A. Background of the Study

Literature, however, cannot be separated from human life, since it emerges from an author who lives as human being. Thus literary works are bringing up social problem existed in the society. Literature is a reflection of conditions around the writer, about experiences facing the life, or showing the ideal condition wanted by the author.

As the representation of the author soul, the literary works are bringing up social problem existed in the society, one’s experiences in facing life, or showing the ideal condition dreamed by author. Beside that, a literary work reflects something in the past, today and future. Literature plays in the term of mirror occurred in the society whenever it is. In most cases, literature referred to as the entirely written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the most exact sense of the world (Klarer, 1998:1)

A literary work, as a part of art work lead towards major aim. It should carry an esthetic structure, attempts to move people emotionally, to arouse their interest. It is being a means of ordering human existence, of interpreting life, and of giving important meaning in life. It is alone one of instruments in which man attempts to explore and to explain his own nature. Literature, in its history from past to the present, is a record of the changing conception of
human nature. It provides a universal description of the nature of man, individual and society man, good man and evil man, common man and noble man, man in all of his multiform aspects. And literature, then, is an exploration and exploration of life morality in the nature of man.

It cannot be neglected that literature is addressing itself to psychology because it also explores the morality of life. It deals with love, hate, environment, society, family, crime, an individual experience, etc. Because of this reason literature is called psychological mode of artistic creation.

Talking about the influences of psychology towards literary work, there is an evidence about the influence of psychology towards literary work. It can be explicitly and implicitly appeared in one of literary works written by John Steinbeck. John Steinbeck was an American novelist wrote a novel in 1936 entitled *Of Mice and Men*. It is a novel which contains many psychological aspects. It can be seen from the character’s action and dialogues, the gesture described, and the feeling explained by the writer.

John Steinbeck was a great people with great live journey. He was born on February 27, 1902 in the Salinas family home, 132 Central Avenue. In 1925 he went to New York City, working odd jobs, including manual labor for construction of Madison Square Garden. Could not find a publisher, he returned to California the year after. In 1936 *“Of Mice and Men,”* was set around Soledad. It takes place in California, and it describes as one of setting of places of *Of Mice and Men’s*. In 1962 Steinbeck accepted the Nobel Prize in Stockholm. He wrote to a college friend, “This prize business is only...
different from the Lettuce Queen of Salinas in degree.” He died in December 20th 1968 in New York, and on March 4th 1969 his ashes were buried in the Garden of Memories cemetery.

*Of Mice and Men* starts in the term of two man’s travel, George Milton and Lennie Small, they are very close friends and feel more than brother. They are looking for better life to reach their goal, that is to own the dream land by their salary. Work in nomadical way, it caused Lennie have some troubles with himself. One of the problems is he cannot control his power. Unfortunately he has a mental disorder, he acts like a child although he is a huge man. The trip brings up the wonderful friendship, tragedy, conflict, and unbelievable ending.

The problems expressed by John Steinbeck in *Of Mice and Men* are so unique and universal, that is about friendship. George Milton plays as a guardian, even his appearance is smaller than Lennie, because Lennie lacks of defense instinct, he cannot do anything without any command from George. Based on this reason, the writer is interested in analyzing the story using Humanistic Psychological Approach by Abraham Maslow. The title chosen is *Gaining Security Feeling Of The Main Characters Reflected In John Steinbeck’s Novel Of Mice And Men: A Humanistic Psychological Approach.*

**B. Literature Review**

The writer presents the previous study dealing with the study of this novel. Dheny Ratna (2005) Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta students in her thesis entitled “Ambition of Lennie Small and George Milton in john
Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men; An Individual Psychological Approach*” she analyzed the major character’s ambition that have a great influence in the personality, by using individual psychological approach. Meanwhile, at the present writer analyzes this novel focusing on Lennie Small’s way of gaining security feeling by using Humanistic Psychological approach entitled *Gaining Security Feeling Of The Main Characters Reflected In John Steinbeck’s Novel Of Mice And Men: A Humanistic Psychological Approach*.

C. Problem Statement

How Lennie Small gains the security feeling in John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*?

D. Objective of the Study

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the novel based on Abraham Maslow’s Humanistic Psychological perspective

E. Benefit of the Study

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is expected to give additional information and contribute to the knowledge development, particularly studies on John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*. 
2. **Practical Benefit**

This study is expected to give deeper and wider understanding toward the writer himself and the other researcher about the novel based on Humanistic Psychological perspective.

F. **Research Method**

1. **Object of the Study**

   The object of the study is John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men* novel published in the United States of America by Covici, Friede, Inc. 1937.

2. **Type of the Data and the Data Sources.**

   In this study, the writer uses two kinds of data source, there are:

   a. **Primary Data Source**

      The primary data is the novel itself; *Of Mice and Men* written by John Steinbeck.

   b. **Secondary Data Source**

      The data come from the articles about the novel, articles and journals related to the theories, and the biography of the author.

3. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   In collecting the data, the writer uses library research by collecting and selecting the appropriate data from many sources. The writer reads the whole novel chapters and takes the important information related to the research.
4. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

In analyzing data the writer uses descriptive analysis. It is used to describe the structural analysis of the work and the Humanistic Psychology analysis of literary work.

**G. Paper Organization**

This paper is divided into five chapters.

Chapter I presents introduction, including the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method and paper organization.

Chapter II presents the underlying theory of Humanistic Psychology by Abraham Maslow.

Chapter III consists of the structural analysis of the novel.

Chapter IV deals with Humanistic Psychology Analysis and its application in analyzing John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*.

Chapter V deals with conclusion and suggestion for this study.