

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Background of the Study**

Style of language can be an option used by an author in order to present a pleasant reading to a reader. The use of style of language may reflect the author's values when conveying her/his messages. The author may use formality or informality, scientific terms or common terms, figurative or literal language, et cetera. The author can also develop or combine the style because there is no limit in style.

Stylistics studies the relation between the significances of the text and the linguistic characteristics in which they are manifested. It investigates the relation between the writer's artistic achievement and how it is achieved through language. Sometimes when reading a text, one will find out that the writer prefers certain words to others, in order to gain an aesthetic effect. Through the stylistic in a text, the language will provide particular artistic function. Applying various styles in a literary work may give more colours to the language. When the reader explores the use of style, she/he will comprehend how the style conveys its meaning, image or even the mood of the work. The style used in delivering a story

possibly will influence the story itself, the message conveyed, and even the target readers. For instance, the language in a humorous story is certainly less serious than that in a speech. Formal language can be stiff; yet, a touch of aesthetic language can make it more interesting and attract readers to read it further.

Known as one of the most famous writers for children, Roald Dahl is an expert in choosing uncommon words in his stories. To express his ideas, Dahl comes up with his choice of words which makes the writing interesting to read and easy to imagine. The use of simple language; yet, good and various diction leads to the emphatic and humorous effects in his works. Dahl's diction and the other aesthetic effects built in the novels strengthen his works as children literature, especially the humorous ones. I figure out that Dahl concerns not only with style of language, but also style of writing. The two novels I analyze deal with the writing system which also contribute some effects to the stories.

The major characters in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Matilda* are children who deal with their problems in their surroundings with the existence of the grown-ups. The children characters in his books are usually portrayed to have the 'quintessential qualities'; namely their sense of humour and their absolute honesty <<http://www.amazon.co.uk/exec.obidos.html>>.

*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* is one of the most popular fantasy fictions for children, which also has been adapted into a successful movie. It tells about a poor child named Charlie, who wins the Golden Ticket together with the other four children. They visit a big chocolate factory owned by Willy Wonka. Charlie Bucket, the main character in this novel, is described as an honest, kind, and brave boy who undergoes some fantastic adventures in the chocolate factory.

His fate changes when finally he is chosen by Mr Wonka to own the chocolate factory.

In *Matilda*, named after the eponymous heroine of the story, a brilliant little girl suffers from unfair treatments from her parents. At school, she has to face the huge and fierce headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, who hates children. When Matilda finds out that she has magical power in her eyes, she uses the power to help her kind-hearted teacher, Miss Honey, who is actually the headmistress' niece, to acquire Miss Honey's rights.

Since the two novels are regarded as humorous modern fiction for children, it is important to know some points that refer to the characteristics of children literature. One of children's favourites is humorous stories for children like to laugh (Huck, 1989: 513). In *Through the Eyes of a Child*, Norton states that humorous stories, whether involving the world of fantasy or the world of real people living in the world, are among children's favourites. The humorous situation may allow children to understand that life can be highly entertaining and is not always serious (Norton, 1983: 406).

The linguistic area used in the thesis is the stylistic categories, which include cross-reference as the part of cohesion, devices of sound, figurative language and graphological variation. The cross-reference applied in analyzing the data is formal repetition and elegant variation. It is stated that cohesion is an important part of what makes a text, both in literary and non-literary writing, but it is not always an important aspect of literary style (Leech, 1994: 245). The graphological effect concerns spelling, capitalization, hyphenation, italicization and paragraphing (Leech, 1994: 131). While the devices of sound include

alliteration, assonance and onomatopoeia; the figurative language such as metaphor, simile, and hyperbole also occur frequently. All these can be analyzed as the contributors to the stylistic effects in the two novels.

### **Statement of the Problem**

In this thesis, I would like to analyze the following problems:

1. What stylistic categories are used in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Matilda*?
2. What are the effects of using such stylistic categories in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Matilda*?

### **Purpose of the Study**

The analysis is done for the following purposes:

1. To show the stylistic categories used in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Matilda*.
2. To figure out the effects of using such stylistic categories in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Matilda*.

### **Method of Research**

In gathering the data for the thesis, I read the two novels as the primary texts. Then, I collect, select and classify the data based on the stylistic categories found in the two novels. Besides, I also analyze the effects of using such categories. Finally, I write a research report.

## **Organization of the Thesis**

This thesis consists of four chapters. In the first chapter, I present the Introduction, which contains the Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. In the second chapter, I put forward the theoretical framework of the linguistic area and the approaches used in analyzing the data. In the third chapter I analyze the data from the two novels. Later, in the fourth chapter I draw a conclusion concerning the findings in the third chapter. The thesis ends with the Bibliography and Appendices.