CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A. Review of Related Literature

1. The Nature of writing

Writing is one of four English skills. According to Susan Brindley, “The term ‘writing’ is ambiguous: in the first place, it can refer either to the process of writing or to the written product.”\(^\text{15}\) It means that writing is productive skill. Writing becomes one of the important skills that have to be mastered by the students. It is because writing is one of the way students practice their target language. Writing is the communication which has purpose to an audience.\(^\text{16}\) Written language is the spoken language put into written form.\(^\text{17}\) It means that, the students’ ideas, opinion and experience can be spoken in writing form. In addition, through writing the students can express their ideas and feelings without sound. Writing is also a tool to communicate with other people who are not around us.

\(^{15}\) Susan Brindley, *Teaching English*, (London: The open University. 2005), 151


\(^{17}\) Arthur Brookes & Peter Grundy, *Beginning to write* (UK: Cambridge University Press. 2006), 1
The important thing of writing for students is produce their own language on the paper. The students should practice and try to write and to increase their capability in order to be good writer. Probably everyone agree that writing is more complicated than others. The goal of the English teacher is to make students able to produce fluent, accurate and appropriate written English. Geoffrey Broughton said that, “There are the numbers of aspects which need to be considered. These are:”\(^{18}\)

a. Mechanical problems with the script of English;
b. Problems of accuracy of English grammar and lexis;
c. Problems of relating the style of writing to the demands of a particular situation;
d. Problems of developing ease and comfort in expressing what needs to be said.

Penny Ur said that, “Writing is widely used within foreign language courses as a convenient means for engaging with aspects of language other than the writing itself.”\(^{19}\) On the other hand, writing is the most important skill in English. It is because from writing skill students will get more new vocabularies, copy out grammar rules, write out answer to reading or listening comprehension questions and do written test.

Probably everyone agree that when write an essay the writer needs to pay some attention to formal aspects; neat handwriting, correct spelling and punctuation, as well as acceptable grammar and careful selection of

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\(^{19}\) Penny Ur, *a Course in Language Teaching*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), 162
Therefore, the researcher concludes that writing skill is a complex activity. Writing involves a different kind of mental process. There is more time to think, to reflect, to prepare, to rehearse, to make mistakes and to find alternative and better solution. For those reasons, most of students feel difficult to produce an essay. Students have to write about what they think in their mind and state it on a paper by using the correct procedure. In fact, the factors that influence the writing competence are the students’ comprehend in grammar rules, punctuation and the limitation of vocabulary.

2. Narrative text

Probably everyone agree that narrative is telling a story. The teller of a story is the narrator. According to Sandra Kaliszewski, “Narrative is the representation of an event or a series of events, where an event can be equated as an action.” It is the recounting of a series of events with a beginning, middle, and end. The main event of narrative stories consists of the adventures, problems or experiences that change the character in some

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Therefore, the researcher concludes that narrative is the story about some events which happened in the character life. There are two types of narrative text which consists of fictional narrative and non-fictional narrative.

a. A fictional Narrative

According to Jane Buckner, "A fictional narrative is a work of art, carefully crafted by the author to provide entertainment for the reader." It means that fictional narrative is the story that happened in an imaginary world. The characters and places are not like real life. It includes fable, romance, short story, novel, novella, folk tale, fairy tales, horror stories, legends, myths, and science fiction.

b. A non-fictional narrative

A non-fictional narrative (factual narrative) is the story that tells about someone or something that seems real and vivid. Event realistic stories can be made up when a writer uses people and things from real life. It includes personal experience, historical narrative, essay, biography, autobiography, and report.

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25 David Herman, Basic elements of narrative, (UK: Blackwell, 2009), 1

26 Jane Buckner, write from the beginning and beyond Narrative, (Thinking Map, 2010), 5

3. Literary Elements of Narrative Text

Narrative has structure or pattern. The students should understand the elements of a narrative text before write a narrative text. The elements of a narrative are called literary elements. Literary elements are the basic parts of a story; they are characters, place, time, problem, and solution. Therefore, the literary elements of narrative which consist of plot, character, setting and theme are important. The researcher explains four literary elements clearly bellow:

a. Plot

Plot is when someone tells what happens in a work of literature. Plot is the arrangement of the action, an imagined event or a series of events. Therefore, the researcher concludes that plot is some events that have beginning, middle, and end. Probably everyone knows that, plot usually involves a conflict. There are seven types of narrative conflict. They are person vs. fate/god, person vs. self, person vs. person, person vs. society, person vs. nature, person vs. supernatural and person vs. technology. There are five essential parts of plot,

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such as; exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution. It can be represented graphically in this way.

![Freytag's Pyramid Diagram](source: www.ohio.edu/people/hartleyg/ref/fiction/freytag.html, accessed on January 09, 2015)

The figure above is known as the Freitag’s pyramid. Freitag’s pyramid is the structure of a dramatic work. The idea of the Freitag’s pyramid is to serve as a map which can be used to guide someone to write narrative text. The Freitag’s pyramid consists of:

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1) Exposition

According to Robert Di Yanni, “Exposition provides background information we need to make sense of the action, describes the setting, and introduces the major characters.” It means that exposition lets the reader know whom the major character is, where the action will take place and other facts necessary to understanding the story.

2) Rising action

Jerome Beaty said that, “Rising action is events that complicate the situation and intensify or complicate the conflict or introduce new ones.” Terry Hirscherg stated that, “Complication instigates a clash between one character and another or between a character and the forces of nature or society, that sets the plot in motion.” It means that the main story starts. The story is getting interesting because in this stage the main problem in the story becomes clear as to what it is.

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34 Terry Hirscherg, *Discovering the many worlds of literature* (New York: Pearson Longman, 2004), 68-69
3) Climax

X.J. Kennedy argued that, “Climax or turning point is the moment of greatest tension.” Therefore, climax is the result of the crisis. It is the high point of the story for the reader. Frequently, it is the moment of the highest interest and greatest emotion. It is the point at which the outcome of the conflict can be predicted.

4) Falling action

The falling action is the sequence of events that follow the climax and end in the resolution. This is in contrast to the rising action which leads up to the plot's climax. Therefore, falling action is the events and complications begin to resolve themselves or everything starting to calm down.

5) Resolution

Holt, Rinehart and Winston stated that, “Resolution is the final part of plot, in which events are wrapped up and the story comes

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36 Mark Flanagan, Falling action
to a conclusion." It means that this is the final outcome or untangling of events in the story.

b. Character

Characters are an important part of the story. Character is an imagined person who inhabits a story. It means that character is someone who acts, appears, or is referred to as playing a part in a literary work. A reader can identify the character of story by some ways, like, characters' action (what they do), characters' speech (what they say and how they say it) and characters' consciousness (what they think and feel). There are types of characters, such as:

1) Major or main character

Major or main character is the most important character in the story. Major character can sometimes be indistinguishable from the protagonist and antagonist character or the person creating tension or conflict.

Judith A. Stanford said that, "The protagonist is the major character with whom we generally sympathize, while the antagonist is the character with whom the protagonist is in conflict, the antagonist is generally not sympathetic."
Therefore, both of protagonist and antagonist are major character. Protagonist is known as good guy whereas antagonist is bad guy.

2) Minor character

Minor character is someone who supports and illuminates the protagonist.\(^4\) Therefore, minor character is used to enhance and help reveal the main characters.

3) Dynamic character

Dynamic character is the character that shows some kind of change of attitude, of purpose, of behavior as the story progress.\(^4\)

It means that dynamic character is person who changes over time, usually as a result of resolving a central conflict or facing a major crisis.

4) Static character

Static character is the character that does not undergo important change in the beginning of story until the end.\(^4\)


\(^{43}\)Lyman A. Baker, static and dynamic characterization, [http://www.k-state.edu/english/baker/english320/cc-static_vs_dynamic_characterization.htm](http://www.k-state.edu/english/baker/english320/cc-static_vs_dynamic_characterization.htm), accessed on March 25, 2015
Therefore, Static character is someone who doesn’t change over time. Static’s personality does not transform or evolve.

5) Round character

Round character is person who is multidimensional and has complex personality. On the other word, this character has more than one character. Round character is often portrayed as a conflicted and contradictory person.

6) Flat character

Flat character is not very complex and do not change in surprising ways. It means that flat character is nearly always static, they do not change. On the other word, flat character is notable for one kind of personality trait or characteristic. It is opposite of round character.

c. Setting

All stories, like all individuals, are embedded in a context or setting a time and place. Therefore, setting is very important element when someone write story. There are several aspects of a story's setting to consider when examining how setting contributes to a story.


It may be present some of aspects or all of aspects, such as: place, time, weather conditions, social conditions, and mood or atmosphere in a story.

d. Theme

The theme of fiction is its controlling idea or its central insight. Holt, Rinehart and Winston said that an idea about life conveyed through the story’s characters, actions, and images. A theme is not a moral message only; it can be what the happenings of story. Therefore, the researcher concludes that theme is not only universal message in a story but also what the story about.

4. The Understanding of four literary elements in writing narrative text

The students should understand four literary elements of narrative text which consist of plot, character, setting and theme. Hamzah and Satria stated that understanding covers students’ competences in defining, interpreting, translating, explaining, comparing or expressing something by their own ways based on knowledge they have been gotten. Therefore, the students will be said understand about four literary

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47 Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Literature and Language arts (Mastering the California standards:California. 2010), 230

48 Rizka, Safriyani, Literature assisted language learning series 1. Introducing literature (Sidoarjo: Dwiputra pustakajaya, 2012), 106

49 Hamzah and Satria, Assessment, Pembelajaran, (Jakarta: BumiAksara, 2012), 61-63
elements if they understand the definitions, the purpose, and several aspects of plot, character, setting and theme.

5. Using Literary Elements in Narrative Text Writing

Narrative is the recounting of a series of events with a beginning, middle, and an end. Narrative text has generic structure which consists of orientation, complication, resolution and reorientation. Literary elements are part of generic structure. In orientation, the story introduces the character, place and time. In complication, the story tells about the problems that faced by the character. The resolution refers to the final of plot and the reorientation refers to the final of the story. Thus, literary elements have important role in the story because literary elements are several elements in writing narrative text. There is an example from Ahmad Doddy.  

Example:

The Story of Mbok Gendong

One day in a village lived an old grandmother. She was called mbok Gendong. She was a widow

One particular day, she bought a fish net to catch fish. She wanted to replace her husband work. Since that time mbok Gendong always went to the beach to catch the fish. She threw the net and drew it back. Once, when she drew the net back,

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50 Ahmad Doddy, Ahmad Sugeng and Efendi, Developing English Competencies for senior high school (SMA/MA) for Grade XII of Natural and Social Science Programmes (Jakarta : Pusat Perbukuan, Departemen Pendidikan Nasional, 2008), 105
there was a gold snail hooked in her net. She put that snail in the clean water container, and then she took it home. The day after that, she quit as a fisher and sold a teak leave again. But, it was not saleable. Then, she went home with a disappointed feeling.

When she got home, she found there was delicious food on the table. She asked around who made it but no one answered. She was puckish and careless, so she ate it. This happened every day, so she was eager to know who prepared the food. She pretended to leave home. But quickly she returned back again. She peeped through the fence hole. She was very surprised to see the snail princess at her house. The princess was Chandra Kirana, "I was changed by a witch to be a snail, before I met you," said the Princess. Then, mbok Gendong said, "Would you be my foster child?" The princess accepted.

One morning, there was a beggar who asked for food. Chandra Kirana gave him some food. Suddenly, the beggar changed into a handsome man. Actually, he was Morgan Kusuma prince. He was Chandra Kirana’s husband.

Finally, the prince and princess, Morgan Kusuma and Chandra Kirana lived happily and they took mbok Gendong with them.

Therefore, literary elements and generic structure are interrelated and becomes important role when write narrative text. It is because when write narrative text students have to use correct procedure which consists of orientation, complication, resolution and reorientation. In orientation, it introduces the characters, place and time of the story. In complication, it
tells about series of events in the story. Complication is known as plot of the story. There are five parts of plot like, exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution. Plot can illustrate the theme of the story. Therefore, Students have to understand about four literary elements in order to their story more interesting.

6. The Function of Literary Elements in Narrative Text Writing

Literary elements have important role in narrative text writing. By using literary elements in narrative text writing, the reader not only understands what the writer means but also can feels it. The researcher will describe the function of literary elements in narrative text writing.

a. Plot

Plot focuses on character and their role in a story. Plot can make the story seem more plausible. It is because the reader feels that events of story are connected, causally and not just random or contrived occurrences. According to Robert Di Yanni, “A story’s plot keeps us turning pages: we read to find out what will happen next.”\textsuperscript{51} Therefore, plot creates a desire for the reader to go on reading. By understanding plot, the reader is able to understand the message being conveyed by the writer.

b. Character

Character is one of the most important parts of a story. Character brings to the story qualities of characterization necessary to convincingly act out choices. Actually, each story has character, if there is a story without character, it is impossible.

c. Setting

Setting has many functions in a story. Setting lets someone knows when and where the story occurs. It is also giving limitation on where the story takes place. Setting can give story a sense of reality and setting can create atmosphere also. Therefore, the researcher concludes that setting can make the story seem very real, helping the reader imagine how people live and setting can creates an atmosphere or mood, as like: creepy, peaceful, joyous, etc.

d. Theme

Theme gives people something to write about and gives the reader something to think. The theme is about what happen in a story, the character actions, interactions, etc. Therefore, the events of the story illustrate the theme.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that each element of narrative text has important role while narrative text

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52Holt, Rinehart and Winston, *Literature and Language arts* (Mastering the California standards: California, 2010), 4
writing. There is no story without character and setting. Plot will make the events or theme in story more plausible.

B. Review of Previous Studies

There are some studies related with this study. The first study was carried out by Arifah who conducted a research entitled “The use of picture to write narrative in teaching writing at MA Raudlatul Ulum Klampis Bankalan.” This study is classroom action research and has purpose to improve student’s writing narrative skill by using picture because most of students get difficulties in constructing their ideas into writing. The objective of this study is to describe kind of pictures that used by the teacher to teach narrative writing. This study used qualitative method. The researcher of this study found that the teacher of MA Raudlatul Ulum Klampis Bankalan used pictures series in teaching writing narrative.

The second study was conducted by Herlinawati with title “Error analysis in the students writing narrative paragraph at MTsN Pajajaran Pamulang.” This study discusses about the common errors made by the third grade students in making simple past tense in narrative writing and focused on two parts: regular verb and irregular verb. This study used descriptive qualitative. The subject of this study is students of MTsN Pajajaran Pamulang.

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53 Arifah, Degree of Strata-1, “The use of picture to write narrative in teaching writing at MA Raudlatul Ulum Klampis Bankalan,” (Surabaya: IAIN SunanAmpel Surabaya, 2009)

54 Herlinawati, Degree of Strata-1, “Error analysis in the students writing narrative paragraph at MTsN Pajajaran Pamulang,” (Jakarta: UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, 2011)
The researcher of this study found that the most of students make errors in irregular form.

The third study was done by Afrida Anwar with title “An analysis on the student’s ability of in writing narrative text at grade IX of SMPN 2 Gunung Talang.” This study has aim to describe the ability of the grade IX of students at SMPN 2 Gunung Talang in writing narrative text dealing with generic structure, applying language feature of narrative text, vocabulary, and mechanism. This study was descriptive in nature. The researcher of this study found that the ability of grade IX students of SMPN 2 Gunung Talang in writing narrative text was moderate (18 students). The subject of this study was students at grade IX of SMPN 2 Gunung Talang.

The fourth study was conducted by Tuti Wardani with title “An Analysis of Conflicts in Erich Segal’s Love Story.” The subject of this research is Erich Segal’s Love Story. In this research, the researcher focuses to analyze some conflicts faced by a major character in Erich Segal’s Love Story and there are two conflicts, such as internal conflict and external conflict.

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55 Afrida Anwar, *Degree of Strata-1*, “An analysis on the student’s ability of in writing narrative text at grade IX of SMPN 2 Gunung Talang,” (West Sumatera: Bung Hatta University, 2011)

56 Tuti Wardani, *Degree of strata-1*, “An Analysis Of Conflicts In Erich Segal’s Love Story,” (Medann: University Of North Sumatera Faculty Of Letters English Department Medan, 2008)
The fifth study was conducted by Abdul Rajab with title “An Analysis of Moral Values in the Novel Edensor Written by Andrea Hirata.” In this research, the researcher focuses to identify and to analyze the moral values which are depicted in novel Edensor. This research analyzes moral value or theme that refers to education inside the teachers and students in Andrea Hirata’s novel Edensor.

Therefore, the researcher concludes that the previous studies above have differences area of the study. The first previous study is classroom action research and has purpose to improve student’s writing narrative skill by using picture because most of students get difficulties in constructing their ideas into writing. However, this study does not apply either certain techniques that improve narrative writing skill because it focuses on analyze students’ ability to use literary elements in writing narrative text.

The second previous study has purpose to find out the common errors made by the third grade students in making simple past tense in narrative writing and focused on two parts: regular verb and irregular verb. However, this study does not analyze the students’ error of writing narrative paragraph but analyze student’s ability to use literary elements in writing narrative text.

The third previous study focused to find out the students’ ability in writing narrative text. This study analyzed all of aspects of narrative text, as like: generic structure of text, language features, vocabulary and mechanism. However, this study focuses on literary elements of narrative text which consist of plot, character, setting and theme.

The fourth previous study focused to analyze some conflicts faced by a major character in Erich Segal’s Love Story and there are two conflicts, such as internal conflict and external conflict. However, this study not only focuses on character of story but also plot, setting and theme.

The last previous study focused to identify and to analyze the moral values which are depicted in novel Edensor. This previous study analyzes moral value or theme that refers to education inside the teachers and students in Andrea Hirata’s novel Edensor. However, this study not only focuses on theme but also character, plot, and setting.