

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The expression of feeling, thought and imagination is reflected from human life. It comes from the daily life of human experiences through an imagination. Hudson (1965:10) in *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* explains as follows:

Literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have through and felt about those aspects of it, which have the most immediate enduring interest for all of us.

Therefore, the simple way to express human experiences in this world through the imagination is called literature. In the literature the author expresses her/his feeling into the words, and it must seem real. Good literature lives also because it gives pleasure and impression to the readers by reading it. In *Writing Essays about Literature*, Griffith (1990:1) says as follows:

Like all art, Literature gives pleasure. It has certain magic that transports us from the "real" word to a seemingly more remote and enjoyable place. We can experience this quality without thinking about it.

By studying literature, we can see more of it to appreciate. Its purpose to make the readers interested. Literature includes all of written materials such as novel, drama, and poetry. Novel is a long story written in prose. The aim of novel is to entertain and to inform about the story and also to learn about life and our

surrounding. Novel presents many kinds of characters in the story. Each character has their own abilities and human psychological traits. By reading novel and analyzing each character, we can know the meaning of the novel. In Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, we can find egoism in some characters that influences the other characters in this novel. Accordingly, the writer is interested in analyzing one of the characters. She is interested to analyze the egoism of Mrs. Bennet in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Accordingly, the title of the research is An Analysis of Mrs. Bennet's Rational Egoism in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problems of the research are as follows:

1. What are Mrs. Bennet's rational egoism?
2. What are the impacts of Mrs. Bennet's rational egoism to the other characters?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze Mrs. Bennet's rational egoism.
2. To analyze the impacts of Mrs. Bennet's rational egoism on the other characters.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The writer focuses the analysis on the rational egoism of Mrs. Bennet, and the reasons of her rational egoism, and the impact of her egoism to the other characters. Mrs. Bennet and the other characters are ones from the novel *Pride and Prejudice* is written by Jane Austen, published by Penguin Books, in London, in 1972.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study is that it can be the reference for the further research on egoism in other novels. Also, this can be the reference for the other researchers to analyze more detail and deeper about the egoism in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.