An Analysis of Lexical Features, Rhetorical Elements, and Character Study in a Novel by Tere Liye

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Abstract: *This study aims to analyze the lexical features, rhetorical elements and character studies in the novel Sesuk by Tere Liye. This novel contains various lexical features and language styles, which enrich the reading experience. In terms of diction, the use of connotative and descriptive words provides deeper meaning and helps readers imagine the situation described. The research method used in this study is a qualitative method. The results show that language styles such as simile, metaphor, and personification add depth to the meaning and imagery in the story, allowing readers to feel the character's mood. The theme of this novel focuses on the responsibility and maturity of a girl who faces various life challenges, with a progressive storyline and slowly developing tension. The setting and first point of view help readers understand the feelings of the main character, Gadis, more intimately. The study implications, including the importance of affection and responsibility, are very relevant and invite readers to reflect on family values and the impact of our actions. With a subtle delivery, Sesuk invites readers to better understand interpersonal relationships and moral values that exist in everyday life.*

Keywords: *Analysis; character; lexical; novel; rhetoric*

Abstrak: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis unsur leksikal, unsur retorika, dan kajian perwatakan pada novel *Sesuk* karya Tere Liye. Novel *Sesuk* karya Tere Liye mengandung unsur leksikal dan gaya bahasa yang beragam, yang memperkaya pengalaman membaca. Dalam hal diksi, penggunaan kata-kata konotatif dan deskriptif memberikan makna yang lebih dalam dan membantu pembaca membayangkan situasi yang digambarkan. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif. Hasil penelitian ini menyatakan bahwa gaya bahasa seperti simile, metafora, dan personifikasi menambah kedalaman makna dan citra dalam cerita yang memungkinkan pembaca merasakan suasana hati tokoh. Tema novel ini berfokus pada tanggung jawab dan kematangan seorang anak perempuan yang menghadapi berbagai tantangan hidup, dengan alur cerita yang maju dan ketegangan

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yang berkembang secara perlahan. Latar cerita dan sudut pandang pertama membantu pembaca memahami perasaan tokoh utama, Gadis, secara lebih intim. Implikasi yang disampaikan, termasuk pentingnya kasih sayang dan tanggung jawab, sangat relevan dan mengajak pembaca merenungkan nilai-nilai keluarga dan dampak dari tindakan kita. Dengan penyampaian yang halus, *Sesuk* mengajak pembaca untuk lebih memahami hubungan interpersonal dan nilai-nilai moral yang ada dalam kehidupan sehari-hari.

Kata Kunci: *Analisis; leksikal; novel; perwatakan; retorika*

Introduction

Language is a communication tool used by humans that aims to convey information, messages or emotions to others, both verbally and in writing. Suwarna (as cited in Suhendra & Patriani, 2021) stated that language is the most important communication tool in human life, both for individuals and social groups. Kridalaksana (as cited in Pasiartika & Prabawa, 2018) explains that language is a system of symbols used by society to work together, interact, and introduce themselves. Aitchison (as cited in Kusaeri, Putri, & Haryono, 2022) explained that "Language is a patterned system of arbitrary speech signals characterized by structural dependence, creativity, displacement, duality, and cultural transmission." Duality and cultural diffusion, a system formed from agreed audio signals is characterized by interdependence, creativity, and regulation. From the three opinions of the experts above, we can conclude that language is the most important human communication tool used to interact, cooperate, and introduce themselves. This phenomenon occurs because of the existence of agreed-upon sound instructions, characterized by interdependent structures (Siahaan, Lubis, Lubis, & Simanjuntak, 2021).

Literary works are works that use language as a medium to convey messages and emotions that are the result of a person's imagination which are conveyed either in writing or orally. According to Plato (as cited in Djumadin & Bunga, 2020), the depiction of the world in literary works is a simulation of the world which also includes the world of ideas. Life is expressed through literary works. Literary works form themselves as a social environment that exists in reality. Literary works are seen as the fictional and imaginative power of the author which is the ability to directly capture social development directly.

Ratna (as cited in Sayukti & Kurniawan, 2018) explained that in today's literary theory, literary works are creative results that show the results of beauty and describe various topics of human life, both real and conceptual, both material and spiritual. Etymologically, literature comes from *Sanskrit*, namely *Susastra*, *Susastra* consists of 2 words, namely *su* which means "beautiful" and *sastra*, meaning "writing, book." It can be concluded that literature is writing that contains normative values written using beautiful language (Milyane et al., 2022). Literary works function to provide entertainment, and literary works are a medium used by writers to convey opinions and express their inner

experiences about the state of life and society at a certain time. It is also stated that one of the roles of literature is as a means or tool to convey ideas, thoughts, feelings, views and reactions to everything that happens. Cindy, Een, and Slamet (2021) argues that literary works are influenced by the author's life experiences both directly and indirectly.

Novels are a type of literary work that has a complex storyline. Novels are imaginative novels as imaginative works, works of fiction present various issues of humanity, life, and life (Pratiwi & Dewi, 2022). "Novel" comes from the Latin word "*noveius*", which comes from the word "*novelis*", which means "new". It can be said to be new compared to literary works such as poetry and drama (Putri, Budiarsa, & Sudana, 2018) Novels are one of the prose genres that express story elements as much as possible, have a broad medium, and present comprehensive social problems (Sely Indriani & El-Baroroh, 2023). From the opinions of the experts above, it can be concluded that novels are works of the author's imagination that present a variety of broad human problems, both social problems originating from the author's imagination and the author's real life.

Stylistics is a discipline that discusses the use of language and style in literary works. (Tatiane Machado, 2017). The study of style can determine the principles underlying the unity of a literary work, and can find the general aesthetic goals that distinguish a literary work from all its elements. Stylistics studies aim to investigate the content of literary works. Etymologically, according to Shipley (as cited in Nadya, 2020), the term "style"

itself comes from the Latin *stylus* which means stick or rod, which is used to make symbols. Writing on clay (an ancient writing method in the year). Simply put, stylistics can be interpreted as the science of language style. From the notions above, it can be concluded that stylistics is a science that studies language style which can determine the principles underlying unity and can determine the aesthetic goals in the content of literary works.

Leech and Short (2007) argue that style elements consist of lexical, grammatical, figures of speech, context and cohesion categories. Nurgiyanto (as cited in Pradnyana, Artawan, & Sutama, 2019) explained that style elements include lexical, grammatical, rhetorical and cohesion aspects.

Rhetoric in literary works is crucial in literary studies. The definition of rhetoric reveals the author's power in developing aesthetic values in his work. In addition to its urgency in literary research, rhetoric is also important for readers because its power in novels can captivate readers' interest and captivate them from the beginning to the end of the story (Lumbanraja, Nurachmana, Cuesdeyeni, Usop, & Lestariningtyas, 2023). The discussion of sentence structure in the context of rhetoric is more directed at sentence structure that represents a form of deviation, but also about how an author can achieve an aesthetic effect or impact on the audience or readers.

In a novel, there must be characters and traits, each character showing the nature and attitude of each. Characterization refers to the nature and emotions of the characters in a work of fiction, which includes not only their

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behavior, habits, and habits, but also their appearance (Sari, 2020). Characterization is a depiction of characters in a story, including their physical and emotional conditions that can change, their outlook on life, attitudes, beliefs, and traditions that they adhere to. Wahyudi and Andriyani (2023) explained that character is the quality of the mind and soul of a particular character distinctive from other characters. The depiction of character and the formation of the image of this character is called characterization.

Character and characterization have a very close relationship; character is related to the way the author chooses and determines the characters and gives them names, while characterization is related to the characteristics of the characters (Sipon Indriani, Charlina, & Hermandra, 2020). From the opinions of the experts above, it can be concluded that character and characterization are two interrelated concepts in the depiction of characters in works of fiction. Character includes the nature, emotions, behavior, and appearance of the character, while characterization focuses on how the author chooses, determines, and names the character. Character, as a quality of mind and soul, distinguishes one character from another. Both together form the image and characteristics of the character in the story. (Rahayu, Hasanudin, & Sutrimah, 2022).

The novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye tells the story of a 12 year old girl named Mai and her family (Aprilina, Wardarita, & Rukiyah, 2022). After moving to the old house, the girl faces the complexities of family life with her two younger brothers named Bagus and Ragil (Sasongko, 2018).

The reason for conducting research related to lexical features and character studies in Tere Liye's novel *Sesuk* aims is to analyze the use of diction and meaning and analyze the character of each character in Tere Liye's novel *Sesuk* and help readers determine diction in a novel. (Rahmat & Al Halim, 2021).

Research methods

The research method used in this study is a qualitative method. Qualitative research aims to find information in as much detail as possible (Nurma, Wardarita, & Missriani, 2022).
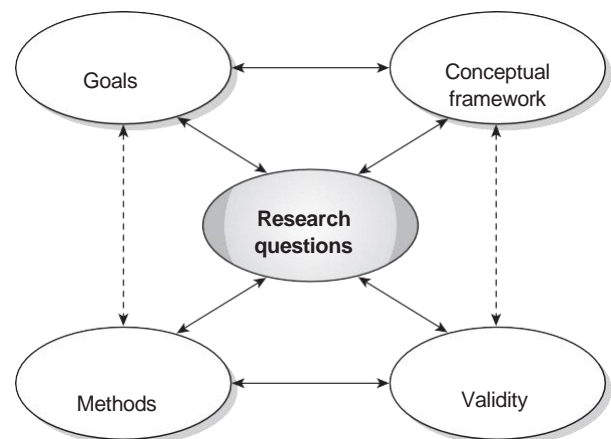

Figure 1 An Interactive Model of Research Design

There are also connections other than those emphasized here, some of which have been indicated by dashed lines. For example, if a goal of a study is to empower participants to conduct their own research on issues that matter to them, this will shape the methods used, and conversely the methods that are feasible in the study will constrain the goals. Similarly, the theories and intellectual traditions drawn on in the research will have implications for what validity threats you see as most important and vice versa.

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The upper triangle of this model, comprising the research questions, objectives, and theoretical framework, functions as an integrated unit. The questions align with the objectives and are informed by relevant theories and prior research, while the objectives themselves are shaped by theoretical perspectives. The choice of framework is guided by the dynamic relationship between the objectives and research questions.

The more in-depth the data obtained, the better the quality of the research. In contrast to quantitative research which focuses on the amount of data, qualitative research focuses on how complete and deep the information obtained by researchers is (Khoiriah, Ningsih, & Nofrita, 2022).

Results and Discussion

This section analyzes the lexical features found in Tere Liye's novel *Sesuk*, focusing on the elements described below.

Diction

According to Keraf, diction consists of the meaning of which words are used in conveying a form of idea, how to group words correctly or choose to use appropriate expressions, and which style of language is best used in a situation. Here are some dictions in the excerpt from Tere Liye's novel *Sesuk*:

Connotative Words

A noun is a word that has extra or non-literal significance separated from its strict meaning. It is explained in the following quote.

"This morning, we left the house in the city complex very early in the morning" data 1 (page 20)

The sentence in *Pagi-Pagi buta* means morning before sunrise. The word *buta* (blind) here does not mean unable to see, but describes the dark conditions in the morning before the sun rises. This explains that they left while the sky was still dark, before sunrise, to leave the city.

"I slept late. Bagus and Ragil were already asleep. I was busy doing my math homework." data 2 (page 77)

The sentence "sleep late" means sleeping later. The word 'late' here describes sleeping longer because of being busy doing homework, or staying up late. So, 'sleep late' explains that I slept later because I was busy doing math homework.

Descriptive Diction

Descriptive diction is the choice of words used to describe an object, idea, place, or event in detail so that the reader can imagine it. It is explained in the following quote.

"I looked up, staring at a large tree. It was a very large tree. The most striking. Standing proudly right next to the thin asphalt road." data 3 (page 53)

The sentence above contains the use of descriptive diction which means describing something clearly and in detail, the sentence uses words that describe the tree clearly such as very large, striking, standing proudly, right next to the thin asphalt road. These words can help the reader imagine the tree in more detail.

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"The sky is clear, as far as the eye can see it looks blue. With wisps of clouds like cotton, one or two." data 4 (page 106)

The sentence above uses beautiful and poetic diction to describe the clear and vast sky and the calm blue color. "As far as the eye can see" symbolizes the vastness of the horizon, and "blue" symbolizes the color of the bright sky, with the detail of "cotton-like clouds, one or two" giving a soft and light touch to the scene, showing that the sky is not completely empty, but only decorated with a few fine cotton-like clouds. All these expressions create an atmosphere of peace, calm and tranquility.

Foreign Language

According to *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI),* a foreign language is a language belonging to another nation that is mastered, usually through formal education and in a socio-cultural way that deals with the social and cultural aspects of society. The script below is a foreign language quote found in the novel tomorrow by Tere Liye:

Quote "Dad said, he can manage his business online." data 1 (page 13)

The word "online" in the sentence above means connected via a computer network or the internet.

Quote "Meanwhile, mother will take a break from singing and shooting." data 2 (page 13)

The word "shooting" in the sentence above means the action or process of taking pictures, either with a camera. And the word "vacuum" describes a situation where someone is inactive or stops for a while.

Quote "But certain parts still have to be wrapped in bubble wrap to prevent scratches." data 3 (page 18)

The sentence above contains the use of foreign words in English. "Bubble wrap" is an adopted word from English which means plastic packaging material that has many small bubbles filled with air.

Quote "Whatever caption you give, there will definitely be lots of likes." data 4 (page 23)

In this sentence, the word 'caption' means information and 'like' means the number of like emoji given by social media users. The sentence suggests that providing an engaging caption to a photo can increase its appeal and attract more likes from viewers.

Quote "The moving company staff were professional, they didn't want to waste any time." data 5 (page 24)

The phrase "moving company" in the sentence above is a company that is moving and the word "professional" is someone who is an expert in a field.

Quote "You seem to have forgotten, Girl. Mother once starred in a film set in the past" data 6 (page 29)

The quote above contains foreign words in English. The word "setting" is an English loan word which means a description of the situation of place and time and the atmosphere of the event. The meaning of the foreign word in the sentence above explains that the background of the situation or place of the film is about a simple old time.

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Quote *"Mom can be a great chef"* data 7 (page 30)

The quote above contains the use of foreign words in English *chef* which is interpreted as a *koki* in Indonesian. The meaning of the sentence is "mother can be a great chef."

Quote *"But surprise when I got ready, finished breakfast, put my books and stationery in my bag, someone called me in the yard."* data 8 (page 46)

The word surprise in the sentence above can be interpreted as a surprise, because someone called him in the yard.

Quote *"I can take care of everything. It's not difficult. Don't forget, I once played a movie as a career woman, a single parent, with six children."* data 9 (page 78)

The meaning of the foreign word contained in the sentence above explains that a single parent is a parent who raises their children without the support and presence of their partner.

Quote *"Anyway, how are you, Miss? The assistant asked."* data 10 (page 126)

The sentence above contains the use of foreign words in foreign languages, the word Anyway is an English loan word which means by the way or however. The meaning of the foreign word contained in the sentence above explains that the mother's assistant asked for news by adding the word "by the way" and the foreign word "anyway".

Quote *"Bye, Girl, Bagas, Ragil, we'll continue chatting later."* data 11 (page 127)

The sentence above contains the use of foreign words in foreign languages in the word Bye is an English loan word which means goodbye. The meaning of the foreign word contained in the sentence above explains that goodbye, Gadis, Bagas, Ragil later we will continue chatting.

Rhetorical Elements in the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye

Style of Language or Figurative Language

Style is a unique way for someone to express their thoughts and feelings through language. Linguistic style can also be interpreted as the use of language variety when speaking or writing. Linguistic style can show the characteristics of an author or writer and is usually used to achieve a certain result. (Nosiawati, 2020). Good speaking usually includes elements of honesty, politeness, and interest. The following is the Language Style in the Novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye, namely: simile or metaphor.

Simile

Simile is an expression that uses direct or explicit comparative words to compare something being compared with its comparator. It is explained in the following quote.

Quote *"I thought he was talking big, but he could actually do it."* data 1 (page 103)

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The sentence uses simile by comparing "big talk" (which means arrogant) with his actual ability. The conjunction "however" shows that even though he looks arrogant, he is actually able to do his job.

> Quote *"The duck just died, like something sucked its life out. Just like the sheep yesterday."* data 2 (page 108)

The sentence quoted above contains a simile figure of speech where there is the word *"diisap"* which means "pulled out", and is connected with a conjunction such as "lamb-lamb" and ends with a sentence that explains the resolution of the word *"diisap",* proven by the fact that the same incident had happened before.

> Quote *"I faintly heard the conversation of the residents in the yard"* data 3 (page 156)

The meaning of the expression is the word *"sayup-sayup"* shows that the conversation is taking place at a distance from the person who is listening and the faint sound shows that the conversation is unclear and difficult to understand. So, the simile *"sayup-sayup"* creates a more vivid picture of how the speaker hears a distant and unclear conversation.

> Quote *"This is not a ghost's work, Sis Tiur. Maybe there is an electromagnetic field anomaly up there, the flock of birds flew across it. Making their nerves feel like they are being roasted, they die instantly, they fall down."* data 4 (page 277)

The simile sentence "making their nerves feel like they were roasting" indicates intense and sudden pain, such as

when someone is exposed to extreme heat. "Dead instantly falling" emphasizes that death occurs quickly and without warning.

Metaphor

Metaphor is the use of words or groups of words not with their actual meaning, but as a depiction based on similarities or comparisons. It is explained as follows.

> Quote *"Although he likes to make a fuss, sometimes the ideas in his head are genius"* data 1 (page 24)

The sentence illustrates the meaning of the metaphor, namely "The idea in his head is a genius" although the person often seems noisy or not serious (excited by himself), at certain times, he can produce very intelligent and extraordinary ideas. "Head" here refers to a person's mind or brain, while "genius" symbolizes intelligence or special abilities. Thus, this metaphor highlights the difference between seemingly chaotic behavior and the intelligence hidden behind it.

Personification

Personification is a figure of speech that creates a metaphor of an inanimate object with human-like characteristics. It is explained as follows.

> Quote *"My mood is mixed"* data 1. (page 17)

This sentence uses the meaning "My mood is mixed" is a figurative expression that describes mixed feelings. It's like saying you feel happy, sad, angry, and maybe confused all at once.

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Quote "A large truck carrying goods, inching up the slopes, passed our car again" data 2 (page 23)

The sentence above uses personification because the word *beringsut* is a word that is usually used by living things, which means walking slowly. While in the sentence above, the word *beringsut* is used by an inanimate object, namely a large truck, which means that the truck is walking slowly. The word *beringsut* in the sentence above has the meaning of walking slowly, if interpreted, the sentence above means that the large truck carrying goods, walks slowly up the slopes again passing our car

Quote "Just a gentle breeze, making the leaves lift slowly." data 3 (page 212)

In this sentence, the wind is given the human attribute of making. The wind itself does not have the ability to "make" something, but by using the word "make" in this context, it is as if the wind has the ability to move the leaves. This creates a more vivid and imaginative image. We can imagine a gentle wind as if it has the intention to lift the leaves slowly.

Litotes

Litotes is a figure of speech used to humble oneself or humble oneself. The litotes quote in the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye is explained, namely.

Quote "Although it is indeed troublesome to wash dishes, cooking utensils, and so on. Cooking is the fun part." data 1

This sentence quote is litotes, in that the word "troublesome" is used as a denial of "fun" or "easy". By stating that washing dishes is troublesome, this sentence implicitly states that cooking is fun and easy.

Correction

Correctional figure of speech is a figure of speech that contains corrections or corrections to what was previously said. It is explained in the following excerpt from the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye.

Quote "I also don't really fit in with that big house, I mean apart from the fact that it's an old building almost a hundred years old I'm not a scared kid." data 1

In the sentence quote "I mean apart from the house being an old building almost a hundred years old I'm not a scaredy-cat" is a correction to the previous statement, "I also don't really fit in with that big house." The meaning of the sentence is that the speaker initially stated his incompatibility with the big house, then added an explanation to avoid the misunderstanding that the incompatibility was caused by his fear of the old house. So, the second part is a clarification or correction to the first statement.

Imagery in the Novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye

In literary studies, imagery is a feeling that is brought up by a work. Where the image becomes the soul in the work that becomes the interpretation or interpretation of a reality. Imagery is also often connoted as an effort to highlight the best image of someone or something in the public eye. Here are some images in the excerpts from the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye as follows.

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Visual Imaging (Sight)

This imagery involves using words to describe something that can be seen, such as color, shape, size and texture. The visual imagery quote in the *Sesuk* Novel by Tere Liye is explained as follows.

> Quote *"There are tomatoes, there are mustard greens, there are chilies, and other plants. The sky looks red, birds fly. The hills are covered."* data 1 (page 41)

The overall meaning of the sentence in this quote describes the calming and inspiring beauty of nature. The visual imagery used successfully creates a clear and captivating picture.

> Quote *"Her face was white, or pale, not very clear, part of her face was covered by the leaves of other tree branches that hung down."* data 2 (page 201)

The meaning of the quote in the sentence above is that overall, this imagery creates an interesting and enigmatic atmosphere. It makes us curious about who or what is hidden behind the leaves, and what the meaning is behind the pale color.

Auditory Imaging (Listener)

Auditory Imagery is a mental image formed in a person's mind when hearing sounds or words. The auditory imagery quote in Tere Liye's Novel *Sesuk* is explained, namely.

> Quote *"I stared at it closely. Test! Test! The voice came again."* data 1 (page 87)

A sentence meaning that describes the listener's experience. The word Test! Test! indicates a repetitive and possibly annoying sound.

> Quote *"CTAR! Lightning flashed brightly. BLAR! Followed by a roar of thunder."* data 2 (page 88)

Overall, the sentences create a powerful auditory experience, allowing the reader to imagine and feel the sound of thunder and lightning.

> Quote *"Looking down at the street I just passed. It's quiet, TIIIN! There's a loud voice."* data 3 (page 212)

The meaning of the sentence in the quote above is to create a sense of tension and uncertainty. The sudden loud sound of "TIIIN!!" attracts the reader's attention.

> Quote *"Tono, who had been standing on the terrace, rushed to close the front door. Locked it. CRANG! CRANG! The torch hit the front door."* data 4 (page 292)

The meaning of the sentence in the quote above is a sound that describes the speed and danger that is happening. As if someone is trying to force their way into the house, most likely with malicious intent. The repetition of the sound "PRANG!" emphasizes the strength and aggressiveness of the attack, adding tension and uncertainty to the situation.

> Quote *"Slap! His hand patted Tiur who was standing next to me gently."* data 4 (page 193)

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The meaning of the sentence is "Plak!" creates a clear and direct auditory image. The sound "Plak!" indicates a soft and light touch, creating a calm and peaceful impression.

Kinesthetic Imagery (Movement)

This imagery involves using words to describe something that can be felt by the body, such as touch, temperature, and movement. The kinesthetic imagery quote in Tere Liye's Novel *Sesuk* is explained as follows.

> *Quote "BRUKK! My little brother's body landed right there."* data 1 (page 12)

The meaning of the sentence makes the reader feel the direct effect of the fall, as if they felt the impact and felt the shock that the little brother experienced. This kinesthetic imagery increases the dramatic and emotional effect of the sentence.

> *Quote "Father shook his head"* data 2 (page 38)

Kinesthetic Imagery is the use of words that appeal to the senses of touch, movement, and balance. In the sentence "dad shook his head," the word "shake" describes a movement of the head, which appeals to our kinesthetic senses.

> *Quote "His tail, his fur felt on my toes. Made me clench my fingers for a moment because it tickled."* data 3 (page 88)

This kinesthetic imagery creates a direct connection between the reader and the character through tactile sensations and physical reactions. This allows the reader to feel the ticklishness and discomfort experienced by the character, creating deeper empathy and engagement.

d. Emotional Imagery

This imagery involves the use of words to describe feelings or emotions, such as happy, sad, scared, and angry. The emotional imagery quote in the *Sesuk* Novel by Tere Liye is explained as follows:

> *Quote "Tiur looked at me in fear. "Jongen is the scariest ghost, Girl. He can go anywhere, he can't be locked up. He can go whenever he wants to go, there are no doors, no walls, that can hold him back. He destroys. Kills. Until satisfied. Then disappears who knows where."* data 4 (page 208)

The quote successfully evokes emotions of fear, uncertainty, and dread in the reader through the description of Jongen's gruesomeness and his brutal actions.

Characterization Study in the Novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye

Characterization study is the process of analyzing and understanding characters in a literary work. This involves identifying traits, motivations, relationships, and how the character develops throughout the story. The types of characterization in the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye are:

Protagonist

The protagonist is the main character in a story who has a good and positive character. The protagonist is usually the center of attention and the central figure in the story, so he is easy to identify. The following are the characters in the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye:

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Girl: The main character who is the actor in the story. Girls are strong, independent, responsible, loving and 12year old girls.

Father and Mother: The girl's parents are busy, but always make time for their three children. In the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye, the girl's father and mother are depicted as busy working figures, but after what happened to her younger sibling, the girl's parents began to make time for their child and began to move house from originally living in the city, moving to the countryside.

Bagus and Ragil: Gadis' younger brothers, kind and obedient.

Tritagonist

Tritagonists are characters who act, support, or support in a story. They can be protagonists or antagonists. Tritagonists are also called actors who mediate between the protagonist and antagonist. Not only that, tritagonists have a role in resolving a conflict in the story. The following are the characters in the novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye: Tono, Tiur, Doctor Sesuk, Bu Guru, the Mother's Assistant, Jongan, Pakde, and the residents: Additional characters.

Synopsis of the Novel *Sesuk* by Tere Liye

This *Sesuk* novel tells the story of a girl's family, a girl who is only 12 years old. The girl has 2 younger brothers named Bagus and Ragil. So, Girl's family consists of five people, Father, Mother, Girl, Bagus, and Ragil. The story goes that the girl and her family moved from a house in the city to a large house located on a hillside in the village area (Yunus, Djou, & Salam, 2021)

It is known that the house was just bought by Gadis' father not long ago, around a few years ago. Gadis' family chose to move house, because of an incident in the old house that was quite devastating to them. The younger sibling, Ragil, fell from the second-floor terrace. The incident was very tragic (Sihite, Sirait, & Wasilah, 2021)

At first, their life was peaceful and happy. The girl's busy father and mother always made time for their three children (Sakti, Purnamasari, & Martono, 2020). However, strange events began to emerge. Starting from the disappearance of Bagus, to the appearance of a mysterious boy (Prastanti & Syamsi, 2022).

Moral Message in the Novel by Tere Liye

The story *Sesuk* teaches us that children, even though they are independent, still need their parents. Parents must commit to being present and loving their children. Remember, it is the parents who decide to have children, not the children who ask to be born. So, be responsible for your decision. Don't let your children be neglected because of your busyness. (James et al., 2023).

This story also shows that humans can destroy themselves with selfishness, indifference, excessive ambition, and greed. A corrupted human is like a virus that is difficult to control, eventually destroying itself and its surroundings.

Morphological Literature Review. Morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies word forms and their formation. Words are the smallest linguistic units that have their own meaning. Morphology is the science that studies how words are formed from basic forms, either by changing the

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basic form itself, or by combining two or more basic forms. Affixation is the process of forming words by adding affixes to their basic forms. Affixes are combinatorial morphemes that can be added to basic forms to form new words. Affixes consist of prefixes, suffixes, insertions, and endings. Rain of Romance "Rain of Romance" is a novel by Tere Liye published in 2017. This novel narrates the life of Lail, a girl gifted with the ability to foresee the future. It explores her journey, including her experience of falling in love and the struggles she endures to remain with her loved one.

According to Putri (2022) This study is an appendix to Tere Liye's novel *"Hujan"*. After conducting research, it was found that there were five forms of affixation attached to the novel, namely prefixes: *ber-, me-, pe-, ter-, di-,* suffixes: *-an, -kan, -I* * Infix: *-em.* According to Hidayati (2021) This study analyzes the main characters in the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye. The study shows that the main character of this novel, Rayle, has a tolerant, brave, humble, and principled personality. Semantic relationships in the novel "*Hujan"* by Tere Liye. According to Pramesti (2020), this study analyzes semantic relationships in the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye. The study revealed that there are five types of semantic relationships in the novel.

This study was conducted by Sauri (2023) with the aim of analyzing the social values contained in the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye. The results of the study showed that the novel *"Hujan"* contains positive social values, such as the values of tolerance, gender equality, love, and morality. Analysis of the literary sociology of the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye and the learning implementation plan in class XII of high school This study was conducted by Nurrohmah (2023) with the aim of analyzing the aspects of the sociology of literature contained in the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye and compiling a learning implementation plan in class XII of high school. The results of the study showed that the novel *"Hujan"* contains aspects of the sociology of literature which include aspects of kinship, economy, love, education, and morality. • Discussion of the personalities of the characters in the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye.

From these studies, it can be concluded that the novel *"Hujan"* by Tere Liye is a novel that is rich in social and psychological values. This novel can be a means to instill positive values to its readers, as well as to understand the sociological and psychological aspects contained in literary works.

Conclusion

Tere Liye's novel *Sesuk* contains various lexical elements and language styles, which enrich the reading experience. In terms of diction, the use of connotative and descriptive words provides deeper meaning and helps readers imagine the situation described. Language styles such as simile, metaphor, and personification add depth to the meaning and imagery in the story, allowing readers to feel the character's mood.

The theme of this novel focuses on the responsibility and maturity of a daughter who faces various challenges in life, with an advanced storyline and slowly

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developing tension. The setting of the story and the first point of view help the reader understand the feelings of the main character, Gadis, more intimately.

The moral message conveyed, including the importance of love and responsibility, is very relevant and invites readers to reflect on family values and the impact of our actions. With a subtle delivery, *Sesuk* invites readers to better understand interpersonal relationships and moral values in everyday life.

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