CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH

While communicating people always call or refer others by using address terms which is appropriate to them. Addressing term is use based on social status, age, sex, politeness and other aspects. When we learn another language, we should understand how to use the right address terms because it will be different from our native language. Every language reflects the social characters of the speaker, of the addressee or of the relation between them. Address terms is one of the important tools of communication used in society.

The use of address term has often been described in terms of politeness. The options of address terms usage are judged in terms of how polite they are in any given situation. When they want to build and maintain a good relationship, they have to be polite. One important issue in studying communication is to learn how individuals manage to open conversations or how people may address one another in a new language. People should understand the language, social and cultural values of the society. People tend to think of politeness just a matter of saying thank you when someone does something or gives something for us for us and saying please in making request. According to Jucker & Taavitsainen (2002:2) explain the formality of the situation it may affect in the use terms of address, the social relationship between the speaker and the addressee, the politeness or deference that the speaker wants to extend to the addressee, to name a few of the most important underlying motivations for choosing an option..

The researcher does this research in a way to help the readers to get to know more about address terms in English. So, the use of address terms is not come off as inappropriate. In Indonesian address terms such as “Bapak, “Ibu” and “Saudara” can be used not only for the kinship terms but also someone who is older than the speaker or someone whom has high ranking, for example, doctor, we can called them as “Pak/Bu Dokter”. Meanwhile, in English address terms such as “Father”, “Mother”, and other kinship terms can only be use for family
relationship. The researcher wants the readers to get to know more about English address terms so, we are not using the wrong English address terms.

According to Oyetade (1995:515) address terms refer to words or expressions used in an interactive, dyadic and face-to-face situation to designate the person being talked to. Address terms are a key to the understanding of social concepts and human relationship in a society. The purpose of addressing someone is to maintain social relationship between addresser and addressee in society (Fasold 1990:1). Since address terms are important to maintain the relationship in society, the choice of name which you use for the other depends both on your knowledge of exactly who that other is and on the circumstances of the meeting.

In communication, people will address others in different way. People address others depend on the context whether formal or informal occasion. Many factors begin the way people use address terms. Wardhaugh (2006:272) explains that social factors usually influence people’s choice of address terms. The social factors are particular occasion, social status, gender, age, family relationship, occupational hierarchy, transactional status (i.e., service encounter, or doctor-patient relationship), race, and degree of intimacy.

Address terms are not only found in real communication, but also in some literary works. Literary works are the real form of human feeling, thought, and creativity. They can be in the form of prose, poetry, novel and etc. Novel is a fictitious prose narrative of book length, typically representing character and action with some degree of realism. From this research we will see if there any changes in the way we address people in the 1930s and today.

There are many studies that have been conducted all over the world devoting on the use of address terms. To mention a few of them here as follows: e.g.: Azin & Afghari 2015, Rumengan 2015, Fitriani 2014, Rifai & Prasetyaningrum (2016). Since these studies mostly discussed the address terms from different languages and their finding did not answer the social factors that influence the use of certain types of address terms. Therefore, in this research, the researcher will investigates the use of address terms in a novel entitled *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee published in 1960, the types of address terms and the social factors that influence the use of address terms by the characters.

The novel is about the children growing up, going from innocence to experience. The mockingbird of the title can be seen as a symbol of innocence both Tom Robinson and Boo Radley can be connected to this symbol. The novel set in the Depression-era, it tells the story of
how Scout’s lawyer father, Atticus, defended Tom Robinson, a black man who has been falsely accused of raping a white woman in the fictional Alabama town of Maycomb. By the end of the novel, Robinson has been murdered while trying to escape prison. Scout has lost her innocence; for the first time, she truly understands the racial dynamics of her environment.

The researcher chooses “To Kill a Mockingbird” because this book is one of classical books from 1960, teach us about equality is really important and in the novel many address terms used by the characters especially the four characters. In here, since there are many characters, the researcher will focus on how four characters; Scout or Jean Louise Finch, Atticus, Jem and Dill are addressing other characters. Those four characters have presented enough data of address terms.

Scout is the narrator and protagonist of the story. Scout lives with her father, Atticus, her brother, Jem, and their cook, Calpurnia, in Maycomb. She is intelligent and, by the standards of her time and place, and she is a tomboy. Atticus Finch is Scout and Jem’s father, a lawyer in Maycomb descended from an old local family. A widower with a dry sense of humor, Atticus educates his children with strong sense of morality and justice. He is one of the few residents of Maycomb committed to racial equality. Jem Finch is Scout’s brother and constant playmate at the beginning. Jem is something of a typical American boy, refusing to back down from dares and fantasizing about playing football. Four years older than Scout. Then, Charles Baker “Dill” Harris is Jem and Scout’s summer neighbor and friend. Dill is a diminutive, confident boy with an active imagination. He becomes fascinated with Boo Radley and represents the perspective of childhood innocence.

One of the examples of address term in the novel:

Miss Caroline : “What is it, Jean Louise?
Jean (Scout) : “Miss Caroline, he’s a Cunningham.”

In the conversation above, it took place at school when lunchtime. Miss Caroline notices Walter Cunningham didn’t bring lunch, so, everyone was expected Jean (Scout) to explain it to Miss Caroline. In this case, the researcher wants to see the types of address terms and analyzing the social factors that influence the use of certain address terms.

The researcher only focuses on four characters because if the researcher identifies all the characters it will take a long time. The four characters also presented enough data and these four
characters carry most of the conversations for the researcher to analyze. Thus, in this research the researcher focuses on how four characters address other characters, the types of address terms and to find out the social factors that influence the four characters in using the address terms.

1.2. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Based on the background of the study, there are three questions, they are:

1. What are the types of address terms use by four characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

2. What are the social factors that influence the use of address terms by those characters?

1.3. PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

Based on the problems, the purposes of this research are:

1. To find out the types of address terms use by four characters.
2. To reveal what are the social factors that influence *To Kill a Mockingbird*’s four characters in using certain of address terms.

1.4. LIMITATION OF THE RESEARCH

This study is intended to identify how four characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel address other characters, the types of address terms and to find out the social factors that influence use the address terms. Focus on this research is to look at the types of address terms and the social factors that influence the use of address terms by four characters. The data are taken from the dialog in the novel. The researcher is collected the utterances that used addressing terms.

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH

The results of the research are expected to give both theoretical and practical significances.

1. Theoretically, it is expected that the results of this research could enrich the specific knowledge of the researcher in the linguistic field, especially in the analysis of address
terms that are used in English daily conversation. Specifically, the research is intended to identify and describe the types, and also the factors influencing the choice of address terms employed by the four characters in the novel.

2. Then, practically, it is expected that the results of this research can be useful for the students of English Language and Literature Study Program. This research hopefully can contribute more knowledge about sociolinguistics, specifically about address terms. Moreover, this research can be a reference of address terms for their study. In addition, this research hopefully can be beneficial to the readers in general, in improving their knowledge on address terms.

1.6. DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

1. Address Terms

Oyetade (2011:1) defines address terms as words or expressions used in communication, dyadic and face-to-face situations to address the person being talked to.