

### Abstract

Struggle is a process in which people try to do everything the best in their lives. It is important for people to struggle until they get what they want. Similarly, a struggle for life is a process where people have to go through a wide range of places to stay alive until now. The hard struggle of a young girl to gain a better life that makes society trust her to have the same reaction with her is the issue of a novel by Suzanne Collins entitled *Mockingjay*. This study discusses how the formal elements of the text such as characterization, plot, setting, and linguistic devices work together to support the theme of the novel and how these elements produce a new meaning of the word “Mockingjay”. This study uses New Criticism theory to examine the issue and the method used is close reading. The writer finds that the unity of formal elements in the text really supports the theme of the text; that is Katniss Everdeen’s hard struggle to gain a better life. All the elements support the character Katniss Everdeen as a tough and mature girl passing through so many obstacles to gain her better life for both her family and society that force her to struggle very hard. The power of the plot through its exposition, complication, climax, action, and resolution, clearly shows how hard the struggle of Katniss Everdeen to gain her better life from losing her own land until her success to do rebellion. There are six important places as the setting where Katniss Everdeen has to struggle very hard. Those places are District 13, District 8, District 2, the Capitol, the mansion of President Snow and the last place is District 12. Personification and metaphor as part of linguistic devices in the

story also emphasize Katniss' spirit as a "Mockingjay". Personification and Methaphor is linguistic devices help to produce a new meaning of "Mockingjay" that is a sign of rebellion to struggle for a better life, for a better future.

Keywords: Hard Struggle, better life, *Mockingjay*