An Analysis of Types of Setting in Literature to Construct Plot in Sherlock Holmes Movie

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to analyze the types of setting and to discuss of how the setting constructs the plot. The data of this study were taken from Sherlock Holmes movie. The theories used in this study are theory proposed by Kenney (1966) to determine the setting of the movie and the theory proposed by Klarer (2004) to analyze the plot construction. Based on Kenney’s theory, setting can be divided into two types, namely: neutral setting and spiritual setting. The findings of this study related to the neutral setting showed there are 3 types such as setting of place was found 20 (62,5%), setting of time was found 4 (12,5%) and setting of environment was found 6 (18,75%). As for spiritual setting, it was found only 2 (6,25%). Furthermore, based on the analysis of how the setting constructs the plot in the movie, it can be concluded that the data for the construction of plot there are 4 types which are exposition was found 1 (10%), complication was found 4 (40%), climax was found 4 (40%) and resolution was found 1 (10%).

1. INTRODUCTION

Movie is a work of art in the form of a series of live images that are rotated to produce an illusion of moving images that are presented as a form of entertainment
A movie is a series of images that can create an illusion as if the image can move. When it is presented on screen, it can cause an optical illusion to the audience. Such illusion can lead the audience to see continuous motion between different objects that are viewed rapidly in sequence. According to Klarer (2004:53), a movie is created by photographing actual scenes with a proper motion pictures camera, or by photographing miniature models or drawings using traditional animation techniques, and/ or using combination of some or all of these techniques and other visual effects. For some people watching a movie can make them laugh, cry, or even feel scared. In developing the whole story, setting and plot is primarily important and it makes the story more realistic and alive.

The setting is one of the elements of fiction that reveals about when and where an event took place. In other words, setting is referred to the point in time and space in which events or the plot occur that also help the process of character development (Kenney, 1966: 38). It is an important aspect to give a realistic impression to the audience and to create a certain atmosphere that seems really real so that they can feel the truth, the accuracy, and the actualization from the background that being told, so that the story feels more familiar. According to Kenney (1966), setting is divided into two types which are, neutral setting and spiritual setting. Neutral setting is closely related to time, a specific location such as city, name, village, road, hotel, rooms, and others. Neutral setting can be divided into three types including the setting of time, the setting of place, and the setting of environment. Meanwhile, spiritual setting in a work of fiction is not limited to the placement of specific location or something physical but it is also related to tangible manners, customs belief, and values that is applied in the setting. Furthermore, it can create plot which is also an important part that construct the story.

According to Klarer (2004: 15), plot is the logical interaction of the various thematic elements of a text which lead to a change of the original situation as presented at the outset of the narrative. The plot has four sequential levels or stages which are namely: exposition, complication, climax and resolution. Exposition is the beginning of the story where the writer sets up the story. Complication is the beginning of the conflict. This is the part where the conflict is being introduced in the story. Climax is the turning point in the story that occurs when characters try to resolve the complication. Resolution is the set of events that brings the story to end which also means the conclusion of all the problems in the story are resolved.

The analysis of setting in a movie is always fascinating to conduct. There are several studies that conducted by other researchers regarding setting in movies including Arianty (2016), Erripudin (2017), Kusuma (2019), Laksmana (2019) and Susanto (2019). The differences of this study and the previous studies mentioned were in the objectives of the study theory used to analyze the setting and also the data source. The objectives of this study were to analyze the setting and to discuss how the setting constructs the plot in the movie. This study used the theory proposed by Kenney (1966) to analyze the setting and also used Sherlock Holmes movie as the data source since it is a great movie where the setting of the movie directly influenced the storyline of the movie with many misteries behind it.
2. METHODS

The data of this study were taken from a movie entitled Sherlock Holmes. The data of this study were collected by using observation method. In this study, the data were analyzed by using the descriptive qualitative method. Moreover, The data regarding to setting were analyzed according to Kenney’s (1966) theory and the data regarding to construction of plot were analyzed by using Klarer’s (2004) theory.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

This study found that there were three types of setting occurred in Sherlock Holmes movie namely: Setting of Place, Setting of Time and Setting of Environment. Regarding to the Construction of Plot of the movie, this study found that there were four types of plot construction namely: Exposition, Complication, Climax and Resolution. Further explanation of the finding of the study is explained below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Types of Setting</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Neutral Setting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a.) Setting of Place</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>62,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b.) Setting of Time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c.) Setting of Environment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18,75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spiritual Setting</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6,25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the table above, it can be concluded that this study found all types of setting from the Sherlock Holmes movie. Specifically, there are 32 data found in total. The data regarding to Neutral setting there are three types found which are namely, setting of place was found 20 (62,5%), setting of time was found 4 (12,5%) and setting of environment was found 6 (18,75%). Meanwhile, for Spiritual setting, it was only found 2 (6,25%). From the findings of the study it can be concluded that neutral setting was found in every scene of the movie while only a few scenes contained spiritual setting.
In regards with the findings about the construction of plot, this study found all types of construction of plot were found from the movie. The table above shows that there are four types of construction of plot within the total of 10 data found. It can be concluded that regarding the construction of plot all of the types were found in the movie which including, exposition was found 1 (10%), complication was found 4 (40%), climax was found 4 (40%) and finally, resolution was found 1 (10%). All of the findings also showed that the setting in the Sherlock Holmes movie greatly influence the construction of the plot in which can keep the audiences entertained throughout the movie.

### Discussion

In this section, the data that are found from the movie regarding to the types of setting were analyzed descriptively based on the theory of Kenney (1966) and construction of plot were analyzed based on the theory of Klarer (2004). Several representatives of the whole data from the study are presented as follow.
Data 1

Neutral Setting – Setting of Place and Exposition

According to Kenney (1966: 38), setting of place is based on actual geography location that includes topography, scenery even like the details of the room’s interior. Based on the data above, the setting refers to the setting of place as type of neutral setting that took on the castle when Blackwood wanted to kill women for his ritual. The story tells Sherlock Holmes and his friend were able to fail Blackwood’s ritual and then, Blackwood was caught by the police. This scene is the first setting in the film and depicted to the character were Sherlock Holmes was a detective and his target was Blackwood.

According to the theory from Klarer (2004: 15), this scene can be categorized as exposition or the beginning of the story. This particular data belongs to exposition because it shows that story has begun as the first part of event in the movie.
Data 2

Neutral Setting – Setting of Place and Compilation

Figure 2. Blackwood’s grave (0:37:08 – 0:40:49)

The captured scene of the movie above refers to neutral setting especially setting of place. It is because in the film the location focuses only to the grave. According to Kenney (1966: 38) setting of place is the type of setting that is real that includes geography location: topography, scenery, even like the details of the room’s interior. This particular data is classified as the setting of place because in the film, something has happened in Blackwood’s grave in which it is revealed to have been damaged. The view of Blackwood’s damaged tomb convinced all of the authorities that Blackwood had risen from his death. Meanwhile, Reordan is the one that is found dead inside Blackwood's coffin.

From the settings above, the scene of the film constructs the plot to tell the audience about place in which the problem began and it is classified as a complication of the story because the shocking truth of Blackwood had risen from his death and it turned out to be Reordan as the one who had been found on Blackwood’s coffin makes the story even more attractive to the audience.
Data 3

Neutral Setting – Setting of Time Climax

![Image of Holmes Kidnap by Blackwood’s Father (0:58:46 – 1:03:03)](image)

Figure 3. Holmes Kidnap by Blackwood’s Father (0:58:46 – 1:03:03)

The data above refers to neutral setting especially setting of time. The reason why this setting is stated as setting of time because in that moment Holmes was being kidnapped by Lock Coward. According to that particular scene, when Holmes was kidnapped by Lock Coward, he took Holmes to Sir Thomas Rotheram who was not only the U.S. Ambassador Standish but also Blackwood’s father. Then, at the same night, Sir Thomas was seen drowning in his bathtub and being watched secretly by Blackwood.

From the movie setting above, the scene constructs the plot to tell the audience about the time when Holmes was being kidnapped to Blackwood’s father house and then asked to stop Blackwood. The other thing is during the night Sir Thomas was drowning to death in his bathtub and Holmes took something from there for him to be classified. This part of plot is categorized as a first Climax because this scene tells the audience that one death really happened like Blackwood said when he met Holmes in the jail before Blackwood’s execution by hanging. Based on the analysis the setting that create such plot makes the story became more attractive to the audience.
Data 4

Neutral Setting – Setting of Environment and Resolution

The data above is classified into neutral setting especially setting of environment. The reason why this setting stated as setting of environment is because Holmes is studying the rituals of the Order organization and is able to recognize their symbols as in Blackwood’s staged-murders. Due to his knowledge, he is able to deduce that the targets of the final murder are revealed to be every elected member of the Parliament. After that, Holmes plans to fake his arrest and then see Coward afterward. There he uses Coward’s clothes as the evidence to deduce that Blackwood has been conducted a ceremony in the sewers beneath the Palace of Westminster all this time. Holmes then, escapes and Watson, Adler and him proceeds to find Blackwood’s men in the sewers guarding a device based on Reordan’s experiments (the device in which is designed to release cyanide gas into the Parliament chambers and kill all the members except Blackwood’s supporters, whom he has secretly given antidotes). During the meeting, Blackwood comes before the Parliament and confidently announces their impending deaths, then attempts to activate the cyanide device by remote control. Right before it is activated, Adler is able to deactivate the cyanide device with a remote-controlled explosion. Knowing his plan has failed, Blackwood flees but Holmes along with Adler is able to catch him. During the chase, several fight occurred but finally Blackwood is killed because of a trick involving a chain.

From the settings above, the scene of the film constructs the plot to tell the audience about the setting of environment from the Parliament. This part of plot is classified as the third or the last climax of the film because this scene told the audience about the final plan of Blackwood but he was failed.
Data 5

Spiritual Setting

Figure 5. Blackwood Ritual (1:28:54 – 1:35.00)

The scene above can be categorized as spiritual setting. The analysis of this setting from the movie can be interpreted as the magic or tragedy that the audience watch during the film. The reason why this setting is identified as spiritual setting is because this scene showed about how Blackwood has made his plan look like magic while Holmes finds that it was only based on a theory of science that Blackwood used to frighten the citizen.

From the setting above, this part of plot from the movie can be categorized as resolution because Holmes was able to solve the Blackwood’s plan by analyzing his trick which is based on science as the scene also depict the struggle of the main characters which is Holmes in order to finish his job.

4. CONCLUSION

In summary of this study that includes the analysis of setting in the Sherlock Holmes Movie, there are several points can be concluded. The study found that there were the total of 32 data that have been analyzed. In regards with the first problem of the study about types of setting, in this study, there are 3 types of setting found in the movie, which are namely: setting of place, setting of time and setting of environment. Furthermore, the result of the analysis was dominated by neutral setting which mostly occured in the movie. In summary, from Sherlock Holmes movie, there were 30 neutral settings and only 2 spiritual settings can be found. Meanwhile, in regards with the second problem of the study which is related to construction of plot, the study found all types of plot contruction and the total of 10 data that were related. Specifically, there were 1 exposition, 4 complications, 4 climax and 1 resolution found in Sherlock
Holmes movie. Finally, it is also concluded that the settings from Sherlock Holmes movie construct the plot in the film which was great and sequential. Specifically, it was started from an exposition then some complication and climax and ended up with one final resolution.

5. REFERENCES


Kusuma, 2019. *The Influence of Setting towards Character’s Personality in Project X Movie*. Thesis. Denpasar, English Department, Faculty of Foreign Languages: Mahasaraswati Denpasar University


