CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

A language is a tool for interacting and obtaining information in human social life. Language can be divided into two, namely written language and spoken language (Habibi, 2016). Spoken language is found in speech and conversation. Written language is found in literary works. Literary works are products created by writers to express an understanding and ideas by using imaginative language. A novel is a literary work containing a long story and various intrinsic and extrinsic elements. In the novel, the author uses interesting and emotional language to convey the message. Every writer has a different way of conveying the message content in literary works. (Hidayah, 2013)

The language style is an important element in the writing of literary novels. It is the use of language style and, more importantly, the content of the message in the novel's literary work. So the reader must be able to interpret the various styles of language used by the author to understand the purpose of the message the author wants to convey. This is in line with (Harya, 2017) stating that figurative language is usually used in novel writing. In reading a novel, there are many styles of language in the form of figurative language that are difficult to understand. We can imagine what happens in a story and feel emotional expression if we know the meaning of the figurative language in the story. Therefore, understanding the meaning of figurative language is very important.

Semantics is part of linguistics; this is because semantics is a science that is concentrated on studying the meaning of language. The meaning of a language in semantics has aspects. This is in line with Djajasudarma (2013) that the meaning aspect consists of four parts, namely sense, feeling, tone, and intention.

The author of literary works has a message to convey to the author, so it can be said that the aspect of the meaning of the intention is the most important thing for authors and novel readers. This is in line with (Habibi, 2016) who states

that if you want to create a "good" literary work, the reader must understand what intention the author wants to convey.

A woman is no man is a best-selling novel written by Etaf Rum. Etaf Rum was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Palestinian immigrants. She teaches college English literature in the Carolinas. *A woman is no man* is her first writing. In this novel, many figurative languages is used by the author.

A woman is no man is a true story of the author's life experiences and is written in the form of fiction to keep her true identity a secret. This is in line with Jaber in (Nur & Sari, 2020) the author wants to tell the whole world that there is a patriarchal system in her country that makes women mightily oppressed. The story in this novel is about women who live under pressure and oppression. Palestine is a state that has no government and is a territory occupied by the state of Israel. Women live in the tradition that their only destiny is to marry, give birth and do domestic work at home. Fareeda, Isra, and Deya are figures who experience injustice in a patriarchal culture. They must obey all the orders of their parents and husband. Women must obey men's demands. Otherwise, they will be physically abused and cannot report to the police station because they have no government. In the end, the most tragic story is the character of Isra. Isra died because she was forced to continue giving birth and was physically abused by her husband.

The author uses a language style that attracts the reader's attention by using figurative language (Ervina & Saputri, 2014). The figurative language used is interesting because it discusses the middle east culture. The culture is patriarchal, which oppresses women. Middle of culture brings women to misery and oppresses women's human rights. Women have been fighting patriarchal culture for a long time. Therefore, women created the feminist movement. The feminist movement aims to obtain fair treatment with men. The author also tells about the feminist movement so that women are aware of oppression and get justice (Nur & Sari, 2020). In this novel, the author includes the feminist movement carried out by Isra to obtain an education. Isra read books secretly. The author uses figurative language to describe the lives of women who face gender

inequality. The author, through this method, can make other people angry and aware of the problems that are going on by women. Justice for women must be given, and patriarchal culture must be stopped. This is important to research because, ideally the women should be treated fairly. Oppression must be abolished, and women have the right to make their own choices in life. (Karimah, 2017)

Based on data obtained from preliminary research to students in Yogyakarta, it was concluded that 82% of readers did not understand the intention of the message content contained in the novel *A woman is no man*. Readers feel confused by the variety of language styles in the figurative language contained in the novel. This happens because the author uses many figurative languages. However, The readers are very enthusiastic because this novel has several unique features, including telling the true story of the patriarchal culture in an Islamic country, namely Palestine. Hence, The researcher intends to conduct deeper research of the novel *A Woman Is No Man* with the title semantic analysis of figurative language in the novel *A Woman Is No Man* by Etaf Rum.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background described above, it can be concluded that the problem formulation is as follows:

1. What types of figurative language occurred in the conversation involving Isra as the main character in the novel *a woman is no man* by Etaf Rum?

2   How are the meaning aspects of the figurative language that occurred in the conversation involved Isra as the main character in the novel *a woman is no man* by Etaf Rum?

1.3 Research Objectives

1. To find out the types of figurative language that occurred in the conversation involved Isra as the main character in the novel, *a woman is no man* by Etaf Rum.

2. To analyze the meaning aspects of the figurative language that occurred in the conversation involved Isra as the main character in the novel, *a woman is no man* by Etaf Rum.

1.4 Scope of the research

In the novel *a woman is no man*, many sentences use figurative language. Due to the limitations of the researcher, then the researcher will only focus on discussing the types of comparative figurative language that has relation with the main character is Isra, who got the most oppression. The type of figurative language is limited to comparative figurative language because the novel emphasizes the comparison of the man and the woman.

Furthermore, the researcher will analyze aspects of meaning, focusing just on intention. It is limited to intention because the researcher focuses on the readers' needs.

1.5 Research Benefit
1.5.1 Theoretical benefits

The theoretical benefit of this research is that it can add to the scientific knowledge in teaching the semantic part of linguistics, especially regarding the figurative language used by the author in the novel *A woman is no man* by Etaf Rum.

1.5.2 Practical Benefits
1. For Teachers

This study provides an overview for the teacher about figurative language and aspects of the meaning in the novel A woman is no man by Etaf Rum to be used guidelines in learning semantics that are interesting, creative, and innovative.

2. For Researchers

The results of this study can be the answer to the formulated problem. In addition, with the completion of this research, it is hoped to add more profound insight into semantics, especially in figurative language.

3.   For Readers

The results of this study are expected that readers can understand well the content of messages that are difficult to know in the novel A Woman Is No Man through an understanding of figurative languages and the meaning aspect.

4.   For Other Researchers

The results of this study are expected to inspire as well material from which other researchers conduct more research deep.

1.6 Definition of Terms

1.   Semantic is the study of meaning in words, phrases, clauses, sentences. (Lobner 2013)

2.   An analysis is an activity to find new findings on the object studied by researchers by finding objective evidence on the thing. (Majid, 2013:54)

3.   Figurative language contains meaning that is not true, so it requires imagination and analysis to understand the meaning contained in the figurative language. (Kennedy, 1983: 479).

4.   A novel is a literary work consisting of a collection of sentences written by the author to convey ideas, messages, culture and conditions in an area. (Beach 1982)