CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

*Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* is a new movie released on February, 12th 2010. This movie is adapted from the novel by Rick Riordan, the author of the New York bestselling *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series. For fifteen years Rick Riordan taught English and history at public and private middle school in the San Francisco and bay area and in Texas. In 2002, Saint Mary’s hall honored with the school’s first master teacher award. Some of his novels are reworking a historical material that combines the historical myth and modern era. Rick Riordan’s novel are such as *The Last Olympian* (*Percy Jackson and the Olympians*, books 5) in 2009, *The Lightning Thief* (*Percy Jackson and the Olympians*) in 2010, the titans curse’s (books 3) in 2008, and *The Lighting Thief* in 2006.

*Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie is directed by Chris Columbus. One of the great directors that ever made the great movie likes *Harry Potter*. Chris Columbus was born in Pennsylvania on September, 10th 1958 and grew in Ohio. Chris Columbus was first inspired to make movie after seeing *The Godfather* at age 15. After enrolling at NYU Film School, he sold his first screenplay (never produced) while a sophomore there. After graduating, Columbus tried to sell his fourth script, *Gremlins*, with no success, until Steven Spielberg optioned it. Columbus moved to Los Angeles for a year during rewrites on the project in Spielberg’s bungalow at universal. After writing two more
scripts for Spielberg, *The Goodness* and *Young Sherlock Holmes*. Columbus’ own directing carrier was launched a few years later with *Adventures in Babysitting*. He is the best known to audiences as the director of the runaway hit *Home Alone*, written and produced by John Hughes its sequel *Home Alone 2*, and most recently *Mrs. Doubt Fire*. Columbus is also being the producer on *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*, and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*, and also *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* as his recent movie.

*Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* is a movie about the dyslexia disease, the difficulties to identify word that happen in a boy named Percy Jackson. The trouble prone, Percy Jackson is having problem in his high school but it is being his first challenge. In other scene, it’s the 21st century, but the gods of mount Olympus seem to have walked out of the pages of Percy’s Greek mythology texts and into his life.

Percy has learned that his real father is Poseidon, the God of sea, which means that Percy is demigod-half human, and half god. At the same time, the powerful gods on Olympus are feuding, which could launch a war enveloping our entire planet. Now, Percy must prepare for the adventure of a lifetime, and the stakes couldn’t be higher. With ominous storm clouds brewing over earth and his own life now in peril, Percy travels to a special enclave called camp half blood, where he trains to harness his newly discovered power and prevent a devastating war among the gods. There, Percy meets two fellow demigods, the warrior Annabeth, who is searching for her mother, the goddess Athena, and his friend and protector, Grover, who is actually a brave but untested satyr. Grover and
Annabeth then join with Percy on an incredible transcontinental odyssey that takes them six hundred stories above New York city (the portal to mount Olympus) and to the iconic Hollywood sign, under which burn the fires of the underworld. He also meets Luke, the mischievous demigod, son of Hermes who has incredible fighting ability. Luke helps by lending his shield and flying shoes. At journey’s end rests the fate of the world, and the life of Percy’s mother, Sally, whom Percy must rescue from the depths of hell itself. In his journey, Percy also meets Medusa, the head snake women that can make people being stone if they see the Medusa’s eyes.

Percy fights with medusa and could cut off Medusa’s head and saves it. They take the pearl on Medusa as the first ticket to go to underworld. The second journey is in the Athena’s museum to take the second pearl. There, they fight within hydra, the monster of lion with three dragon heads and one of heads can produce fire. Hydra can be the same creatures like it’s if one of his head is cut off. Percy uses his power of water to make the self wall to save him and put the pearl on the floor. After that, Grover uses the Medusa’s head to make hydra stone. The last pearl is in Texas in one of casino there. Percy and his friends stuck on this casino for about 5 days because they eat lotuses that can hypnotize people who eat it. Percy finds the pearl on one of the gamble table and brings his friends out from that place. Percy does anything to save his mother. He does not seem to care about the rest of the world. Olympus can go to hell and wage war on earth for all he cares. As his consequence he must fight with Hades and return the lightning bolt to Zeus and save the world. The movie climaxes with an interesting twist, but
naturally ends with Percy returning to camp half-blood. His mother is saved and
the world no longer in peril and a romantic interest blooming between him and
Annabeth.

_Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief_ is the movie distributed by 20\textsuperscript{th}
century fox, one of the biggest production houses. The location on Vancouver,
British Columbia, Canada and USA, makes this movie being the great Movie in
this year. The setting is in 21\textsuperscript{st} century with the Greece story. The movie runtime
is 118 minutes, played in 3,356 theatres with the total box office 82, 318,000 in
US and Canada. The amazing visual effect makes this movie be unforgettable
movie.

_Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief_ is an interesting movie recent day.
Why the writer is interested to study this movie is due to four following reasons:

First, this movie is stared by the great actors and actresses like Uma
Thurman as Medusa, Kevin Mckidd as Poseidon, Pierce Brosnan as Mr. Brunner/
Chiron and also Sean Bean as Zeus, Logan leman as Percy Jackson doing his act
totally.

Second reason is this movie combines between the 21\textsuperscript{st} century and the
historical of Greek myth. It is good idea to learn about history in this day. The
combining of them makes this movie be awesome movie that consists of
entertainment and education.

Third is visualization that is used on this movie makes complexity.
Sound makes it and animation effect becomes the point of this movie.
The last is *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie is directed by Chris Columbus, the great director and producer that won 2 and 11 nomination award.

Based on the reasons above the writer will observe *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie by using sociological approach. And the writer constructs the title **THE GREEK MYTH IN MODERN ERA IN CHRIS COLUMBUS’ PERCY JACKSON AND THE LIGHTNING THIEF MOVIE (2010): SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

There is no previous literature review of this movie, at least in UMS.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of this research proposed by the writer is “What is the correlation between the Greek Myth and Modern Era from the Chris Columbus’ *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie?”

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses on analyzing the correlation between the Greek Myth and Modern Era based on *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie using sociological approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to:

1. Classify the level of Greek mythology.
2. Analyze the Chris Columbus’ *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie based on its structural movie’s elements.
3. Describe the correlation of the Greek myth in Columbus’ *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie with Modern Era based on sociological approach.

**F. The benefits of the Study**

The benefits of the study are:

1. **Theoretical Benefit**

   Hopefully, the study of this research can give the true information in the literary studies on *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie.

2. **Practical Benefit**

   Hopefully, the study of this research can improve the ability, knowledge and experience of the writer and also students who learn and have interest in studying literature, especially on the movie using sociological approach.

**G. Research Method**

Research method is used to conduct the research. It has the steps that are determining the type of the study, determining the object of the study, determining the data and data source, determining the method of the data collection and determining the technique of analyzing the data.

1. **Type of the Study**

   This research is using the descriptive qualitative research. It is a library research while the data source is literary data.

2. **Object of the Study**

   The object of the study is *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie that compares the Greek myth and modern era using sociological approach.
3. **Type of the Data and the Data Source**

   The data and data source are from the movie of *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie and other sources that relevant.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   The methods of the data collection are:
   
   a. Watching the *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* movie.
   
   b. Underlying the important part from the movie.
   
   c. Classifying the main characters.
   
   d. Classifying the relevant data.

5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

   The technique of the analyzing data is descriptive analysis that analyzes structural elements of the movie and the sociological perspective of the work.

**H. Research Paper Organization**

   The research paper organization of The Greek Myth In Modern Era In Chris Columbus’ *Percy Jackson And the Lighting Thief* Movie (2010): A Sociological Approach is as follows: Chapter I consists of Background of the Study, Literature review, Problem statement, Limitation of the study, Objectives of the study, The benefits of the study, Research Method, and Research Paper Organization. Chapter II is Underlying Theory. It consists of Sociology of Literature, the basic principle of sociology of literature and structural elements of the movie, and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is the social historical background of the American society at the turn of twenty first century. Chapter IV is Structural analysis movie, consists of structural elements and discussion.
Chapter V is the sociological analysis of the movie. Chapter VI is conclusion and suggestion.