to gain the intended result successfully (Chang, 2008).

The people especially youngsters tend to search for their personal and social identity through some activities. The involvement in the inappropriate way of life could lead them into trouble. They need a good role model to copy with to reach their success in gaining their identity achievement. Crocetti (2018) found that the role of personal and social identity is an important part of the process of identity formation to prepare someone to get involved in real life. This kind of findings is used by an individual for personal and social adjustment and inclusiveness.

Nevertheless, to build identity formation people need to develop some categories. It is the thing that did not mention in Crocetti's (2018) research. Implementing the identity formation categories could enhance the success of each member of the society to interact with each other. To see the implementation of these categories, this research needs to focus on the right path. To satisfy that kind of aim, a research question needs to be answered. It is "how is the identity of formation categories implemented on "Two old cherry trees still in bloom"?"

Analyzing a text is very important for the students to develop their critical thought. Using a short story to see the implication of the four categories in forming the identity helps the students to develop their perspective to analyze the author's work. They can see that such categories work in the flow of the story (Aldisert et. al., 2007). It is a way to understand the context critically (Bowden & Marton, 2000). This process is the representation of real life. It can help the students to comprehend the input found in the text to develop it into life.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

People who live in a community have some regulations to obey. It is about adapting behavior to the norms of a culture or society. It is not written clearly but every member of the community knows it very well. They keep it, as a rule, to live up (Fjellvang, 2011).

This kind of form is the so-called socialization. Hanging out and meeting friends or people or the process of making social is also considered as socialization. The interaction among people is interfered with by the input from the media and the family members. It could build their background knowledge to enhance the success of interaction (Schadler, 2016).

The adolescents and parents are the primary actors. The parents treat their children differently. The way to dress up, for example, is directed differently among the boys and the girls (Corsaro, 2005). Delivering sentences toward the wrongdoers would be adapted as the consequence of committing violations. It is the way to implement the rule to keep the balance of living in a society. To satisfy the need for proper manners, the parents and the member of society need to share the value in everyday life (Basu, 2017).

Someone has different characteristics from one person to the other. This kind of uniqueness is the so-called self. The Self determines who and what we are among the members of the community. Self could be seen through the way one's involvement with other people in the environment. Gathering selves in a group of people would enrich the color of differences to build the development of society. It enables people to solve any problem from different angles of perspective (Klein, 1993).

Indeed, self appears in the existence plays a separate role in the real-life, and shows the distinct status in the environment creates Identity. Identity internalizes in the social position to live up the community. The identities in the group of people could set the agreement on how to interact with each other and develop the society to sustain the life span (Lahire, 2002). It is a kind of rule that exists in society to engage the harmony of life. It helps the member of society to build the progress of the comfort of life (Barad, 2007).

The presence of self in a new group of people develops into an individual. The Self interacts one to another to construct the development of a society. It will interfere with the progress of the community by plunging its role as a personal identity and social identity. Each individual will depend on the others to sustain the life span. This kind of circle creates a society. In a society, the individual interacts with another biologically and psychologically. Society serves individuals to maintain the growth of life (Hosain, 2014)

Personal identity refers to self-categories which define the individual as a unique person in terms of their individual differences from other (ingroup) persons. Social identity refers to social categorizations of self and others, self-categories which define the individual in terms of his or her shared similarities with members of certain social categories in contrast to other social categories. This kind of thing empowers each individual to develop his potential in his field (Turner, 1994).

To achieve a mature identity, people experience four identity statuses: identity diffusion; identity foreclosure; identity moratorium; and identity achievement. There is a person who grows up in a circle of family. His ideas or thoughts are developed by the parents' nursing. This kind of person will experience textbook behavior. He does not know the extended knowledge out of his home. This person experienced identity diffusion. Nevertheless, some people sometimes idolize someone without searching for their personal background. He copies the way he speaks, walks, argues, and so forth. He is often trapped with the things he does not like but forces himself to do. This kind of phenomenon is the so-called identity foreclosure.

On the other hand, someone especially the adolescent is searching for who he is. He will do any kind of activity to fit with his talent. He keeps searching for the one which satisfies his intention. He often joins one activity to another in society (Eaves et al.,

2008). This person in the step of identity moratorium. In searching for self, someone experiences identity moratorium. After getting involved himself in searching, he finally finds the one fit with his self. It is the point he develops until the rest of his life. It is identity achievement (Kasinath, 2013).

C. METHOD

The short story "two old cherry trees still in bloom" written by Saikaku is the data to analyze. The research is to analyze the identity statuses found in it. This short story could be read on <https://lostgayfiction.wordpress.com/2014/07/23/two-old-cherry-trees-still-in-bloom-by-saikaku-ihara/#more-367>. To meet the goal of the research, coding analysis is to use for the data analysis. Some steps are done to complete the process. The first step is determining identity-statuses like identity diffusion; identity foreclosure; identity moratorium; and identity achievement. To do the rigorous analysis, some subcategories are also made. They will be used to make the analysis clearer. Each status, however, is filled out with the appropriate data found in the short story. It is the data that will be used to analyze to meet the purpose of the study.

D. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After reading the short story, the data was classified based on the category. On the classification, the numbers of lines were put where the data was to ease the analysis. The table of classification could be seen below:

Category: Identity status

1. Subcategory 1: Identity diffusion

Table 1

No	Data	Lines
1	His old companion watched him and thought, "Ah, the ravages of time!"	20-21
2	At first glance, one would have taken them for a couple of holy religious companions praying together for salvation, but the truth was somewhat different.	28-29
3	Someone unaware of Mondo's reasons for doing this could hardly have imagined the truth.	52-53
4	The heavens themselves are inebriated, and the ground echoes with drunken footsteps.	68-69
5	If it sounded like a woman, however, they locked the door and sat inside, silent and depressed.	71-72
6	"I wish we had friends in the area," one said. "We could have them prepare some tea for us and visit until evening, then borrow umbrellas and go home. Or, depending on how things went, maybe we could stay for dinner. But I cannot think of anyone here I know."	76-78

2. Subcategory 2: Identity foreclosure

Table 2

No	Data	Lines
1	Affectionately, he massaged the man's bony spine. He was grieved by the wrinkles below the man's waist and soon sank into tearful sobs.	20-21
2	"Seeing how this body of yours has changed reminded me of that poem. How sad to think that not so long ago we sang songs and played games together . . ."	25-26
3	In the midst of their ever-increasing love, another man became enamored of Mondo and was unable to cease his yearning for the boy. Like the "fire cherries" of Mt. Kamado, there were those who fanned the flames of this man's passion.	36-38
4	Mondo was now 63 and Han'emon 66. Their love for each other had not changed since the days of their youth; neither of them had ever gazed at a woman's face in his life.	43-44
5	Han'emon still thought of Mondo as a boy of sixteen. Though his hair was thinning and had turned completely white, Mondo sprinkled it with "Blossom Dew" hair oil and bound it up in a double-folded topknot anyway. (A strange sight, indeed!)	47-49
6	There was no sign that he had ever shaved his temples; he still had the rounded hairline he was born with. He followed the daily rituals of his youth, polishing his teeth with a tufted toothpick and carefully plucking his whiskers.	49-52
7	Sometimes, a daimyo will love one of his pages deeply and, even after the boy has grown up and established a family, will be unable to forget his youthful charms. This is praiseworthy.	54-56
8	From inside their house the two old men could distinguish between footsteps of men and women. If it sounded like a man, they rushed out to get a look in hopes that it would be a handsome youth.	69-71

3. Subcategory 3: Identity moratorium

Table 3

No	Data	Lines
1	his hemp kimono was soaked with sweat and he felt too listless even to stir up a breeze with his fan	18-19
2	It makes one realize what a distinctly different flavor the way of boy love possesses compared to the love of women. A woman is a creature of temporary interest to men, whereas the attraction of a youth is impossible to comprehend unless one experiences this way of love oneself.	54-59
3	On the contrary, they would encourage the husband by pressing their faces against the wall and shouting, "Beat her to death, mister, and replace her with a sandal boy!" It was most amusing.	64-66

4. Subcategory 4: Identity achievement

Table 4

No	Data	Lines
1	His only companion day in and day out was an old man of about the same age, his partner in games of go. A spotted Pekinese was his only other companion. No one ever came by even for brief visits.	15-17
2	so the old man hurried the arrival of evening with an early bath and began washing the sweat from his body	19-20
3	They held hands and lamented until the bath water turned cold.	26-27
4	It seems that they were samurai born long ago in the castle town of Chikuzen. One was called Tamashima Mondo.	29-30
5	In his youth, his beauty could kill birds on the wing and was so remarkable that people who saw him took him for one of the famed Hakata courtesans. The other was Toyoda Han'emon, a man skilled in swordsmanship. He fell in love with Mondo in his youth, and the boy responded to his attentions. Mondo was sixteen, Han'emon nineteen when they made fast their bond of love, like the connecting strand of Umi-no-nakamichi.	30-35
6	The two sides finally agreed to a duel. They met at the Bridge of Happiness (happily, it was a dark night) where Mondo and Han'emon cleanly dispatched the suitor and his entire entourage of swordsmen. That night, they stole through the Konomaru checkpoint, boarded a boat at the "Bay of Floating Fortunes," and shrank from the eyes of society to seclude themselves here.	38-42
7	Having lived together all these years, they truly deserved to be emulated as models of the ways of love for all who love boys.	44-46
8	Repulsed by the vulgar ways of women there two old men refused even to exchange coals with the neighbor lady to the east, although they ostensibly remained part of the society around them.	60-62
9	When in the normal course of things quarrels erupted between the husband and wife next door and even pots and pans were being thrown around, the two old men made it none of their business to step in and attempt to reconcile them.	62-64
10	Cherry blossoms bring people to the hills of Ueno in the third month. At this time the fine sake from Ikeda, Itami, and Kōnoike is always sold out.	67-68
11	She was a cocky sort and pushed the door open slightly to peek inside. The moment he saw her face, Han'emon grabbed a nearby broom and rushed out in a fury. "Such filth! Disgusting! Get out of here!" Roughly, he chased them out into the rain.	79-82
12	Afterwards, he spread dry sand where they stepped and swept the area clean four or five times. Then he scattered salt water to purify the ground.	83-85

They say a big city like Edo has everything, but I had never seen such a woman-hater.

Furthermore, determining the kind of codes by analyzing the data line by line is discussed. The analysis of the data could be seen below:

1. Subcategory 1: Identity Diffusion

a. Code1: Unknown

b. Code2: Uncertainty

Table 5

No	Analysis	Code
1	The expression "Ah, the ravages of time!" is showing that the speaker thinks about the uncertainty of the condition. He assumes that the condition needs help to cope with. The condition involved somebody who got in trouble. It could be seen on "His old companion watched him and thought." The pronoun "his and him" represent someone the speaker concerns with.	Uncertainty
2	The statement "but the truth was somewhat different." shows the knowledge gap activity. It seems that there is something needs to be known by somebody else. There could be some information that would clarify what actually happened.	Unknown
3	The sentence "Someone unaware" indicates that there is something that buried by something seen. The condition that happens on the spot deceives somebody else who sees the action.	Unknown
4	The situation described by the notion "the ground echoes with drunken footsteps." Shows that it is questionable. Nobody knows who steps close to the listener whether it is a man or woman.	Uncertainty
5	The description of the story on line 71-72 starts with "If it sounded like a woman." Show the information gap activity. The word "if" emphasizes the missing information. It needs vivid information to confirm the condition.	Unknown
6	Inline 78 we could see a sentence "But I cannot think of anyone here I know." It is clear that the speaker knows nothing of something she needs to know. She does not have any information at all.	Unkwown

2. Subcategory2: Identity Foreclosure

a. Code1: Symphaty

b. Code2: Admiration

Table 6

No	Analysis	Code
1	Admiring someone sounds great. It provokes the deep sympathy when the one we love experiences misery. This kind of phenomenon could be seen in the sentence "He was grieved by the wrinkles below the man's waist and soon sank into tearful sobs." It describes how deep the romanticism is.	Sympathy.
2	The past memory reminds someone toward some nice or bad experience. The memorable romantic event is deeply meaningful for the person belongs to it. The sentence "How sad to think that not so long ago we sang songs and played games together" is talking about the very close relationship between the two people. It happens due to the deep admiration between them.	Admiration
3	The expression "another man became enamored of Mondo and was unable to cease his yearning for the boy." Is emphasizing the intention of admiration. the words enamor and yearn represent how deep the level of admiration.	Admiration
4	The expression "Their love for each other had not changed since the days of their youth." is the form of lasting love. It indicates the deep admiration between the two people. The tie between them is very strong. This admiration is the most powerful feeling to sustain their love.	Admiration
5	On the sentence "Han'emon still thought of Mondo as a boy of sixteen." is reflecting the memorable impression. Han'emon was impressed by Mondo's performance in his sixteen. The beauty of the memory was kept in the deep of Han's thoughts. It seems that it is true love.	Sympathy
6	Paying much attention to somebody is indicating to fall in love. Mentioning the thing he does, in particular, is amusing. It happens to the expression on "He followed the daily rituals of his youth, polishing his teeth with a tufted toothpick and carefully plucking his whiskers." The beauty of the description is reflecting the depth of love.	Sympathy
7	The expression on "even after the boy has grown up and established a family, will be unable to forget his youthful charms." shows that love is not able to be abolished. The presence of love in the heart is unreplaceable. The beauty of the first impression is deeply anchored in the deep of heart.	Admiration
8	The admiration toward something could be the endless chasing. It would be the inspiration to live up a beautiful memory. On the expression "they rushed out to get a look in hopes that it would be a handsome youth." It seems that the youth as a symbol of their memorable sympathy. They tried to chase the youth anytime and anywhere to regain a lasting impression.	Admiration

3. Subcategory 3: Identity Moratorium**a. Code1: Struggle****b. Code2: Chasing****Table 7**

No	Analysis	Code
1	Trying to do something to satisfy the desirable thing is sometimes challenging. It could be seen in the text "his hemp kimono was soaked with sweat and he felt too listless even to stir up a breeze with his fan." It shows how tired he was. It is the form of struggle. Keep doing something to a better condition.	Struggle
2	Chasing some desirable things takes time. Repeating to do something to reach the satisfaction is worthy. The cost of the effort is satisfactory. This condition could be found on "whereas the attraction of youth is impossible to comprehend unless one experiences this way of loving oneself." It seems that it is an endless chasing.	Chasing
3	Meeting the satisfaction is forever. Someone will try to do anything again and again to reach the goal. He will do it when the environment permits like seen on "they would encourage the husband by pressing their faces against the wall and shouting." The opportunity is for somebody else. By supporting him to complete the action, he could feel a sense of action.	Struggle

4. Subcategory 4: Identity Achievement**a. Code1: Settle****b. Code2: Completion****Table 8**

No	Analysis	Code
1	By focusing on "His only companion day in and day out was an old man of about the same age, his partner in games of go." I could see the result of something. It seems that they had been settled. It could be seen clearly on the expression "His only companion day in and day out was an old man of about the same age." They reach on the condition that they feel comfortable with each other.	Settle
2	It takes some time to complete something. The end of completion is the last step of the series. This process could be seen on "so the old man hurried the arrival of the evening with an early bath and began washing the sweat from his body." It describes the last step of the series of activities. The word "sweat" leads to the result of doing something. So, the word "washing" is an intention to end the previous activity.	Completion
3	Ending up the series of activity happens on "they held hands and lamented until the bathwater turned cold." The ending of the activity is clearly seen in the expression "until the	Completion

	bathwater turned cold." It is the last step of the series of activities. It is the top session of the evidence.	
4	The state of something could be the last position it is set up. It is the result of the arrangement. It could be seen on "they were samurai born long ago in the castle town of Chikuzen. One was called Tamashima Mondo." It states that the two things are there to adorn the room. It is the last setting. There is no replacement.	Settle
5	The result of the series of evidence happens on "in his youth, his beauty could kill birds on the wing and be so He fell in love with Mondo in his youth, and the boy responded to his attentions." This kind of result could be seen clearly on "and the boy responded to his attentions." The word "responded" indicates the last point to end up the process.	Completion
6	The end of the process is the result of the event. Reaching the last effort is ending up the steps experienced by someone. It is seen clearly on "boarded a boat at the "Bay of Floating Fortunes." It means that by boarding the boat, he stops his previous process of the activity.	Completion
7	Settling upon a certain place in the form of accomplishment. It is a kind of way to end up a series of the journey. To settle means the ending of moving like seen on "Having lived together all these years." It is the last session of the process of moving. They live together and starting a new step.	Settle
8	An expression could be seen as a result of beliefs. It is very difficult to interfere with another point of view. Someone with his beliefs keeps his thoughts to be on its path. It is clearly stated on "Repulsed by the vulgar ways of women there two old men refused even to exchange coals with the neighbor lady to the east." The two men here have strongly believed that they do not want to share life with their female neighbors. It is the point to emphasize their last point of view.	Completion
9	From the expression: "the two old men made it none of their business to step in and attempt to reconcile them." describe the determination of people. It seems that the two men have reached their ultimate thoughts about coping problems with others. They do not want to get involved any further with others. They wanted to internalize their thoughts with the environment very well.	Completion
10	From the text "Cherry blossoms bring people to the hills of Ueno in the third month. At this time the fine sake from Ikeda, Itami, and Kōnoike is always sold out." It could be seen that it is the result of some previous process. The cherry blooms and the people celebrate it. It is a kind of tradition happens on the hill. It is set up after a certain period of the process. It finally becomes the top of achievement.	Settle

11	The expression "The moment he saw her face, Han'emon grabbed a nearby broom and rushed out in a fury." shows the reflection of determination. It seems that there is something irritates him. It is concerning about his thoughts. There might be a thing that provokes his dislike. The form of dislike is built in his mind through some process. This kind of thought is the final achievement in his life at the moment.	Completion
12	By reading on "They say a big city like Edo has everything, but I had never seen such a woman-hater." I could say that this condition is reflecting a characteristic of someone. It is still about the beliefs he built in his mind. These might be some process lead to building such a kind of condition. It is as his ultimate thoughts in his life.	Settle

After getting and analyzing the data, it could be drawn some points. The points are about the findings to satisfy the goal of this research. The description of the points could be seen in the following.

1. Subcategory1: Identity Diffusion

a. Code1: Unknown (4)

b. Code2: Uncertainty (2)

The two codes unknown and uncertainty are categorized as Identity diffusion. These two codes are lack of background knowledge of the thing discussed. The unknown shows no background knowledge at all. On the other hand, uncertainty is the lack of sufficient background knowledge to decide something. The unknown places on a higher level than the uncertainty. It seems that the writer would like to show that the process of identity formation starts with identity diffusion. Although the number of codes is different, they have the same subcategory Identity diffusion.

2. Subcategory 2: Identity Foreclosure

a. Code1: Sympathy (3)

b. Code2: Admiration (5)

In the subcategory identity forecloser could be seen two codes: sympathy and admiration. Sympathy means affection caused by paying attention to misery. Without the misery trigger, someone never gets involved in sympathy. On the other hand, admiration is almost similar to sympathy but with admiration, someone could feel the affection deeply. It means that admiration is caused by feeling likeness. The level of admiration is higher than sympathy. It means that the writer would like to show that love is much better than misery. Nevertheless, the writer would like to confirm that after involving the characters with the diffusion, he plunged them into another step. It is chasing the desire to build dependent affection.

3. Subcategory 3: Identity Moratorium**a. Code1: Struggle (2)****b. Code2: Chasing (1)**

To show the process to gain the goal of life, the writer put the identity moratorium in his short story. There are two codes here: struggle and chasing. In the struggle, the characters keep doing the effort to reach the intention. They did it by any means. On the other hand, they also keep chasing the desirable thing. They did it with great pleasure. Nevertheless, the writer put the struggle on a higher level than the chasing. It means that the effort of gaining success is much more important to build the final goal of life. By implementing the two codes, the writer would like to emphasize that keep doing something to reach the intention is very important rather than waiting for the miracle from heaven.

4. Subcategory 4: Identity Achievement**a. Code1: Settle (5)****b. Code2: Completion (7)**

To complete the flow of the story, the writer accomplishes it with the last identity status. It is identity achievement. There are two codes found in this story. They are settle and completed. The codes show the ultimate goal of certain efforts. For the first code, settle means that the efforts meet the goal to get a comfortable place to live in. It is a kind of reaching identity achievement. On the other side, another code completion means that the efforts could satisfy the final action. It is a kind of completion to reach the goal of the activity. From the two codes, the writer put the completion on a higher level than the settle. It means that he would like to emphasize that each planned activity should reach a satisfying result.

The analysis above meets the goal of this research by stating that Saikaku through his short story suggests the readers to concern about each step of movement to gain success by implementing four identity statuses. He gives a vivid example of cause and effect through the role of the characters in his story. He exposed the implementation of each status clearly by emphasizing the curiosity, keeping struggle, developing affection, and forming the final goal.

All the findings above could be a reference for Crocetti to complete her research. she was implementing personal and social identity to help others organize their life in a community or as an individual. Moreover, the implementation of the 4 identity statuses could be found in Saikaku's short story. Those statuses also concern the points of personal and social identities.

This kind of activity helps the students understand the author's intention. They can relate their background knowledge with the content of the text. It leads the students to critical reading. They could criticize the author thought by analyzing each word (Bowden & Marton, 2000). They could strengthen the theory they read to implement it into real life. They could mirror their life with the flow of the story (Aldisert, et. al., 2007).

E. CONCLUSION

Saikaku in his short story "Two old cherry trees still in bloom" would like to educate the readers by implementing 4 identity statuses: identity diffusion; identity foreclosure; identity moratorium; and identity achievement through the characters he creates. These statuses are to form identity formation. By implementing the benefit of the four status in a short story, he would like to invite the readers how the personal and social identity process to gain harmony of life as an individual and a member of society. He invites the reader into critical reading. Through his work, Saikaku emphasizes the importance of keeping searching the components to meet the goal as parts of fulfilling the lack of background knowledge. Moreover, provoking the admiration of others or things is essential for anyone to keep the curiosity up to gain the achievement.

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