

ABSTRACT

The two conflicts that are discussed as the basis of writing this thesis are the influence of the social conditions at the time when the author lived on his writing of Howards End and how the characters reveal the author's response toward the society. The study objectives of this thesis are, firstly to find out the sociological background of the writing of Howards End and secondly, to find out how the characters reveal the response of the author toward the society. In this section, I only analyze the major characters having conflicts with their society.

The method I used to get the data for biography, works and idea of the author, summary of the novel and the sociological background of the author is a desk research. In analyzing the sociological background that had led the author to write this novel, I used the contextual approach. Whereas in analyzing the author's response through his characters in the book, I used the textual approach.

After studying the sociological background of the author and analyzing the characters, I found that Industrial Revolution had changed the value of life of the English society. Forster thought that this change had lessened or even harmed the personal values that he upheld. His responses toward this society were found when I studied the characters. Through this novel, Forster wanted to convey his feelings that he loved the society and he could not stand seeing this society destroyed by the effects of the Industrial Revolution. The way to help this society was by accepting the Industrial Revolution effects, but not all.

After reading this piece of great work, I come to the conclusion that this novel has taught how to face life and how to accept something that we do not like. All of these make us aware of the beauty of harmony.

This thesis also gives a suggestion of how to implement the teaching of literature in class. This suggestion is supposed to encourage both teachers and students to read literature.

