

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The background of the study , statements of research problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study are described in this chapter.

1. Background of the study

The ability to create beautiful words is one of the gifts of God for human. Almost all of human is born in this world has the ability to produce beautiful words because God created them perfectly. They have a brain and mind to process words and sentences. They have mouth to transfer words and sentences into a sound that can be heard by others. They have hands to write words and sentences into a white blank page. The ability to create beautiful words always be nicety in this life, especially when beautiful words are poured into literary works.

As the writer explained above, the literary work is an art that has a direct relationship with the beautiful words. The beautiful word become fun and has its own values for the readers when they read literature. In literature, they will find a flowing period, librettos, direct words, and other beauties from the words of literary works. Literature is a 'creative' or 'imaginative' writing. It uses language in peculiar ways (Terry Eagleton, 1996; 2). This statement shows that literature is free writing which expresses the ideas of the writers'. It can be about history, culture, religion, and other issues that arise in social activities. Here, we will find the human emotions, such as happiness, sadness, love, worry, etc. Emotion represents the essential part of literary works that written in an artistic ways,

because the author of literary works expresses their thought, feelings, emotion, and attitudes towards life (Sinha, 1977; 1).

In general, the literature is divided into three types. They are drama, poetry and prose. All of them have the same thoughts but rather different in form. Drama is kind of literary work which is performed on stage by the actors. Prose is kind of narrative fiction writing that the types of the language is straightforward. The latter is poetry. Poetry is the highest level of literary works. Poetry is 'composition in verse or metrical language' which is 'the expression of beautiful or elevated thought, imagination or feeling' (*Oxford English Dictionary*). Under this heading, poetry is the composition that gives priority to the beauty of languages and sounds. The readers will find the peculiar structure of language and direct structure of language. The readers have to use all of the imaginations and intuitions to read the poetry. Reading has to be details. The important thing, all of them are carrying the meaning of the poem.

From the other side, Poetry is any kinds of verbal or written language that is structured rhythmically and is meant to tell a story, or express any kind of emotion, idea, or state of being (Olilla and Jantas, 2006:1). This statement describes further details about the poem. This shows that all the languages that are written with the rhythm structure is poetry. The contents of the poem are the author's experience. Here, the authors express their emotions, ideas, and thoughts. They express all of them use the language, but the language that can describe all the very images, sounds, symbols poem clearly.

From the explanation above, unquestionable poetry is the highest level of literary work. The reason is still focused on the utilizing of languages and ideas. The poetry languages are really complicated. Here, the authors of the poem will show a great idea only use dense and simple languages, whereas the dense and the simple languages structured neatly and slightly. On that score, the poetry readers will face the difficulties to interpret it. The density and the simplicity languages of poetry will give an involution in searching the meaning. It will give a challenge to the readers to unearth the meaning, and it will give the readers complacency when they work out salvation the meaning.

In all ages and in all countries, poetry has been written, and eagerly read and listened to, by all kinds and condition of the people, like soldiers, states-man, lawyers, farmers, doctors, scientists, clergy, philosophers, kings, and queens (retrieved from [//en.bookfi.org/poetry-text-book/pdf](http://en.bookfi.org/poetry-text-book/pdf)). It describes that the poetry is as universal language and it was known long since. So many poems that reciprocate influence each other among the people. Many poem lovers got inspiring from the earlier poets, and it gives influences to the lovers in writing poem. One of the poets which give inspiring to the others poets is William Blake.

William Blake is today recognized as a highly original and important poet in English Literature, as well as a revolutionary and visionary artist (McCauley, 2004; 1). In his life, he was not only known as the poet but also known as the carver and the painter. He has multi talent in fine art world, but in the present era he is better known as the poet. The collecting poem of his was divided in two series, *Song of Innocence* (1789) and *Song of Experience* (1793). All the poems in

these series are the obloquy to social and religion condition. One of the poems is “*The Sick Rose*” and “*Earth’s Answer*”. These two poems filled with figures of speech in describing the social condition during his life.

The poem “*The Sick rose*” is taken from *Song of Experience* series of William Blake. In this book, he writes poems that describes about the social and religion condition during his experience in England industrial revolution in eighteen century. The poem “*The sick Rose*” is one of his poems which is the slot of the story tells about the woman condition at the time. The other poem that has the same slot of the story is “*Earth’s Answer*”. This poem also tells about the woman condition at his time, but there is a little dissimilarity in the domain of the story.

The two poems above “*The Sick Rose*” and “*Earth’s Answer*” are fulfilled with figures of speech. Therefore, the writer of this study uses new criticism as the theory to analyze the poems. According to Searle (2001: 1), new criticism ignores the other elements such as author’s background, social condition and culture. This statement shows that new Criticism is the theory that the analyzing focuses to the intrinsic elements. It examines the text itself, the relation between a text ideas and its form, like the sounds, imagery, narrative structures, point of view, etc. New Criticism sets out a close reading, because its focuses to the text. New Critics "may find tension, irony, or paradox in this relation, but they usually resolve it into unity and coherence of meaning" (Biddle, 2003: 100). It shows that New Critics rejects the history or biography of the author.

Before the writer of this study start the analysis, there are the other writers who had analyzed the literary works use new Critics as the theory. The first is Sihombing (2009), he uses Robert Frost's poems as the source of data. The poems are *Stars*, *Going For Water*, *Hyla brook*, etc. The analysis of his study also focuses on the figures of speech. The second is Amanda Pavita (2014), she uses Christina Rossetti's poems as the source of data. The poems are *Song (when I am dead, my dearest)* and *Remember*. The analysis of her study is uses new criticism as the theory and focuses to the poetic devices.

For this study, the writer tries to analyze two poems from William Blake. They are *The Sick Rose* and *Earth's Answer* from *Song of Experience* series. The two poems will be analyzed by using New Criticism as the theory, and focuses to the figures of speech that describes about the women condition in England industrial Revolution.

1.1 Statements of Research Problem.

Based on the background of the study, there are some problems which are going to be analyzed in this study. They are as follows:

1. What kinds of figures of speech are found in the William Blake poems entitle "*The Sick Rose*" and "*Earth's Answer*"?
2. How do the figures of speech of "*The Sick Rose*" and "*Earth's Answer*" reflect the women condition at that time?

1.2 Objectives of The Study

1. To determine what kinds of the figures of speech in the poems "*The Sick Rose*" and "*Earth's Answer*".

2. To determine how the figures of speech of William Blake poems describe the women condition at that time.

1.3 The Significances of The study

Theoretically, the analysis of figures of speech in the William Blake's poems is expected to give contribution to the study of figures of speech in literary works. The writer hopes, this study will add the vocabulary of the literary works study in terms figures of speech, and also to be the literary works that uses for the further study of literature. Practically, the study will as the cast of the next writer to develop this study.

1.4 Scope and Limitation of The Study

To avoid the involution, the scope of the study focuses to the new critics as the theory to analyze the poem "*The Sick Rose*" and "*Earth's Answer*". New critics will help the writer to find the types of figures of speech in the poems. Figures of speech bring the writer to find the women condition in England eighteen century. The limitation of the study is the words and phrases of the poems.

