CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

The types of literary work consist of novels, poetry, drama, and short stories. Novel is one of media to idea in the literary works field. Various genres and writing style of the all novelists make the reader enthusiastic to the next literary works of the novelists. One of the greatest novelists and greatest poets in France in the 19th century was Victor-Marie Hugo, a writer with a flow of romance. His most famous works are novel Les Miserables in 1862 and Notre-Dame de Paris in 1831. Many of his works have inspired music, both during his lifetime and after his death, including the musicals Notre-Dame de Paris and Les Misérables.

Les Misérables is a French historical novel by Victor Hugo, first published in 1862, that is considered one of the greatest novels of the 19th century. In the English-speaking world, the novel is usually referred to by its original French title. However, several alternatives have been used, including *The Miserables*, *The Wretched*, *The Miserable Ones*, *The Poor Ones*, *The Wretched Poor*, *The Victims* and *The Dispossessed*. Regarding to the character of Jean Valjean, the researcher is interested to analyze more about this character since he has been experienced so many difficulties in his life.

The novel most tells about Jean Valjean's exchange; from a criminal to be an honor figure and he is respected in the end of his life. It mean

that beside elaborates about the history of France, the architecture and urban design of Paris, politics, moral philosophy, antimonarchism, justice, religion, and the types and nature of romantic and familial love, this novel also gives some details about the psychological aspects of the characters, especially Jean Valjean's character.

The analysis of character is close related to the analysis of psychology. The researcher found some phenomenon related the hierarchy of need. The way how Valjean try to fulfillment his needs. In this research, the researcher desires to conduct a research about psychological aspects in Jean Valjean's character. The theory that the researcher used is Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of need. The researcher's reason to take this theory because the researcher want to know how is the process of the character Jean Valjean to complete his mutual need, remembering that he is a criminal in the beginning of the story and then he becomes an honor people. It means that there is an indication of the fulfillment of his need during the story. Thus, it can be said that the theory of hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow is connected to the character's story.

The researcher discovers the facts that theory of hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow is applicable to the novel Les Miserables especially to the Jean Valjean's character. The researcher would say so because before doing this research, the researcher has been done the pre-research in order to find the suitable theory for the novel. The hierarchy of needs consist of physiological need, safety need, love and belonging need, esteem need, and self-actualization.

Thus, in this research, the researcher is going to analyze needs of Jean Valjean's character.

Based on the factors, the researcher is interested in analyzing the psychological aspects in the character of Jean Valjean in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo. The researcher's reason to take this topic is because the researcher wants to improve the knowledge about psychological approach in literature scientifically. Furthermore, the researcher makes the research with title "Jean Valjean's Hierarchy of Needs in the Novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo".

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the research above, the researcher identifies the problem that appearing in this research including:

1. Hierarchy of needs of Jean Valjean's character in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo;

2. The process of the completion of Jean Valjean's hierarchy of needs in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo; and

3. The obstacles to get the Jean Valjean needs in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

In order to make the research to be more focus, the researcher limits the problems to be analysed into:

1. Hierarchy of needs of Jean Valjean's character in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo; and

2. The process of the completion of Jean Valjean's hierarchy of needs in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problems above, formulation of the problem in research would be:

1. What are the hierarchy of needs of Jean Valjean's character in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo?

2. How is the process of the completion of Jean Valjean's hierarchy of needs in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo?

1.5. Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objective of the research is to answer these two questions which consist of:

1. To reveal the hierarchy of needs of Jean Valjean's character in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo; and

2. To explain how is the process of the completion of Jean Valjean's hierarchy of needs in the novel *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo.

1.6. Significance of the Research

There are two major things related to the significance of this research; they are theoretically and practically.

a. Theoretically

Improve the knowledge about Hierarchy of Needs in literature scientifically. Introduces the Hierarchy of Needs to ordinary people and leads them in learning the perspectives of sociology of literature.

b. Practically

This research is composed to complete the final thesis. From the results of this study, researchers concluded that the hierarchy of needs can be directly applied by the reader in everyday life. The way to survive by Jean Valjean can also be practised in the reader's life. This makes the theory formulated by Abraham Maslow can be implemented in everyday life and as a benchmark in fulfilling the hierarchy of daily necessities of life.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

The key terms exist in this research are:

1) Hierarchy of Needs   : hierarchy of need is an arrangement that ranks people or concepts from lowest to highest. Individual must meet the needs at the lower level before get the highest level. (Maslow, 1970)

2) Needs   : circumstances in which something is necessary; necessity. A thing that is wanted or required. (Oxford, 2010)

3) Psychological Approach   : Psychology is the Science of Mental Life, both of its phenomena and of their conditions. The phenomena are such things as we call feelings, desires, cognitions, reasoning, decisions, and the like; and, superficially considered, their variety and

complexity is such as to leave a chaotic

impression on the observer. (James, 1890)