

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Human beings are social creatures so they need a means to communicate and to socialize each other. In this case, the existence of language is needed. According to Lado, language is primary instrument of communication among human beings in community (1961:2). It means that language is necessary in building communication and developing human ability in language usage. Through language, people can communicate to others by sending information. Language in human's life also functions as a means of entertainment. Language as a means of entertainment is shown in literary works.

It is known that a literary work is one of the arts that can entertain people. People read literary works because literary works contain experience about life such as love, happiness, hatred, trouble, sadness, and etcetera. Therefore, people read literary works to enrich their knowledge and get enjoyment. Jones in *An Outline of Literature* says, "Literature is simply another way we can express the world around us through our imagination" (1968: 1). It clarifies that literature is a way to express ideas, feeling and imagination of the author's experience about life.

Literary works such as novels, plays, poems, and short stories are interesting to read. They not only communicate what the writer means and

imagines but also entertain the reader with their amusing way of writing which is always related to human's real life. Therefore, literary works never stop developing.

As a literary work, novel is interesting to analyze because novel contains a lot of characters with different characteristics and problems which make the reader get curious. According to Kettle, novel is interpretation of author's feeling, emotion, imagination or ideas, but sometimes novel tells ideology which reflects the real life (1961: 12). Generally, a novel tells the story of the characters and their behavior in everyday life, with a focus on the odd sides. As it is related to human's real life, a novel always attracts the reader to read it.

Charles Dickens is an English Victorian era author. He had written numerous highly acclaimed novels. *Great Expectations* is Charles Dickens' thirteenth novel which was published in 1860's. *Great Expectations* describes about Pip, a young orphan living with his sister and her husband in the marshes of Kent. One evening, he sits in a cemetery looking at his parents' tombstones. Suddenly, an escaped convict grabs Pip, and orders him to bring him food and a file for his leg irons. One day, Pip is taken by his uncle Pumblechook to play at Satis House, the home of the wealthy dowager Miss Havingham. During his visit he meets a beautiful young girl named Estella, who treats him coldly and contemptuously. However, he falls in love with her and dreams of becoming a wealthy gentleman so that he might be worthy of her. Pip turns from an innocent boy to an ambitious young man. After a month, Miss Havisham decides to help him become a common laborer in his family's business. One day, a lawyer named

Jaggers appears with strange news, that a secret benefactor has given Pip a large fortune. When Pip turns twenty-one, he begins to receive an income from his fortune. After receiving an income from his fortune, Pip moves to London to learn how to be a gentleman. In London, he lives in high class society. As long as he lives in London, his social life changes completely. In his social change, Pip's lifestyle turns into opulent one and treats some friends badly.

Philip Pirrip or Pip is the one who has a lot of characteristics. In this novel, Pip is described as a man who has expectations to improve himself, both socially and morally. Pip's character also changes after he receives a large fortune of money. Therefore, based on Pip's character, the writer conducts an analysis about the influence of materialism toward Pip's social development in Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The problems which are analyzed in this research are:

1. What are the influences of materialism toward Pip's social development in Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*?
2. What are the effects of materialism toward Pip?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The analysis of the problems as stated above is aimed to know detailed information about materialism related to the main character in *Great Expectations*. The followings are the objectives of the study:

1. To analyze the influences of materialism toward Pip's social development in Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*
2. To analyze the effects of materialism toward Pip.

#### **1.4 Limitation of the Problem**

In line with the statement of the problems, the limitation of this research is on the term of materialism. This research discusses only about the influence of materialism toward Pip's social development and the effects of materialism toward Pip.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

It is hoped that this research may give some advantages and information not only for the researcher but also for the reader. The readers are expected to get a better knowledge about materialism. Therefore, it may help the reader to understand about materialism, especially the influences and the effects of materialism. It is also hoped that this research may help other researchers to conduct further studies about materialism.