

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

There are a lot of activities that people can do in spare time, for example, watching television or football match, reading novel, cooking, and etc. Reading is one of activities which can give pleasure and knowledge. Most of the reader likes to read books, especially literature. It is very useful and valuable thing that can make people's mind and feeling think and feel as take part in the story.

Sometimes, some people get confused when they heard the word literature and they try to find it. According to Ress, "Literature is a writing which express and communicates thoughts, feelings, and attitudes toward life". Furthermore, Hudson on his book *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* states as follows:

Literature is a vital record of what men have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspect of it which have the most immediate and ending for all of us, it is thus fundamentally an expression of life trough the medium of language (1973:2).

The quotation above implies that literature is the kind of experience of one's life in which the reader know about the feeling and imagination from the writer's literary work.

Nowadays, a lot of people spend their spare time by reading literary work. Literature can be divided into three groups namely drama, prose, and poetry. In this thesis the writer uses a novel as the material of analysis. Novel is one of literary works and most of people from teenagers until adult people like to read it

because it is different from poetry and drama. It is about the author's interpretation about emotions, feeling, and ideas through his imagination; on the other hand novel often consists of some values such as moral value which reflect the real life, happening in the society.

According to Kettle (1961:12), "Novel is a living thing, all one and continuous like any other organism, and in proportion as it lives will it be found, I think that in each of the parts there is something of other parts". Moreover, Kennedy (1979:231) in *An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*, "Novel is a book length story in prose whose author tries to create the sense that, while we read, we experience actual life". Novel is one of written materials that is written by the author to share his life experience that is full of spirit, vision, thought, emotion, experience and everything concerning with his life. In *Theory of Literature* Wellek and Warren define that: "Novel is a picture of real life, manners and of in which it is written" (1955:2005). By reading the novel, the reader get a lot of lesson about what the world is like and can enlarge their sense of life.

In this thesis, the writer chooses the novel entitled *A Christmas Carol* written by Charles Dickens's as the object of analysis. The writer chooses the novel by Charles Dickens for some reasons. Firstly, the author of novel, namely Charles Dickens, he is one of the best English writers who have written many literary works in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. He is a critical writer because he has written the novels based on the social environment. Secondly, the novel *A Christmas Carol* is an interesting novel telling about a Christmas day which is experienced by the old man in his loneliness while the other people in there celebrated Christmas day; he

only stayed at home and has some experiences with the spirit in his house who will change his life better. Thirdly, the novel implies the study of personality, and the writer wants to know and learns human behaviors, namely, thoughts, feelings and action of the main character's personality in Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

By reading the novel, the writer finds the good and bad behavior of Ebenezer Scrooge. Furthermore, the writer wants to find out:

1. What is Scrooge's good and bad behavior?
2. What are the causes of Scrooge's behavior?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze Ebenezer Scrooge's good and bad behavior.
2. To elaborate the causes of behavior on Ebenezer Scrooge's.

### **1.4 Limitation of the Study**

In this thesis, the writer would like to discuss good and bad behavior on the main character of the novel written by Charles Dickens. The writer limits the analysis in discussing good and bad behavior on Ebenezer Scrooge's and also other characters which influence Scrooge's good and bad behavior.

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

Hopefully, this thesis gives benefits and good impression on the reader toward Charles Dickens's works especially his masterpiece, *A Christmas Carol*. For the other thesis, it also gives an interesting impact to reveal the other writer on the similar topic dealing with Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.