

**PERSONALITY OF KING GEORGE VI
IN TOM HOOPER'S *THE KING'S SPEECH* MOVIE (2010):
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



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RESEARCH PAPER

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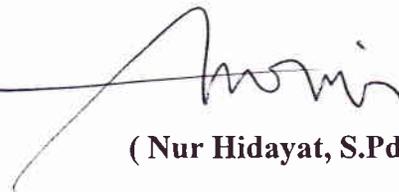
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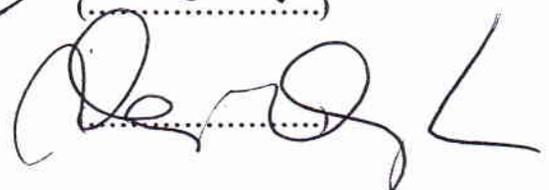
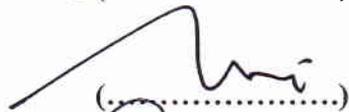
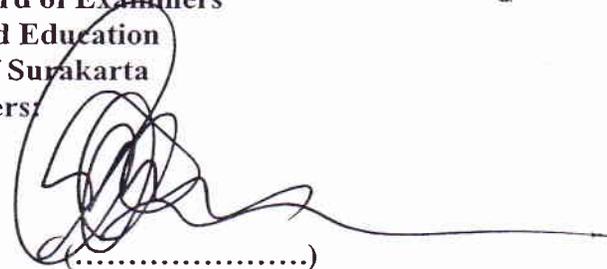
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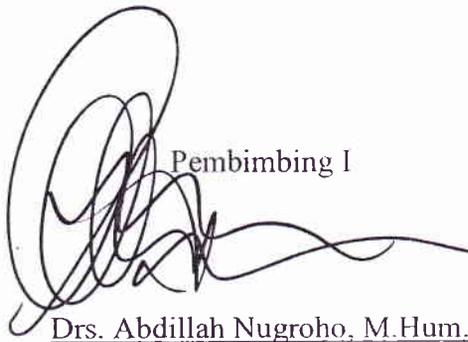
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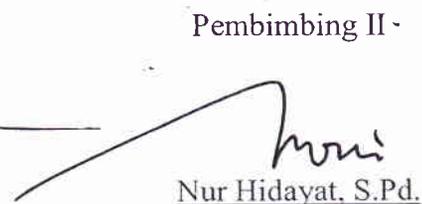
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Personality of King George VI in *The King's Speech* Movie Directed by Tom Hooper (2010): A Psychoanalytic Approach

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ABSTRACT

*This research is aimed to analyze personality of King George VI viewed in character of King George VI based on psychoanalytic perspective and analyze the movie based on its structural elements. In achieving the objectives, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative method as the type of the research. Type of data in this research is movie, which the form of movie is dialogue between the characters. Primary data source is taken from *The King's Speech* movie that was directed by Tom Hooper. Secondary data source are taken from other sources such as the director's bibliography, information about the movie, and other relevant information that support the analysis. In collecting the data, the researcher uses documentation method and the technique of the data analysis is descriptive analysis. Based on the psychoanalytic analysis, in *The King's Speech*, Tom Hooper describes how the personality of King George VI is one of causes the story become interesting, because he has an interesting personality. He is a kind person who can give influence for the audiences because King George VI has good personality, even though he has stammer, but he is very responsible for his duty. Structure of King George VI's personality shows interesting conflict between id, ego, and superego. It can be seen from King George VI has done in this movie, such as when King George VI's superego pressures id to be a king although he knows that he never wishes to be king of England. He knows the limitations he has. He has stammer but he always strives to recover his stammer.*

Key words: *personality, id, ego, superego, movie, psychoanalytic approach.*

A. Introduction

1. Background of the Study

Personality is the whole bundle of individual attributes that make each of us unique (<http://www2.cnr.edu/home/bmcmanus/psychcrit.html/>). Personality has connections with sense of human beings to do something. Everybody has a different personality because human beings have also different characters. Many personalities of human beings can be studied by looking at what they do, what they speak, and so on. Sometimes we can know personality of human being reflected in movies.

Movie or film is a story conveyed with moving images. It is produced by recording photographic images with cameras, or by creating images using animation techniques or visual effects. Film is considered to be an important art form, a source of popular entertainment and a powerful method for educating or indoctrinating citizens. The visual elements of cinema give motion pictures a universal power of communication. Movies include many different characters which have different personality. For example in movie of *The King's Speech*, many characters which have different personality which can be studied. For example, character of Bertie as King George VI. King George VI has a heavy personality to realize his purpose.

In this case, the writer concerns with *The King's Speech* movie. *The King's Speech* movie happens when King George V reigns over a quarter of the world's people in 1925 until Nazi Germany declare of war with Buckingham Palace that reflect to in September 1939.

The writer uses a psychoanalytic approach to study the personality of human beings in a movie, because personality has connections with psychology of human beings. A psychoanalytic approach is a theory that proposed by Sigmund Freud. This theory is applied to different aspects of psychology the approach basically provides an explanation of a specific topic from a certain point of view. Freud in Newman (1983: 385)

described three components of personality; the *id*, the *ego*, and the *superego*. The *id* is the most basic system of personality, totally unconscious, the *ego* is authorized by reality principles and connects with real world, and the *superego* as the principle of morality consists of some values and evaluated norms.

The writer chooses to analyze personality of King George VI in *The King's Speech* movie because several reasons. First, *The King's Speech* is famous movie and got many awards. The second aspect is that this movie has many positive messages to the audiences. Some of them are responsibility brought by main character namely Bertie as King George VI. The third aspect is the visualization and the cast of the movie. Tom Hooper makes the audiences feel enthusiastic with this historical drama movie. The last, this movie shows some characters which have an interesting personality, for example King George VI who shows an interesting personality to be analyzed. Based on the above reasons and statements, the writer will do a research entitled *Personality of King George VI in Tom Hooper's The King's Speech Movie (2010): A Psychoanalytic Approach*.

2. Literature Review

The previous research was conducted by Prabowo graduated from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta (2012). The title of the research is *Striving for Removing Stammer in The King's Speech movie by Tom Hooper (2010): An Individual Psychological Approach*. The problem of this study is to reveal how is striving for removing stammer in major character in the movie of *The King's Speech* directed by Tom Hooper. The objective of the study is to analyze the major character in *The King's Speech* movie using an individual psychological approach. Based on the analysis, the researcher concludes that the problem faced by the major character is strived to go out of his condition, it causes the writer to use individual psychological perspective. By using this method, it is known how Duke of York as the major character can solve his problem.

There are several similarities from the previous research above with the research of the writer. The first is the data sources and the objects of the research. Second is in using descriptive qualitative method to analyze the research. But, there is the difference is seen from the study. Here, the writer analyzes the personality of King George VI by using a psychoanalytic approach.

3. Problem Statement

Based on the background of the study, the writer proposes the problem statement of the study is how the personality of King George VI is reflected in *The King's Speech* movie (2010).

4. Objective of the Study

The objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To analyze *The King's Speech* movie based on the structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze the personality of King George VI in *The King's Speech* movie based on a psychoanalytic approach

5. Benefit of the Study

In conducting the research paper, the researcher hopes that the study will have benefits as follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is hoped to give a new contribution and information to the larger body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on *The King's Speech* movie.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to enrich the knowledge of the researchers and readers who have interest with literary study on the movie especially using a psychoanalytic approach.

6. Underlying Theory

Psychoanalysis is a theory that is proposed by Sigmund Freud in 1856. It is the part of psychoanalytic study which has two fundamental assumptions. According to Feist (1985: 21) "the fundamental assumptions of psychoanalysis are that mental life is divided into two levels, the unconscious proper and the conscious". Freud said that the conscious and preconscious are the smallest parts of the mind, while the unconscious is the biggest part of the mind. The unconscious mind is everything that is difficult to be brought to the conscious mind, such as instinct and desire and also something we cannot reach out, such as memory, emotion, and traumatic (Boeree, <http://www.ship.edu/FreudandPsychoanalysis/>).

According to Gilmer (1984: 60), psychoanalytic theory sees the working of our instincts and emotions as a product of the dynamic interaction between our instincts and the counter forces set up by the external environment. The basic assumption of Freud's theory is that much of behaviors stem from processes that are unconscious (Atkinson & friends, 1983:10). The psychoanalysis also emphasizes individual differences and the complex organization of personality functioning since the personality is viewed as process through which the individual organized and structures external stimuli in the environment.

Personality is the whole bundle of individual attributes that make each other of us unique (<http://www2.cnr.edu/home/bmcmanus/psychcrit.html>). From another source personality is about our different ways of being human. How the human nature we all share manifests in different styles of thinking, feeling and acting (<http://www.personalityspirituality.net>).

Every human being possesses a personality that defines our essence as individuals in every stage of development in our lives. It is what makes up a person and it is what makes us unique from each other. In other words, no two individuals have the same personalities and so you are

being characterized by other people as to who you are and what you are to them based on your personality (<http://www.exforsys.com/what-is-personality>).

Freud in Newman (1983: 385) described three components of personality; the *id*, the *ego*, and the *superego*. These systems are interacted each other in order to organize human behavior.

In a work of literature each elements is used or chosen by the writer only in relation with the other elements. These elements must work together to make a story. The structural elements of movie contain narrative elements and technical elements. The narrative elements of movie contain character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme. And the technical elements of movie contain casting, *mise-en-scene*, cinematographic, sound, and editing.

B. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the writer uses a qualitative research. It is a library research while data sources are using literary data. It purposes to analyze the movie using a psychoanalytic approach.

2. Object of the Study

The object of this study is *The King's Speech* movie based on true story that was directed by Tom Hooper.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

Type of data in this research is movie, which the form of movie is dialogue between the characters. While types of data source are divided into two types, namely primary and secondary data source, they are:

- a. Primary data source is taken from *The King's Speech* movie that was directed by Tom Hooper.
- b. Secondary data source are taken from other sources such as the director's bibliography, information about the movie, and other relevant information that support the analysis.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

The technique of data collection is library research, the steps are as follow:

- a. Watching *The King's Speech* movie several times.
- b. Identifying the problem and to find the data.
- c. Taking notes of important parts in both primary and secondary data.
- d. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- e. Collecting some supporting data from other references that are related to the topic.

5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive qualitative analysis. It concerns with the structural elements of the movie and a psychoanalytic approach to show how personality is reflected in the story and the characters of King George VI in *The King's Speech* movie (2010).

C. **Findings and Discussions**

The King's Speech movie is one of the best movie. In *The King's Speech* movie, Hooper as director makes a movie that reflects a story of novel which tells about a kingdom. The narrative elements of movie that contain the character and characterizations, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme make the story of this movie better. It is also supported by the technical elements of movie which contain casting, *mise-en-scene*, cinematography, sound, and editing that exist to improve the quality of the story of the movie.

Hooper builds the characters and characterizations in *The King's Speech* movie in the major and minor character. In *The King's Speech*, the mayor character is King George VI which has a problem with his stammer. Beside mayor characters, minor characters of this movie also

have contribution to make this movie better. Most of the characters and characterizations give an effective effect in delivering the story.

The setting of place in *The King's Speech* movie shows detail where the events in the story happen. It can be seen when seeing this movie. But the setting of place does not show a great detail. The audiences must find the setting of place by watching the movie in depth. Besides the setting of place, the setting of time also exists in this movie. The time setting of the story is unclearly stated in the movie. The stories of the movie tell a flash back story of the major character.

The plot of this movie is good enough and interesting. Hooper as director of this movie succeeded to give story of the movie to have ideal traditional plot line encompasses the following four sequential levels; exposition, complication, climax, and resolution. In this movie, Hooper also used a style to describe the characterizations of the characters. He often uses a simple language to show the way of the characters during their interaction each other.

Technical elements of *The King's Speech* movie have succeeded to improve this movie better. It can be seen from casting of actors and actresses that have succeeded to find the best actors and actresses that can play their characters well. *Mise-en-scene*, cinematography, sound, and editing in this movie also have succeeded to make this movie better because the result of *mise-en-scene*, cinematography, sound, and editing in this movie are good enough. Finally based from the discussion in this chapter, it can be taken a conclusion that *The King's Speech* have succeeded to combine narrative elements of movie and technical elements of movie. It causes *The King's Speech* to be one of good movies. The story of this movie can be shown clearly to the audiences.

D. Conclusions and Implication

The King's Speech movie by Tom Hooper is a very interesting historical drama to be studied. It contains a good story which can give real effect for watchers. This movie also shows some characters which have an

interesting personality. *The King's Speech* movie tells the problem of the British Empire.

The story begins when Prince Albert had never wished to be king of England. He knew full well the limitations he has. There was no way he presided over a country the size of England while speaking in public alone was to be an uphill battle for him. Unfortunately fate would have immediate and Albert ascended the throne.

After the death of King George V, Prince Edward who should have ascended the throne, but because Edward prefers off the throne and marry Wallis Simpson. There was no other option except for Albert to take over the reins of power. Albert knew that this was not an easy affair, let alone World War II was at the door. He should be able to overcome its shortcomings.

Fortunately, Elizabeth never gives up. After trying a few doctors to cure stuttering suffered by Albert, Elizabeth then tries more unorthodox methods. She asked Lionel Logue, a speech therapist with a strange method, to heal her husband.

With strong determination and the guidance of Lionel, Albert finally managed to recover. Of a man stutter, Albert became a king who was able to speak and to burn the spirit of all people in the United Kingdom to deal with World War II.

In this movie, the character of Prince Albert or Bertie as King George VI is one of causes the story become interesting, because he has an interesting personality. King George VI has a strong personality although he gets many problems of his life. He is strong to pass it. King George VI also has a high emotion which makes his personality interesting. It can be seen from several scenes of this movie. King George VI is easily angry if he is getting a problem such as when he follows therapy of his first doctor, he is angry and immediately leaves the room. Besides King George VI is a kind father, he loves his wife and daughters very much.

King George VI is also manful, friendly, and responsible person, he does his duty well, he is not hopeless person, besides he is friendly, he made Lionel Logue, his speech therapist become his best friend forever, he gives achievements to Lionel Logue.

Structure of King George VI's personality shows interesting conflict between *id*, *ego*, and *superego* in the personality of King George VI. It can be seen from King George VI has done in this movie, such as when King George VI's *superego* pressures *id* to be a king although he knows that he never wish to be king of England. He knows the limitations he has. He has stammer but he always strives to recover his stammer.

When his father passed away, he thinks about the country, he worries about his brother David who will be the next king. David has bad attitude, when David abdicated. King George decides to be a king to save the people in his country, although he worries about his stammer. With strong determination and the guidance of Lionel, a speech therapist, King George VI finally managed to recover. Of a man stutter, he become a king who able to speak and to burn the spirit of all people in the United Kingdom to deal with World War II.

Based on the psychoanalytic analysis above, the conflict of three elements of King George VI's personality occurs, His personality is more interesting to support the story of this movie. The writer also found that the major character of King George VI is a well psychological condition although he sometimes shows his strong personality and emotional but he is a good man to her family, friend, and citizenry.

The researcher hopes this research will be useful for the next researcher in the future. The writer realizes that this study is far from being perfect because of the limitations of the writer's knowledge. The writer has some suggestion to the teachers, students, and peoples that are interested in analyzing this movie.

1. For teachers, *The King's Speech* movie can be used as the alternative teaching material. It can be used as an example to teach listening or pronunciation.
2. For students of English Department, they may use *The King's Speech* movie to increase their English ability. They can use the movie to increase their vocabulary and their ability of listening.
3. For other people that are interested in analyzing this movie, they can use this research as inspiration and comparison to begin their research, such as: A Struggle of King George VI by using Individual Psychological Approach, Self-Actualization in *The King's Speech* by using Humanistic Psychological Approach, and The Importance of Moral King George by using A Sociological Approach.

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