CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I would like to put forward my conclusion which is based on the findings of my research, which mainly discusses the linguistic aspects and the literary effects of the use of language play in the third and the fourth novels of *Harry Potter* series.

After reading and analysing the two novels, I get twenty-two data of language play processes. There are seven neologism processes, five borrowing processes, five compounding processes, three blending processes, and two homophony processes. It is clear from the explanation above that the most dominant process is neologism. Neologism is a process of creating new words. In my opinion, the reason why neologism process is the most dominant process in these two novels is highly related to the author’s educational background. Rowling has a degree in Classics and French from the University of Exeter, United Kingdom (“J. K. Rowling Biography”). Classics is a study about the languages, philosophy, and history of the ancient Mediterranean civilizations, such as Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece (“Classics and Ancient History”). Based on my findings, the data of neologism in those two novels are related to foreign languages, such as Latin, Greek and French.
This is consistent with where Rowling had her inspiration to create all of those unique names of the characters, spells and places in Harry Potter’s world.

The borrowing process, which is the second most dominant process in these two novels, also shows Rowling’s diverse knowledge of foreign languages. It also shows that Rowling is very open to other languages besides English. In one of my data, for example, *Fleur Delacour*, which is a name of a character, is derived from French. If Rowling just focused on the English language, the novel might not be as attractive and diverse as we all have seen today.

Another dominant language play process is compounding. The use of the compounding process reveals the fact that the author is capable of creating unique names for the characters, spells and places not only from foreign languages but also from her first language, which is English. I think this is a proof of how creative and brilliant J. K. Rowling truly is.

The next language play process in my analysis is blending. In my analysis there are three data that contain the blending process. Blending is a process when two or more separate words are joined together to become a single word. One example of blending in my data is taken from *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, namely *animagus*. This word originally comes from the words *animal* and *magus*, which are joined together into one word, *animagus*. I think blending process is an effective way as it gives a clear description of the meaning of the created words, such as the description of the characters and places.

The last language play process that I analyse in my thesis is homophony. One example of homophony in my thesis is *Peter Pettigrew*, the name of a character taken from *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. The word *petti* in the last name is
homophonic with the word *petty* in the English language. *Petty* means *small*, which is suitable for the character of Peter Pettigrew in the novel. Pettigrew is “*small*” in character. He decides to tell the secret information about his best friend rather than keeping it no matter what the consequences are. It shows that the author is creative and effective in describing her character; in addition, I think that Rowling shows her wit in creating Peter Pettigrew’s name using homophony as the basis.

Besides the linguistic processes, I also analyse the literary effects that occur as the result of the use of language play. The literary effects support both the characterization of the characters and the readers’ imagination. On supporting the characterization, I personally believe that Rowling is very detailed and thorough. This is shown in her ability to create the names of the characters. For example, *Viktor Krum*, which is taken from the fourth novel, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. In the novel, *Viktor Krum* is a Bulgarian wizard who is also a champion in his school, Durmstrang Institute. Rowling does not pick the name Viktor Krum without any reason. *Viktor* comes from the word *victory* and *Krum* is the name of a Bulgarian ruler in the ninth century. She chooses *Viktor Krum* because the name itself supports the characterization, as Viktor Krum is depicted as a victorious wizard.

Secondly, the literary effect of the language play supports the readers’ imagination. I believe that the author and the readers need each other. The relationship between them is vital. The message from the author will be useless if the readers do not understand the clues that are given in the novel. As a reader myself, I enjoy allowing my imagination to flow through when I read novels, especially *Harry Potter* novels. The reading experience will not be enjoyable if the author has already provided all the details. The author’s job is to provide enough information and the
readers are to create an imagination inside their heads to complement the story. I think *Harry Potter* series is a great example for the readers who want their imagination involved and stimulated. I believe that is the reason why *Harry Potter* series becomes one of the best-selling books in the world.

After doing this research, I realise that an analysis of language play needs other supporting theories in order to make the analysis deeper and more detailed. For the purpose of making my analysis more thorough, I have related my analysis to the theory about supporting characterization and supporting the readers’ imagination. Language play and its literary effects are both very challenging and entertaining. I really enjoy myself doing this research, because on the one hand, I am very familiar with *Harry Potter* novels as I have read the novels since I was in my teen years and they were my first English novels. It really helps me to complete this thesis. On the other hand, as a reader, now I appreciate and respect J. K. Rowling even more. It is entertaining and challenging when we are able to reveal the concept behind the stories. After doing some research, we will become automatically cautious and more inquisitive about the idea behind the story itself, something that we probably have not been aware of before. I conclude that Rowling is excellent at holding the readers’ attention and stimulating the imagination of the readers.

For further researchers on language play, I recommend the rest of *Harry Potter* series, which are the fifth, the sixth, and the seventh books. The last three books still tell about Harry Potter’s adventure in the magic world. However, the story starts to conclude the purpose of Harry Potter’s life from the beginning, which is defeating Lord Voldemort, the main antagonist of the novel. In addition, the
linguistic aspects in the rest of the series are still plenty to be analysed and they are as interesting as the previous novels of the series.

(1,175 words)