

## ABSTRACT

### A. Merci Ikeda: A Character Analysis on Thomas Hardy's Novel *Jude the Obscure*

Character analysis becomes my main concern in studying Hardy's *Jude the Obscure* as I believe that characters' behaviour, way of thinking and reaction will enable us to go deeper in comprehending the content of the novel. I find that not only does the novel reveal the author's personality and philosophy, but also much of the material has been drawn from the author's own life experiences. The author's beliefs, opinions, and hopes have certainly been written down in the novel through the conversations of the characters.

In compiling this thesis, I conducted a desk research. To analyze the problems under the discussion, this thesis also used the combination of the biographical approach and socio-cultural historical approach.

From the analysis, we find that the study of Hardy's biography helps a lot in finding his purpose in writing the novel, particularly in forming the characters.