CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Language plays a very vital part in human's life and civilization. In modern days, language cannot be separated from human's daily life. Language is a tool to communicate and also to express emotions and thoughts to other people. It is essential for human beings to master the language that is used in their neighborhood and society. Also, it will be better if they master other languages besides the one they have already mastered, so that they can socialize and interact with one another better.

Nowadays, we can find many people using language play, in daily life or even more seriously, in their professional job, for example, the advertisers. In the advertising field, people often use language play in advertising their products to make their advertisements more appealing to their potential customers. "It has often been suggested that the first task of advertising is to get you to *notice* the ad." (Crystal 94).

If they just use ordinary words and language in their ads, it will be very boring and most people will probably just ignore the advertisements. Language play, which is the use of words and language to create new and unusual meanings, is found

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in literary works as well. In novels, it has long been used by authors to ensure their words have certain impacts on the readers.

Joanne Kathleen Rowling, better known as J. K. Rowling, is a famous author of one of the best-selling book series in the world, *Harry Potter*. The series consists of seven fantasy books about the world of wizardry. J. K. Rowling uses many forms of language play in her books. The author uses a lot of interesting forms of language play to create the names of the characters, the places, the spells, and many more. In my opinion, the reason for using language play is to make the novel more interesting, more fun, and more enjoyable to read.

"We play with language when we manipulate it as a source of enjoyment, either for ourselves or for the benefit of others." (Crystal 1). Language does not always have the function as a means of communication. People sometimes attempt to modify the use of the language on purpose and creatively for fun. To achieve this goal, certain rules such as of morphology and other linguistic areas are often bent and broken.

In my thesis I will analyse the language play found in J. K. Rowling's third and fourth books of the *Harry Potter* series, i.e. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. I choose language play as the topic of my thesis because this particular linguistic issue is very challenging and the language play itself contains a lot of linguistic features in these novels, which make the books more interesting to analyse.

"Language play is pre-eminently an amateur, domestic matter – playable by all, regardless sex, age, social background, or level of intelligence." (Crystal 53). The use of language play can create curiosity and stimulate the imagination of the readers,

who are not only children, but also anybody who enjoys reading fantasy and adores the fascination of wizardry world.

My analysis deals with two specific areas of linguistics, which are Morphology and Semantics. Morphology is "the study of the internal structure of words, and of the rules by which words are formed" (Fromkin and Rodman 69). Semantics is "the study of meaning" (Crane and Whitman 129). I find that understanding the language play used in the names of the characters is very essential to the readers, because if the readers know the origin and the word formation behind the name of each character, they will obtain a great help and understanding in comprehending the story. Not only the characters but also other elements, for example, the spells, the places, and the magical equipments in this novel contain very unique language play.

I hope after reading this thesis, the readers and the future researchers will have some informative knowledge about the use of language play and its literary effects in children's literature. They can use this thesis as a comparison so as to make better research on language play.

(702 words)

1.2. Statement of the Problem

In this thesis I would like to analyse the following problems:

1. What linguistic aspects are involved in J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire?*

2. What are the literary effects produced by the use of language play in J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire?*

3

1.3. Purpose of the Study

In this thesis, I would like to analyse:

1. the linguistic aspects involved in J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire.*

2. the literary effects produced by the language play used in J. K. Rowling's*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire.*

1.4. Method of Research

First of all, I read the primary texts, which are J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire,* and then I collect and note down the data that contain language play. They can be in the form of words or phrases. Then, I analyse each of the data focusing on the process of creating words or phrases which contain language play and the literary effects that are produced in the novel. Finally, I write this research report.

1.5. Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter One, Introduction, contains Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two, Theoretical Framework, provides the linguistic theories used to discuss the processof forming language play. Chapter Three, the analysis, contains the discussion on the processes of forming language play used in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*and *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*as well as the literary effects. The next chapter is Chapter Four, which contains the conclusion. It is followed by Bibliography as a list

of references of the theories taken from printedand online media. The last part of this

thesis is the appendix, containing the list of the data that I use in Chapter Three and a

brief elaboration about it.

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