

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Competition in biology, ecology, and sociology, is a contest between organisms, animals, individuals, groups, etc., for territory, a niche, or a location of resources, for resources and goods, for prestige, recognition, awards, mates, or group or social status, for leadership. It is the opposite of cooperation. It arises whenever at least two parties strive for a goal which cannot be shared or which is desired individually but not in sharing and cooperation. Competition occurs naturally between living organisms which co-exist in the same environment. For example, animals compete over water supplies, food, mates, and other biological resources. Humans compete usually for food and mates, though when these needs are met deep rivalries often arise over the pursuit of wealth, prestige, and fame. Competition is also a major tenet in market economy and business is often associated with competition as most companies are in competition with at least one other firm over the same group of customers, and also competition inside a company is usually stimulated for meeting and reaching higher quality of services or products that the company produce or develop. (Stigler, G. J. 1987) Suzanne Collins had reflected competition conditions about women who try to struggle her right to get the same equality in “*The Hunger Game*” novel.

In the early of twenty-first century in America a "woman's place" has been transformed from a world controlled completely by men to a place where

she can lead board room meetings or reach for the stars. The courts are breaking down the walls of all-male social clubs and military academies, and American women of today are joining the ranks and taking leadership positions in every field of endeavor. Women also continue to serve as the primary caregivers for their families. Many policies that make accommodations for caregivers have been achieved, such as subsidized childcare, paid pregnancy and parental leave flextime, and more women's health care coverage. And yet, gender issues remain a volatile topic both in the workplace and in the home, as Americans juggle rising prices with the need for pay equity, and demanding schedules with divisions of labor and authority. As we move forward into the 21st century, the very definition of "feminism" means very different things to different people. The debate is continued, because women have gained much, but what have they lost, Can men and women reach an acceptable understanding. It is different but it is equal. Attitudes are often the most difficult things to modify, and we still have a generation in power where men and women find it difficult to understand one another. (<http://www.hoover.archives.gov/exhibits/AmericanWomen>)

Furthermore, at that time in man's view, women do not have equality, freedom and they do not even have respect in any meaningful sense. They cannot enter some professions. They do not deserve to get education and job that is why women are difficult to get job. Society considers women have no ability to do something. These conditions make women try to struggle her right to get the same equality.

The struggle for women's right has attracted the attention of some people in different background, especially literary writers. One of the novelists One of the novelists who reflects emancipated women is Suzanne Collins.

The Hunger Games is a young-adult, dystopian novel written by Suzanne Collins. It was originally published on September 14, 2008. In the novel, The Hunger Games is an annual televised event where the ruthless Capitol randomly selects one boy and one girl, each between the ages of 12 and 18 from each of the twelve districts, pitting them against each other in a game of survival where they are forced to fight one another to the death. The victor then wins a new house for themselves and their families in their District, along with food, fame, and wealth.

The Hunger Games begins on the day of the reaping in District 12. Katniss Everdeen. Though she's only a teenager, she's a tough hunter who puts food on her family's table. Her father is dead and she lives with her mother and sister Prim in District 12 in the country of Panem. She hunts with a guy named Gale who is cute and might even have a thing for her. Katniss is not very in touch with her mushy side. Every year the Capitol of Panem hosts an event called the Hunger Games that provides two tributes where a boy and a girl are drafted from each of the twelve districts to be brought to an arena and fight to the death. Only one person can win. This is held to remind the country, not for rebel and for entertainment. This year, unfortunately, Katniss's little sister is selected for the Hunger Games, so Katniss volunteers to take her place. The next person who selected is Peeta Mellark, the baker's son, who maybe has a teensy tiny crush on Katniss. After the reaping (that's the tribute selection process), Katniss and Peeta

are whisked away to the Capitol to prepare for the Games (and primed for live TV). We meet their support team, which is primarily comprised of Haymitch (a former Hunger Games winner and also a drunk), Effie (their wrangler), and Cinna and Portia (their stylists). During the opening ceremonies, Cinna and Portia dress Katniss and Peeta in flames and they draw much attention to themselves. During training, Katniss reveals her archery skills to the Gamemakers and scores an amazing 11 out of 12. Peeta gets a lower score and asks to be coached separately. Peeta also announces in an interview that he has a mega crush on Katniss. This is just a strategy to gain audience support and sponsors. Katniss thinks so, but it works well for her too, so she plays along.

All 24 of the tributes are transported to the arena to fight it out. Katniss is on her own at first, but then she discovers that Peeta has teamed up with the Career Tributes, the strong kids from the rich districts in Panem who actually want to go to the Hunger Games. They eventually corner her on a tree, but she drops a tracker jacker nest on them (that's like a genetically mutated killer wasp) and she scores a bow and arrow in the process. After this, Katniss teams up with Rue, a tiny girl from District 11 who reminds her of her sister, Prim. The two are able to take out the Career Tributes' food supply, which totally infuriates their leader, Cato. Also, Peeta doesn't appear to be teamed up with them anymore. Unfortunately, Rue is killed around this time by one of the Career Tributes. Katniss honors her body by covering it in flowers. After Rue's death, the announcer wants to bring back the romance story between Peeta and Katniss, he changes the rules of the game: two people from a single district can now win. Before she can stop herself, Katniss calls out Peeta's name.

Katniss goes hunting for Peeta and eventually finds him. He is wounded and camouflaged in the muddy bank of a stream. She nurses him back to health and realizes that by playing up the romance angle, they can get gifts from sponsors. Eventually, Katniss and Peeta must face off with Cato, the only other surviving tribute, but before that they are all pursued by wild dogs which are actually genetically mutated killing machines. Finally, Katniss shoots Cato and he falls into the pack. An announcer comes back on and says the rules have changed back, only one winner who allowed. Katniss and Peeta can't kill each other, so they make a show of taking poisonous berries in an act of double suicide. Fortunately, the announcer comes back on before they can kill themselves, and he says that they win.

Katniss and Peeta keep up the star-crossed lovers routine for the post-games reunion and interview. Knowing that, this is the only way to keep from being punished by the Capitol for the rebellious trick with the poisonous berries. Eventually Katniss figures out that Peeta really is in love with her. He doesn't act at all and he figures out that she wasn't ever in love with him. As the train pulls into District 12, they put on a happy face for the camera and take each other's hands and step on the platform.

The writer of the novel was Suzanne Collins. She was born on August 10, 1962, in Hartford, Connecticut. The daughter of an Air Force officer, Collins moved a considerable amount during her childhood, living in places like New York City and Brussels. Collins' career began in 1991 as a writer for children's television shows. She worked on several television shows for Nickelodeon,

including *Clarissa Explains It All*, *The Mystery Files of Shelby Woo*, *Little Bear*, and *Oswald*. She was also the head writer for Scholastic Entertainment's *Clifford's Puppy Days*. She received a Writers Guild of America nomination in animation for co-writing the critically acclaimed Christmas special, *Santa, Baby!*

In September 2008, Scholastic Press released *The Hunger Games*, the first book of a trilogy by Collins. *The Hunger Games* was partly inspired by the Greek mythology of Theseus and the Minotaur.

The meaning of competition in this study is a key point to effort of empowering students on the educational institutions. The students must recognize the meaning of courage. There are some reasons why the writer studies the work. Firstly, this study is significant to be showed due to the educational element of entrenchment for life in *the hunger game*. Allowing the students are vital factors that will build a better academic. Secondly, investigating the students to know how be the real man. The third, the present writer will be a teacher later and this project is necessary to be carried out to widen, enlarge, and insert more knowledge to her professional competence as a teacher. And finally, the last reason is to supply theoretical framework in the research of literature in the English Department.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested to analyze the *the hunger game*. Movie using a feminist perspective approach. In this thesis, the writer is encouraged to entitle the research as the following: *Deathly Competition Reflected in Suzane Collins **The Hunger Game** Novel (2008): an Amazon Feminism Perspective Approach*.

B. Literature Review

The study on *The Hunger Game* movie is first research that is conducted in this thesis due to its latest publication that is in 2012. The writer has researched through local and digital libraries and found none of it. Library of UGM, UNS, UNDIP, UNNES have reported zero call on the research of *The Hunger Game*. Thus, this study is first ever conducted at least at UMS.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of the research is “how is the deathly competition reflected in Suzane Collin’s *The Hunger Game* novel (2008)?

D. Research Limitation

There are many theories about feminism. To limit the subject matter and to avoid complexity in this research, the writer focuses her discussion on theory of feminism, based on Amazon Feminism Approach.

To intensify the analysis, the focus of analysis is on the main characters in the novel. Other characters are also included as far as they have contribution to the research

E. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the writer is formulated the objectives of the study in the following:

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the novel based on Amazon feminism perspective.

F. Benefits of the Study

The writer hopes the result of the study has the following benefits :

1. Practical Benefit

To develop the body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games* novel (2008).

2. Theoretical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience to the writer and other students at UMS or other universities interested in literary studies.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the researcher applies qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using Amazon Feminism. The steps to conduct the research are as follows: 1). Determining the type of the study, 2). Determining the object of the study, 3). Determining data and data sources, 4). Determining technique of data collection, and finally 5). Determining technique of data analysis.

2. Type of the Data and Data Source

There are two types of data, namely primary and secondary data, as follows:

a. Primary Data

The primary data source is the novel of *The Hunger Game* produced by Scholastic Press.

b. Secondary Data

The secondary data is taken from other sources such as the books and some articles which have relation with the primary data and the other materials supported this research.

3. Techniques of the Data Collection

The methods of collecting data in this research are as follows:

- a. Reading the novel of *The Hunger Game* until the researcher understands the content
- b. Taking notes of important parts both primary and secondary data of the novel
- c. Arranging the data into several groups on its theoretical category
- d. Selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis
- e. Drawing conclusion and formulating its pedagogical

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analyzing data, the writer applies descriptive approach. The steps taken by writer in analyzing the data are as follows: the first is analyzing the data based on its structural elements. Focus will be paid on the structural analysis of the movie. The second step is analyzing the data based on

Amazon Feminism approach. Focus will be paid on the meaning of Competition.

H. Research Paper Organization

This research consists of six chapters. The first chapter is introduction dealing with background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, research method and paper organization. The second chapter presents the underlying theory, in this chapter the researcher explains the basic principle theory of Amazon feminism perspective used to analyze the novel. The third chapter contains the social background of courage for living. The fourth chapter deals with the structural elements of novel that consists of character and characterization, plot, point of view, setting of place and time, and theme. Amazon feminism perspective analysis will be put on the fifth chapter. The last chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion.