

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Object of the Study

Oliver Twist, published in 1838, is one of Charles Dickens's best-known and well-loved works. It was written after he had already attained success as the author of *The Pickwick Papers*. It has been adapted as a film and a long running Broadway musical and has been considered a classic ever since it was first published. The book originally appeared as a "serial"; that is, each chapter was published separately, in order, in a magazine called *Bentley's Miscellany*, of which Dickens was editor. Each week, readers waited avidly for the next installment in the tale; this partly accounts for the fact that each chapter ends with a "cliff-hanger" that would hold the reader's interest until the following chapter was published, *Oliver Twist Notes*, Harry Kaste, M.A (1965: 8).

Oliver Twist is the story of a young orphan, Oliver. He is born in a workhouse, to a mother not known to anyone in the town. He escapes from workhouse and travel to London where he met a gang of juvenile pickpocket. And he also met Mr. Brownlow, the man who saves and gives him a better place to stay after he involved a pick pocket incident with Oliver. He also involved into dangerous robbery with the gang of pick pocket, *Charles Dickens* (1987).

3.2 Approach of the Study

The approach used in this study is reader response criticism. According to Charles E. Bressler, Reader response criticism explained that active reader is needed to create the meaning of the literary work. And the text have control over the interpretative process than the reader does (1998; 67-69).

Nicholas Royle in his book *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory*, (1995 ; 12) stated that reading prosses is create the meaning of the text, and reader response can be response about the character or what the character is.

In making reader response, the focus is always on the reader and the relationship between the reader and the text. As Rosenblatt explain in "*the actual reading event*" the reader interprets the text (the reader act on the text) or the text produces a response in the reader (the text acts on the reader). ([Http: // www.docin.com/p-351546616.html](http://www.docin.com/p-351546616.html))

According to Charles E. Bressler, (1998; 67-69) there are many methodologies in reader response criticism.

- a. Structuralism, the reader can make the text become important because they bring predetermined system of ascertaining meaning and apply sign system to the text.
- b. Phenomenology, the meaning exists if there is a consciousness of the reader.
- c. Subjective criticism, the reader's though, belief and experience play greater part than the actual text.
- d. A two-step methodology, two step procedure that show a work gives a reader task and the reader response or answer the task

To get good interpretation of text it is better to be done by several people or group. And every method gives an ideological basis for reader response analysis itself so it will make a unique method.

According to Rosenblatt, reading process is involve the text and the reader, the reader and the text must work together to create the meaning. Reader response makes the reader become an active participant along with the text in creating meaning.

3.3 Method of the Study

In this thesis, the writer is supported by reader response criticism, character and characterization theory and also conflict theory to analyze characteristics of the main character “Oliver Twist” in Charles Dickens’s *Oliver Twist* through his conflicts.

First step, the writer makes a list of Oliver Twist’s several conflicts. The lists are including what conflicts that happened to him based on the plot of the novel and then how did the action of Oliver Twist toward those conflicts. The writer choose ten controversial conflicts with controversial actions of Oliver Twist toward his conflicts in the novel.

After making lists of Oliver Twist conflict, the writers gives a situation to each point of the conflict. Give the situation means the writers retelling a situation or conflict that happened to the main character based on the plot of the novel.

The next step is making question to each situation and the questions will be answered by the readers. The question must be sharp and focus on the conflict and the characteristic of the

main character. And also the question each points is about how do the reader's opinion or point of view toward Oliver conflicts and his action toward them.

The readers are five student from English Prose Class. All of the readers had passed reading classes in several semesters, they also taught a lot about literature in several classes. And they had been finished English Prose class at the same time together. And during that class, they had finished read Oliver Twist Novel and had been taught the technique how to read and analyze that novel.

1st reader is Sandra, she is twenty four years old female. She comes from Bandar Lampung, Sumatra. And she was a generation of 2009 in English Literature Department. She is majoring in English Literature and with a minor in Tourism.

2nd reader is Erhans, he is twenty four years old male. He comes from Poso, Sulawesi. And he was a generation of 2009 in English Department. He is majoring in English Literature and with minor in Tourism.

Ginan is the 3rd reader, he is thirty years old male. He comes from Pematang, Central Java. He is also generation of 2009 in English Department, in majoring English Literature and with minor teaching.

The 4th reader is Maharani, she is twenty five years old female. She comes from Salatiga, Central Java. She is the generation of 2009 in English Literature Department. She is majoring in English Literature and minor in teaching.

The 5th reader is Adi, he is twenty eight years old male. He comes from Salatiga, Central Java. He is generation of 2008 in English Department, in majoring English Department and with minor in teaching.

After collecting responses from responders, the writer would like to make an analysis and conclusion of readers's response about characteristics of Oliver Twist based on reader response criticism. And finally the writer makes a conclusion of the study, moreover make a conclusion, the writer is answering the entire question stated in problem formulation.

