CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

In this study, the researcher tries to explain the background of the research. In addition, this chapter discusses the reason for choosing this research object, and the research questions and objectives of the research

1.1 Background of the study

Literature is widely understood as a form of artistic expression that represents human experiences, emotions, ideas, and social realities(Frye, 1951). Through literary works, authors not only tell stories but also construct meaning about life and human relationships. In its development, film can also be seen as part of literary and cultural studies because it has narrative elements such as characters, plot, conflict, and setting. Film conveys meaning through dialogue, visuals, music, and action, making it an effective medium for representing human life in a more concrete and easily understood way for a wider audience.

In addition to novels, poetry, and drama, film can also be approached as a literary and cultural text because it presents stories, characters, conflicts, and values through audiovisual representation. Film communicates meaning through dialogue, actions, setting, music, and visual expression, making it an effective medium for portraying human struggles in a form that is accessible to a wide audience(Reifer, 2015). As a narrative work, film often presents moral values, social issues, cultural practices, and interpersonal tensions that are relevant to real life. Therefore, film analysis is an important area in literary studies, particularly when the object of study presents strong character development and meaningful social conflict.

One of the most important elements in a narrative work is conflict. Conflict drives the plot, shapes character, and conveys the values inherent in a work. Without conflict, a story loses its appeal and depth of meaning(Reifer, 2015). In literary studies, conflict is understood as a clash between two opposing forces, either originating from within or outside the character. Kenney classifies conflict into two broad categories, namely internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict refers to psychological struggle within a character, whereas external conflict refers to struggles between a character and forces outside the self, such as other individuals, society, or nature.

Conflict in narrative works is generally divided into internal and external. External conflict refers to the conflict between a character and external forces, such as other individuals, family, society, or the environment(F.Folarin, 2013). This type of conflict is important because it often reflects broader social realities, including social pressures, cultural norms, and family

expectations. External conflict also shows how individuals respond to challenges from their surroundings.The film "Coco" is an example of a work that clearly depicts external conflict. The film tells the story of Miguel Rivera, a boy with a big dream of becoming a musician. However, this dream conflicts with his family's values and rules, which prohibit music. The conflict between personal desires and family demands is at the heart of the story, depicting a common reality in life, particularly within family relationships.

Researcher conducted a study on the conflicts that occur in films. Researchers chose the Disney animated children's film COCO. The main character in this story is Miguel. He wants to be a singer, but his extended family rejects his dream. However, Miguel does not give up and continues to fight until his dream becomes a reality. The conflicts faced by the main character are common and often occur in everyday life. Therefore, researcher want to know what conflicts he experiences.Although the film Coco has been widely discussed in various studies, there are still research gaps that can be developed, particularly in the analysis of external conflicts related to family disharmony. Many studies tend to discuss the moral or cultural values in this film, but have not specifically examined how external conflicts between individuals and families contribute to the dynamics of family relationships in the story.

This study aims to identify and analyze the forms of external conflict experienced by the main character in the film Coco, as well as to understand how these conflicts affect family relationships. Thus, this study is expected to provide a deeper understanding of the representation of family conflict in film works as part of literary studies. from the story of Miguel, whose dream of becoming a singer faces a lot of opposition from his family. His story inspired a film that depicts how situations like this often occur in real life. The film, entitled "COCO," was directed by Adrian Molina and Lee Unkrich and released by Disney in 2017.

There are several previous studies related to the research discussed by the researcher. The first study is an article by BinodSapkota (2024); the second is a journal by SafridaSeptiana (2024), and an article by Widiya (2024). Of these three articles, all use literary conflict theory and qualitative descriptive research methods. These three previous studies discuss the conflict experienced by the main character regarding his dreams and desires that conflict with his family.

BinodSapkota (2024). This study of the film The Pursuit of Happyness analyzes the conflicts experienced by Chris Gardner. This study found that the main character faces external conflicts in the form of poverty and social pressure, as well as internal conflicts in the form of doubt and fear. These conflicts motivate the character to continue striving to achieve his dreams(Journal & Sapkota, 2024).

SafridaSeptiana (2024). Research on the film Frozen analyzed the psychological conflict of Elsa. The results showed that Elsa experiences internal conflict because she must hide her powers to protect others. This conflict is related to family pressure and fear of social rejection(al., 2024).

Widiya (2024). Research on the film Billy Elliot analyzes the conflict experienced by the character Billy Elliot. The main conflict occurs when Billy wants to become a ballet dancer, but his father rejects it, believing ballet is inappropriate for men. This research shows that the conflict between personal dreams and family values is a major factor in the character development (Project, Literature, et al., 2024).

In conclusion, three studies used the same theory of literary conflict. Therefore, it can be concluded that research using literary conflict theory is still rare. The researchers decided to analyze the film Coco using literary conflict theory more comprehensively than previous studies.

The researcher chooses to use the film Coco for the following reasons: The film presents the story of Miguel Rivera, a young boy who dreams of becoming a musician even though his family strongly forbids music. This situation reflects a common conflict in real life where individuals must struggle between following their personal dreams and obeying family expectations. By analyzing this conflict, the researcher can gain insights into how personal ambition, family values, and cultural traditions influence a person's decisions and character development. Furthermore, the film also highlights important themes such as perseverance, identity, and the importance of family support. Through the analysis of this film, the researcher hopes to encourage discussions about pursuing one's dreams while maintaining respect for family values, which are relevant issues in modern society.

This research on the film Coco has several important implications. First, it can increase awareness about the importance of understanding personal dreams and family expectations in everyday life. Through the story of Miguel Rivera, the study highlights how individuals often face conflicts when pursuing their ambitions while still respecting family values. This research can encourage audiences, especially young people, to understand that challenges and disagreements within families are common and can be resolved through communication and understanding.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background above, the research question of this study is:

1. What types of external conflictsreflectingfamily are experienced by Miguel Rivera in Disney-Pixar's Coco?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

In line with the research question, the objective of this study is:

1. To identify and analyze the types of external conflicts reflecting family disharmony experienced by MiguelRivera in Disney-Pixar's *Coco*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to provide both theoretical and practical significance :

1.4.1. Theoretically, this study is expected to contribute to literary and film studies, particularly in the discussion of conflict in narrative works. By applying the theory of external conflict to the film *Coco*, this study may enrich scholarly understanding of how conflict functions not only as a narrative device but also as a representation of family relationships, cultural values, and intergenerational tension. In addition, the study is expected to broaden academic discussion on the relationship between external conflict and family disharmony in animated films, an area that still requires further exploration

1.4.2. Practically, this study is expected to be useful for several groups. For students and researchers, it may serve as a reference for further studies on literary conflict, film analysis, and family-related themes in narrative texts. For lecturers and educators, the study may offer insights into how films can be used as teaching media to discuss moral values, family relationships, perseverance, and personal identity. For general readers and viewers, this study may increase awareness of the importance of communication, mutual understanding, and support within the family, especially when individuals face tension between personal dreams and collective expectations