THE MEANING OF MATCH MAKING ONES’ OWN MOTHER
AS SEEN IN SIGOURNEY, BRUCE, AND SHARON,
THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF OLIVIA GOLDSMITH’S MARRYING MOM

A SARJANA PENDIDIKAN THESIS

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

By
Agnes Endah Wijayanti
Student Number: 061214133

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS EDUCATION
FACULTY OF TEACHERS TRAINING AND EDUCATION
SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY
YOGYAKARTA
2011
THE MEANING OF MATCH MAKING ONES’ OWN MOTHER AS SEEN IN SIGOURNEY, BRUCE, AND SHARON, THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF OLIVIA GOLDSMITH’S MARRYING MOM

A SARJANA PENDIDIKAN THESIS

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

By
Agnes Endah Wijayanti
Student Number: 061214133

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS EDUCATION FACULTY OF TEACHERS TRAINING AND EDUCATION SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY YOGYAKARTA 2011
A Sarjana Pendidikan Thesis on

THE MEANING OF MATCH MAKING ONES' OWN MOTHER
AS SEEN IN SIGOURNEY, BRUCE, AND SHARON,
THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF OLIVIA GOLDSMITH'S MARRYING MOM

By
Agnes Endah Wijayanti
Students Number : 061214133

Approved by

Advisor
Drs. Antonius Herujiyanto, M.A., Ph.D.

Date 02 November 2011
A Thesis on

THE MEANING OF MATCH MAKING ONES’ OWN MOTHER
AS SEEN IN SIOURNEY, BRUCE, AND SHARON,
THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF OLIVIA GOLDSMITH’S MARRYING MOM

By
Agnes Endah Wijayanti
Student Number: 061214133

Defended before the Board of Examiners
on 07 December 2011
and Declared Acceptable

Board of Examiners

Chairperson : C. Tutyandari, S.Pd., M.Pd.
Secretary : Made Frida Yulia, S.Pd, M.Pd.
Member : Dr. Ant. Herujiyanto, M.A., Ph.D.
Member : C. Tutyandari, S.Pd., M.Pd.
Member : Dr. Retno Muljani, M.Pd.

Yogyakarta, 07 December 2011
Faculty of Teachers Training and Education
Sanata Dharma University
Dean

Rohandi, Ph.D.
dedicate this thesis to my beloved family, who always have their faith in me,
give their love, and believe that I am able to finish this thesis.

Life gets hard when you think it is hard.
Sometimes we have to be simple and just forget about anything.

(Anonymous)
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 the references, as a scientific paper should.

Yogyakarta, 02 November 2011

The Writer

Agnes Endah Wijayanti

061214133
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH
UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS

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

Nama : Agnes Endah Wijayanti
Nomor Mahasiswa : 061214133

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

THE MEANING OF MATCH MAKING ONE’S OWN MOTHER AS SEEN IN SIGOURNEY, BRUCE, AND SHARON, THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF OLIVIA GOLDSMITH’S MARRYING MOM.

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.

Demikian pernyataan ini yang saya buat dengan sebenarnya.

Yogyakarta, 02 November 2011

Yang menyatakan

(Agnes Endah Wijayanti)
ABSTRACT

Wijayanti, Agnes Endah. (2011). The Meaning of Match Making Ones’ Own Mother as Seen in Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the Main Characters of Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

This thesis discusses two of American values as exercised by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the major characters of Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom. The purpose of this study is to find out their idea to become the match makers to their mother. There are two questions to answer in this study: “How are Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon depicted in the novel?” and “How did they decide to become their mother’s match makers?”

This study is a library research. Its primary data is the novel itself, while the secondary ones are taken from books, journals, and the internet. The theories used are the theory of character and characterization, theory of approaches, theory of motivation, and the theory of American values. The approach used is psychological approach.

The results of this study are: first is about the characters of Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. The characters of Phyllis are upsetting and stubborn. The characters of Sigourney are dominating and desperate. Meanwhile, the character of Bruce is sensitive, and the last the characters of Sharon are frustrated and pleonastic.

The second results of this study are divided into two parts, the surface meaning and the deeper meaning. The surface meaning explains the actions done by the three siblings in becoming their mother’s match makers and also the motivations which they have. Meanwhile, the deeper meaning explains the American values which underlie their actions of becoming match makers for their Mom.

Based on the evidences found in the novel, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon exercised the American values, which are the individualism and privacy and the self-help value as the reasons or the nature of their actions in match making their own Mom, Phyllis. They do not want their mother to interfere in their lifes. Besides, they also do not want that their Mom will intrude their privacy. That is why they decided to find a husband for their Mom, so that there will be someone who will give her security, companionship, attention, and also time, as a way to make their mother happy and to improve their own life.

This novel can be used to broaden knowledge especially on American values. Besides, this novel can be used to teach Cross Cultural Understanding for the students of English Language Education Study Program.
ABSTRAK


Skripsi ini mengulas tentang dua dari nilai-nilai kehidupan penduduk Amerika seperti yang dialami oleh Sigourney, Bruce, dan Sharonm tokoh utama dari novel Olivia Goldsmith Marrying Mom. Tujuan dari skripsi ini adalah untuk mengetahui ide mereka untuk menjadi pencari jodoh untuk Ibu mereka sendiri. Ada dua pertanyaan yang harus dijawab dalam skripsi ini, yang pertama “Bagaimana Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, dan Sharon digambarkan dalam novel?” dan “Bagaimana mereka memutuskan untuk menjadi pencari jodoh untuk ibu mereka?”.


Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah, yang pertama tentang karakter dari Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, dan Sharon. Karakter dari Phyllis adalah seorang ibu yang mencecewakan dan keras kepala. Karakter dari Sigourney adalah menganuasi dan putus asa. Sedangkan karakter dari Bruce adalah sangat mudah tersinggung dan yang terakhir karakter dari Sharon adalah frustasi dan berlebihan.

Hasil kedua dari penelitian ini dibagi menjadi dua bagian, arti secara dangkal dan arti secara mendalam. Arti secara dangkal menjelaskan mengenai tindakan yang dilakukan ketiga bersaudara tersebut dalam usahanya menjadikan ibunya dan motivasi yang melandasiannya. Sedangkan arti secara mendalam menjelaskan mengenai nilai-nilai kehidupan penduduk Amerika yang mendasari tindakan mereka dalam menjadi pencari jodoh untuk Ibu mereka.

Berdasarkan bukti-bukti yang diketemukan dalam novel, Sigourney, Bruce, dan Sharon mengalami nilai individualisme dan kebebasan/ keleluasaan pribadi dan nilai untuk menolong diri sendiri sebagai dasar dari tindakan mereka dalam menjadi pencari jodoh untuk Ibu mereka, Phyllis. Mereka tidak mau Ibu mereka mengganggu kehidupan mereka. Selain itu, mereka tidak mau Ibu mereka mengganggu kebebasan/ keleluasaan pribadi mereka. Oleh karena itu mereka memutuskan untuk mencari seorang suami untuk Ibu mereka, sehingga nanti akan ada sesorang yang memberinya rasa aman, persahabatan, perhatian, dan juga waktu, sebagai suatu cara untuk membuat Ibu mereka bahagia dan untuk memperbaiki kehidupan mereka.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to thank my Almighty Jesus Christ, for His blessing and guidance in my life, for He is giving me the strength to be able to finish this thesis. He becomes my very best friend through the hard times and my teacher for He teaches me to have a little faith in myself.

Second, I thank my beloved mother, Veronica Siti Raheni, S.Pd., for her love and prayers for me, and my beloved father, W. Agustinus Susilo Handono, S.Pd., M.M., for being such an amazing leader in my life. I thank them for giving their love, support, and having faith in me, and also for believing that I can finish this thesis. I also thank my brother, Martinus Danang “Kopir Kosot” Susanta, S.S., and his wife, Mba Pipit, who are always there to share jokes and love for me, and my little angel, Nathaniella Quinsha Adeline Susanta, for being such an angel for my family.

Third, I would like to give my thanks to my sponsor, Drs. Antonius Heruijianto, M.A., Ph.D., for giving me guidance, support, and patience during my thesis accomplishment, and Sister Margaret for being my proof reader for my thesis. I also thank all ELSP lecturers, who have taught me invaluable lessons and helped me during my study in Sanata Dharma University.

Fourth, I give my thanks to CEC’s girls, Kak Widdy, Mba Dian, Rista, Rizky “kiyip”, Kaje, Indhay, Yoana, Mba Tim Tim, and Mega. I thank them for sharing their spirit, laughter, and love during my thesis accomplishment. Then, I thank my PBI 06 crews Ayu, Tita, Deyc, Trio, Ceye, Aik, Adit Koel, Zita,
Gontenk, and those who already gave me the tremendous moments, joy, laughter, tears, friendship, and love during our study.

Last but not least, I thank my brother, Taufik Hidayanto, S.Pd for his patience, support, and kindness to me. He knows how hard it was for me to finish my study, but he always annoyed me with his reminders that I should not give up and finish this study soon.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who was willing to help me finish this thesis. I would have not finished this thesis without their help, support, guidance, and love.

Agnes Endah Wijayanti
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TITLE PAGE</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVAL PAGES</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION PAGE</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRAK</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF APPENDICES</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION
A. Background of the Study ............................................. 1
B. Objective of the Study ................................................ 2
C. Problem Formulation ..................................................... 3
D. Benefits of the Study ................................................... 4
E. Definitions of Terms .................................................... 4

## CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE
A. A Review of Related Theories ......................................... 7
   1. Theory of Character and Characterization ............................. 7
   2. Theory of Approaches ................................................. 10
   3. Theory of Motivation ................................................ 13
   4. Theory of American Values ........................................... 15
B. Theoretical Framework .................................................. 17
C. Context of the Novel .................................................... 18

## CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY
A. Object of the Study ...................................................... 20
B. Approach of the Study ................................................................. 21
C. Method of the Study ................................................................. 21

CHAPTER IV ANALYSIS ................................................................. 23
A. The Characters of Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon .......... 23
   1. Phyllis Geronomous ............................................................... 24
   2. Sigourney Geronomous ........................................................... 27
   3. Bruce Geronomous ............................................................... 30
   4. Sharon Geronomous .............................................................. 32
B. The Reason Why Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce Decide to Become Their Mother’s Match Maker ................................................................. 34
   1. The Surface Meaning .............................................................. 35
   2. The Deeper Meaning .............................................................. 40

CHAPTER V CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS .......................... 46
A. Conclusions ........................................................................... 46
B. Suggestions ........................................................................... 48
   1. Suggestion for Future Researchers ......................................... 48
   2. Suggestion for Lecturers ......................................................... 48

REFERENCES ............................................................................ 50
APPENDICES ............................................................................ 52
APPENDIX 1 Summary ................................................................. 52
APPENDIX 2 Biography ............................................................... 55
APPENDIX 3 The Implementation of Teaching Cross Cultural Understanding ................................................................. 57
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

The first chapter is Introduction. This chapter discusses five major parts, they are the Background of the Study, the Objective of the Study, Problem Formulation, Benefits of the Study, and Definition of the Terms used throughout the study. Each of them will be discussed in details in the following sections.

A. Background of the Study

Novel is one of the three genres in Literature. Abrams (1981) says that novel is “a literary work that reflects the reality of human life by presenting complex characters with their motives based on their social class and their interaction with other characters” (p. 120). In other words, novel is a reflection of human life which represents the main character/ the author/ human life experience and it makes use novel as the primary data.

Goldsmith in the novel Marrying Mom gives the example of the reflection of human life. She gives the clear picture of American life style through its main characters; Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. She gives a clear picture of Americans life style from the negative and positive perspectives without leaving the beauty of writing literary work.

Besides, Goldsmith also gives explanation on how American people live and interact with others. By giving the explanation on how the American live and interact with others, she gives the example of American values which are
exercised by American people in their daily life as seen in Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon.

I was interested in analysing *Marrying Mom* because the novel is unique and there are some reasons which make the novel unique. First, it is about the title, *Marrying Mom*. The first time I read the title, I could not figure out how the story would be, because it is uncommon to use the term marrying for our mother.

Second, it is about the idea of match-making Phyllis, one of the main characters in the novel. Phyllis is the mother of Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. They are the main characters in the novel. The three siblings try to become the match maker for their Mom. This idea of becoming the match maker for their mom is uncommon for me, because match making is usually applied for the children and not for the mother.

There are many aspects in the novel which can be analysed, but in this study I would like to focus on the American values which are exercised by the main characters in the novel. Goldsmith depicts the characters in the novel as an American family whose members live separately. This condition makes the characters exercise many experiences and those experiences are representing American values which I would like to analyse.

Besides, I would also focus on the idea of match making Phyllis. I will analyse the process of match making Phyllis so that I will know the meaning of match making Phyllis.

Goldsmith in *Marrying Mom* tells about three siblings, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon who live in New York and their Mom, Phyllis, who used to live in
Florida but then moved to New York in order to get close with her three children, but it turns out that Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon do not want to accommodate their own Mom in their house, because they think that their Mom will only ruin their life. Finally, they decided to make their Mom get married, so there will be someone who will take care of their Mom. But things happen on the way they make their Mom get married and those things will make their relationship as a family grow stronger.

Based on the incidences in life of the main characters of Marrying Mom, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, I want to analyse the meaning of idea of match making Phyllis by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon.

B. Objectives of the Study

The purpose of this study is to find out the meaning of becoming a match maker as seen in Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the main characters of Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom.

C. Problem Formulation

To keep the analysis on track, I have formulated the problems in form of questions as mentioned below.

1. How are Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon depicted in the novel?
2. How did Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon decide to become their mother’s match maker?
D. Benefits of the Study

There are several benefits achieved by conducting this study as follows:

1. Readers

This study may give the readers a clear picture of American life style. It also gives an explanation on how American people live and interact with others. This study will also give the readers explanation on American values which are employed by American people in their daily life.

2. Students of Language Education

This study may give the students a clear example of American culture, especially for students who take Cross Cultural Understanding subject. From this study they can see the American life style. Besides, students will also learn and understand how American people live and interact with others. Moreover, this study also gives a clear example and explanation on American values which are exercised by the main characters of Marrying Mom.

3. Lecturers

As this study deals with American culture, I believe that this study will be beneficial for teaching Reading I, Extensive Reading II, Translation, and Cross Cultural Understanding. This study will help the teachers to design an interesting material in teaching and help them to enrich students’ vocabularies. This study will provide the teachers with some materials for their teaching.

E. Definition of Terms

To avoid misunderstanding of the terms used in this study, the definition of the terms will be provided.
1. Match Maker

According to Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, the term match maker (N) means someone who tries to find a suitable partner for someone else to marry. In this study, the term match maker means the three siblings who try to find a suitable partner for Phyllis to marry.

2. Marrying Mom

To marry (V) itself, has some meanings as cited in Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English. They are:

- To become someone’s husband or wife
- To find a husband or wife for one of your children
- Based on the meaning found in the dictionary, marrying Mom means to find a husband for the three siblings’ Mom. Instead of finding a husband for one of the children, in this study, marrying means to find a husband for the children’s Mom.

3. Match Making

3.1. The idea behind of becoming a match maker for their own Mom

3.2. The ways and the urgencies of becoming a match maker for their own Mom

4. Individualism

Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary of Current English states that individualism (N) has two meanings: first it is social theory that favours the freedom of the individual (favouring the supremacy of the state). Second, it is feeling or behaviour of a person who puts his own private interests first; egotism.

PLAGIAT MERUPAKAN TINDAKAN TIDAK TERPUJI
5. Privacy

According to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary of Current English*, privacy means state of being away from others, alone and undisturbed. Meanwhile, in *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*, privacy means the state of being able to be alone, and not seen or heard by other people; and the state of being free from public attention.

6. Frustrated

In *Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, frustrated (ADJ) has several meanings. They are:

6.1. Feeling annoyed or less confident because you cannot achieve what you want

6.2. (before noun) Describes a person who has not succeeded in a particular type of job

6.3. (before noun) A frustrated emotion is the one that you are not able to express

6.4. (before noun) Unhappy because you are not having as much sex as you want

In this study, frustrated means feeling annoyed or less confident because you cannot achieve what you want and as a description for someone who has not succeeded in a particular type of job.
CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The second chapter is Review of Related Literature. The discussion in Chapter II deals with Review of Related Theories and Theoretical Framework. This chapter reviews theory of character and characterization, theory of approach, theory of motivation, and theory of American values. The Theoretical Framework covers some explanations on how the theories are employed to answer the problem formulation

A. Review of Related Theories

1. Theory of Character and Characterization

Character is an important element in a work of literature. To understand more about the characters in *Marrying Mom*, it is necessary to review the theory of character and characterization deeply.

1.1 Theory of Character

Altenberg and Lewis (1963) say that, “Since our definition of fiction states that the subject matter of all fiction is human experiences, characters are always of high interest and the most important element. A character may be defined as a representation of a person” (p. 24).

Characters are divided into two kinds, namely “major character” and “minor character”. According to Henkle (1997) major characters are the most important and complex characters in a novel. Meanwhile, the minor characters are
those who perform less important and less complex characters in a novel (p.87-89).

Foster in *Aspects of the Novel* divides characters into “flat characters” and “round characters”. A flat character is a character who stays the same from the beginning until the end of the story so this character can be easily remembered by the readers. Besides, this character can also be easily recognized because this character is characterized by one or two traits and described in a single phrase or a sentence. The round character itself is complex in temperament and motivation. This character cannot be easily remembered as Foster (1974) says:

“We remember him in connection with the great scenes. It indicates that we do not remember him so easily for he waxes and wanes and has many facets like human beings. Therefore, he is as difficult to describe with any adequacy as a person in real life, and like most people, he is capable of surprising us.” (p. 51)

A character can also be presented either directly or indirectly. Rohrberger and Woods (1971) say that in direct presentation, the author directly describes the character’s physical appearance, intellectual and moral attributes or explains the degree of the character’s sensitivity (p. 20).

In analyzing the character in a literary work, we also need to know the traits of the character. By doing so, we will find out that the traits of the character is a reflection of the real life of human being. Besides, the character’s traits will also influence one’s thoughts, speech, and behaviour.

1.2 Theory of Characterization

Holman and Harman (1986), state that characterization is “the creation of
imaginary persons so that they exist for the reader as lifelike” (p. 81). According to Bannet, Berman, and Burto (1988), there are several ways authors introduce their characters aside from the direct description of the characters, through what the characters say, what they do, what other characters say about them, and what other do to them (p. 71).

Murphy (1972) states that there are nine methods to describe how an author may reveal the characters’ personalities and traits to make the readers understand their characters (p. 161-173). Those are:

1.2.1 Personal Description

The readers can have a description of a person’s characters by looking at his/her appearance and clothes. Having this description, the readers can visualize the character’s physical characteristics such as the weight, the height, and the skin color.

1.2.2 Character as seen by the others

The author describes a character by using other’s opinion.

1.2.3 Speech

The readers can understand a character through what the character says in his/her conversation and in giving opinions.

1.2.4 Past Life

The author describes a character in the story through his/her past life. By learning the character’s past life, the readers shape the character’s personality.

1.2.5 Conversation of Others
The readers can have a description of a character through the conversation of other people and things they say about him/her.

1.2.6 Reaction
The author gives descriptions on a character by letting the readers understand how the character reacts to various variation and event.

1.2.7 Direct Comment
This is the author’s personal perception or comment about the character that he creates.

1.2.8 Thoughts
The readers can have the description of a character if they subjectively involve in the character’s thought.

1.2.9 Mannerism
The author describes a character through his/her mannerism and habits.

Using this theory I will be able to understand the characters in the novel. Further, I will be able to describe the characters of Marrying Mom by Olivia Goldsmith

2. Theory of Approaches
Rohrberger and Woods (1971) in their book Reading and Writing about Literature mentioned five types of approaches which are used to analyze work of literature. A critical approach to literature necessitates an understanding of its nature, function, and positive values. One must know what literature is, how to read it, and how to judge it (p. 3). The purpose of critical approach is to help the
reader to have a clear understanding of the literary work by knowing how to read it and to judge it. The approaches are:

2.1. The Formalist Approach

The focus of the formalist approach is the totality of the literary object. On the other word it focuses on the “form” of the literature work. In addition, they are concerned with demonstrating the harmonious involvement of all the parts to the whole and with pointing out how meaning is derived from structure and how matters of technique determine structure (p. 6-7).

Moreover, the extreme formalist critic examines the literary piece without reference to facts of the author’s life, without reference to the genre of the piece or to its place in the development of the genre or in literature history, and without reference to its social milieu (p. 7). The extreme formalist critic examines literary works without noticing the author’s life, genre, historical, and social background.

2.2. The Biographical Approach

The biographical approach gives its focus on the author’s life and personality in examining the literary works. Consequently, they attempt to learn as much as they can about life and development of the authors and to apply this knowledge in their attempt to understand his writing (p. 8). In other words, the biographical approach relates author’s experience in the real life with his/ her literary works.

2.3. The Sociocultural-Historical Approach

The sociocultural-historical approach is the approach that I will use in
analyzing *Marrying Mom*. This approach examines literary works based on the reference of civilization where the works were produced. They define civilization as the attitudes and actions of a specific group of people and point out that literature takes these attitudes and actions as its subject matter (p.9). This approach believes that civilization gives influence to the content of the literary works.

### 2.4. The Mythopoeic Approach

The mythopoeic approach is used to discover certain universally recurrent patterns of human thought which they believe find expression in significant works of art. These universally recurrent patterns, they assert, are those that found first expression in ancient myths and folk rites and are so basic to human thought that they have meaning for all men. Phillip Wheelright in his article Poetry, Myth and Reality as cited in *Reading and Writing about Literature* by Rohrberger and Woods defines myth as “the expression of a community mind which has enjoyed long natural growth, so that the sense of togetherness becomes patterned and semantically significant” (p. 11).

### 2.5. The Psychological Approach

The psychological approach is similar to the mythopoeic approach. The difference is that the psychological approach draws on a different body of knowledge—most often on that offered by Sigmund Freud and his followers (p. 13). He believes that there is an unconscious area in human mind which is rich with imagination, capacity of creation and the complexity of thought and behaviour. He also divides human personality into three parts – the id, the ego,
and superego. This approach deals with motivation, personality, and conflict of the character.

Those are five approaches which are included in the theory of approaches. Every approach has its own value and point of view. Moreover, each approach also has its own best way in analyzing the literary works. Nevertheless, I chose the psychological approach in analysing Marrying Mom by Olivia Goldsmith, since the psychological approach deals with motivation, personality, and conflict of the character. The psychological approach is appropriate with this study because this study deals with the motivation of the characters and the personality of the main characters of Marrying Mom by Olivia Goldsmith.

3. Theory of Motivation

Ruch (1967) says that human behavior covers two different concepts which are interconnected. The first concept is placidity or modifiability which is found in the learning process. The second concept is energy which can be seen through the motivation (p. 375). The motivation itself can be explained by using some theories or approaches.

3.1. The Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow as cited in Psychology and Life 7th Edition, describes a hierarchy of needs which consists of five motives or needs. They are physiological needs, safety needs, belongingness or social needs, esteem needs, and self actualization needs. Physiological needs are those which are needed to support life, for example food and water. If the physiological needs are met, one’s attention then turns into safety and security in order to be free from physical threat and emotional harm.
Belongingness is the first level of higher level needs and related to interaction with others. Once a person fulfills his needs to belong, he tends to want to be held in esteem both by himself and by the others. Esteem needs can be categorized as external motivators and internal motivators. The external esteem needs are those such as reputation and recognition. Meanwhile, the internal esteem needs are those such as self-esteem, accomplishment and self respect. Self actualization needs are the climax or the highest level of Maslow’s motivation theory. Unlike the lower level needs, this need is never fully satisfied. According to Maslow, lower needs take priority. They must be fulfilled before the others are activated.

This theory will help me in analyzing the main characters’ motivation. I will be able to find out their own motivations in making sure that their mother gets married.

3.2. Acquired Needs Theory (McClelland)

According to David McClelland (http://www.laynetworks.com/Theories-of-Motivation.html accessed on May 24th, 2011) some needs are acquired as a result of life experiences and he develops a theory on three types of motivation needs.

3.2.1. Need for power, control others.
3.2.2. Need for affiliation, form close personal relationships.
3.2.3. Need for achievement, accomplish something difficult

Basically people for high need for power are inclined towards influence and control. They can be motivated to perform if they are given key positions or power positions. In the second category are the people who are social in nature.
Social recognition and affiliation with others provides them motivation. People in the third area are driven by the challenge of success and the fear of failure. Such people are motivated to perform when they see at least some chances of success.

This theory will also help me in analyzing the main characters’ motivation. This theory gives further explanation about the kinds of motivation which everybody has.

4. Theory of American Values

Levine and Adelman in their book Beyond Language, Cross-Cultural Communication, say that many Americans, although certainly not at all hold similar values; their behavior and actions reflect these values. They also state that certain ways of thinking, acting, and communicating are a direct result of cultural values. The following list of values can easily describe many Americans (even a majority of Americans).

4.1. Personal control over the environment

People can alter their nature, and to a large extent, they can determine the direction of their life.

4.2. Change

Change is healthy. People stagnate if they do not make enough changes.

4.3. Control over the time.

People are pressured and constrained by time because they are trying to control it.

4.4. Equality and egalitarianism

This value says that all people are created equal. The American tendency is to
minimize status differences rather than to emphasize them.

4.5. Individualism and privacy

Americans need and value privacy. Privacy, to an American does not mean isolation or loneliness. American people believe that individual needs are considered primary. Privacy exists because individuals feel that their needs must be respected.

4.6. Self-help

People can and should try to improve their own life. Many middle and upper-class Americans have the belief that people can “pull themselves up by their own bootstraps”.

4.7. Future orientation

American people always look to the future and not to the past. Tradition and ritual, reminders of the past, play a small part in most American’s daily life. There is instead a focus on progress and change, goals that many Americans try to achieve. This is also related to the American’s belief in personal control over one’s environment (and one’s life), and the emphasis on “doing” and acting.

4.8. Action and work orientation

Work often defines people; their identities come from what they do.

4.9. Informality

First name usage, casual clothes, and the lack of formal ritual are typical in American life.
4.10. Directness, openness, and honesty

Honesty is the best policy. People should express themselves openly. It is not considered good to “beat around the bush”.

4.11. Materialism

Tendency to be more concerned with material than with spiritual or intellectual goals.

This theory explains deeply about American values which they believe and apply in their daily life. This theory will give me a clear picture of how Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce exercise American values in Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom*.

B. Theoretical Framework

In this study, I try to find out how Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the main characters of Olivia Goldsmith’s decided to become the match maker for their mother as seen in Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom*. Here, theory of approaches, theory of character and characterization, theory of motivation, and theory of American values are used.

I use the theory of character and characterization to give clear description of how Sigourney, Sharon, Bruce, and also Phyllis are depicted in the novel. Besides, I apply the psychological approach as the best approach to see the motivation, personality and conflict of the character. Further I use theory of motivation to find out the main characters’ motivation in making sure that their mother gets married as seen in Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. By knowing the
motivations which the main characters’s have, I can apply the American values theory to find out how Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon exercise American values in the novel *Marrying Mom* by Olivia Goldsmith and the last, I can find out how Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the main characters of Olivia Goldsmith, decided to become the match maker for their mother as seen in *Marrying Mom*.

**C. Context of the Novel**

Olivia Goldsmith was born in New Jersey. She took up writing following a divorce in which she said her husband got everything she had. Many of her books have a constant theme, which is the mistreatment of women by the men they love, but with the women coming out as the winners in the end.

In 1996 she wrote a novel titled *Marrying Mom*. The setting of the novel is in New York, in 1996. There was a hard time in New York at that time. People’s business were slowing down, meanwhile prices were getting higher. This condition gave influence to the novel, since the main characters also experienced the condition in which their businesses are slowing down and it was hard for them to have a settled financial condition.

This novel tells about three siblings which try to become the match maker for their Mom. The three siblings live in New York, while their mother, Phyllis used to live in Florida. One day, Phyllis decided to move to New York so that she can watch her children and get closer to them. Later, it turns out that her children do not like her decision to move into New York. They think that she will ruin
their life. So finally, they decided to become a match maker for Phyllis and find her a husband to take care of, so that she will not interfere in their lives.
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

The third chapter is Methodology. This chapter discusses Object of the Study, Approach of the Study and Method of the Study. The Object of the Study deals with the novel *Marrying Mom* by Olivia Goldsmith, which is the focus of the study. The Approach of the Study discusses the critical approach applied for analyzing this novel. Lastly, the Method of the Study outlines the procedures of how the study is analyzed.

A. Object of the Study

The object of this study is the novel *Marrying Mom*. This novel was written by Olivia Goldsmiths in 1996 and published by HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. The novel contains 22 chapters and 207-page long.

This novel tells the story of Phyllis Geronomous, a widow who has three children: Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. These three children live in New York, while Phyllis lives in Florida. As Phyllis starts feeling lonely and needs her three children, she decides to move to New York, and live with her three children. Apparently, her decision bothers her children because they do not want their Mom to interfere in their life. To solve this problem, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon decide to get their mother remarried so that their Mom will not interfere in their life and they do not have to take care of their Mom because someone else will take care of her.
Marrying Mom is rich with cultural values. Moreover, the novel also portrayed one of the American life styles, which is unusual for Eastern people along with its American values which are exercised by the main characters.

B. Approach of the Study

The focus of the study is the characters in the novel and the American values which are exercised by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. In analysing the problems I needed an approach which could help. In doing so, I use the psychological approach.

The psychological approach helps to see the motivation, personality and conflict of the character. However, human motivation is a part of human psychology which can explain more about motivation underlying certain behaviors. Therefore, the psychological approach is applied to answer the problems formulated in this study.

C. Method of the Study

This study is a library study. There are two kinds of sources that are used, namely primary and secondary sources. The primary source is the novel Marrying Mom (1996), by Olivia Goldsmiths. The secondary sources are books related to the theory of the literary terms, theory of motivation, and also theory of American values. Those are collected to support the analysis.

Several steps were taken in analyzing the study. The first step was reading the novel Marrying Mom by Olivia Goldsmiths comprehensively. After reading
the novel for several times, I was able to find out the main idea of the novel and the points that could be analyzed in the study. The points that I would analyze were the problem formulation and summarized in the title of this study.

The third step was gathering information about the author Olivia Goldsmiths, the novel *Marrying Mom*, theory of character and characterization, theory of approaches, theory of motivation, and theory of American values. The books, internet, and encyclopedia provided me with enough information and references. This information and references were the secondary resources.

The next step was conducting the analysis to find out how Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce, the main characters of Olivia Goldsmith’s decided to become the match maker for their mother as seen in Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom* by the psychological approach. The fifth step was reporting the findings and making recommendation for further research on the same topic. Suggestion for applying this study to teach English is given.
CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

This chapter is divided into two parts. The first part discusses Phyllis, Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce, the main characters of the novel. It aims to answer the question about how Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the main characters of the novel, are depicted in the novel. I apply the theory of character and characterization in this part. The second part discusses the idea of becoming the match maker for Phyllis. This part aims to answer the question about how Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon decided to become their mother’s match maker. In order to reach the aim, I apply the theory of motivation and theory of American values.

A. The Characters of Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon

This part aims to answer the question of how Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon the main characters of the novel, are depicted in the novel. Further, this part answers not only the main characters’ personal characters, but also their physical appearance.

I use the theory of characterization in analyzing the way Olivia Goldsmith depicts her main characters: Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. Goldsmith uses several ways as Murphy (1972) describes to depict her main characters in Marrying Mom. Those are personal description, character as seen by the others, speech, conversation of others, reaction, and mannerism (p. 161-173).
1. Phyllis Geronomous

Henkle in *Reading the Novel: An Introduction to the Techniques of Interpreting Fiction*, states that there are two kinds of character: major character and minor character. Phyllis is included as one of the major characters. The reason is because she plays an important role in the novel and gives important influence to the story of the novel. Besides, Phyllis is also described as a round character whose temperament and motivation are complex.

Olivia Goldsmith in *Marrying Mom* describes Phyllis as a sixty-nine years old widow who is already retired. Phyllis Geronomous used to live in Florida with her late husband, Ira Geronomous. From their marriage, they have three children named Susan Geronomous or Sigourney Geronomous, Sharon Geronomous, and Bruce Geronomous.

Physically, Goldsmith depicts Phyllis as a sixty-nine-years old woman with perm blonde hair, old-fashioned, loves to use turquoise eye make up and clashing blue-red lipstick. Furthermore, Goldsmith describes the personal characteristics of this character as these following points.

1.1. Upsetting

Here, Goldsmith depicts Phyllis as a mother who was not good enough for her children. She has made a lot of mistakes and has made her children upset since they were kids. Some of her mistakes are intollerable so that her children cannot forgive her and forget her mistakes. Now that Phyllis is already retired and feeling lonely because her husband, Ira, is dead, she realizes her mistakes and wants to make up for those mistakes by moving to New York where her three children live.
I found some evidence which proves that Phyllis is an upsetting mother for
her three children. Some evidences prove that Phyllis herself realizes that she is
not a good mother. “And I think they need their mother. I’m going up to take care
of the children, Ira. I wasn’t a good enough mother to them then, but I can try and
make up for it now” (p. 2). From this point, it can be said that Phyllis realizes her
condition as a mother who has not been a good mother for her children yet. She
realizes that she has made mistakes in the past and wants to make up for those
mistakes.

It takes effort for Phyllis to realize her mistakes. It is hard for her to realize
what she had done to her children and that her mistakes hurt her children. One
evidence for this is found on page 49.

It was hard for her to admit her mistakes to anyone, much less her
children. “Listen,” she said, “I haven’t come for a visit. And I haven’t
come for myself. I’ve come for you. I know that your father and I were so
busy with the business that I didn’t give you all the attention that you
needed. If I had …” She shrugged her shoulders. “Well, things might be
different.” (p. 49).

Another evidence, which is found on page 59 shows that her being bad to
her children was caused by her own experience when she was child. “She wouldn’t
fail them again the way she had before, or the way her mother and father had
failed her ” (p. 59). This point shows that she had been treated the same way as
she treated her three children. She also feels that her parents had failed her and
now that happens to her, she had failed her children and made them upset.

1.2. Stubborn

Goldsmith presents Phyllis as a stubborn woman. Stubborn here means
being a little bit selfish and does not want to accept other’s opinion. Phyllis
always thinks that she knows what is best for herself, even though it has a bad effect on people around her. She does what she wants to do and never wants to listen to other people. Goldsmith depicts Phyllis as the combination of stubbornness and selfishness.

Phyllis is being stubborn not only toward other people, but also toward her children. Now that she is already old and retired she still does not want to listen to other people. Some evidences were found in this novel to support my finding. The first one was found on page 50.

“Well, at least until you straighten out your lives. I’m your mother. I’m here to help. And I’m not staying at some expensive hotel.’ She patted her purse. ‘You don’t have to worry about anything. I have a little put away, and my Social Security check. And I still get some of Ira’s pension money. I’ll be fine.” (p. 50).

This evidence proves that Phyllis is stubborn. She insists that she can survive in New York using her own money, without any help from her children. In fact, living in New York needs a large amount of money. Sig, her daughter, cannot believe this. “Great. So you have less than a thousand a month to live on here in Manhattan, the most expensive city in the world” (p. 50).

Another evidence proves that, though Phyllis is already old and may be incapable of doing things alone, she keeps on insisting that she is still capable of doing things alone. “I’m not an old lady,’ Phyllis barked. ‘I may be an old dame, or an old babe, or an old woman, but I’m certainly not an old lady, and don’t you friggin’ forget it.” (p. 52) This evidence proves that Phyllis’ stubbornness makes her a little bit irrational. It seems that Phyllis forces herself too much, because the
fact is that she is already old but she still wants to do things alone like she used to do when she was young.

2. Sigourney Geronomous/ Susan Geronomous

Sigourney Geronomous or Susan Geronomous is Phyllis’ elder daughter. She is a 41-year-old business woman but has not married yet. Sigourney is a stock broker whose business is nearly broke and she lives in her luxurious apartment alone in New York. Goldsmith depicts Sigourney as one of the major characters whose temperament and motivation are complex, so Sigourney is also one of the round characters in the novel *Marrying Mom*.

Goldsmith depicts Sig’s physical appearance as a fashionable woman with careful make up, good hair cut, and always use designer suits. Moreover, Goldsmith depicts Sigourney in the following points.

2.1. Dominating

Goldsmith depicts Sigourney as a dominating person in the family, especially toward her siblings. This is caused by her position as the eldest sibling in the family, so it makes her feel like she has to take control of everything including her siblings’ life.

I found some evidences in the novel which prove this finding. One of which is stated on page 14. “He adored his older sister, but she was sometimes so controlling, especially when she was frightened.” (p. 14) This sentence is stated by Bruce, Sigourney’s younger brother. From this sentence I concluded that Bruce, her younger brother, admits that Sigourney is dominating and takes control of everything.
Second evidence is found on page 25. The finding in this page proves that Sigourney herself knows and realizes that she has to control everything.

Sig sighed. Between now and Wednesday she had a lot to cram into four days. She had to prepare for the marketing meeting, complete newsletter, start her Christmas shopping on a nonexistent budget, and prepare Christmas cards for her clients as well as coping now with the arrival of her mother. She always had to do everything, she thought, including making all the arrangements, dealing with their mother’s minimal finances, and regularly lending money to both her siblings. Sometimes you just had to draw the line. She waited. She knew that Sharon, like nature itself, abhorred a vacuum. She’d break the silence, and once she did… (p. 25).

This evidence proves that it might be just Sig who feels that she has to control and dominate everything. In other words, it can be said that actually Sig does not have to control everything herself, but because she is the eldest sibling and she is the richest among the siblings, she feels that she has the responsibility to control everything which actually she does not have to do.

2.2. Desperate

Sigourney is depicted as a desperate woman who feels lonely and longs for a husband. As I stated before, Sig is over 35 years old but she does not have a husband yet. Evidence from the novel prove this finding. The first evidence is found on page 17.

Sig moved her head but the trick of light, or the angle, was gone. Jesus, she would wind up alone. She wouldn’t even have the comfort of three children to annoy and be annoyed by. Tears of self-pity and something else – a deeper sorrow – rose to her eyes. She was getting older, but she was also getting bitter. The thought of Philip Norman made her sad. Sig had known he was no genius, but he was presentable, fairly successful – if a corporate lawyer could be considered that – and his warmth for her made up for some of her coolness. It was nice to be wanted, and Philip seemed to want marriage and a child. She would have to at least compromise – she’d give up the idea of a soulmate for a friend, a partner, and a family. But she was starting to believe that Philip was even less than a friend: he was an empty suit. He and all of the other empty suits and bad boys who
had preceded him made her mouth tremble. She looked like shit and she felt worse (p. 17).

This evidence shows that Sig starts to feel sorry for herself for being unable to have a husband. She also thinks about her future without having children and a husband. Actually, Sig has a boyfriend named Philip Norman, but in her opinion, Philip is no more than an empty suit which means there is no hope in Philip Norman. She realizes that Philip cannot give her the bright future for their relationship which makes Sig feel more desperate.

Sig’s desperation appears and remains in Sig’s heart not because Sig does not want to cope with it, she has tried to cope with her feelings but her mother, Phyllis, apparently also gives influence toward Sig’s desperation. This finding is proven on page 18.

It wasn’t as if she hadn’t been trying to find somebody, someone to settle down with, to marry. Even to have a family with, if it wasn’t too late. Her mother acted as if it was Sig who has stopping it from happeing. But the truth was there were no men who were interested. Despite her good haircut, her visible success, her careful make up, her Armani suits – or maybe because of them – Sig couldn’t remember the last time a new man had expressed any interest in her. The truth was, it wasn’t like she had a choice except Philip… (p. 18).

This point proves that Sig has been trying to cope with her desperation to find someone to marry. But apparently her mother thinks that it is Sig who does not want to get married. Her mother thinks that Sig closes her heart for a man. In fact, Sig has been trying hard by having a good apperance, like wearing Armani suits and using careful make up. But though Sig has been trying hard, she herself was also afraid that what makes men not interested in her is that because they are afraid of her and they think that Sig is too much to handle. Besides, her
desperation is also caused by her perception that she has no other choice except Phillip Norman. She thinks that it is only Phillip who is interested in her which makes her not to see other opportunities to have a husband except Phillip.

3. Bruce Geronomous

Bruce Geronomous is Phyllis’ second child. Bruce is five years younger than Sigourney. He owns a business, a gay greeting card business. But recently his business is going down because his partner absconded with most of the money he had. Now he is living in his tiny apartment with his friend, Todd. Bruce is depicted as a gay, and Todd is his gay boyfriend.

Moreover, Goldsmith in her novel depicts Bruce as one of the major characters whose temperament and motivation are complex. Bruce has an important role in the novel. He also gives influence toward the story of the novel which makes him as one of the major characters. Furthermore, Goldsmith depicts Bruce in this following point.

3.1. Sensitive

In this point, sensitive means that Bruce is being easily upset by the things people say or do. In other words, he is being easily get hurt by someone else’s words or action. His being sensitive is also felt by his sister, Sigourney. This finding is proven on page 15.

Sig knew he was probably hurt because she hadn’t invited him and Todd to either brunch. Bruce didn’t realize how badly her own business hadd fallen off and she was too proud to tell him. (p. 15)

This finding proves that Bruce is sensitive and it can be caused by simple words or things done by other people. Another evidence is found on page 30.
Bruce looked up at his older sister through bloodshot eyes. “Only if you’ll stop being so superior!” He clutched at his aching head. “You know, the minute Mom gets here she’s going to start calling you ‘Susan’ again and you’re going to lose it. She’ll call you ‘Susan’ in front of all your brunch-eating, bond-dealing friends. And she’ll follow you to the bathroom after you eat to make sure you don’t vomit. You’ll balloon back up to a hundred and seventy pounds in no time.” (p. 30)

This evidence shows that Bruce can also be easily get angry if he feels upset by another people words or actions.

His being too sensitive and the condition of his family turned him as a man whose female side is more developed than the male side or in other words he is a sissy and a gay. This finding is proven on page 59.

Phyllis tried hard not to react. After all, Bruce was deeply hurt. Ira hadn’t paid enough attention to him. Or maybe she hadn’t. Or maybe she’d paid too much. Whatever it was, hadn’t she or Ira made him into what he was? She turned to Sig (p. 59).

This evidence proves that Phyllis herself also realizes the condition which made Bruce into what he is now. She realizes that it was just between her and her husband, Ira, who had the responsibility of turning Bruce into a gay. She knows that one of the causes of the problem is the lack of attention for Bruce. She and Ira had been too busy with their business and paid little attention to their children, especially for Bruce.

Bruce also felt this condition since he was kid. Bruce feels that he never had what he wanted, especially when it related to money or things that have price on it. “Bruce put his hands on his hips, ‘Why do you always go for the price tag first? Since I’m a kid, whatever I wanted, first it was ‘how much’! You haven’t even looked at the dress.’” (p. 69). This evidence shows that Bruce had had the feeling of disappointment for his parents since he was a kid. He feels that his
parents, his mother especially, never gives him what he wants and always considers about the price for everything that Bruce wants.

Another evidence found on page 69. “That’s what’s wrong with you!’ Bruce went on. “It was never the quality, always the price. When I was eleven and I wanted those two perfect Izod shirts, you bought me a dozen from J.C. Penney.” (p. 69). His being sensitive and the lack of attention from his parents turned Bruce into a gay man.

4. Sharon Geronomous

Sharon Geronomous or Sharri, is Phyllis’ third child. She is the only child who is married. Goldsmith depicts Sharon as a Mom who has two children, Jessie and Travis. Her husband, Barney, is a jobless man who always tries to make Sharon feels like a failure. Sharon looks like a failure and the family’s disappointing member. Being treated as a failure by her own husband and being over weight makes Sharon feel depressed and hopeless.

Physically, Goldsmith depicts Sharon as woman with the frosted hair that looked ten years out of date, combined with her eyes and her mouth and her shoulders drooped in parallel, descending bell curves. Sharon is a big woman, though her hands and feet are dainty—almost abnormally tiny. Her eyes, buried in her pudgy cheeks, are the same dark brown as the unfrosted parts of her hair and darted nervously from side to side. Moreover, Goldsmith presents Sharon’s personal characteristics as these following points.
4.1. Frustrated

Frustrated here, means feeling annoyed or less confident because you cannot achieve what you want and as a description for someone who has not succeeded in a particular type of job. In *Marrying Mom*, Goldsmith depicts her as a woman who has no job and is over weight. As a mother with two children, it is hard for Sharon to full fill her family’s needs. Moreover, her husband also has no job, but the worst part is that her husband, Barney, always blames Sharon for everything that she cannot do. He makes Sharon feels like a failure, but in fact he, himself is the failure.

This condition makes Sharon feel frustrated and is also being felt by the other family members. I found the evidence on page 14.

“…Bruce had almost no patience for Sharon, but Sigourney felt sorry for her fat, whiny, frustrated, younger sister. Maybe it was because Sharri made her felt guilty. Maybe it was because Sig herself was so successful. Whatever the reason, she had no time now to listen to Bruce’s usual sniping. …” (p. 14).

This evidence proves that Sharon is really frustrated that her siblings also feel her frustration, though actually her siblings feel sorry for her condition. Her frustration is like helpless. Moreover, as being trapped in frustration, Sharon always feels that she is unhealthy and incapable of doing something. This finding is proved on page 15. “Now it was Sig’s turn to sigh. ‘I’ll try to make it just us, but lately Sharon hasn’t been driving. She gets those panic attacks when she has to cross a bridge.’” (p. 15). This evidence is a proof that Sharon is incapable, though maybe in fact, she is capable.
Her younger brother, Bruce, is the one who is uncertain and doubted her condition. Bruce feels that Sharon is lying and being the drama queen. This finding is proved on page 15. “Oh, come on. She’s a victim of faux agoraphobia. She’s just too lazy to drive into the city. She’s probably just trying to get a handicapped parking permit. Totally faux.” (p. 15). This evidence proves that Bruce does not really believe his sister, Sharon, and considers Sharon as a liar.

4.2. Pleonastic

This finding is proved on page 31. This evidence shows that Sharon feels that her life is ruined, moreover if her mother, Phyllis is in her house.

Sharon continued sobbing, and picked up the corner of the cashmere throw to wipe her eyes. ‘I know you’re going to try and make me, but I won’t. I just can’t. I can’t let her live with Jessie and Travis,’ she whimpered. She fumbled in her voluminous purse for her inhaler. When she was upset she reached for her asthma medicine. ‘Last time she did we had to have six double sessions with the family therapist. Do you know what that costs?’ Sharon wiped her nose on the throw, and Sig winced. ‘Travis was having nightmares every night. He thinks ‘Nana’ is a curse word. And Jessie went mute (p. 31).

From this evidence, I can conclude that Sharon is pleonastic. She tends to pile the problems on. She says too much about the problem which might be solved by simple solution.

B. The Reason Why Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce Decide to Become Their Mother’s Match Maker

There are two answers to this question. In answering the question, I used the psychological approach, theory of motivation and also theory of American values. The psychological approach and the motivation theory gives me the
surface meaning to the question of how do Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon decide to become their mother’s match maker. Meanwhile, the theory of American values gives me the answers to the question of how Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon exercised American values in making sure that their Mom gets married. The analysis goes as these following points.

1. The Surface Meaning

Goldsmith in *Marrying Mom* tells that the children, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, are trying to become the match maker for their mother. Unlike some ancient culture, for example India, where arranged marriage is widely practised, in the United States they do not recognize the term of match maker. The fact that the three siblings are trying to become the match maker for their Mom is contrasting to the American culture.

In the surface meaning, I try to give the explanation of the action done by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon in becoming the match maker for their Mom. From the analysis, I found some evidence which give example of the actions done by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon in being a match maker for their Mom.

1.1. Sigourney Geronomous

Sigourney Geronomous, as the first child in the family, she has the right to control everything in the family, including making the decision which affects the family’s future. In solving the problem that her Mom will move to New York, Sigourney shows her role as the eldest sister. She takes the lead and controls the family.
Her role in the novel is as the founder of the idea of match making Phyllis.

This evidence is proven on page 32.

"... Listen, “Sig continued, “we have to find a permanent solution. A way to really neutralize her and separate her from us once and for all. And I think I have the way to do it. It’s got to be done right away. It’s a fill or kill.” (p. 32).

This evidence is as the starter of their idea of match making Phyllis. This effort of match making her Mom is the result of not wanting her to stay with her. Further, Sigourney begins to explain to her siblings her idea, as seen on page 33.

... She paused again for the drama of it. “I have a way to accomplish it all.”
Bruce cocked his head. “How?”
“We marry her off.”
“We what?” Sharon, Bruce, and Barney asked simultaneously.
“We marry her off. Preferably to a wealthy guy with bad health and no heirs.” (p. 33).

This evidence shows that the idea of match making Phyllis comes from Sigourney, as the eldest sister. Moreover, it is also Sig who makes the further plan in the effort of marrying Phyllis. Another evidence is found on page 34.

“We set Mom up like a jewel in a velvet box. We dress her right. Bruce, that’s your job. We put her in a good hotel—no, not just good, but the best. I’ll take care of that. And then we present her to the prospects. Finding them is your job, Sharon.” (p. 34).

This evidence shows that Sig is the one who arranges all the plans and also the job description for every sibling. She already has the plan for every person and knows what to do in the effort of match making Phyllis.

1.2. Bruce Geronomous

Bruce Geronomous as the only man among the siblings has a great
influence in the effort of match making Phyllis. Although he is a man, he is the one who can alter Phyllis’s appearance into a lady. He makes a great effort so that the plan of match making Phyllis can work. Here are some evidences which prove Bruce’s efforts in match making Phyllis.

Bruce’s main part is to make over Phyllis, in other words to make Phyllis’s appearance look much better. Bruce does this by buying new clothes for Phyllis, doing her hair, and also choosing careful make up for Phyllis. “…We start with the hair. ‘My hair? What’s wrong with my hair?’…” (p. 61). This sentence shows that the first step done by Bruce is to make over Phyllis’s hair. The next thing done by Bruce is to find dresses for his Mom. “Bruce smiled at her. ‘I think we’re looking for a dinner suit. Something in black satin, perhaps.’ He looked down at his mother’s slightly bulging stomach. ‘With a peplum, ‘he added.” (p. 68). And the final touch done by Bruce is to give Phyllis careful make up. In doing so, he is helped by his friend, Todd. “…Time for a dress rehearsal, ‘Bruce called.’ And Todd is going to help.” (p. 76).

1.3. Sharon Geronomous

Although Sharon Geronomous is considered as a failure in the family, she has her own influence in the effort of match making Phyllis and her influence is not just a simple influence. She has made a big influence towards the plan of match making Phyllis. In the novel, Sharon has a role as the researcher. She does some research to find the candidates for her Mom.

Some evidences are found in the novel. “…finding them is your job, Sharon. …” (p. 34). This sentence shows that Sharon’s main role is to find the
candidates for their Mom. It is Sharon’s job to find the perfect husband for their Mom. Another evidence is found on page 35. “… You haven’t lost all your librarian skills, Sharri. You can do the research, finding the geezers. …” (p. 35). This evidence is another proof that Sharon takes the role as the researcher.

Underlie those actions done by the three siblings in becoming the match makers for their own Mom, there are the motivations which they have. From the analysis, I found some evidence which based the reasons why the three siblings become the match maker for their Mom. The reasons are their motivations in doing this effort; hence I used the theory of motivation to help me find out their motivations which underlying the effort of being a match maker for their Mom.

Maslow as cited in Psychology and Life 7th Edition, describes a hierarchy of needs which consists of five motives or needs. They are psychological needs, safety needs, belongingness or social needs, esteem needs, and self actualization needs. Besides, David McClelland (http://www.laynetworks.com/Theories-of-Motivation.html accessed on May 24th, 2011) also develops a theory on three types of motivation needs. They are need for power, need for affiliation, and also need for achievement. Based on the analysis, the three siblings, Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce, in Marrying Mom, exercised these motivations:

1.4. Esteem needs

These needs are divided into two categories, external motivators and internal motivators. The external esteem needs, such as reputation and recognition are excersied by Sigourney. As depicted in the novel, Sigourney is a stock broker whose business is nearly broke. By getting her mother remarried with someone
who is rich, she aims to find new clients for her business to get her business back on the track. This finding is proved on page 34.

“Not for her to take care of him. For him to take care of her. Sig explained. ‘We want ‘em sick. We have to marry off Mom to somebody really old and really wealthy. Somebody who likes us—likes us a lot. He can introduce me to some rich, powerful clients…” (p. 34).

This evidence shows that Sigourney has the external esteem needs. By having new clients for her business, she can get her business back on the track and also can get her reputation as a stock broker back to its place.

1.5. Need for achievement

In this area, people are motivated to perform when they see at least some chances of success. The chances of success also drive the three siblings to make their Mom get married. As stated in the novel, the three siblings have the same financial problem. Their businesses are not going well and slowing down. Thus, the three siblings, Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce, decided to make their mother get married to someone who is really wealthy, so that they can find a solution for their financial problems. In other words, they want to be successful financially. This finding is proved on page 33.

“Sharon, aside from more money coming in, you need something to do. You’re bright, and you used to be a great librarian. We can use your skills’. Sharon opened her small eyes as wide as she could. ‘Bruce, you need an investor for your rapidly failing business. And you also have a sense of style second to none. I need some new clients …” (p. 33).

This evidence shows that the three siblings need a solution for their financial problems. They need to be success. Thus, they look for someone rich for their mother to get married with. Another evidence, is found on page 34.

“Not for her to take care of him. For him to take care of her. Sig explained.
‘We want ‘em sick. We have to marry off Mom to somebody really old and really wealthy. Somebody who likes us—likes us a lot. He can introduce me to some rich, powerful clients. He can give Barney a job, and pay for Jessie’s and Travis’s private school. He could even bail out Bruce’s semibankrupt business’ (p. 34).

This point shows a detailed purpose for making their mother gets married. By making their mother gets married with someone who is really wealthy, Sigourney can get new clients for her business, Barney, Sharon’s husband, can get a job and pay for Jessie’s and Travis’s private school, and for Bruce, his new Dad in law can help him to bail out his semibankrupt business. These reasons are all dealing with success. That is why I found that the three siblings excercised the need for achievement.

Observing the actions done by the three siblings, it can be concluded that they excercised one of the Eastern cultures. Though they are Western people, they also excercised the Eastern culture, which is the culture of having a family discussion. They sit together, discuss the problem together, and finally decide a solution for their problem. This action contradicts the Western culture where the people tend to be more individualistic and prefer to find a solution for their problem by themselves. In the novel, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon had their family discussion and finally decide to become the match maker for their own Mom as the solution for their answer.

2. The Deeper Meaning

Human values are influenced by their needs and also their environment. In this study, I analyse the American values which are excercised by Sigourney,
Bruce, and Sharon, the main characters of Olivia Goldsmith, *Marrying Mom*. I believe that these values are influenced by their needs, which I have explained before, and also their environment where they live.

The American values which are exercised by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon also give influence towards their actions in match making Phyllis. These values play role as the nature of match making Phyllis.

According to Deena R. Levine, M.A. and Mara B. Adelman, Ph.D. in their book *Beyond Language, Cross-Cultural Communication* there are eleven values which the Americans have. Those are, personal control over the environment, change, control over the time, equality and egalitariansm, individualism and privacy, self-help, future orientation, action and work orientation, informality, directness, openness, and honesty, and also materialism.

Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon in *Marrying Mom* exercised the American values. This condition is influenced by their needs and also their environment. The analyses on the American values which are exercised by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon goes as these following points.

2.1. The Individualism and Privacy Value

As Deena R. Levine, M.A. and Mara B. Adelman, Ph.D. said in their book *Beyond Language, Cross-Cultural Communication*, Americans need and value privacy. Privacy, to an American does not mean isolation or loneliness. American people believe that individual needs are considered primary. Privacy exists because individuals feel that their needs must be respected.

This value influences the three siblings in becoming the match makers for
their Mom. Sigourney as the first child in the family has the important role as the founder of the idea of match making Phyllis. She has arranged the plan in match making Phyllis, including giving the job description for Bruce and Sharon. She has already set everything in details so that the plan could work successfully.

Doing this plan, Sigourney really hoped that it would work successfully. The reason why Sigourney created the plan to get Phyllis remarried is that she does not want her Mother to interfere in her life. Having the reason, Sigourney created the plan to be the match maker for Phyllis and really hoped that the plan would work successfully.

Examining the reasons which based Sigourney’s action in match making Phyllis, it can be concluded that Sigourney exercised one of the American values, that is the individualism and privacy. The evidence for this finding is found on page 30.

“…You know, ten minutes Mom gets here she’s going to start calling you ‘Susan’ again and you’re going to lose it. She’ll call you ‘Susan’ in front of all your brunch-eating, bond-dealing friends. And she’ll follow you to the bathroom after you eat to make sure you don’t vomit. You’ll balloon back up to a hundred and seventy pounds in no time” (p. 30).

This evidence shows that Phyllis used to always interfere in Sig’s life. Phyllis seems to always follow wherever Sig goes. That is why Sigourney does not want her Mother to stay in her house and finally decided to become the match maker for her own Mother, because she does not want her Mother to interfere in her privacy. As we know, for the Americans privacy is something that has to be respected by every person and it should not be interrupted.
In operating the plan to make Phyllis remarry, Bruce also played an important role. He was the one who could transform Phyllis’s appearance. He bought pretty dresses for Phyllis and put careful make up on Phyllis’s face so that Phyllis would look like a lady from a high society class.

Based on the analysis, Bruce Geronomous holds the value of individualism and privacy. The existence of his mother in New York will only bring riots in his life and he feels that his mother is uncontrollable. The siblings will not be able to control and handle their mother. The evidence is found on page 27. “… Except emotionally, ‘Bruce agreed. ‘Anyway, there’s not a pen that could hold her. She’d start food riots. The Big House. Mom’s Wallace Beery in drag. She’d tunnel her way out with her dentures.” (p. 27). This evidence shows that Bruce feels that her mother is uncontrollable. That is why he does not want her mother to stay in New York, because later her mother will ruin their life, no body will be able to handle their mother, and those facts will break the value of individualism and privacy which they hold.

In the novel, Sharon Geronomous plays the role as the researcher. She is the one who does the research to find the perfect candidates for her mother. She does some library researches and finally find some candidates for her mother to marry.

Sharon also holds the value of individualism and privacy. The evidence found on page 31. “… I know it. But she can’t. She just can’t!’ Sharon sobbed…Barney is using the spare room as his office until he gets a new job and, anyway, it would just be too much for me.” (p. 31). As depicted in the novel,
Sharron is the only child who is already married and has two children. Even though she already has a house, she does not want her Mom to stay in her house. She feels that being with her husband and her two children in one house is already too much. So she cannot let her mother to stay in her house. This evidence proves that Sharron wants privacy in her house.

From these findings, I conclude that Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon exercised the American values, which is the individualism and privacy as the reason or the nature of their action in match making their own Mom, Phyllis. And it means that they got back to the Western culture, to the culture of individualism that they already have learnt since they were little in their family.

2.2. The Self-help Value

In the self-help value people can and should try to improve their own life. It means that people can and should make efforts to improve the condition of their own life. People should have a better life than they already have now. In their actions done by three siblings of becoming their own mother’s match makers, implied the value of self-help. These actions were done because they want to be able to stand on their own feet and they want their Mom to also be able to improve her own life.

This finding is proven on page 55.

“Sig ignored her. “So back to this marriage plan. You see why we think it would be nice for you? No matter how much money you have it, it would make the financial burden easier. Not just on you, but on us too.” (p. 55).
This evidence shows that the marriage plan would be beneficial for the family since it would make the financial burden easier and the family could have a better life. Moreover it is as a way to improve the life of each family member.

Observing the findings in the novel, I concluded that the three siblings not only exercised the individualism and privacy value, but also the self-help value. The siblings did the actions of match making their own mother as a way to get their own privacy, to improve their own life, and at last to make their Mom happy, as written on page 55.

“That’s not the point. You need some security. And you need companionship. You need attention, and time. The three of us are so busy. It would be nice for you to have someone in your life who –“ (p. 55).

This evidence shows that above all their actions in becoming their mother’s match makers, the siblings just want to make their mother happy, by giving her someone who can give her security, companionship, attention, and also time.
CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The last chapter is conclusion and suggestions. It consists of two major parts, conclusion and suggestions. Conclusion presents the findings of this study. Suggestions present recommendations for future researcher on the topic. It also provides suggestion for the implementation of using Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom in teaching Cross Cultural Understanding.

A. Conclusion

Based on the analysis which is presented in the previous chapter, I can conclude the analysis. In this study, I discuss Phyllis, Sigourney, Sharon, and Bruce, the main characters of the novel, which aims to answer the question about how Phyllis, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon, the main characters of the novel, are depicted in the novel; and the idea of becoming match maker for Phyllis. By analysing the idea of match making Phyllis, I found the American values which are exercised by Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon. Further these American values are taking a role as the nature of match making Phyllis.

Based on the analysis, I found that physically, Goldsmith depicts Phyllis as a sixty-nine-years old woman with perm blonde hair, old-fashioned, loves to use turquoise eye make up and clashing blue-red lipstick. Furthermore, Goldsmith describes the personal characteristics of this character as a Mother who is upsetting and a stubborn person.
Goldsmith depicts Sig’s physical appearance as a fashionable woman with careful make up, good hair cut, and always use designer suits. Her personal characteristics are dominating and desperate. Meanwhile Bruce is depicted as the second child in the family, who is five years younger than Sigourney. He owns a business, a gay greeting card business. Bruce is depicted as a gay, and Todd is his gay boyfriend. His personal characteristic is sensitive.

Physically, Goldsmith depicts Sharon as woman with the frosted hair that looked ten years out of date, combined with her eyes and her mouth and her shoulders drooped in parallel, descending bell curves. Sharon is a big woman, though her hands and feet are dainty—almost abnormally tiny. Her eyes, buried in her pudgy cheeks, are the same dark brown as the unfrosted parts of her hair and darted nervously from side to side. Moreover, Goldsmith presents Sharon’s personal characteristics as a frustrated and pleonastic woman.

Based on the analysis of the second problem formulation, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon do not only exercise the individualism and privacy value, but also the self-help value. The individualism and privacy value exists because Americans need and value privacy. For them, their needs and privacy are something priceless which have to be respected, that is why Americans hold this value. Hence individualism and privacy are closely related because by respecting the privacy creates the individualism in each person. Meanwhile the self-help value exists because the Americans think that people can and should improve their own life. People should do make efforts to improve the condition of their own life.
Based on the evidences which are found in the novel, Sigourney, Bruce, and Sharon exercised the American values, which are the individualism and privacy and the self-help value as the reasons or the nature for their action in match making their own Mom, Phyllis. They do not want their mother to interfere in their life. Besides, they also do not want that their Mom will intrude in their privacy. Moreover, they want their Mother to have a better life by giving her a husband who will give her security, companionship, attention, and also time.

B. Suggestions

Suggestions are divided into two parts. The first is the suggestion for further research. The second is the suggestion for the implementation of using Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom in teaching Cross Cultural Understanding.

1. Suggestion for Future Researchers

Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom is a great example of the reflection of human life. As readers, we can learn American life style from this novel. For the future researchers, they may explore about the socio-historical background of the novel and also other American values in the novel. Since this is the first study of Olivia Goldsmith’s Marrying Mom, the future researchers still have many topics to be explored besides my suggestions.

2. Suggestion of the Implementation of Teaching English using the Novel

Reading novels can give so many advantages for the readers. There are at least two main advantages, by reading a novel the readers not only get the pleasure, but also get the knowledge. Considering the advantages provided by
reading a novel, it is good to use novel as a material for teaching English. In this study, I give suggestion in implementing Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom* for teaching Cross Cultural Understanding.

I am using Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom* for teaching Cross Cultural Understanding because the novel is rich with cultural values, especially American values, and it is as a great example of the reflection of human life. The material for teaching Cross Cultural Understanding is taken from page 13-16 of Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom*. The procedures of conducting Cross Cultural Understanding using Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom* are as follows:

1. The teacher gives an introduction to the topic, the American values.
2. The teacher gives explanation on American values.
3. The teacher asks the students to work in groups, then to analyse the reading and to find the American values from the passage.
4. The teacher asks the students to present their findings in front of the class.
5. The teacher gives final conclusion for the discussion.
6. The teacher sums up today’s lesson.
REFERENCES


Internet Sources


 Appendix 1

 SUMMARY OF THE NOVEL

 *Marrying Mom* is a novel written by Olivia Goldsmith. *Marrying Mom* was published by HarperCollins Publishers, Inc in the year of 1996. This novel is 207-pages long with 22 chapters inside. *Marrying Mom* tells about the story of a family which the three siblings want to remarry their Mom so that their Mom will not interfere in their life.

 Phyllis Geronomous is a widow who used to stay in Florida with her husband, Ira and has three children, named Sigourney Geronomous, Bruce Geronomous, and Sharon Geronomous. Since Ira has already passed away, Phyllis decided to move into New York where her three children live. She wants to live with her children. And finally she moves to New York.

 Sigourney is a stock broker. She is the first child in the family, but she has not married yet, and she feels so lonely. The second child, Bruce, is a businessman. He runs a gay greeting card business, but his business is slowing down and he is almost bankrupt. The last one, Sharon is the youngest sibling, but she is already married and has two children. She is like the failure of the family, because she is jobless and also has a jobless husband.

 Knowing that their mother wants to live in New York, the three siblings are shocked. They are surprised by this news and they cannot believe that their Mother will stay forever in New York. They do not want this situation to happen. They do not
want their Mother to stay in New York. Because they think that their Mother will ruin their life, and interfere in their privacy.

Before Phyllis arrives in New York, the three siblings have already set a plan to solve the problem of their Mother’s arrival in New York. After a long fight in deciding what steps to take in solving the problem, finally Sigourney find the best solution for their problem. They decide to become the match maker for their Mother and find a husband for her to marry.

At the beginning, they find it is hard to convince their mother that they need to do this. Phyllis thinks that it is unnecessary to find a new husband for her. She thinks that she can handle everything on her own, and she can fulfill her financial budget using her own money. In fact, it is impossible to live in New York using her savings, because New York has a very expensive standard of living.

Using so many reasons to convince Phyllis, finally the siblings can persuade their Mother to follow their plan and she agrees to get married again. The plan is conducted by the three siblings. Each of them has their own role, Sigourney as the first child and the most successful person in the family has the role as the founder of the idea and as the donor for the budget of the plan. Bruce is the one who transforms Phyllis’s appearance. He buys her new dresses and also teaches Phyllis to wear make up. The last one, Sharon, is the one who does the research to find the candidates for their Mother. She does the research and finally finds the perfect candidate for their Mother.
The first step that they take is finding the candidates. After they find the candidates, who are men from high society class and they are very rich, they try to engage in some charity dinner or party so that their Mother will get closer to the candidates. The next step is done by Bruce, he buys some dresses for his Mom and also put some make up on Phyllis’ face, he is the one who transform Phyllis’s appearance into a lady.

As they try to run the plan, problems arise. The biggest problem which arises is the fact that their mother is not interested in the candidates, not one of them can attract Phyllis’s attention. On the contrary, Phyllis has already have her own choice. She already has a perfect candidate for her to marry with, his name is Monty. At the beginning, the siblings do not want to accept Phyllis’s choice, because they think that her choice is not good for them and they think that Monty is not rich. In fact, Monty is a successful businessman who owns a tourist resort.

At the end, Phyllis can prove that her choice is the best and she can defend her choice. Meanwhile the siblings can have the solution for their own problem. Sigourney finally gets married with one of the candidates for her mother. Bruce finally gets the investor for his semi-bankrupt business, and Sharon finally gets a job in the library.
Appendix 2

Biography of Olivia Goldsmith

Olivia Goldsmith was born in Dumont, New Jersey on the 1st of January 1949. She was born with the name of Randy Goldfield but she changed her name to Justine Goldfield and later to Justine Rendal. She was graduated from New York University. She was a management consultant and one of the first female partners at the firm Booz Allen Hamilton before leaving to pursue a writing career.

She was best known for her first novel The First Wives Club (1992), which was adapted into the movie The First Wives Club (1996). Many of her books can be described as revenge fantasies; a constant theme is the mistreatment of women by the men they love, but with the women coming out the winners in the end. She also wrote several books for children, which were published under the name "Justine Rendal".

She was married to Paul Smith, but later in 1994 she got divorced. Olivia Goldsmith died on 15 January 2004. She died of complications from the administration of anaesthesia before an operation to remove loose skin from under her chin, at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan, New York. Her novels are:

The First Wives Club (1992, novel)
Fashionably Late (1993, novel)
Flavor of the Month (1994, novel)
Marrying Mom (1996, novel)
The Bestseller (1996, novel)
Switcheroo (1998, novel)
Young Wives (2000, novel)
Bad Boy (2001, novel)
Pen Pals (2002, novel)

Appendix 3

LESSON PLAN

University: Sanata Dharma University
Faculty: Teachers Training and Education
Department: Language and Arts Education
Study Program: English Language Education
Subject: Cross Cultural Understanding
Topic: American Values
Semester: III
Time: 2 x 50 minutes

Competence Standard: The students have deeper understanding of both Western and Eastern culture.

Basic Competence: 1. To appreciate, understand culture with a broad, cross cultural multidimensionality of outlook.

2. To help prepare the students in careers that require cross-cultural expansiveness as well as helps develop linguistics and critical skills.

Indicators:

1. The students are able to comprehend American values.

2. The students are able to identify the American values in the text.

3. The students are able to present the American values which they find in the text in front of the class.
### Learning activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Time Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Pre-activity</td>
<td>10’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to the topic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Whilst-activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Teacher explains about American values and gives the examples to the students</td>
<td>20’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Teacher gives the material and asks the students to examine the text. Students have to find the American values exercised by the characters in the story. Then, the teacher asks the students to present their findings in front of the class, in a group of 3.</td>
<td>15’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Students’ presentation on the American values found in the story.</td>
<td>40’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Post-activity</td>
<td>15’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teacher sums up the lesson and gives the question and answer part to the students</td>
<td>100’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Learning material:

Reading text taken from Olivia Goldsmith’s *Marrying Mom* page 13-16.

**Read the text carefully, then analyze the text to find out the American values in the text!**

“Hmmm.” He paused, ruminating. Bruce was smart. Maybe he’d have a solution. “How about plastic explosive in the cargo bay? We’d take down a lot of innocent lives, but we would know it was a small price to pay.”
“Bruce!”

“Come on, Sig. It would be an act of kindness. People love tragedies at holiday time. It gives them something to watch on TV. Makes them feel better about the tragedy unfolding under their own Christmas trees.”

“Amen, brother!” Todd yelled in the background. Todd had been raised a Southern Baptist in Tulsa, Oklahoma, before he ran off to New York City to become an agnostic photographer.

“Bruce!” Sigourney forced herself to exhale while simultaneously staring up at the immaculate blue ceiling of her seventy-thousand-dollar kitchen. Her home, her beautifully, designed, luxurious, and comfortable home, was her haven, her safe place where perfection reigned. It comforted her as nothing else did. She breathed deeply. Then her eyes focused on a tiny line. Was that a crack right in the corner? Was the glaze going already, despite Duarto’s assurances that the fourteen hand-lacquered layers would last ten lifetimes? She had picked up the pen and jotted a note to herself to call him before she realized what she was doing. This news, this shattering news had come, and she was writing notes to her decorator? Where were her values, her priorities? It could only be denial kicking in. She’d better focus. “Did you speak to Sharon yet?” She asked her brother.

“You are losing it. I don’t bother to call her with good news—not that I’ve had any of that lately.” Bruce, at the end of his phone, eyed his shabby brownstone apartment. The two rooms, though neat and cozy, were cluttered not only with all his worldly goods but also with what remained of his entire business stock—the gay greeting card line he’d created and marketed until his partner had absconded with most of the money last year. And the season wasn’t going as well as he’d hoped. It had really only just begun, but already stock had started being returned by Village shops. Queer Santa wasn’t selling as he’d expected. Bruce sighed. Sig was buzzing in his ear. He adored his older sister, but she was sometimes so controlling, especially when she was frightened. He interrupted her chatter, “Sig, if I called Sharon, which I wouldn’t, she’d just tell me how it was going to be even worse for her than for us, that it was always worse for her. “Bruce sighed again, this time explosively. “I know it’s the middle-child syndrome, but you’d think at thirty-seven she’d get over it.”

Sharon was their disappointed and disappointing sister—four years younger than Sig, and only a year older than Bruce. But she looked twice his age. She had let herself go—it wasn’t just her weight, it was her frosted hair that looked ten years out of date, the Talbots clothes in size sixteen that even a skinny Connecticut WASP couldn’t get away with, and more than anything else it was the way her eyes and her mouth and her shoulder drooped in parallel, descending bell curves.
“We have to call Sharon,” Sigourney said, ignoring her brother. “This is too big to handle on our own.”

“Well, she’s bigger than both of us,” Bruce laughed. “Not that she’ll be any use.”

Sigourney knew all about it. Bruce had almost no patience for Sharon, but Sigourney felt sorry for her fat, whiny, frustrated, younger sister. Maybe it was because Sharri made her feel guilty. Maybe it was because Sig herself was so successful. Whatever the reason, she had no time now to listen to Bruce’s usual sniping. “I’ll call her,” Sigourney said. “Can you meet here Saturday? I’m giving a pre-Christmas brunch at eleven for my A-list clients. Sunday I’m doing the B-list with the leftovers. But three on Saturday would be good for me.”

“Well, don’t put yourself out,” Bruce said nastily. “What does that make us? C-list?”

Sig knew he was probably hurt because she hadn’t invited him and Todd to either brunch. Bruce didn’t realize how badly her own business had fallen off and she was too proud to tell him. She was also embarrassed about her necessary small economies, like using the catering firm for the party and making it do for two. But this wasn’t the eighties anymore. And she couldn’t afford to have Todd and Bruce acting up and alienating prospects and clients.

“I’ll come,” Bruce finally agreed, “but there’s nothing we can do.” He began to recite aloud in a singsong: “Roses are red/ Chickens are white/ If you think you can stop her/ You’re not very bright.”

“No wonder your greeting card business is in trouble,” was all Sig answered. “I’m hanging up and calling Sharon.”

“Well, don’t let Barney come, “Bruce begged, defeated. Barney was not just Sharon’s loser husband; he was also a blowhard. He was big and barrel-chested and balding. But what Sig and Bruce found intolerable was that he managed to lose every job he’d ever had while making Sharon feel like a failure. Barney was the kind of person who explained to heart surgeons at cocktail parties some new technique he’d read about in Reader’s Digest. In short, he was an asshole.

Now it was Sig’s turn to sigh. “I’ll try to make it just us, but lately Sharon hasn’t been driving. She gets those panic attacks when she has to cross a bridge.”

“Oh, come on. She’s a victim of faux agoraphobia. She’s just too lazy to drive into the city. She’s probably just trying to get a handicapped parking permit. Totally faux.”

“Bruce! That’s not true.”

“Oh, Sig, Sig, Sig, Sig! Sometimes life could do with a little embellishment.”

“My God! You sounded exactly like Mother then.”


“I did not.”
“You did.”
“It’s started,” Bruce sang out.
Sig paused, biting back the need to tell him it was his fault. “You’re right,” she admitted. “Okay. It’s Saturday at three and now I’ll call Sharon.”
“See ya. Wouldn’t be ya!” Bruce yodeled. Sig merely shook her head and hung up the phone.
Sig stood silently for a few moments in the center of her immaculate living room. She knew she shouldn’t do it, but she was drawn irresistibly to the vanity in her bedroom. She looked around at the room and its beautiful decor. She’d have to sell the co-op, no doubt about it. She was behind in her maintenance payments and starting to get nasty looks from the co-op board president when she ran into him in the lobby.
Her client list had dropped, her commissions were down, and her own portfolio had taken a beating. Welcome to the nineties. Sig had done her best to downsize her expenses—she hadn’t use her credit cards for months, had paid her phone bill and Con Ed on time, and spent money only on the necessities. But it wasn’t enough.
Business had slowed to a trickle and even if she sold her stock now, she’d take a loss and have no possibility for the future. She’d just have to sell her apartment.
But this apartment was more than just equity; it was her haven. Maybe that was because she felt her mother had never made a home for her. As Phyllis often said, “I’d be happy living out of a suitcase in a clean motel.” The very thought made Sig shudder. Besides, the apartment was her visible sign of success, her security and a place she could come after a long hard ...

Assessment:
Assessment is taken from oral presentation about the American values found in the story.

Grammar : 30 points

Content : 30 points

Oral proficiency : 40 points