THE MEANING OF CLARE’S REACTIONS TO HER MOTHER’S UNPLEASANT TREATMENTS, AS SEEN IN CONSTANCE BRISCOE’S UGLY

A THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements to Obtain the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Education

By
Niken Hapsari
Student Number: 061214009

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS EDUCATION
FACULTY OF TEACHERS TRAINING AND EDUCATION
SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY
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February 19, 2011
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Defended before the Board of Examiners
On March 9, 2011
And Declared Acceptable

Board of Examiners

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Yogyakarta, March 9, 2011
Faculty of Teachers Training and Education
Sanata Dharma University

Drs. Tarsisius Sarkim, M.Ed., Ph.D.
STATEMENT OF WORK’S ORIGINALITY

I honestly declare that this thesis, which I have written, does not contain the work or parts of the work of other people, except those cited in the quotations and bibliography as a scientific paper should.

Yogyakarta, March 9, 2011
The Writer

Niken Hapsari
061214009
“Our days are numbered. One of the primary goals in our lives should be to prepare for our last day. The legacy we leave is not just in our possessions, but in the quality of our lives. What preparations should we be making now? The greatest waste in all of our earth, which cannot be recycled or reclaimed, is our waste of the time that God has given us each day.” Billy Graham

I dedicate this thesis to Jesus Christ my All in all, my beloved family and friends...
ABSTRACT

Hapsari, Niken. 2011. The Meaning of Clare’s Reactions to Her Mother’s Unpleasant Treatments, as Seen in Constance Briscoe’s Ugly. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Sanata Dharma University.

This study is to look into the meaning of one’s reactions toward his or her mother’s unpleasant treatments as seen in Clare, the main character of Constance Briscoe’s Ugly. It is undeniable that it has something to do with psychological matters. The psychological approach, thus, is used in this study.

Clare Briscoe is a girl who lives with her family in London. Her father leaves the home after he wins a pool. The atmosphere in the home gets worse when Eastman, who is Clare’s stepfather, lives in the home. He and her mother always say that she is so ugly. Clare wets the bed most of the time so that her mother slaps and kicks her more often. Sometimes Clare gets into arguments and fights with Eastman. The hard time comes when her mother leaves her in the home and moves to another place. Her mother does not give Clare any money. Moreover, Clare has to pay electricity bill and buy some food by herself. She works hard to earn money. Finally, she reaches her dream to be a barrister and decides not to come back home.

In order to achieve the objective of this study, there are two problems to answer namely: (1) How is Clare, the main character, described in the novel? (2) How did Clare react to her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her?

Beside Constance Briscoe’s Ugly as the primary data, there are other sources used as the secondary data, namely journals, articles, books, and the internet that provide information related to this study. The theory of literature such as theory of character and characterization is used to answer the first problem. Then theory of self concept and personality pattern is used to analyze the main character’s thoughts and behaviors. Furthermore, theory of motivation and reaction help get deeper understanding about the meaning of reactions made by Clare, the main character of Constance Briscoe’s Ugly.

The findings of this study are, first, Clare is an optimistic girl. She has a dream to be a barrister. She is clever though her teacher says that she is full of excuses. Nevertheless, her mother says that she is so ugly. As result, Clare becomes unconfident with her appearance. Her mother often slaps and kicks her. Therefore, she is so nervous about her mother’s presence (and the atmosphere in the home which is full of anger) that she wets the bed very often—even in her teens—when she lives with her mother. Clare thinks that she has to work hard and lives independently in order to change her life to be better. Secondly, Clare hates her mother so much because all of the actions of her mother show that she does not like her own daughter. Furthermore, Clare does not like her herself. She blames herself for being ugly. She really thinks that her being ugly has made her mother dislike her. She feels frustrated so she tries to commit suicide as an act of
protest for her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her. Nevertheless, she fails in doing so. Clare’s reactions toward her mother’s unpleasant treatments show that she may not think that her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her may also be due to the way of showing love.

Finally, this study provides suggestion for further researches of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*. The future researchers may focus on the situation and setting which affects the mother’s treatments toward Clare or on describing the mother’s character using feminism approach to get deeper understanding about her character. It is also recommended for English teachers to use part of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* as teaching-learning material to teach English in Senior High School class X. A lesson plan for doing so is provided in the appendix of this study.
ABSTRAK

Hapsari, Niken. 2011. The Meaning of Clare’s Reactions to Her Mother’s Unpleasant Treatments, as Seen in Constance Briscoe’s Ugly. Yogyakarta: Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Studi ini bertujuan untuk mengartikan reaksi seseorang (Clare) terhadap perlakuan buruk dari sang ibu, seperti diceritakan dalam novel karya Constance Briscoe yang berjudul Ugly. Tidak dapat disangkal bahwa hal ini berhubungan dengan faktor psikologi. Dengan demikian, pendekatan psikologi digunakan untuk menganalisa masalah-masalah dalam studi ini.


Studi ini dilakukan untuk menjawab dua rumusan masalah yaitu: (1) Bagaimana Clare Briscoe, tokoh utama dalam cerita, digambarkan dalam novel Ugly karya Constance Briscoe? (2) Bagaimana reaksi Clare terhadap perilaku ibunya yang buruk?

Beberapa teori kesusateraan seperti teori watak dan perwatakkan digunakan untuk menganalisa watak dari tokoh utama. Kemudian teori psikologi termasuk di dalamnya teori konsep diri dan pola kepribadian digunakan untuk menganalisa kepribadian sang tokoh utama melalui pendapat dari tokoh-tokoh lain dalam novel mengenai watak tokoh utama. Selain itu, teori motivasi dan reaksi juga digunakan untuk mendapatkan pengertian yang lebih mendalam mengenai arti dinilai reaksi yang dilakukan oleh sang tokoh utama terhadap perilaku buruk ibunya.

Hasil dari studi ini adalah, pertama, Clare adalah seorang gadis yang optimis. Ia memiliki cita-cita menjadi seorang pengacara. Ia cerdas walaupun gurunya berkata ia penuh dengan alasan. Meskipun demikian, ibunya berkata bahwa Clare adalah gadis yang buruk rupa. Clare menjadi tidak percaya diri dengan penampilannya. Selain itu, ibunya sering menambam dan menendangnya. Clare menjadi sangat gugup akan kehadiran ibunya dan juga suasana di rumah yang penuh dengan kemarahan sehingga ia sangat sering mengompel ketika tinggal bersama ibunya. Clare berpikir bahwa ia harus bekerja keras dan hidup mandiri supaya hidupnya menjadi lebih baik. Kedua, Clare sangat membenci ibunya karena tindakan-tindakannya menunjukkan ia tidang menyukai putrinya sendiri. Lebih jauh lagi, Clare tidak menyukai dirinya sendiri. Ia menyalahkan dirinya karena ia buruk rupa sehingga ibunya tidak menginginkannya. Suatu hari,
ia sangat putus asa dan mencoba bunuh diri sebagai aksi protes terhadap perilaku buruk sang ibu terhadapnya. Namun demikian, usahanya gagal. Pada kenyataannya, reaksi Clare terhadap perilaku buruk sang ibu kepadanya menunjukkan bahwa Clare mungkin tidak mengira bahwa perilaku sang ibu adalah caranya menunjukkan kasihnya pada Clare.

Akhirnya studi ini memberikan beberapa usulan untuk peneliti novel Ugly selanjutnya. Peneliti selanjutnya dapat memfokuskan penelitiannya pada situasi dan kondisi yang mempengaruhi perilaku sang ibu terhadap Clare atau memfokuskan pada karakter sang ibu dengan menggunakan pendekatan feminisme untuk mengetahui lebih dalam mengenai karakter sang ibu.
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN
PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS

Yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, saya mahasiswa Universitas Sanata Dharma:

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Demi pengembangan ilmu pengetahuan, saya memberikan kepada Perpustakaan Universitas Sanata Dharma karya ilmiah saya yang berjudul:

*The Meaning of Clare’s Reactions to Her Mother’s Unpleasant Treatments, as seen in Constance Briscoe’s Ugly*

Beserta perangkat yang diperlukan (bila ada). Dengan demikian saya memberikan kepada Perpustakaan Universitas Sanata Dharma hak untuk menyimpan, mengalihkan dalam bentuk media lain, mengelolanya dalam bentuk pangkalan data, mendistribusikan secara terbatas, dan mempublikasikannya di Internet atau media lain untuk kepentingan akademis tanpa perlu meminta ijin dari saya maupun memberikan royalti kepada saya selama tetap mencantumkan nama saya sebagai penulis.

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Dibuat di Yogyakarta
Pada tanggal: 9 Maret 2011

Yang menyatakan

(Niken Hapsari)
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Yogyakarta, March 9, 2011

Niken Hapsari
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

There are five parts in this chapter. The background of the study includes the reason why I choose Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* to be analyzed. Objectives of study is the goal to be achieved in this study. The problem formulation is the focus of the study. The benefits of study include the benefits for the reader and the benefits for the writer of this study. And the last part of this chapter is the definitions of some terms in this study.

A. Background of Study

Human being is interesting to be observed and analyzed. Human beings must live their life no matter how hard and unexpected it is. The process that people have in their life is actually more mental than physical (Viers, 2009). Sometimes people feel fearful, anxious, and doubtful because of the reality in their life, but that is also the time they grow to be mature and independent.

For some people, life is neither a simple way to go through nor a simple choice to take. Of course everyone in this world has right to make their own life. But, there are some conditions in one’s life that he or she cannot choose. For instance, the family and environment where he or she grows. Someone cannot choose who to be his or her parents and where he or she spends his/her childhood. It cannot be denied that parents are responsible for the development of their children. Therefore, parents play important role in their children’s life. If there is a
conflict in the family, for example divorcing, the children often became the
victims. The parents may not be aware of the impact of this problem.

The problems which arise in one’s life may vary. A novel or book portrays
conditions of someone’s life. It may talk about life in general and the relation of
the characters in it in specific. As Henkle said, novel as an artistic expression
appears to have its objective the deeper, richer knowledge of human life. (Henkle,
1977: 86)

According to Henkle (1977: 6), we come to literature to learn about other
people, and the great advantage of literature is that we can enter into the lives of
people. Although the journey of someone life can be complicated and full of
conflicts, it would be interesting to learn about personality pattern, self concept
and someone’s reaction in facing his or her problems. Personality pattern helps
identify someone’s thoughts and behavior; the self concept explains why one
thinks and behaves in certain way; and this study is meant to see such things
related to one’s reaction.

This study deals with Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* as the primary data. It is
based on true experiences of the writer. This novel is interesting because it tells
about the relationship between parents and the child. The title *Ugly* represents the
parents’ bad treatments toward the child. It tells about the writer’s view about her
childhood which is full of violence, threat, humiliation that makes her so
desperate. Through this novel, Briscoe tells what she thinks about herself and
about her mother’s treatments.
The main character of this novel, Clare, is a girl who is living with violence by her parents. She is fourth within seven children in her family. Her father lives outside the house. She has step father when she is seven years old. It is difficult for her since she lacks of love and attention by her parents. Life becomes more difficult for Clare because of her bed-wetting habit. She is beaten, kicked, and punched by her mother. And sometimes her mother violates her without any reason. She is treated like a slave in her own home. Moreover, she is subjected to verbal abuse by her mother. Clare is never bought a new dress only because her mother says that she is too ugly to wear a new dress. The atmosphere in the family gets worse from day to day and Clare becomes nervous and depressed. All things she does seem wrong for her mother.

One day, her mother leaves her alone at home without any money and property. Her father neither care about her condition nor take the responsibility of taking care of his child. Since that time, Clare works to pay for her own life. She works very hard and spend the money for her daily life.

In this novel, the relationship between parents and child is very bad. This novel is very inspiring. It tells us that life is a kind of process. And the decisions that one makes in his or her life will determine his or her life in the future.

The purpose of this study is to know further about the meaning of Clare’s reactions for being unpleasantly treated by her mother. In order to do so, there are two problems to answer. First, how Clare is described in the novel. Second, how Clare reacts to her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her.
The theories used in this study are: theory of character and characterization and theory of psychology including theory of personality pattern, theory of self concept, theory of motivation, and theory of reaction. The approach used is psychological approach.

B. Objective of Study

The aim of this study is to look into the meaning of one’s reactions toward his or her mother’s unpleasant treatments as seen in Clare, the main character of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*.

C. Problem Formulation

The problems of this study can be formulated as follows:

1. How is Clare described in the novel?
2. How does Clare react to her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her?

D. Benefits of Study

I really expect that this study will help the reader to get the meaning of Clare’s reactions to her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her so that the reader will see things happen in the novel from positive point of view. I hope this study will also help get deeper understanding for those who will analyze the same novel or those who want to continue this research.

The Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* is also interesting to read because it tells about a child who has to deal with her life which is full of threat, violence, and
also challenges. By reading this novel, I learn on how to make a decision in my life, like Clare does in her life as told in this novel.

Furthermore, I hope this study will make the readers reflect their treatments and relation with their family members and learn from Constance Briscoe’s experiences. Nothing will change in one’s life if he or she does not step forward to make the changes.

E. Definition Terms

Ugly:

When people hear the word ugly, their perception will be something “bad”. The word ugly is often related to someone, something, or situation that is “not good”. According to Cambridge Learner’s Dictionary, Ugly means unpleasant to look at or a very unpleasant situation which usually involves violence.

Ugly is something which is bad or unfavorable. In this novel, ugly may represents Clare’s mother treatments which are bad toward Clare.

Unpleasant:

Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary defines unpleasant as not enjoyable or pleasant; rude or angry. In this study, unpleasant is an uncomfortable condition, full of threat, alone, helpless.

Personality Pattern:

According to Hurlock (1972: 19), personality pattern is the individual’s concept of himself as a person related to the world in which he lives. Every person
in this world has personality patterns which identify his or her thought and behavior.

**Self Concept:**

Self Concept according to Hurlock (1972: 22) is the way someone perceive him or herself. Self concept can be based on one’s appearance, abilities, role, emotional state, speech, or action.

**Treatment:**

In Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, treatment is the process or manner of behaving towards or dealing with a person or thing; a manner of dealing with or discussing a subject, work of art, etc. In this study, treatment refers to how the mother behaves and talks toward her child.

**Reaction:**

When we react, we shift responsibility for the situation to the other through blame; we assume the victim role and are ‘justifiably’ carried away by powerful feelings like anger, fear and grief (Ford, 2000). It is about how someone responds to a condition. Reaction can be divided into direct and indirect reaction. Direct reaction involves little to no thought while indirect reaction is slightly more thought out. Indirect reaction is also called response.

**Motivation:**

Motivation is defined as the process that initiates, guides and maintains goal-oriented behaviors. Motivation is what causes people to act (Cherry : 2008).
Motivation is often described into two different types: extrinsic and intrinsic motivation. Extrinsic motivations are those that arise from outside of the individual and often involve rewards such as trophies, money, social recognition or praise. Intrinsic motivations are those that arise from within the individual.

**Violence:**

Olweus (1999) in his article entitled *Bullying in Schools: Facts and Intervention*, defines violence or violent behavior as aggressive behavior where the actor or perpetrator uses his or her own body as an object (including a weapon) to inflict (relatively serious) injury or discomfort upon an individual. In this study, violence tells about the mother’s bad treatment which often slaps, hits, and kicks her own child.
CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter consists of three parts. The first part is the theory of literature that is used in this study. It includes theory of character and characterization and theoretical approach. The second part is theory of related study which are important to be used in analysing the problem formulation. It includes theory of psychology, theory of personality pattern, theory of self concept, theory of motivation, and theory of reaction. The third part is the theoretical framework of this study.

2.1 THEORY OF LITERATURE

2.1.1 Theory of Character:

Character is an individual which is usually a human being or at least one with the capacity of human being. This includes the thoughts, speech, and behavior, both good and bad of human being (Roberts, 1989: 143).

According to Wood (2008), character is an evaluation of a particular individual's moral qualities. It can also imply a variety of attributes including the existence of lack of virtues such as integrity, courage, fortitude, honesty and loyalty, or of good behaviors or habits.

Character reflects how human think, speak, and behave (Roberts, 1989). This study is going to discuss about the main character of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* is described. What she think about her mother and how she behaves toward
her mother. In this study there are some methods that are used to present the
character in this novel, according to Murphy (1972: 161-173):

1. Personal description: the author describes characters through their detailed
    appearance and clothes in the story directly.

2. Speech: the author describes about a person’s character in the story
    through what the person says and from the way he or she expresses.

3. Past Life: the author describes a person’s character by telling the events on
    his/her past life.

4. Reactions: the author describes a person’s reaction to various situations
    and events.

5. Thoughts: the author describes a person’s character by telling what the
    person thinks about.

6. Mannerism: the author describe a person’s mannerism and habits which
    tell us something about his or her character.

2.1.2 Theory of Characterization:

Characterization is the presentation of the characters’ personalities
including their attitudes, appearance, motives, and action which are created to be
life like (Murphy, 1972:161). Through characterization, the one’s attitude and
motives can be analyzed. In this study, it helps analyze Clare’s reactions to her
mother’s unpleasant treatments which are addressed to her.
2.1.3 Theoretical Approach

In this study, I use psychological approach to get the meaning of Clare’s reactions to her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her. Psychological approach is used to discover and demonstrate certain repetitive pattern, hence, from the knowledge of psychology. It uses psychological theories to explain human motivation, personality, and behavior pattern written in literary objects. This approach helps me analyze Clare’s character, behavior pattern and motivation.

2.2 THEORY OF RELATED STUDY

2.2.1 Theory of Personality Pattern

According to Hurlock, personality is formed from the interaction of significant figures (first the mother, later the father and siblings, later extrafamilial figures) with the child. The child brings to this interaction a certain biological constitution, certain needs and drives, and certain intellectual capacities which determine his reactions to the way in which he is acted upon by these significant figures. The personality pattern is composed of traits, or specific qualities of behavior, which characterize the individual’s unique adjustment to life as shown in his behavior and thoughts. (Hurlock, 1972:19)
2.2.2 Theory of Self Concept

The primary or first self-concept is shaped by the social experiences the person has in the home during his early years. The frequency and quality of the child’s relationships with family members will determine how important a role they play in the formation of his primary self concept. (Hurlock, 1972: 24)

According to Hurlock, the concept of self has three major components: the perceptual, the conceptual, and the attitudinal.

1. The perceptual component is the image the person has of the appearance of his body and of the impression he makes on others.

2. The conceptual component is the person’s conception of his distinctive characteristics, his abilities, and disabilities, his background and origins, and his future. It is often called “psychological self-concept”.

3. Included in the attitudinal component are the feelings a person about himself, his attitudes about his present status and future prospects, his feelings about worthiness, and his attitudes of self-esteem, self-reproach, pride, and shame. (Hurlock, 1972:22)

According to Hurlock (1972:22), there are four categories of self concept: the basic, the transitory, the social, and the ideal.

The basic self concept is the person’s concept of what he really is. It includes his perception of his appearance, his recognition of his abilities and disabilities and of his role and status in life, and his values, beliefs, and aspirations.
The transitory self concepts may be favorable or unfavorable, depending largely on the situation in which the person finds himself momentarily. They are generally influenced by some passing mood or emotional state or by a recent experience.

The social self concept is based on the way the individual believes others perceive him, depending on their speech and actions. If a child is constantly told that he is “naughty”, he soon develops a concept of himself as a naughty child.

The ideal self concept is the way a person thinks what he or she wants to be and what he or she believes should be. It involves the physical and psychological aspects of the person.

2.2.3 Theory of Motivation

Abraham Maslow in his article entitled *A Theory of Human Motivation* stated that human beings are motivated by unsatisfied needs, and that certain lower factors need to be satisfied before higher needs can be satisfied. According to Maslow, there are general types of needs (physiological, survival, safety, love, and esteem) that must be satisfied before a person can act unselfishly.

According to Maslow, physiological needs are those required to sustain life, such as: air, water, food, sleep. Once physiological needs are met, one's attention turns to safety and security in order to be free from the
threat of physical and emotional harm. Such needs might be fulfilled by: living in a safe area, medical insurance, job security, financial reserves.

When a person has met the lower level physiological and safety needs, higher level motivators awaken. The first level of higher level needs are social needs. Social needs are those related to interaction with others and may include: friendship, belonging to a group, giving and receiving love.

After a person feels that they "belong", the urge to attain a degree of importance emerges. Esteem needs can be categorized as external motivators and internal motivators. Internally motivating esteem needs are those such as self-esteem, accomplishment, and self respect. External esteem needs are those such as reputation and recognition. Then, self actualization is when people try to achieve whatever they define as their maximum potential, to do their thing to the best of their ability.

2.2.4 Theory of Child’s Reaction

Children react in different ways to stress. Some children become ill. Some may become withdrawn and nervous while others show anger and demand attention (Ruffin, 2010)

According to Hassan (2010), children are very sensitive and normally have super sensitive antenna, which controls the behavior of the children on any unpleasant situation. The most often occurring reactions in children are being unsettled and uncomfortable, disturbed sleep, reduced
performance in school and being restless. Anger is another stressed reaction shown by the children.

2.2.5 Juxtaposition

According to A. Herujiyanto M.A.,Ph.D, juxtaposition is a theory which compares the main character with the minor characters in a novel. It includes the opinion of minor characters about the main character’s personalities. Based on Collins Cobuild English Language Dictionary (1990), juxtaposition is the state of being placed next to or very close to something else, especially something that is very different. Juxtaposition is a theory of contrast or comparison (Rusnak, 2010).

2.3 THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

This study is going to analyze Clare’s personality pattern and self concept in order to know her motivation and the meaning of her reactions toward her mother’s unpleasant treatments. In answering the problem formulation of this study, some theories which are used are theory of character and characterization, theory of personality pattern, theory of self concept, theory of reaction and theory of motivation.

Murphy’s theory of character and characterization help to understand how Clare as the main character is described. Because this study used psychological approach, theories of personality pattern and self concept are need to be used to know Clare’s behavior and thought. The theory of motivation helps to know
Clare’s thought about what she does in her life. Then the theory of reaction helps to understand how Clare reacts to her mother’s treatments.

### 2.4 CONTEXT OF THE NOVEL

Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* is a novel which tells about child abuse. This novel is a story of a loveless child. The main character of this novel describes that the unpleasant atmosphere in this novel is created by her mother’s treatments.

#### 2.4 Setting of Novel

The story in the novel takes place in UK, London between 1962-1979. It is a period which everyone has freedom to express his/her feelings. The reality gender as well as ethnic stereotypes and roles are played out within the grim Briscoe household. Young Clare is subject to such realities. (Campbell, 2010). The place which mentioned in the novel are, Briscoes’ Houses in some districts in South London, in Catholic Church, in Clare’s School (St Joseph School and Sacred Heart School), in Miss K’s – the teacher of Clare- House, Roses Shop where Clare worked on Saturday as a shop assistant, in a building where Clare had cleaning job, in King’s College Hospital where Clare worked as a nurse and Lyndhurst Gardens Hospice where Clare worked as a radiologist assistant.

In the novel, Clare tells that she lives with her mother, stepfather, six sisters and three brothers in the same house. She spends most of her
time in her room where she can express her feelings by writing in her diary.

2.5 Setting of The Writer

Divorce is a huge wrench thrown in to mess everything up. Because of this dynamic time of a teen's life and the unsettled nature of adolescence, their reaction to divorce maybe: anger, a pressing need for a stable home, and a need for clear boundaries between them and their parents. Teenagers need a secure base so they can grow up and leave, and divorce shakes that base (First Family Institute of Kansas).

Since everyone is free to express his/her feelings during this period of time, Constance Briscoe takes note the moments she experiences and her feelings in her diary. She begins to write when she is still very young. She may feel angry when she tells about her past experience. She shows her disappointment of life through her writing. She spends most of her time in her bedroom, where she can express her feelings by writing on her diary.

Young black women are targeted as the less beautiful women amongst the various types approaching in all forms, shapes, and shades. The black woman as ever is seldom signified as an object of beauty. If they are, they tend to have less African and more European features (Campbell, 2010). Of course Constance Briscoe writes her experiences based on what in her minds are at that time. She writes her idea about her mother, father, sisters, and the people around her.
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter consists of three parts: object of study, approach of the study, and the method used in the study. The object of the study is the book used to conduct this study. The approach contains the approach applied in this study. The method is the steps of writing this study.

A. Object of the Study

The researcher used Constance Briscoe’s novel entitled *Ugly* as the object of this study. It is written in 1998 and first published in 2006 in paperback in Great Britain by Hodder and Stoughton. It consists of 25 chapters and 433 pages. This novel is written based on true story.

As the author of this novel, Constance Briscoe, is a black woman, she often uses her “black English”. Since this novel is based on true story, the words within the dialogues are also often used in daily conversation. Briscoe uses her own words to tell the situation and her feelings.

This novel tells about Briscoe’s family. She writes her childhood’s experiences. She is tortured and humiliated by her mother. Though there are many bad situations/conditions experienced by Clare, at the end of the novel she finally achieves her ideas. She then begins her new life.

In this study, the researcher tries to analyze the main character’s reactions to the violent actions conducted by her mother, which are addressed to her, in order to find the true meaning behind her reactions.
The author of this novel used Autobiographical Method as the way to tell the story. It means the person relating the story is the one who has experienced or witnessed or heard about the story. (Murphy, 1972: 150). The author tells about her past experience through this novel.

B. Approach of the Study

Since the topic of this study is someone’s reaction, the approach which is used in this study is psychological approach in order to know someone’s behavior and reaction and the researcher also uses theory of characterization and motivation to analyze one’s reactions and motives.

The researcher tries to analyze how the main character thinks and perceives and how she behaves, and also the influence of mother’s unpleasant treatments on the emotional development of the child.

The other theory which will be used in this study is Hurlock’s Personality Pattern and Self Concept Theory to analyze what motivate the main character’s reaction.

C. Method of Study

This study is a library study. The original data of this study can be in a form of books or journal. In this study, the researcher uses a Constance Briscoe’s novel entitled Ugly, as the primary data.

The steps taken in conducting this research are, first, reading the novel for several times. This step is to get deeper understanding about the story and to find
the idea about what will be analyzed from the novel. Second, writing the impression of the novel, the interesting things from the novel, why it is interesting, what conflicts which arise in the novel, and how the main character behaves. The researcher started to think in an analytic way. This will help the researcher about what to be written in her paper. Then the researcher read the novels again to get deeper understanding. The next step, the researcher read some supporting data like books and sites in the internet which are related to motivation, child abuse, and child psychology development. After that, the researcher makes the first draft of the paper. In this steps, the researcher organized her ideas about the background of study and decided the theory and approach which will be used in conducting this study. Then, the researcher tried to make critical analysis based on psychological approach and theory of motivation to find the answer of problem formulation in chapter one. Finally, the researcher drew a conclusion based on the result of the analysis.
CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

This chapter is aimed to answer the problem formulation of this study. This chapter consists of two parts. First, the analysis of Clare’s character as the main character of the novel. Second, the analysis of Clare’s reaction toward her mother’s unpleasant treatments.

4.1. The Description of Clare

The major characters in a novel perform a key structural function: upon them we build expectations and desires, which, in modification, shift or establish our values (Henkle, 1977: 92). In the novel *Ugly*, Clare is the main character because the story tells about her past life. According to Henkle, the effectiveness of most novels depends upon the ability of the major characters to express and dramatize the human issues of the book. It means that the analysis of the main character is important in order to understand the novel deeply.

In order to analyze Clare’s character, the researcher uses Murphy’s method which is personal description through reaction. The researcher also describes Clare’s character based on others’ character opinion on the novel about her and compare the main character with other characters in the novel.

4.1.1 Clare’s Character based on Her Reaction toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Attitudes.

Clare’s mother treatment is classified into actions and words. In this section, Clare’s character is seen by her direct and indirect reactions toward her mother’s unpleasant actions.
4.1.1.1 Clare’s Character based on Her Direct Reactions toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Action.

Clare is Nervous

It is written in the novel that Clare is so nervous about her mother’s unpleasant attitudes. “Her treatment of my sisters was certainly very different from her treatment of me. They did not get the unkind words I got, or have their nipples pinched, and they were not beaten or punched” (p.12). Because she wets the bed, she is slapped by her mother and left naked. Sometimes she empties bladder in front of her mother, as an act of defiance (p.15).

One of my earliest memory is of her deliberately bumping into me so that I spilled my drink and then smacking me for spilling it. Many of the things my mother did then held no particular significance for me. They were simply acts of a mummy not being nice (p.23).

A new policy adopted by the mother to stop Clare wetting the bed is come into Clare’s room just before bedtime to warn her and give a beating. Therefore, the presence of her mother increased Clare nervousness. “At bedtime my mother came into my room carrying a black plastic bag. I tensed up as she approached me” (p.62).

Clare also expresses her nervousness by telling that her mother’s presence is a nightmare for her. “I could not bear the sound of my mother’s voice and just seeing her was beginning to make me feel physically sick” (p.370).
Clare is Inferior

Clare’s mother treatments which show that she does not like Clare affect the way of Clare see herself. She becomes unconfidence with her appearance and always thinks everyone would agree that she is ugly. One day her mother calls Eastman, Pauline, Patsy, and Carl. They are in the kitchen when she shows her mother her class photograph.

With that my mother turned the photograph round in front of my face. I looked at it. I was actually very ugly. My head was too big, my lips were too large, I was covered in spots and my nose was too wide. I was not smiling (p.68).

Clare agrees with her mother that she is ugly. She thinks that it is very silly of her to hand her mother her school photograph and wish that she might want to buy it. She never buy one before. She then puts it back into the envelope and returns it to school (p.69).

Her mother’s treatment which often ignore her and put no attention to her makes Clare thinks that her mother never ever likes her. Everything she does is always wrong for her mother.

‘The only reason she had asked me to go with her, she shouted, was not because she liked me- oh no, I shouldn’t get the wrong idea- the only reason was because she needed someone to help carry the shopping. And look what happened! I couldn’t even do that! I was completely hopeless.’ (p.315)

4.1.1.2 Clare’s Character based on Her Indirect Reactions toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Actions.

Clare Feels Frustrated
Over period of time her mother’s treatments of her makes her very frustrated. She wet the bed most of the time when she lives with her mother (p.12). Because of her bed wetting, she gets more beating. The violation done by her mother makes Clare feels worry everytime she is going home from school. Her mother also becomes very personal. She mentions her bed wetting in front of people. Thus, Clare becomes so anxious that her hair fall out (p.388).

Eventhough her mother leaves her and moves to another house, she still feels worry in case her mother suddenly appears in home. “Soon I was finding it harder and harder to concentrate. I never felt alert-listening out for the front door” (p.374).

All her mother actions show she does not want her own daughter. She slaps, punches, and kicks Clare. As a result, Clare decides to commit suicide because she thinks that no one loves her not even her own mother. She is tired of her mother unpleasant attitudes toward her. She drinks Domestos because it kills all germs and her mother said that she is a germ. She is tired of being a germ (p.2).

**Clare is Independent**

Clare thinks that she needs to work in order to get some money which will be used for her needs. She was 12 years old when she got a Saturday job in a garment shop.

‘I was tired of having to take biscuits from my mother’s room, tired of the struggle to keep out of her way. I did not want any more hand-me-downs. It was then I took a decision to find myself a Saturday job, the kitchen job with
eastman had been a one-off. Any job that would help me pay for new clothes.’ (p.210)

Clare has been left by her mother since she was 15 years old. She has to work for her own living. There is no electricity and no food in the house. Nevertheless, those condition does not make Clare to give up. She works hard to earn some money. “I would go to Angela’s flat one or two days a week for an hour and teach her eldest boy” (p.324). She works very hard and is busy with her activities everyday. “I had got into a routine with my jobs, cleaning during the week, selling clothes at the weekend and doing my own housework on a Sunday after church” (p.349). Even she feels that she is fully responsible for her own living. “I was quite capable of looking after my self” (p.348).

4.1.2 Clare’s Character based on Her Reactions toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Attitudes.

In this section, Clare’s character is seen by her direct and indirect reaction toward her mother’s unpleasant words.

4.1.2.1 Clare’s Character based on Her Direct Reaction toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Words

Clare is Powerless

Not only by her actions, Clare’s mother also violates her child verbally. When Clare hands her class photograph to her mother, she simply says that she does not want to waste her money for she is ugly.
‘I been telling you for years that you’re ugly. Have you paid any attention? Have you listened to me? No. Not one word have you listened to. Instead you bring your ugly pictures home and ask me to pay for them. Do you think I should buy them?’ (p.68)

Her mother then throws the picture. She forces Clare to admit and realize that she is so ugly and she does not want her. Clare does not want to against her mother so that she answers the questions of her mother and says that she herself is ugly.

Almost everytime when Clare has conversation with her mother the unpleasant words come up from her mother. The words that should not be spoken by a mother when she talks with her child. Sometimes her mother calls her “bitch” or “liar” or “scarface” and treats her very bad. She hits Clare at her back using stick, slaps and punches her in the head, and tells her that she regrets to give birth a child like her. She does not want a child who always piss her bed. Then Clare answers her mother:

‘Why don’t you just kill me? Go on, kill me dead. They will all know what you’ve been up to. You know you want to. No use pretending. Go on-what is stopping you? You make me sick and I don’t like you. I never did, ever since I knew you were my mother. So kill me now, because, if you don’t, when I go to school on Monday I’m going to tell Miss Golding everything you’ve done.’ (p.185)

When Clare comes home during the holiday after staying with Miss K, her teacher, Clare’s mother asks her as if Clare is not one of her children. Clare avoids an argument with her mother. Even she agrees to leave the house if her mother asks to.
‘Well, what did you come back for? No one wants you here, so why don’t you fuck off back where you came?’
‘Yes, all right, I can do that. I can go now or later—it’s up to you. I’ve got somewhere to go. Anyway, George said I can always go to this house, so if you don’t want me I’ll go and pack.’ (p.283)

4.1.2.2 Clare’s Character based on Her Indirect Reactions toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Words

Clare is Helpless

Clare’s reaction which always avoid quarelling with her mother makes Clare’s mother thinks that Clare has no respect to her. “How is bed-wetting? Most normal people would have stopped wetting the bed years ago, but not you.” (p.366) Clare does not respond to her mother so she pulls Clare’s wig off and throws it on the bed. Clare knows that it is no need to argue her mother because she will only blame her. “You are a dirty whore. A dirty, dirty whore,” said her mother (p.247). Clare repeats it as her mother asks. Sometimes Clare does not answer her mother because she feels the pain caused by her mother abusive attitudes (p.51). But Clare’s mother thinks that she does not know when to speak and answering back.

4.1.3 Clare’s Character based on Other Characters’ Opinion about Clare

Clare is Optimistic

Clare wants to be a barrister. Eventhough she has so many jobs and her mother does not support her, she studies hard for the exam in order to
go to university. She is very exited when she has a school visit Knightsbridge Crown Court. She tells one of the barristers there-who is called Mr. Mansfield-that she wants to be a barrister. She asks Mr. Mansfield to be her pupil master when she qualifies as a barrister. Clare also asks him to promise her (p.243).

Her teacher tells Clare that to be a barrister is very good dream but it is very difficult for Clare to achieve. Clare ignores her. She has decided to make her dream comes true.

‘As for being a barrister,’ she said as we left, ‘it is good to have dreams, but they have to be realistic. Dream about something that you can achieve. That way you can never be disappointed. Dreams and hopes must have boundaries.’ (p.244)

When she tells her mother that she wants to study in Notre Dame School, her mother says that she is not bright enough to get in there. But Clare objects by saying that both of her sisters do not want to go to Notre Dame School. Her mother tells her to get out of her sight and to stop being so awkward (p.89).

Clare ensures herself that she will reach her dream to be a barrister.

“I would qualify as a barrister...All I needed now were my O levels, A levels and a degree. Easy-peasy” (p.244).

Clare is Ugly

Carmen says that Clare, her own daughter, is ugly. She comments on Clare’s photograph. She does not want to buy the photograph of Clare.
‘Heavenly Jesus, sweet and kind, why have You given me a swine? Look at that nose, where did you get it from? Not from me... If I had a nose like that I would cut off half and save the rest.’ (p.67)

Eastman, Clare’s stepfather, also agrees with Carmen. When he looks at Clare’s photograph, he spontaneously says that she is so ugly. ‘I’ll say one thing, you sure is fucking ugly.’ (p.67)

Clare is Clever

In her work place at King’s College Hospital, Clare shows that she is able to do her jobs quickly and that way she pleases the patients. She is able to do various kinds of job such as tidying bed, replacing sheets, pillowcases and blankets, cleaning the kitchen, collecting all the cups or giving out more tea to the patients, and making note about patients’ reaction to medication. Therefore the nurses and doctors there give good impression of Clare. “I was by far the youngest and most energetic auxiliary there. Some nurses and doctors commented that I even appeared to have a brain”. (p.385)

Clare not only shows her capability in the workplace, she also shows a satisfying marks in the school. Clare shows her potential by doing very good in her exam. “My exams came and went and my results across the board were excellent. All my teachers were pleased”(p.273). The school report which is written by her teacher shows that she is clever.

‘Clare no longer makes excuses. Work is now on time and a great deal of thought goes into it. A truly excellent round of
results—well done. A very able girl—will go far. Clare has been making steady progress. If it continues she should do well in the next set of results. A truly delightful and intelligent young lady with remarkable recall. Should do well in life.’ (p.273)

Clare is Sympathetic

When she works as a nurse, she is always ready to assist the ladies with everythings that make them more comfortable. (p.385) She makes the patients happy. Clare also shows that she has full of attention to the customers in Roses. She makes them happy. “The customers loved me. No one was too fat or to thin in my eyes. Everyone was just right”. (p.386)

Clare is Full of Excuses

Clare gives so many reasons to her teacher when she does not complete her homework punctually. She tells the teacher that she has so many things to do in the house so that she does not have enough time to complete her homework punctually.

‘Oh, miss, I didn’t have time—sorry about the homework. Oh, miss, I was doing the washing-up, the drying-up, washing sheets, sweeping the stairs, cooking—all sorts of excuses, every single one true, but Miss thought that they were the sort that a very imaginative and active mind could call upon when required to deal with the complete failure to return homework on time.’ (p.123)

Clare is Ungrateful

Clare’s teacher said that Clare is ungrateful because she does not respect God’s gift of life. Clare tells the teacher that she wants to go to
heaven sooner because she thinks that the life there will be better and she wants to reject God’s gift of life. She thinks that God will be happy if she gives His gift back. Hearing Clare’s opinion, her teacher becomes angry. “Clare Briscoe, hush your mouth, may God forgive you. You ungrateful child”. (p.77)

4.1.4  Juxtaposition

Clare is Determined

Clare compared with Pauline

Pauline is Clare’s eldest sister. Clare calls her Four Eyes because she wears glasses. She prefers to avoid argument with her mother. When she needs to get permission from her mother, she asks Clare to talk to her mother. Clare always tries to ask her mother a permission and she is brave enough to ask for reason when her mother does not give them permission. When Clare and her sisters want to go to disco, only Clare asks for permission to her mother. Although she knows that she will make her angry, she decides to tell her that all the house works is done but still her mother does not permit them to go. Pauline tells Clare that she should not asks her mother. Clare says to Pauline: ‘You’re lying, Four Eyes; it was you that sent me.’ (p.182)

When Clare is abused by her mother because of her response to Eastman, Pauline always avoids to defend Clare and pretend that she does not know everythings happen in the house.
‘Who beat you up, Clare? I never saw a thing.’
‘How come you got Four Eyes and you can never see?
You’re blind most of the time. Can you see my head? What a surprise. I got beaten up and I don’t want to talk about it.’

(p.257)

Clare is Courageous

Clare compared with Patsy

Patsy is the other Clare’s sister. She is the most silent of the other. Unlike Clare, she is fragile and coward. She never speak out to her mother. She is very different from Clare. When Clare and her sisters come home late from the disco, her mother tells them to go back to the front door. Clare does not need to be told twice. She opens the curtains and the window and climbs back down to the garden. But Patsy is in tears because when she come down the ladder she looks terrified.(p.202)

Clare is brave enough to ask her mother for permission while her sisters have no courage and only wait for the answer from Clare. Pauline and Patsy do not want to take risk in case they speak out to their mother. When Clare has finished talking to her mother about going to the disco, her sisters are on the top landing. They ask Clare what their mother says. Patsy is stood behind Clare. She thinks that it will be safe if she does not ask her mother directly but she hears from Clare. (p.191)

Clare is Sensitive

Clare compared with Eastman
Clare shows her sensitiveness when she has conversation with Eastman, her stepfather. For Clare, Eastman has never been a father because he never treats her as someone who really needs love and attention. Clare often gets argument and fight with Eastman. When she was about twelve, her relationship with Eastman became worse. Eastman punches Clare and she does too. They start to fight in her room. Eastman take his belt and hits her twice in the face. (p.130)

Clare treats Eastman the same as he treats her. They mock each other and had fight. Clare is so angry when Eastman calls her “shithouse”. Then she answers back by calling him “stupid fool” because he cannot read.

‘You calling me a fool?’ he said and removed the cigarette from his mouth. ‘You calling me a fool?’
‘No, Eastman, I’m not calling you a fool. I’m calling you a stupid fool.’ (p.131)

**Clare is Smart**

Clare compared with Eastman

Clare has a good idea to stop the abuse which is done by Eastman. She goes to Camberwell Green Magistrates’ Court to report the Eastman’s brutal attack toward her (p.134). She does not tell her father what she has done. When she is in the court, she asks her father to stay outside. She knows that she will be in trouble if her mother thinks that she hatches a plan with her father. (p.136)
Clare is Powerless

Clare compared with Her Mother

The treatment of her mother gives impression that Clare has nothing to do with the rules that her mother conducts. When Clare gets a job, her mother asks for the living cost of Clare, who is her own child. She tells Clare that no one gets anything for free. She forces Clare to give her money as long as she lives in her house, eats her food and drinks her drink. She counts on how much money she has spent for the soap powder to clean her bedclothes. Clare does not want to argue so she agrees to give some money to her mother. Unfortunately, her mother takes all of the money that Clare has. She says that Clare owe her much.(p.164)

One day Clare’s mother takes the bed, blanket, and pillow which are used by Clare to sleep and put them all in her bag. She forces Clare to pay the bills to her  (p.355). But Clare does not have much money to pay her so that she let her mother leaves her without any sheet to sleep.

Clare is A Decision Maker

Clare compared with George

George is Clare’s real father. George knows the abuse that is done by Eastman toward Clare, but he does not do anything to defend or protect his child. Clare knows that she cannot depend on his father. “I reported the burn to my dad, George, and showed him my hand a few weeks later. He said he would deal with it, but I am not sure that he ever
Finally Clare decides to solve her problem with Eastman by her own self. “I told him that Eastman had had a fight with me and pushed my head through a window. I then said that I was going to deal with it in the morning and it was not necessary for him to get involved”.

(p.134)

4.2 Clare’s Reaction toward Her Mother’s Unpleasant Treatments

There are two ways to analyze how Clare’s reacts toward her mother unpleasant treatments. First, it can be seen as it is written in the novel. So it is based on the reading comprehension of the novel which is also called surface meaning. Second, it is not written in the novel but it is taken by understanding the whole novel. In this study, I use theory of motivation and reaction to get deeper meaning of Clare’s reactions toward her mother unpleasant treatments.

4.2.1 Clare Hates Her Mother and Blames Herself for Being Ugly

It is clear in the novel that Clare hates her mother. She feels that she does not get enough love and attention from her mother as she wishes. Clare tells that she does not like her mother because most of the time her mother treats her very bad. She is beaten and pinched by her mother. “Over period of time my mother’s treatment of me made me very nervous” (p.12). Clare thinks that her mother has never done good things to her. Her mother makes Clare become more nervous from day to day. Clare realize
that her mother is unpredictable. One morning when Clare is dreaming on bed, she does not hear her mother enters the room. She is lying on her back thinking nice things when she feels a punch to her stomach. Her mother then just stands and looks at her. She then leaves the room. “Over a period of time I became very nervous and jumpy whenever my mother was within striking distance” (p.31). Clare states that she does not like her mother. “I was not happy with my mother” (p.110). She accuses her mother of creating the unpleasant atmosphere in the house. She says that the house makes her sick. Her mother makes her sick (p.180). She is brave enough to express her feeling to her mother. “You make me sick and I don’t like you. I never did, ever since I knew you were my mother” (p.185).

As a result of the abuse she gets from her mother, Clare has no respect to her mother. “If I had my way I would never speak to my mother again. I ignored her messages via my father to return home” (p.287).

Although it is so hard to earn money for her own living, she feels happy when she does not live with her mother at the same house. “The idea that our mother would no longer be around made me feel very happy. No more Mummy-hip,hip hooray!” (p.322). After her mother leaves her and moves to another house, Clare does not want to ask her sisters about her mother. “I suppose I could have asked about our mother but I wasn’t interested” (p.346).
Clare admits that her mother makes her feel sick because she treats her badly most of the time. She slaps her in the face before bedtime as a warning not to wet the bed, then she asks her to wear the wet clothes from the previous night with the bedclothes and the blanket which are also wet and sometimes she leaves her naked. “I could not bear the sound of my mother’s voice and just seeing her was beginning to make me feel physically sick” (p.370). She says to her mother about what she thinks and what she feels. “I want you to know that I will never ever speak to you again for the rest of my life. I have nothing to thank you for, Mummy”. (p.396)

Furthermore, Clare begins to think that she is ugly and the life she lives is also ugly. She says that she is actually very ugly (p.68). Clare also thinks that no one wants her because she is ugly: “Who would want me?” (p.48). She is completely hopeless because all things she has done are wrong for her mother then she decides to kill herself by drinking Domestos. Clare blames herself for she is ugly. She becomes unconfidence with her appearance. Clare’s reactions show that the way she perceives life is ugly. She may not think that her mother’s attitudes may also be due to the funny way of showing love. She makes no effort to find out the meaning behind her mother’s unpleasant treatments toward her. She never ask her mother and avoid discussion with her mother.
4.2.2 Clare Hates All the Unpleasant Treatments of Her Mother

After reading the novel several times and get deeper understanding, it can be concluded that Clare’s mother is actually loves her own child but she does not shows her love directly. When she does not permit Clare to study at Notre Dame High School by saying that Clare is not bright enough, she actually wants Clare to be sturdy, not easily give up. She knows exactly that Clare is actually a clever and independent girl (p.360). When she always says that Clare is so ugly she actually wants Clare to dress up and make up her appearance. But Clare feels that it is a humiliation when her mother says ugly to her.

Clare wet the bed most of the time so that her mother tries some policies to stop her wet the bed but she fails in doing so. Even she buys Clare an alarm to wake her in the night so that she will not wet the bed but still it fails to wake Clare up (p. 13). That is why she becomes so angry with Clare. Her mother also asks Clare to sleep outside when she comes home late. It is because her mother does not want Clare to go outside in the night anymore. She is actually worried about Clare (p.196).

The love of the mother can also be seen when she asks Clare to come home after she lives in Miss. K’s house for several weeks (p.287). Her mother leaves Clare in the home without electricity, money, and food because she wants Clare to be an independent person. Her mother realizes that Clare has potential rather than her sisters to live independently. She hopes that Clare will be successful and able to earn money by herself.
Unfortunately, Clare may not think that her mother’s attitudes may also be the way to show her love to Clare. On the other hand, Clare thinks that her mother does not want her. “She made me dislike her and I no longer considered her as my mother” (p.248). When Clare says to her mother that she has nothing to thank her, her mother remains silent and then she asks Clare to go as soon as possible. It is because she loves Clare. Clare’s words hurt her so much but Clare does not realizes it (p.397).
CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter contains of two parts. The first part is the conclusion of this study. The second part is the recommendation for further research and suggestion for using Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* as the material to teach Reading in High School, Class X semester 1.

5.1 Conclusion

Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* portrays a tragedy in life. The title of the novel represents the characters of the novel: a mother who often slaps and kicks her daughter, a father who abandons his family, and a child who always blames her parents.

Having analyze Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* by applying theories presented in chapter two, it can be concluded that one’s character can be known by his/her reaction to other’s treatments toward him/her. Therefore, the objective to describe the main character and find the meaning of her reactions for being unpleasantly treated by her mother, is reached.

5.1.1 Clare’s Character

Clare is an anxious girl. She is always nervous when she heard her mother’s voice. Clare’s anxiety becomes worse then she wet the bed most of the time especially when she is still living in the same house with her mother.
Clare is also inferior. She feels unconfidence with her appearance and thinks that she is really ugly because her mother think so. Furthermore, she thinks that no one wants her not even a social home. In the end of the novel Clare decides to have some cosmetic surgery in order to make her nose and her lips look better. Once Clare feels nervous and hopeless because of her mother’s treatment then she decides to commit suicide but it fails. Clare often avoids argument with her mother because she knows that she can do nothing to defend herself. She is powerless. Even her father and her sisters cannot help her when she is treated unpleasantly by her mother.

Because of the condition that Clare is not get enough attention and love from her mother, she grows up as an independent girl. It is very rarely for young girl/boy at her age who works for her/his own living as Clare does. Clare’s teacher thinks that Clare is a sturdy girl. She wants to be a barrister no matter how hard the way she has to go through. Clare is so sure that she will qualify as a barrister although her mother and her teacher did not support her.

The friends of Clare in the workplace say that Clare is clever. Clare also shows her potential in the school. Her school report says excellent. The customers in the garment shop where Clare works say that she is a sympathetic person.

Nevertheless, Clare’s teacher also says that Clare is full of excuses. Very often she makes excuses for late submission homework. One day, Clare is warned by her teacher because the teacher thinks that Clare is ungrateful. She makes her teacher angry because she wants to reject God’s gift of life.
If Clare is compared with her sisters, she is determined and courageous girl. She is the only one who is brave enough to ask for permission to the mother to go to disco or to ask for the money given by her father back. Sometimes she becomes so sensitive that she has argument and fight with Eastman. When Clare reports the abuse to her father, Gorge, he can do nothing. But then Clare makes a good decision to take her case to the court.

5.1.2 Clare’s Reaction.

The title of the novel, *Ugly*, represents the mother’s treatments toward Clare and the reactions of Clare toward her mother’s treatments which are addressed to her. Based on the theory of motivation, it can be concluded that Clare is a reactive girl. Most of the time, her reaction toward her mother’s unpleasant treatments are not spontaneous reaction. She thinks that her mother likes to treat her badly. Clare hates her mother because she never gives love and attention as she wants. Clare thinks that her mother makes her feel nervous all the time. Clare never wants to live with her mother. She feels no need to respect her mother. Clare blames herself for being so ugly that no one loves her.

5.1.3 The True Meaning of Clare’s Reaction.

Based on her reaction which always blames her mother for the bad atmosphere in the home, it is clear that Clare may not think that her mother’s treatments toward her may also be due to the way of showing love. She may
not know how hard her mother’s efforts and how much money she spent to make her stop wetting the bed. Clare may not know how much money her mother will spend if she goes to the favorite high school as she wishes. That is why she does not permit Clare to study at Notre Dame. Even though Clare does not study there, her mother is sure that Clare has potentials to get good marks in Sacred Hatred School, the school where her sisters go to. Clare may not know that her mother wants her to dress up and tidying up by saying she is so ugly. She thinks that it is a humiliation. The abandonment of her mother makes Clare thinks that her mother really does not want her. In the other hand, her mother wants Clare to live independently because she is so sure that Clare can earn money by herself to pay for her needs and to go to the university. At the end of the story, Clare decides not to talk to her mother again.

5.2. Suggestion

After concluding the analysis result of this study, then the suggestion. It includes the suggestion for further research of Constance Briscoe’s Ugly and the suggestion for using Constance Briscoe’s Ugly as teaching-learning material for English Lesson in High School.

5.2.1 Suggestion for Future Researchers

Constance Briscoe’s Ugly is interesting to be analyzed. This is a novel about a loveless child. Because this study is not perfect and there are still many things in the novel that can be analyzed, I suggest the readers to do
further research on Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*. Those researches can be on the situation and setting that affects Clare’s mother attitude or describing Clare’s mother attitude using feminism approach to get deeper understanding about Clare’s mother character.

5.2.2 Suggestion for English Teacher to Teach Reading using Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*.

I also suggest the reader to use the summary of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* as teaching-learning material in English lesson in Senior High School Class X because the text is easily understood and the students can increase their vocabularies and learn from Clare’s experiences.

In this study I apply a teaching-learning material using the summary of the novel to develop reading skill. I would like to apply reading activities such as comprehension test and vocabulary meaning.

5.2.2.1 The implementation of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly* to Teach Reading Skill in English Lesson.

In this part, I suggest the procedures to present teaching-learning activity to teach reading using Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*.

1. The teacher distributes a passage which is taken from Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*. Then the students read it carefully.

2. The teacher provides some questions based on the passage to test the students comprehension. The students underline the
main idea of each paragraph and try to answer the questions
given by the teacher.

3. The teacher asks the students for the meaning and synonym of
some vocabularies in the passage. The students try to look for
the synonym of vocabularies in a dictionary.
REFERENCES


APPENDICES
APPENDIX 1

SUMMARY OF CONSTANCE BRISCOE’S UGLY

Ugly is a novel written by Constance Briscoe which tells about a loveless child. Unlike the other children in her age, Clare, the main character of the story, was beaten, abused and bullied. Her chief tormentor was her own mother, a Jamaican immigrant called Carmen, who liked pinching and twisting her daughter’s nipples, grabbing and squeezing what the author quaintly calls her “minnie”, and kicking her in the stomach. She was also busy adding insults to all her injuries by calling her daughter “ugly”, “scarface” or “miss piss-the-bed”. Clare’s parents often got into arguments and fight then her father, after winning the pools, left the house and only turning up at Christmas time with food and presents.

The problem is that Clare, even in her early teens, wet the bed most of the time. Her mother thought she did so deliberately, and would make her put her wet sheets back on the bed and sleep in them. She became so nervous of her mother’s presence. Yet as soon as Clare slept away from home, the problem stopped. And when she returned, it resumed.

Once she had a bad fight with her step father, Eastman. He burnt Clare’s hand with his ciggarette so it left a scar. Clare reported the abuse to her father, George, but he could do nothing. Then she decided to take her case to the court so that Eastman would stop doing bad to her.
The hard times came when her mother moved to another house and Clare was left with neither food nor money. Although she has two sisters, Pauline and Patsy, who lived with her, Clare decided to find jobs for herself. Clare had to work very hard in order to fend for herself. She did cleaning job from Monday to Friday at Trafalgar Square. On Saturday she worked as a shop assistant of garment shop at Roses. Constance reveals that she worked in a hospice in Lyndhurst Gardens in Belsize Park. One of the jobs that she was allocated was preparing bodies of the recently dead. Despite every discouragement from home, Clare passed her A-levels and gets into Newcastle University to study Law. She reached her dreams to be a barrister.

*Taken from:* Briscoe, Constance. 2006. *Ugly*. London: Hodder and Stoughton
APPENDIX 2

BIOGRAPHY OF CONSTANCE BRISCOE

Constance Briscoe was born on 18th of May 1957. She is a Britain’s barrister. Born to two Jamaicans who settled in the United Kingdom in the 1950s, she was one of six children. Briscoe studied Law at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, financing her studies by having several jobs at weekends and during the holidays, including working with the terminally ill in a hospice. She took an MA at the University of Warwick. She was called to the Bar in 1983, and in 1996 became a Recorder, a part time judge - one of the first black women to sit as a judge in the UK.

Constance Briscoe is known for her books Ugly and Beyond Ugly in which she claims she was abused as a child and she often talks about her experiences publicly. Her mother, Carmen Briscoe-Mitchell, sued her daughter along with publishers Hodder & Stoughton for libel. The case was concluded in Constance Briscoe's favour, when a civil jury in the High Court unanimously found that the books were not libellous.

The biography commences with an eleven-year-old Constance attempting to get herself referred to a children's home. At this point in time, Constance feels that 'no one would miss me if I just disappeared.' She writes a letter to her mother and places the letter in her school embroidery bag. She then goes into the bathroom where she drinks bleach because it kills all germs and Constance's mother had made Constance feel as if she was a germ. She felt happy 'because tonight, if the bleach worked, I would die. No more tomorrows. Hip, hip hooray.'
Constance states that her story is not 100% true, as 'it's difficult to remember the order of things.' She says that so far, she has been a very private person and that this is the first time that her story is being told. She gives the reader a description of why the name that appears on her birth certificate, Constance, is not the name that her mother calls her, 'Clear' or 'Clearie.'

Constance describes the events which led to her bedwetting problem. Among other names, her mother refers to Constance as 'pissabed.' Constance's anxieties are easily attributable to the way in which her mother treats her. Namely, her mother, Carmen, treated her daughter in the most horrendous of ways. This woman was known to grab and squeeze her daughter's nipples, as well as grab what Constance refers to as her "minnie."

Over the course of her novel, Constance describes the atrocious abuse that she endured at the hands of her mother. Her mother came to England from Jamaica in the early 1950s. Her father, George, was of mixed race. The author also introduces the reader to other members of her large family, such as her sisters.

In her early years, Constance describes her visits to various doctors, who give their views as to the causes of and provide remedies for Constance's condition. Even when she was given a bed-wetting device designed to alert the user with noises and flashing lights, the problem did not stop. When Constance's bed-wetting continues, so do the beatings that she receives at the hands of her
mother. Carmen constantly tells Constance that she thinks that Constance wets the bed on purpose.

In 1964, a man named Eastman begins a relationship with Carmen. He is from Barbados and Constance describes the magnificent meals that Carmen would prepare for him - more than she would ever prepare for her own family. During this time, Constance is still physically punished for wetting the bed. Carmen and Eastman join forces and inflict physical violence and mental anguish upon Constance.

In 1966, Constance gives a frank account of another traumatic memory from her childhood. She brings home her school photographs to show her mother. Eastman takes one look at the photographs and states how ugly Constance is. Carmen then goes on a rant, hurling abuse at her young daughter: 'Heavenly Jesus, sweet and kind, why have you given me a swine?' Constance relays this repugnant example of emotional abuse with honesty and directness. Carmen forces Constance to look at Constance's photograph, which depicts an unsmiling little girl. Owing to Carmen's harangue, the young Constance believes that she is ugly: 'With that my mother turned the photograph round in front of my face. I looked at it. I was actually very ugly. My head was too big, my lips were too large, I was covered in spots and my nose was too wide.'

In 1968, Constance relays an experience which is also of significance in her second book, Beyond Ugly. She relates the events of 31 January, her brother's birthday. He receives a remote controlled plane. Carmen deliberately and without
any excuse whatsoever, aims the plane at Constance. The plane slices Constance's cheek - Carmen does this more than once.

In 1969, Constance takes the law into her own hands. By this time, she is twelve years old and is still the recipient of abhorrent physical and emotional abuse from Eastman. While Eastman beats her, mommy looks on with concern - she is worried that if Eastman hits her daughter in the face, someone will contact the police. Both the bed-wetting and beatings continue and it seems as if Constance has nowhere to turn. After a particularly bad altercation, Constance attends the Camberwell Green Magistrates' Court. After seven days, Eastman receives a summons. Constance displays her assertive side and tells him: 'What are you going to do, Eastman? Put my head through another window? Save your reasons until we go back to court and if you touch me again I'm going back to tell them, so you can do what you want.' During one of Constance's first court appearances, she shows the Magistrate her injury and tells him that she wants the abuse to stop.

As the years progress, Carmen's behaviour becomes uglier and uglier. For example, she demands money from her young daughter, claiming how much it costs to feed her. Clearly, Carmen has a distorted version of what it means to be a mother. At this point in time, Constance has secured a part-time job which does not pay very much. Constance still is on the receiving end of her mother's hostility and temper. Carmen twists the nipples of her own daughter and beats her with a
'split-split stick.' One of Constance's sisters, Four Eyes, witnesses the aftermath of the beating.

In 1970, Constance goes on a school trip which proves to change her life for the better in the years to come. It might be classified as a point in her life from which everything else becomes defined. When watching Crown Court at One on television, Constance decides that she would like to become a barrister. She makes an appointment to see her Careers Advice Tutor, who does little to encourage Constance. She belittles Constance and behaves poorly. When Constance tells her that she wants to attend Notre Dame the Tutor is very condescending: 'We all want to go to heaven, pet, but we're not all suitable.' A librarian provides Constance with a better level of assistance and upon leaving the library, Constance resolves to find a pupil-master as soon as possible.

Her class attends Knightsbridge Crown Court where she hears a case about some boys stealing handbags. She sees one of the barristers, Mr Michael Mansfield, whom Constance describes as being good-looking. She later encounters him on a more personal level when he comes up to the group of students during the lunch hour and asks what they think of the case. It is at this point that Constance pipes up and tells Mr Mansfield that she would like to become a barrister. He hands Constance his card, which she puts in the top of her blazer. Her teacher tells her that dreams and hopes must have boundaries.

Constance meets Miss Korchinskye, to whom Constance refers to as Miss K, at school who shows genuine concern over Constance's welfare. Constance
lives with Miss K for awhile and while there, not once does Constance wet the bed. In 1972, Constance learns that something terrible has happened to her teacher and for this reason, Constance can no longer stay at Miss K's house. Miss K provided an outstanding level of support to Constance and believed in her. When Constance completes a Bachelor of Law, she informs Mr Mansfield of the good news, who then writes a note to Constance.

Taken from: http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2008/jan/12/biography.features
APPENDIX 3

Lesson Plan

Class/Semester : X/1
Competence Standard : Understanding of the text and short story’s meaning and simple essay in form of recount, narrative, and procedure in daily life and to access the knowledge.
Basic Competence : To respond the meaning and rhetorical step in an essay using language accurately, fluently, and acceptable in a daily life context to access the knowledge in form recount, narrative, and procedure.
Indicators : - To identify the main idea of the recount text
- To identify detail information of the reading passage
- To get new vocabularies from the reading passage
Kind of Text : Recount
Theme : Home Life and Narrating Past Events
Skill : Reading
Meeting : 1
Time allocation : 2 x 45 minutes
GOAL/OBJECTIVE : - Students are able to make sentences using past tense.
- Students are able to find the main idea on each paragraph of the reading passage
- Students are able to find the meaning of some vocabularies and the synonyms.
LEARNING MATERIAL: A reading passage taken from parts of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*.

LEARNING METHOD: Question and answer

LEARNING ACTIVITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-activity</td>
<td>Reading the recount text carefully</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>A reading passage taken form parts of Constance Briscoe’s <em>Ugly</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Whilst Activity</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Finding the main idea of each paragraph</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Answering the question about detail information of the text</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-Finding the synonyms of some vocabularies in the passage.</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-activity</td>
<td>-Reviewing</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LEARNING SOURCE

- A passage taken from parts of Constance Briscoe’s *Ugly*
- Question and Answer Sheet

ASSESSMENT

- Oral and Written Test
- Instrument: read the text below

**Reading Comprehension Test.**

**Answer the question below based on the information of the passage.**

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
2. How many characters are in the passage?
3. What did Clare’s mother call her (Clare)?
4. Where did Clare work?
5. What did Clare do when she was abused by Eastman?
6. What were Clare’s friends opinion about her?

Find the synonym of some vocabularies below!

1. Ugly  = ...................................
2. Atmosphere  = ..................................
3. Nervous  = ...................................
4. Barrister  = ...................................

SCORING
Question and answer: @5 points x correct numbers = ........
Vocabulary : @5 points x correct numbers = ..........+
........... x 2 = .........
APPLENIX 4

READING COMPREHENSION TEXT

UGLY

Clare was a young black girl. She was fourth within seven children in her family. Her father lived outside the house. She got step father when she was seven years old. It is difficult for her since she lacks of love and attention by her parents. Life became more difficult for Clare because of her bed-wetting habit. She was beaten, kicked, and punched by her mother. And sometimes her mother violated her without any reason. She was treated like a slave in her own home. Moreover, she was subjected to verbal abuse by her mother. Her mother often called her “ugly”, “scarface” or “miss piss-the-bed”. Clare was never bought a new dress only because her mother said that she is too ugly to use a new dress. The atmosphere in the family getting worse from day to day and Clare becomes nervous and depress. All things she did seem wrong for her mother. Clare’s parents often got into arguments and fight then her father, after winning the pools, left the house and only turning up at Christmas time with food and presents.

Once she had a bad fight with her step father, Eastman. He burnt Clare’s hand with his ciggarette so it left a scar. Clare reported the abuse to her father, George, but he could do nothing. Then she decided to take her case to the court so that Eastman would stop doing bad to her.
The hard times came when her mother moved to another house and Clare was left with neither food nor money. Although she has two sisters, Pauline and Patsy, who lived with her, Clare decided to find jobs for herself. Clare had to work very hard in order to fend for herself. She did cleaning job from Monday to Friday at Trafalgar Square. On Saturday she worked as a shop assistant of garment shop at Roses. Constance reveals that she worked in a hospice in Lyndhurst Gardens in Belsize Park. One of the jobs that she was allocated was preparing bodies of the recently dead. Despite every discouragement from home, Clare passed her A-levels and gets into Newcastle University to study Law. She reached her dreams to be a barrister.

Taken from: Briscoe, Constance. 2006. Ugly. London: Hodder and Stoughton

I. Answer the questions below based on the information of the reading passage above!

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
2. How many characters are mentioned in the passage?
3. What did Clare’s mother call her (Clare)?
4. Where did Clare work?
5. What did Clare do when she was abused by Eastman?
6. What were Clare’s friends opinion about her?

II. Find the synonym of some vocabularies below!

5. Ugly = ...................................
6. Atmosphere = ..................................
7. Nervous = ..................................
8. Barrister = ..................................