

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1 Structuralism Approach**

Structuralism is one approach in the study of literature analysis. “Structuralism claims that the nature of every element in any given situation has no significance by itself, and in fact is determined by its relationship to all the other elements involved in that situation.” (Hawkes, 2004). According to Barry (2002), structuralism is an approach that became apparent in France in the 1950s and has always been associated with Claude Levi-Strauss and Roland Barthes because it is believed to have been first seen in their work. Barry (2002) also mentioned that structuralism is an approach that believes that all things cannot be seen or understood separately, but must be seen in a wider context.

Structuralism is a way of seeing the meaning of a literary work from what is seen or what is often referred to a critical analysis that involves deeply and structured intrinsic elements in a literary work. Barry (2002) explained in his book that Ferdinand de Saussure, who was a developer in the language approach, made three statements about structuralism. The first is that every word spoken is purely arbitrary. The second is that the meaning of words is relational, which means that they are related to each other and cannot be separated. The last is the language that forms our world, which is related to a meaning that is always associated by human

thought that is formed and spoken through language. From these three things, it can be concluded that Saussure concludes that the three points about arbitrary, relational, and constitutive language have an effect on structuralism on the grounds that they are related to one another.

Structuralism focused on exploring the hidden meaning behind the language or text with a structured criticism pattern that focuses on certain analytical criticisms. Hawkes (2004) added in his book that the basis of structuralism is thinking about something related to the perception and description of its structure. This concluded that some experts have one understanding that structuralism is an approach that looks beyond the visible and the understanding of things cannot be seen in isolation. Reading literature according to Greimas is a narrative structure which can analyze all literary works as a whole without a certain focus on a genre. Reading literary works with Greimas' narrative structure also examines each character in a literary work in more detail from the beginning to the end of the story. Greimas carried out the analysis process through this structuralism approach, which has several processes which will be described below.

### **2.1.1 Actantial Model**

Actantial model is a theory of narrative structure proposed by Greimas. Actantial model theory also used the theoretical basis of Vladimir Propp who is a folklorist from Russia. According to Greimas (1984), this theory is generally applied in analyzing literary works such as drama. This theory is usually used for plot analysis of a story. The purpose of this theory is to get a deeper structure from a literary work. The actantial model is related to the structuralism approach because

this theory looks at things from a more in-depth perspective. There are several processes that have to follow in order to find the actantial model that contains sequence, actantial scheme, functional scheme, and semiotic square. The first process is to determine the sequences found in the data source, which is followed by determining the actantial schema, functional schema, and semiotic square.

a. Sequence

Sequences are the stages of events that occur in a data to be analyzed. In a sequence, there is usually a beginning, a middle story, and an ending in a literary work. The sequence also usually attaches the place or time of the incident. Greimas (1984) related the sequence in the early analysis to make clear a storyline from a literary work. Sequence based on Greimas (1984) focus on the storyline which is reprocessed by the researcher which produces a storyline from the researcher's point of view that will facilitate research. However, all the existing results are still within the scope that is no different from the original. In this research, "Othello" drama is a literary work that is used and will divide the story into several sequences.

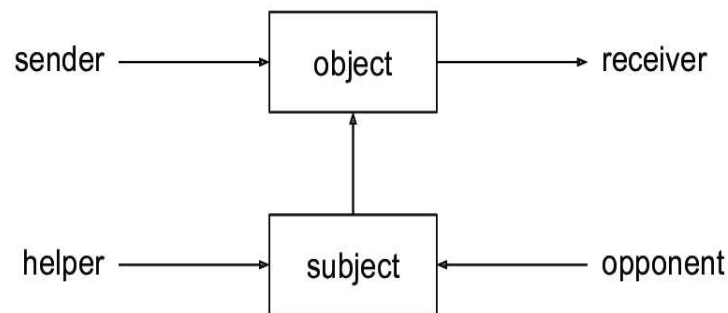
b. Actantial scheme

Actantial schema is a schema applied to narrative analysis in the theory of A. J. Greimas. Actantial schema is a theory used to analyze an action in a literary work. Actantial schema analysis will assign the result of an action to one of the actantial classes. Hebert & Desmedt (2011) in their article also explained that basically every action can be explained by at least one actantial schema.

An action to be analyzed will be included in the actantial class. Hebert & Desmedt (2011) stated that the class of actants based on Greimas was divided into

6 actants which will be further divided into 3 axes, axis of power, desire, and knowledge. Greimas divided 6 actants into three pairs, namely subject-object, helper-opponent, and sender-receiver, which have the following roles:

1. Subject is an actant which is the main character who wants to own the object and has an agreement with the sender.
2. Object is an actant that the subject wants.
3. Helper is an actant which helps the subject to get the object.
4. Opponent is an actant which try to block the subject's path to get the object.
5. Sender is an actant which has a desire and is a story mover. The sender specifies the object to be searched for.
6. Receiver is an actant which accepts an object which is the result of the subject's struggle.



**Figure 2. 1** Actantial Scheme

c. Functional scheme

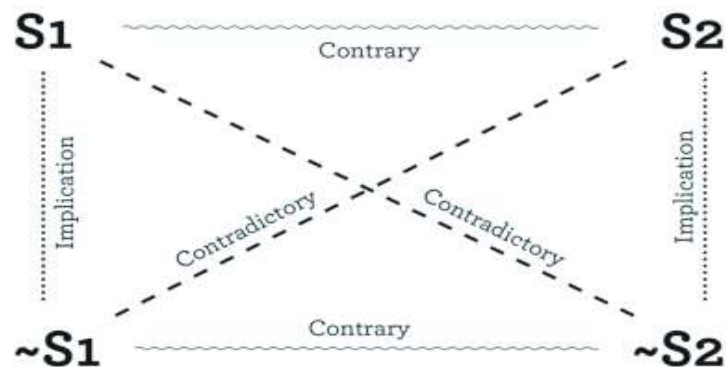
The functional schema is one of the theories by Greimas (1984) in the actantial model which focused on the storyline. This functional schema also serves to explain in a structured way the role of the subject in getting the desired object.

According to Greimas (1984), the functional schema is divided into three sections, the beginning situation, transformation, and ending situation.

The first is the beginning situation which contains the picture before there is an event that changes it. In this section, the subject already has an object. The second is the transformation, this section has three phases, namely qualifying test, main test, and glorifying test. The three phases contain the subject's struggle to get the object. In the transformation phase, there are also helper and opponent which make the story more interesting. The last part is the ending situation, in this part the subject is determined whether or not the subject succeeds in getting the desired object. In this ending situation, the receiver will appear and the situation will return to normal.

#### d. Semiotic square

A semiotic square is a logical representation of possible structural arrangements. Greimas (1984) stated that semiotic square used for any content that can be understood as itself and that can be broken down into related contradiction. A square, when repeated and superposed, will exhaust the logical structural relations between its basic constituents. The semiotic square is a strategy frequently used to assist readers through literary works. A literary work's analysis will be considerably simpler to finish with the help of this semiotic square.



**Figure 2. 2** Semiotic Square

### 2.1.2 Isotopy

Isotopy is one part of the actantial theory. Greimas (1984) developed isotopy from a physical chemical analysis to an analysis that can be used in a literary work. The concept of isotopy made a review by finding methods to maintain their integrity. Greimas (1984) also stated the possibility of exploring semantics with text isotopes made it possible to derive something observable from a text. According to Greimas (1984), isotopy is a way to analyze a finished literary work with the aim of looking for things that are wider than what can be seen. Isotopy is based on the idea that a literary work is not just a collection of individual words or phrases, but a complex system of interrelated elements that work together to create meaning. This system of elements can include everything from character relationships and themes to language choices and stylistic devices.

Isotopy in this case is usually related to the deep message contained in a literary work. Greimas (1984) said that the messages in the isotopes have to do with overlapping morphological categories. This can support that isotopy is something that is usually not written in a literary work. In developing the isotopy concept,

Greimas (1984) was interested in finding ways to analyze these complex elemental systems in ways that would reveal deeper levels of meaning and significance. Isotopy analysis identifies patterns of repetition and variation in a literary work, hidden messages and themes that may not be immediately apparent can be revealed.

Overall, isotope theory is an important contribution to the field of theoretical literature and analysis. By emphasizing the importance of identifying and analyzing patterns of meaning in a text, isotopy provides a powerful tool for uncovering hidden messages and themes in literary works. This isotopy can help to develop a more nuanced, new interpretation of literary texts, and can contribute to our broader understanding of finding and creating a message.

## **2.2 Previous Study**

The previous study used to provide the research with another research. In this research, there are some previous research with various issues. The first article written by Seli, et al. (2020) aimed to analyze the narrative structure in the form of actantial schemes and functional structures and the existence of a relationship between actant schemas and functional structures. This article used Greimas theory which focused on actantial structure and functional structure. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. The data source used is an oral story from the Dayak tribe with title Ne' Baruakng Kulup. The results of the research found in this article were the discovery of 14 actantial schemes and 14 functional structures. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Seli, et al. (2020) focused to identify narrative structure in the form of actantial schemes and functional structures. Meanwhile this

research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Seli, et al. (2020) article is an oral story, Ne' Baruakng Kulup. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The second article written by Haryadi & Kaprisma (2021) identified about the characters that had toxic marriage in a movie. This article focused to identify the actants in a movie. The data source of this article is a Russia movie, Nelyubov. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. This article used Greimas theory which focused on actantial model. The results of the research found in this article were the discovery of 6 actants and fulfillment of three axis. This article also found that the subject is Zhenya, one of the main characters and the object is his happiness. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Haryadi & Kaprisma (2021) focused to identify actants. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Haryadi & Kaprisma (2021) article is a movie, Nelyubov. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The third article written by Rizal (2019) analyzed narration scheme in a poem. The data source of this article is a poem by Edward Lear, The Owl and The Pussy Cat. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. This article also used Greimas theory which focused on actantial model. The results of the research found in this article were the discovery of narration model that consist of functional, action, and narration model in the poem. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Rizal (2019) focused to identify narration scheme. Meanwhile this research focused on



actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Rizal (2019) article is a poem. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The fourth article written by Nugroho, et al. (2021) aimed to describe storyline structure and elaborate actantial and functional structure in fairy tales. The data sources of this article are Cinderella and Datukalindidi' sola Pudu'balingkare fairy tales. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. This article also used Greimas theory which focused on actantial and functional structure. The results of this research found were the discovery of fairy tale structure and unfulfilled of functional or actantial structure in it. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Nugroho, et al. (2021) focused to identify storyline structure, actantial, and functional structure. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Nugroho, et al. (2021) article is two fairy tales. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The fifth article written by Dzikriya & Hartono (2019) aimed to analyse the plot structure in a novel. The data source of this article is the Hunger Games novel written by Suzanne Collins. The method in this article is qualitative analysis. This article used Greimas theory which focused on functional structure. The results of this research found that the storyline in the novel is chronological because the plot is arranged chronologically. It was also found that the storyline in the Hunger Games novel was closed because the problems were resolved. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Dzikriya & Hartono (2019) focused to analyse the plot

structure. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Dzikriya & Hartono (2019) is a Hunger Games novel. However, the data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The sixth article written by Crystle Wenno, et al. (2021) aimed to analyse actantial scheme and functional structure in fairy tale. The data source of this article is a German fairy tale "Die Gänsemagd". The method in this article is qualitative descriptive that same as this research. This article used Greimas theory which focused on actantial scheme and functional structure. The results of this research found that there are two actantial schemes and also found the functional structure that consist initial situation, transformation, and final situation. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Crystle Wenno, et al. (2021) focused to analyse actantial scheme and functional structure. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Crystle Wenno, et al. (2021) is a fairy tale "Die Gänsemagd". However, the data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The next article written by Qasim, Z. & Qasim, A. (2022) discussed the narrative structure in a folktale. This article used Greimas theory which focused on actantial model. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. The data source used is a folktale, Sohni Mahiwal. The results of the research found in this article were the fulfilled all of actants based on Greimas theory. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Qasim & Qasim (2022) focused to identify narrative structure. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Qasim &

Qasim (2022) article is a folktale, Sohni Mahiwal. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

Furthermore, the article written by Santoso & Soelistyowati (2020) discussed about the actantial and functional scheme in a short story. This article also used Greimas theory which focused on actantial model. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. The data source used is a short story, Tsuru no Ongaeshi. The results found one functional scheme and six actants scheme. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Santoso & Soelistyowati (2020) focused to identify actantial and functional scheme. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Santoso & Soelistyowati (2020) article is a short story, Tsuru no Ongaeshi. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

The last article written by Wulandari, et al. (2020) aimed to analyze the actantial scheme and functional structure in a folklore. This article used Greimas theory which focused on actantial model. The method in this article is qualitative descriptive. The data source used is two folklores, Asal Mulo Jambi Tulo and Jambi Kecil. The results found the fulfilled all of functional structure and actants scheme. The differences between this article with this research are the focus of the research and the data source. The article of Wulandari, et al. (2020) focused to identify actantial and functional structure. Meanwhile this research focused on actantial scheme and isotopy. The data source of Wulandari, et al. (2020) is two folklores, Asal Mulo Jambi Tulo and Jambi Kecil. The data source of this research is a drama, Othello.

### 2.3 Theoretical Framework

This research used the structuralism method which is one of the approaches in literature analysis. Furthermore, the research applied Greimas' actantial concept in analyzing data sources in the form of a drama. Greimas divided his theory into actantial models and isotopy. The previously mentioned actantial model is further divided into 3, actantial scheme, functional scheme, and semiotic square. The theory above will be used in further analysis with the data source of a Shakespeare drama, "Othello". The theoretical framework helped to describe an outline of the theory used in a clear and concise way.

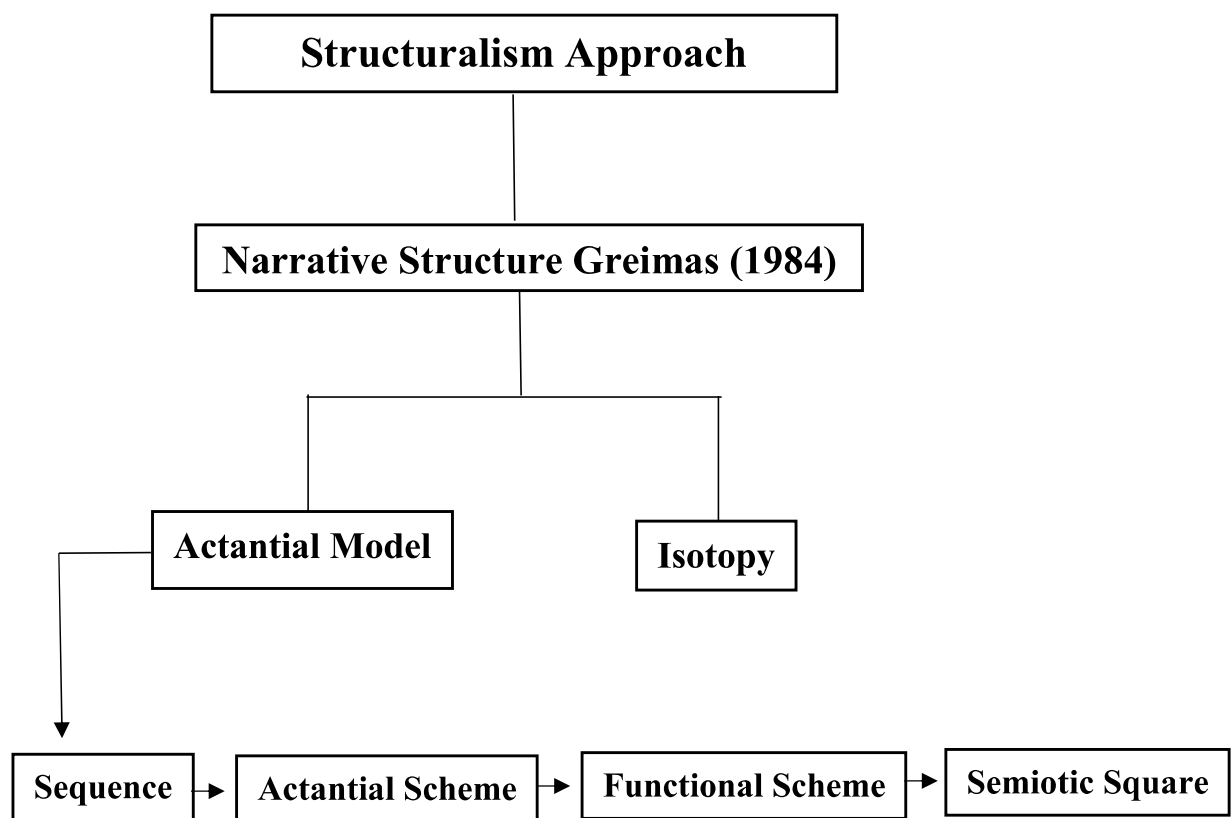


Figure 2. 3 Theoretical Framework

This research will carry out the stages in finding the narrative structure of Greimas in a literary work. The literary work used in this study is a classic drama “Othello” created by Shakespeare. The first stage that will be carried out as illustrated in the framework above is to look for an actantial model in which it begins with a storyline in a literary work or is called a sequence. The next stage is to determine the actantial scheme which is a stage taken based on the storyline previously described in the sequence stage. Next is the functional scheme which contains the situation from start to finish which is taken based on the actantial scheme obtained. The last in the actantial model stage is the semiotic square which is a representation of a contradiction from what is obtained. The last stage in the narrative analysis of the Greimas structure is isotopy which contains in-depth messages obtained from the results of analyzing the previous stages.