

## ABSTRACT

Reading a literary text is not always easy, especially for poem. “1(a)” is a poem written by Edward Estlin Cummings and was published in the book *95 Poems* written in 1958. Cummings is one of the most controversial poets, his poems always attract readers’ attention, as he used scattered syntaxes and jumbled punctuations.

The focus of this study is to find Cummings’ intention in writing the poem “1(a)”. To find the intention of the poet, the writer went through a process of revealing the illustration and identifying the meaning of the poem, and therefore relating it to Cummings’ personal background.

By using the theory of expression, the writer would like to give a description on how does the poem illustrate which eventually related to Cummings’ personal background.

As the result, the writer finds that there are six events in Cummings’ life that are symbolized as five “1”s and a “one” in the poem. And the six events made Cummings to feel the loneliness and manifested his feeling to a creation of the poem “1(a)”.

*Keywords: poem, cummings, loneliness, l(a), expressive*