

## Chapter II

# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary gives definitions that theory is a set of reasoned ideas intended to explain facts or events (1990 : 1330), approach is a way leading to something (p. 48), and background are some conditions and events surrounding and influencing something (p. 74). Accordingly in analyzing literature, particularly in a novel, the use of theory, approach, and background are important. Theory is a kind of tool to do the analysis, approach is a kind of access to study and background is a kind of framework to analyze the novel. Without them the analysis can be too far from the topic that the writer wants to analyze, because they are also standing as the limitation of the problem.

### A. Related Theories

Because the analysis deals with the intrinsic elements, the writer will use the Objective Theory. Along with the theory, the Intrinsic Approach, which is focused on setting and character, is applied to support the theory. Then, Psychological Background is used to back up in analyzing the character.

### **A.1. Objective Theory**

In Theory of Literature, Rene Wellek and Austin Warren said that the starting-point for work in literature is the interpretation and analysis of the work of literature itself, and the study of literature should, in the first place, concentrate on the actual work (1978 : 139). For the work of art here is a novel, so reading the novel is the first thing to do. After that, concentrating and interpreting can be done. Thus, those actions can be incorporated in the internal aspects of a novel, because they involve the intrinsic elements in the novel. Then, M. H. Abrams stated in his The Mirror and the Lamp that:

the 'objective orientation', which on principle regards the work of art in isolation from all these external points of reference, analyzes it as a self-sufficient entity constituted by its parts in their internal relations, and sets out to judge it solely by criteria intrinsic to its own mode of being (1953 : 26).

Therefore, supported by Rene Wellek and Austin Warren, Abrams' statement is suitable as a theory for this paper, that is the Objective Theory.

#### **A.1.1. Intrinsic Approach**

The writer will approach the subject matter through the intrinsic elements. And among the intrinsic elements in the novel, the writer considers that the setting and

the character are the important elements to represent the things needed in analyzing Robinson Crusoe.

#### **A.1.1.1. Setting**

“Setting refers to the natural and artificial scenery or environment in which characters in literature live and more, together with the things they use” (Roberts, 1989 : 229). Setting can make a contribution to the novel because it gives valuable information to the reader (Baker, 1979 : 10). It makes us well known with the reality in which the character lives. It is not only about the time and the place, but also :

the social context of characters, such as their families, friends and class; the customs, beliefs and rules of behavior of their society; the scenes that are the background or the situation for the events of the novel; and the total atmosphere, mood or feel that is created by these (Gill, 1985 :106).

Setting is divided in two groups : physical environment and emotional environment (atmosphere) (Little, 1966 : 96). Physical environment is about the story-taking time and place, while emotional environment or atmosphere is the mood of the story.

By analyzing the setting in Robinson Crusoe, the writer would recognize the kind of nature of the island. How the environment could influence the character of Robinson Crusoe, especially influence his spirit in struggling against nature; whether the nature becomes his friend or his enemy. Therefore, an expected deep-

understanding will be obtained with emphasis on the emotional environment or the atmosphere and the physical environment.

#### **A.1.1.2. Character**

In his Literature : An Introduction to Reading and Writing, Roberts stated “character in literature generally, and in fiction specifically, is an extended verbal representation of a human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech, and behavior” (1989 : 143). So, characters are fictional creations of authors. When authors create characters, they select some aspects of ordinary people, develop some of those aspects, and put them together as they planned. The result is not an ordinary person but a fictional character who only exists in the world of novel. The qualities of this fictional character can sometimes be found in the physical appearance, the character actions and activities, what the character himself says and think, the other characters say or think about him, and the author says about him (Roberts, 1989 : 147-8).

The analyzing of character in the novel will be focused on one character, that is Robinson Crusoe, for he is the main character who plays the biggest role in the story. He is the dynamic character, one who is modified by actions and experiences (Holman, 1986 : 83). By analyzing Robinson Crusoe’s character, it will be found out how his feeling is when he knows that he is alone, how his effort is to survive and face the lonely life. So, from his character the struggle against the nature, the overcoming

of the loneliness, and, especially, the spirit in the story will be revealed. Therefore, the writer will look upon Robinson Crusoe from a psychological view.

### **A.1.2. Psychological Background**

Besides the Objective Theory, the writer also applies Psychological Background. It is for a reason that the Objective Theory has a weakness. According to the writer, the theory can not completely cover the matters that occur in a literary work. Sometimes, the matter that happened in a literary work, especially novel, is as complex as in a real world. The information outside the literary work itself is also needed to achieve a better understanding. So, the applying of the Psychological Background helps to cover the uncovered part that is left by the Objective Theory. In addition, since the theory can not accept other theories, the background comes into the theory through the intrinsic elements, especially through the character.

Since the purpose of the analysis is to find out the mental development of Robinson Crusoe, the need of knowledge of psychology is significant. In Roediger's Psychology, psychology is defined as :

the systematic study of behavior and mental life, but now it is defined as the study of mind and behavior, but even in studying the "mind", psychologists observe behavior and draw inferences about the mental processes that produced the behavior (1984 : 6).

The writer expects that Robinson Crusoe's development in personality can be traced by using the knowledge because one of the objectives of psychology is to explore the forces affecting personality development.

Then, the writer uses Sigmund Freud's idea of psychology, which is called psychoanalysis whose goal is to bring crucial unconscious material into consciousness. In Burger's Personality : Theory and Research, Freud gives explanation that the mind is divided into three parts : conscious, preconscious, and unconscious. The conscious part contains those thoughts of which we are currently aware. The preconscious part stores all the thoughts we could bring into consciousness fairly easily if we wanted to. The unconscious part influences our everyday behavior, and it can not bring into consciousness except under certain extreme situations (1986 : 55). He also divides the human personality into three distinct parts : id, ego, and superego. Pleasure principle is the basic of the actions taken by the id, which is concerned only with satisfying personal desires. It is regardless of the physical or social limitations that might prevent us from getting whatever we want. The id uses wish fulfillment to satisfy its needs. The ego's actions are based on the reality principle, that is, the main job of the ego is to satisfy the id impulse, but to do so in a manner that takes into consideration the realities of the situation. Because the id impulses are unacceptable and therefore threatening for the individual, it is the ego's job to keep these impulses in the unconscious. The superego represent society's values and standards, then it places

more restrictions on what an individual can and can not do (Burger, 1986 : 56-7). Therefore, Freud's psychoanalysis is applied to analyze the character and to reveal the struggle, the loneliness, and the spirit of Robinson Crusoe.

Meanwhile, all living things depend on one another and on their physical surroundings, or environment. Plants depend on water, light, air, and food from the soil. Animals depend on air, water, and plants for food. We as human beings depend on plants, animals, and the earth itself for food, shelter, and clothing. Ecology helps us to understand how each form of life affects, and is affected by, other living thing and how all are affected by their environment (The New Book of Knowledge, vol. 5, 1987 : 43-4). So does Robinson Crusoe, he depends on plants, animals, water, air, etc., to keep alive.

Since Robinson Crusoe lives alone on a desert island, he needs adaptation for changing his life. According to Konner, adaptation is the process through which any person adjusts to the world around him, including the world of creatures near and familiar to him (1982 : 12). And Charles Darwin thought that adaptation is a result of the survival of better-adapted individuals in a population. It means that the better-adapted individuals will have a better chance of surviving. Darwin also said that :

as more individuals are produced than can possibly survive, there must in every case be a *struggle for existence*, either one individual with another of

the same species, or with the individuals of distinct species, or with the physical conditions of life (Internet source).

Yet Robinson Crusoe does not compete with same or distinct species to survive, he competes with the physical conditions of the island. He must struggle against the nature in order to stay alive, in other words, he has to struggle for the fittest or struggle for existence.

Being cast away, Robinson Crusoe feels the loneliness because he has no friends. As a social human being, he needs friends to talk. He believes in God and he gets closer to God. He talks to Him and clarifies all his problems to Him. He believes that God never puts him in sorrow and he believes that God is always on his side.

#### **B. Related Studies of Other Writings about this Novel**

The charm of Robinson Crusoe is its intense reality, in the succession of thoughts, feelings, incidents, which every reader recognizes to be true to life. At first glance it would seem that one man on a desert island could not possibly furnish the material for a long story; but as we read we realize with amazement that every slightest thought and action is a record of what the reader himself would do and feel if he were alone in such a place (Long, 1964 : 349). According to Angus Ross, he stated that 'Crusoe is Everyman'. This Defoe's masterpiece can make the reader identify himself with the character, that "if I had been Crusoe, I should have behaved" (1965 :

15). For the first time in a book of this sort, the author was not only telling about the adventure, as happening to himself or to somebody else, but “seeming to write as he was experiencing the events, and so making the reader experience them too” (Dobree, 1968 : 419). Defoe, in fact, has gratified some of the most permanent desires of the human heart and has helped the readers to recapture many of the forgotten pleasures of childhood -- the pleasure of ‘playing house’, of making things, of keeping animals, of watching things grow, of finding things and keeping them, of sailing in rafts and boats, and so on (Sutherland, 1980 : 11).

Usually Defoe’s writings always are in the first person, use a convenient autobiographical method, and he enters into their verisimilitude by their matter-of-fact style and their vivid concreteness of detail (The New Encyclopedia Britannica, vol. 5, 1981 : 552). The novel of Robinson Crusoe is a ‘picaresque’ novel, one in which episodes are loosely linked through the presence of a wandering central character and the plot is not strong, even has no plot, but the emphasis is upon giving a picture of many aspects of society (Little, 1966 : 104). The story just starts, and goes on to the end.

According to Ned Hoopes in Robinson Crusoe introduction, Defoe used a series of devices to deceive his readers and give his story a sense of reality, and

..... in order to produce an illusion of truthfulness, he wrote the book as a diary. He tells the story modestly, as if Crusoe were really speaking. His

**matter-of-fact account of his methods of feeding, clothing, and housing himself, and the great detail and simple language give the impression Defoe was trying to achieve – that he is merely the editor of a private man’s adventures, and that his book is ‘just history of fact’ with ‘no appearance of fiction in it’ (1964 : v).**

**Chapter III**  
**ANALYSIS**