



Analysis of the Main Characters in Film Titanic by James Cameron

Imakulata Suryani Danda¹, Ni Nyoman Deni Ariyaningsih²

English Study Program, Universitas Mahasaraswati Denpasar, Jl. Kamboja no.11A, Dangin Puri kangin, Denpasar Utara, Bali

Correspondence Email : imakulatadenda@gmail.com

Abstract

This study is mainly focus on to find out the types of characters and characterizations of the main character in the film entitle “Titanic” by James Cameron. The study used two theories. The first theory is developed by Kenney (1998) that is used in analyzing the types of main character and the second theory from Wellek and Warren (1976) which is used in analyzing the characterization of the main character. The data were qualitatively analyzed and presented descriptively based on the theories adopted. Protagonist character was found as the finding result of the study. The type of character classified as major and dynamic character. In showing the type of the character and characterization of main character, the analysis used picture or scenes and the dialogue from the film. There are three aspects of characterization of all main characters that were found. Those are physiological, psychological and sociological aspects.

Keywords: *main character, characterization, film*

Abstract

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan jenis karakter dan penokohan karakter utama. Penelitian ini menggunakan dua teori. Teori pertama dikembangkan oleh Kenney (1998) yang digunakan untuk menganalisis tipe-tipe tokoh utama dan teori kedua adalah teori yang dikemukakan oleh Wellek dan Warren (1976) yang digunakan untuk menganalisis penokohan tokoh utama. Data dianalisis secara kualitatif dan disajikan secara deskriptif berdasarkan teori-teori yang digunakan. Tokoh protagonis ditemukan sebagai hasil temuan studi tentang tipe tokoh yang tergolong tokoh utama dan dinamis. Dalam menampilkan tipe tokoh dan penokohan tokoh utama, analisis yang digunakan adalah gambar atau adegan dan dialog dari film tersebut. Ada tiga aspek penokohan dari semua karakter utama yang ditemukan. Yaitu aspek fisiologis, psikologis dan sosiologis.

Kata kunci: *karakter, karakterisasi, film*

Introduction

Literature is the imaginative work or creative writing that describes the nature or human life. According to Pickering and Hoepfer (1981), the creation of literature is a uniquely human activity, born of man's timeless desire to understand, express, and finally share experiences. There are two kinds of literatures, those are fiction and non-

fiction. One of the literary works that belongs to fiction is movie. According to Morner and Rausch (1998), characterization is a method by which an author creates the appearance and personality of imaginary persons and reveals their character. Characterization is the ability to bring the people imaginations to life for the reader, is judged one of the most important attributes of an author.

Many approaches to analyzing literary works, one of which is analyzing characters, studying how to analyze characters in films.

1. Physiological aspect

Physiological is something related to the characteristics of the body (physiology). Physiology is a sub-section of biology, which covers various topics such as organs, anatomy, cells, biological compounds, and their interactions as a whole. So, it can be said that physiology is the study of how the human body works, or the study of normal functions in living things.

2. Psychological aspect

Psychological is a field of science and applied science that studies human behavior, mental functions, and mental processes through scientific procedures.

3. Sociological aspect

The sociological aspect considers the cultural values that live in society. Philosophical and sociological aspects in its application really require extensive experience and knowledge as well as wisdom that is able to follow the neglected community values.

Characters are one of the important elements in a film, because they move the whole story and the types of characters involved in the film's story to create different types of conflict and tension and make the story more interesting. One of the films that is interesting to study is the film untitled Titanic. The main characters in this film are Jack and Rose. Titanic is a 1997 American epic, romance and disaster film screened and directed by James Cameron. This film tells the love story between Jack and Rose (Played by Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet) who came from different social statuses aboard the RMS Titanic which sank on its maiden voyage on April 15, 1912.

The first review is a thesis written by Suarini (2008) entitled “Analysis of Main Characters on *Jalan Hunger*” by Ben Okri. This study aims to determine the physiological, sociological and psychological aspects of the main character based on the theory of Egri (1960) and describe the motivations that shape the behavior of the main character based on Maslow's theory of motivation and personality (1970). The difference between this research and Yasa's thesis is that in Yasa's thesis, discusses the analysis of psychological aspects. While this study focuses on the analysis of the main character using the theory of Wellek and Warren (1949) and Kenney (1966). The similarity is the concern of both studies with the analysis of the main character.

The second review is a thesis written by Dewi (2019) entitled *An Analysis of the Main Characters in the Movie The Fault In Our Stars* by John Green. The data source for this research is the film *The Fault in Our Stars*, which was directed by Josh Boone. This study aims to determine the personality type of the main character based on Kenney's (1966) theory. And to describe the main character based on Morner and Rausch's (1998) characterization theory. The difference between this research and Dewi's thesis is the theory used in analyzing the characterizations. In Dewi's thesis, the analysis uses the theory proposed by Kenney (1966) and Morner and Rausch (1998). While this research focuses on characterization analysis using the theory of Wellek and Warren (1949) and Kenney (1966). What they both have in common is the study's attention to the main character analysis.

The third review is an article written by Pradnyani, Maharani & Candra (2022) entitled "Analysis of Directive Speech Acts: Film of Red Shoes and the Seven Dwarfs" (2019). The purpose of this study was to determine the types of directive speech acts used by the characters based on Kreidler's (1998) theory, which was taken from a book entitled *Introducing English Semantics*. The difference between this research and Pradnyani et al's article is that in Pradnyani et al's article, this study focuses on the analysis of directive speech acts. While this research focuses on characterization analysis using the theory of Wellek and Warren (1949) and Kenney (1966). What they have in common is that both studies analyze the characters in the film.

The fourth review is an article written by Sugiartini, Resen & Utami (2021) entitled *Functions of Negative Imperative Sentences Found in Disney's Mulan* (2020). The purpose of this study was to determine the function of negative imperative sentences used by the characters based on the theory of Quirk et al (1985), which was taken from a book entitled *a Comprehensive English Grammar*. The difference between this research and Sugiartini et al's article is that in Sugiartini et al's article, this study focuses on the function of negative imperative sentences. While this research focuses on characterization analysis using the theory of Wellek and Warren (1949) and Kenney (1966). What they have in common is that both studies analyze the characters in the film.

Based on the background above, this study focused on discussing who are main character in the film *titanic* and how is the main character's characterization in the film *Titanic*.

Method

This research used an observation method. The method applied is to watch the film in its entirety and then proceed by visiting the parts of the film that was selected. Recording parts of the film is also part of data collection related to the film

dialogues that are related or relevant to the research. The analysis is presented descriptively with qualitative methods. The data was analyzed descriptively based on the theories adopted. In order to obtain the significant data that is required in this research, it is necessary to make efforts to provide a clear picture of the topics discussed. The steps in the analysis were watching whole film, understanding all of the main characters and characterizations, focusing on the main characters and characterizations.

Result and Discussion

This section, the discusses the characterization of the main characters namely Jack and Rose in film Titanic. Based on the theory of aspect of characterization proposed by Wellek and Warren (1949), there are two aspect of characterization found in the film. They are Physiological aspect, and Sociological aspect.

Table 1. *Characterization the main character in fim Titanic*

No	Names of the character	Physiological	Psychological	Sosiological
1	Jack Dawson	-Handsome -Short hair -White skin	- Brave -Ambitious - Loyal	-Friendly -Leader man - Polite
2	Rose	-Beautifull -Long Hair -Wait skin - Blue eyes - Brown hair	- Brave - Rebel	-Friendly

1. The main character in the Film Titanic

Regarding the plot of the story in the film, the characters could be categorized into the main characters one by one character with another characters, as follows:

- Rose Dewitt Bukater can be categorized as the main character. Rose is an important character who is the centre of the action or the theme of the story. This story tells of a beautiful woman who will be engaged to a man named Caledon Natan Hockley, a businessman who she does not love at all. Living in a noble

circle requires Rose to be engaged to Cal. Not wanting to live by force, Rose decides to commit suicide. She intends to jump off the ship by his mother. However, Rose refused and finally he chose to commit suicide. A boy from the third grade came and helped him. Long short story, they ended up falling in love with each other even though they were from different social statuses.

Data 1

The first time rose met Jack.

Jack : Hi,, please stop and come down. The water below is very cold. If you jump, you will not die from drowning. But died from the cold. And will torture you later

Rose : Please go... just leave me alone!!!

Jack : Ok I will go, but please come back.

At the time, they knew each other. But suddenly the rose fell. Luckily, Jack quickly grabbed both of his hands. Made them both fall to the floor. When the team came and saw their position and immediately thought that jack was going to harass rose. After that the security guard came and arrested jack. However, Rose tried to explain that she was the one who saved me when I almost fell into the sea.

As the main characters, Rose and Jack can be said as protagonist character, because they are depicted from all sides of life, not just a single attitude. This story tells about Jack, how he cares about people and wants to help. This can be presented in the image and dialogue from Jack and Rose below:

Data 2

Roses ; I don't want to be alone, I want to be with you

Jack ; You have to go fast.

Call : I have prepared a ship for Cal and Jack later and we will soon follow you down.

Rose : ok.

Here Jack and Rose are very happy to see each other again and Rose promises not to leave Jack alone. The two embraced and kissed each other. Rose's fiancé who

accidentally saw the scene. He took out his gun and intended to kill them. Lucky Jack who is always ready to quickly catch Rose and run, but Call continues to chase while firing a gun at Jack. They kept running until they reached the ground floor. But the ground floor was already submerged in water. They are trying to find a way out. But suddenly water from outside entered so that it fell. Luckily they both managed to find a way out and they managed to survive.

2.The Characterization of the main character in the movie "Titanic".

Rose from three aspects as the main character:

1. The Physiological Aspects

Rose as the main character from psychological aspect in the film "Titanic". She is a good-looking, wealthy and good girl. Rose was very devoted to her late father and advised him that she could be engaged to men of equal social status, that is, they wanted a rich and respected family. Despite being from a prominent family, Rose is still friends with ordinary people.

2. The Psychologically Aspects

Rose is a mature girl without a smile and shows an annoying face to people. but his heart is good. as in the dialogue below:

Data 3

Jack : I didn't steal it. I was framed.
Will : All this time he approached you just want to target your property only.
Jack : I'm not that kind of person
Rose : You thief (while glancing at Jack)
Jack : Please believe me that I didn't steal it.

In the dialogue above: Jack was dragged to be evacuated but he kept on rebelling. He could only bow down to Rose as well as remain calm when facing the problem. Based on the film Titanic above, there are several psychological phenomena that describe rose as the main character in the story. The psychological aspects of rose can be described as follows:

a. Jack is a caring and helpful man

Jack Dawson: Will has a caring and good heart, likes to help. On the Titanic, Rose was desperate to commit suicide. However, she came to persuade Rose not to do his reckless act. To the point that he was accused of being a thief but he could only stay silent and looked down and didn't say anything.

b. Jack is a romantic man

Jack is a man who has a kind and romantic heart. In another psychological aspect of Jack he is a very romantic man. Rose is very happy. They look so happy with each other and enjoying the party

c. Jack is a gentleman.

He dared to approach Rose, the fiancé of the nobles.

Data 4

Rose is a 17-year-old girl originally from Philadelphia, who was forced by her mother to be engaged to a 30-year-old man named Caledon Nathan Hockley in order to maintain their social status and the family debt inherited by her late father. Rose boarded the Titanic with Cal and Ruth as first class passengers and later met Jack. His parents were a famous family everyone knew them not only rich people but also their personalities.

1. The physiological aspects

Based on the physiological aspect, Rose is described as a young girl, with fair skin, brown blue eyes, and very beautiful brown hair with a sweet smile and straight teeth. The Rose character is based on a special characterization. Rose is also the main character of the movie Titanic. She loves Jack.

2. The psychological Aspects

Based on the film Titanic, seen from the psychological a. Rose is aspects of Rose can be described as follows:

a Rose is very friendly girl

Rose has a very friendly nature which is quite visible when Jack comes to her. He greeted Jack very warmly. Also when she came to the noble's party, she just smiles to Jack.

Data 5

Roses ; Please have a seat (look at jack with a sweet smile)

Jack : Thank you

b. Rose is a sympathetic and caring girl

Rose has a kind heart, but is stubborn. She fell in love with someone who wasn't on her level. She accepted him for who he was.

3.The sociological Aspect

Rose lives in a prominent family. She is not arrogant and remains humble to anyone. She tries to help her family, and is willing to be engaged to the man her mother arranged to help them financially. Rose didn't love the man her willingness to help out with the family finances was greatly appreciated. She lived with his mother in the royal palace.

Conclusions

Based on the analysis in the previous chapter, it can be concluded that Rose and Jack are the main characters in the Titanic film. Based on the results of this study, it can be concluded that these findings are relevant as answers to research problems. There are two problems solved in this research. Several types of main characters and their characterizations are revealed in this study. The main character is the type that represents the protagonist character. They are Rose Dewitt and Jack Dawson. However, the characterisation of the main character is from three aspects, which are (1) The physiological aspect, (2) The psychological aspect, and (3) The sociological aspect.

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