CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Object of The Study

The object of the study is the novel titled *The Giver* written by Lois Lowry and published by Houghton Mifflin on 1993, it is the first novel of a series called *The Quartet*; followed by *Gathering Blue, Messenger* and *Son*. It is a very successful novel sold over 10 million copies up to 2014, ranked 11 in American Library Association and including in the fourth best children novel in the U.S. This Novel has won many literary awards such as The Newbery Medal on 1994, The Regina Medal in 1994, William Allen White Award in 1996, and also many kinds of recognitions. *The Giver* has also been released as a film in 2014 starred by famous Hollywood actors and actresses such as Meryl Streep, Katie Holmes, and Taylor Swift.

3.2 Approach of the Study

The approach used in this study is psychological approach. Since 1909, I. A Richards, Kenneth Burke, and Edmund Wilson and also numerous other experts have started to consider psychological approach as an appropriate approach to assist in understanding literature (Murfin, 1999). Psychological approach focuses on the role of internal processes such as motivation in shaping personality and thereby behavior as it deals extensively with mental processes within the person (Glassman and Hadad, 2009:224-225).

One of the big names in psychology is Abraham H. Maslow who is well known for his theory of motivation and need of human beings. Maslow’s view on psychology does not a complete contradictory to Freud’s or other behaviourists, he seeks beneficiary, meaningful
and applicable sides in humanity more than other types of psychology – Freudian and behaviourist instead. (Goble, 1987:33). Maslow’s thinks that a theory of human beings must include not only internal determinants or behavioural intrinsics but also external determinants or environmental intrinsics.

In order to fulfill his needs and obtain a personality development, Jonas has to face several conflicts. The conflicts will increase as the hierarchy of needs is gradually fulfilled from the lowest level to the highest one.

### 3.3 Method of The Study

This study begins with choosing the literary work of Lois Lowry, the novel titled *The Giver*. After reading the novel several times, the topic of the study is decided, which is to analyze the personal development of the main character of the story through the literary element of conflict. In order to reach the final finding of the study, the problem formulations need to be answered through several steps as follows:

The first step is finding Jonas’ needs using the Hierarchy of Needs by Maslow. In this novel, the needs varies with the needs that have been provided by the community and the needs later realized by Jonas, with the additional quality from his experience as a Receiver. If overlapping needs are found, they will be compared to decide which is Jonas really need.

After finding Jonas’ needs according to the appropriate order of Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, the next step will be finding conflicts that occurs on every stage of the needs. These conflicts are the triggers of how Jonas moved on to the higher set of needs, therefore they might also be in the same order in the hierarchy, started from the lowest until the highest needs. Also, they will be divided as Jonas’ conflicts as a Receiver and a Giver.

From all the needs and conflicts described, it will be possible to see if Jonas’ personality develops or not, that is if he succeeded in overcoming the conflicts and fulfilling all of his needs, from the lowest ones until the highest ones.
The final step will be making conclusion based on the analysis.