THE REFLECTION OF VICTORIAN SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND HYPOCRISIES IN WILLIAM THACKERAY’S VANITY FAIR

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS
Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
to Obtain the Sarjana Sastra Degree
in English Letters

By
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ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAMME
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LETTERS
FACULTY OF LETTERS
SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY
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Ivonne
I am not afraid of storm as I am learning to navigate my vessel

(Helen Keller)

No language can express power, beauty, and bravery of a mother

(Gilmore Girls)
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN
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ABSTRACT


The study discussed William Thackeray’s novel Vanity Fair. The novel was written in Victorian Era. The novel’s setting took place in London, Brighton, Brussels, etc. In Vanity Fair, the settings are thick with Victorian social conditions and hypocrisies.

This thesis aims to analyze The Victorian social conditions and hypocrisies in a Victorian novel entitled Vanity Fair by William Thackeray. The study consists of three discussion areas, namely the analysis of the setting, the analysis of the setting reflected Victorian social condition and hypocrisies, and the characteristics of Victorian society in Vanity Fair.

The analysis of the novel applied the sociocultural-historical approach, which used the sociocultural-historical condition in England during Victorian Era as the basis of the analysis. The analysis of the problem formulation used the theory of setting by Holman and Harmon; Abrams; Rohberger and Woods; review of Victorian society from various sources; and the relationship between literature and society.

After analyzing the novel, the writer made three conclusions. The first conclusion was there were ten prominent settings of place in the novel, namely Chiswick Mall, Russell Square, India, Dr. Swishtail’s school, Royal Gardens, Queen's Crawley, Miss Crawley's house, Brighton, the Ball in Brussels, and A Local Gambling house in Germany. Vanity Fair illustrated social circumstances that appeared characteristics of Victorian Society for instance morality, money oriented, system of family life, and love affair.

The second was the settings in Vanity Fair revealed various social conditions and hypocrisies in Victorian Era. Chiswick mall presented that money and position were important things in Victorian Era, which showed the snobbery of Miss Pinkerton and the friendship of Amelia and Becky. Russel Square exposed that marriage in Victorian Era was normally arranged by parents, Amelia Sedley is an example of the arrange marriage. It has been arranged that Amelia Sedley would marry George Osborne, a good friend of the family. Thackeray presented bankruptcy when he depicted Sedley’s bankruptcy. India manifested a good career for middle class society to earn money. Dr Swishtail’s school told about Dobbins’s protection for George from being bullied at school, which indicated compassion. Royal garden revealed social drinking between couples and friends, which were widely accepted. Queen Crawley presented Becky’s profession as a governess, which denoted the need of cleverness to achieve her goal. Miss Crawley’s house exposed Becky’s attempt to manipulate Miss Crawley, which showed pretence and deceitfulness. Brighton demonstrated love represented by George and Amelia and also Becky and Rawdon whereas society showed a contrasting value that it considered whether or not marriage was profitable.
The ball in Brussels exposed social gathering among military officers, which showed insincerity to get connection. A Local Gambling Place in Germany revealed gambling as a source of income. The third was the characteristics of Victorian Society as revealed in *Vanity Fair*, namely hypocritical, materialistic, patriarchal, and moral degradation in marital relationship.
ABSTRAK


Setelah menganalisa novel tersebut, penulis membuat tiga kesimpulan. Kesimpulan pertama adalah tentang Latar tempat. Ada sepuluh latar tempat yang penting di dalam novel ini, yaitu Chiswick Mall, Russell Square, India, sekolah Dr. Swishtail, Royal Gardens, Queen’s Crawley, rumah Miss Crawley's, Brighton, sebuah pesta dansa di Brussels, dan Jerman. Vanity Fair menggambarkan situasi sosial yang memunculkan ciri khas masyarakat Victorian yaitu moralitas, orientasi uang, sistim kehidupan keluarga dan perselingkuhan

Kesimpulan kedua adalah latar yang mencerminkan Kondisi Sosial dan Kemunafikan. Latar dalam Vanity Fair mengungkapk berbagai kondisi sosial dan kemunafikan pada Jaman Victoria. Chiswick Mall mengungkap bahwa uang dan kedudukan adalah hal yang penting pada Jaman Victoria, yang menunjukkan kesombongan Miss Pinkerton, dan persahabatan Amelia dan Becky dalam menerima kelebihan dan kelebihan masing-masing. Russel Square memaparkan bahwa pernikahan di jaman Victorian biasanya diatur oleh orangtua. Amelia Sedley adalah contoh dari pernikahan yang diatur. Ini sudah diatur bahwa Amelia Sedley akan menikah dengan George Osbourne, teman baik keluarganya. Thackeray menggambarkan kebangkrutan ketika dia menceritakan kebangkrutan keluarga Sedley. India mengungkapk sebuah karier yang bagus untuk masyarakat kelas menengah untuk memenuhi impian mereka menghasilkan uang. Sekolah Dr. Swishtail mengungkap perlindungan Dobbin bagi George dari gangguan anak nakal di sekolah, yang menunjukkan belas kasihan. Royal Gardens mengungkap kegiatan minum untuk sosialisasi antar pasangan dan teman, yang diterima secara luas. Queen’s Crawley mengungkap profesi pengajar anak di rumah oleh Becky, yang menunjukkan perlunya kecerdasan untuk mencapai tujuannya. Rumah Nona
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Graham Little in Approach to Literature stated, “Literature functions as a representation of the situation and the thoughts happening in a certain setting of time, and place” (1990:1). One example of this is seen in Thackeray’s Vanity Fair. Thackeray’s Vanity Fair was written in Victorian Era. As Victorian Literary Work, Vanity Fair represents the social condition and hypocrisies of Victorian Society in which Thackeray’s thought were revealed in the novel

For the reason of social condition and hypocrisies, the researcher chose to analyze this novel through the setting. In Vanity Fair, the settings are thick with Victorian social conditions and values. In Vanity Fair by Thackeray, readers soon find out that the novel describes the social conditions of Victorian era. It describes employment, education, marriage, social class, bankruptcy and the lack of social security of the Victorian era. Vanity Fair showed that employment in the Victorian Era was classified based on social class. Formal education was only meant for men. On the other hand, women studied at home and were mostly got married at a young age. Middle class people had no security and, as a consequence, they were afraid to go bankrupt.

Given the close relationship between the settings and the social conditions of the novel Vanity Fair, the researcher would like to analyze both elements. The researcher tries to find out Victorian social conditions and social values reflected in the setting of place.
The novel *Vanity Fair* by William Thackeray is chosen as the subject matter in this study because of two reasons, as explained below.

Firstly, the researcher decided to analyze the novel due to the brilliance depiction on the novel. The novel vividly presents the social condition in Victorian era. It shows various social classes represented by each character. Betsky in *Society in Thackeray and Trollope* (1958, 144) wrote:

In Thackeray’s work it comprises many dependents over a large area: The church, the army, the civil service, the government, the fashionable public school, the governess and domestic class, the small tradesman. Thackeray’s world is the world of London Society and its extension into the rural community. But the world of London spreads to the continent and even to India, with Thackeray in pursuit.

Secondly, *Vanity Fair* is clearly, a novel which focuses on social conditions. The novel was written in Victorian era, when social status and rank were very significant issues. In this novel we can find the degradation of individual’s as well as society’s values. Some important things to note are the atmospheres that depict selfishness, ambition, social class, marriage, and morality. We can find corrupted social conditions and hypocrisies in this novel, as reflected by the human behavior and morality in the society *Vanity Fair* represents.

**B. Problem Formulation**

As discussed above, it is interesting to analyze the settings and the social conditions reflected in William Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair* since both elements are closely related. Thus the problems which are addressed in the research are:

1. a What are the settings found in William Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair*?
   
   b. What social circumstances are reflected in *Vanity Fair*?
2. How does the setting reflect Victorian social conditions and hypocrisies?
3. What are the characteristics of Victorian society revealed in *Vanity Fair*?
C. Objectives of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out: the settings of William Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair*, the Victorian social condition and hypocrisies reflected in the setting of place, and the characteristics of Victorian society revealed in *Vanity Fair*. This study gives a description of setting of place, social condition and hypocrisies reflected in the setting of place, and reveal the characteristics of Victorian society in William Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair*. The researcher hopes that this thesis will contribute to studies on Victorian literature in general and *Vanity Fair* in particular.

D. Definition of Terms

In analyzing the novel, there are four terms that need to be clarified in order to provide an accurate analysis and a clearer explanation to answer the formulated problems. These terms are:

1. Setting

   The term “setting” in the thesis refers to that term defined by Rohberger and Woods, i.e.; “the particular time and place in which a work of literature occurs” (1971:22)

2. Victorian

   According to Holman and Harmon (1986:530), Victorian refers to a term which is used:

   a) To designate broadly the literature written during the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901).
b) More narrowly, to suggest certain complacency, hypocrisy, or squeamishness that was assumed to characterize Victorian attitudes.

3. Social conditions

Social condition usually refers to society as a whole in a specified geographical or political region; it is applicable also to restricted strata of society. (http://www.reference.md/files/Do12/mD012924.html)

In order to make limitation, the analysis focuses only on education, marriage, social class, bankruptcy and Victorian values such as friendship, compassion, and hard work.

4. Hypocrisies

According to Oxford Dictionary hypocrisy is the act of preaching a certain belief or way of life but not in fact holding these some virtues oneself.

The hypocrisies discussed in this paper to the behavior or conduct of the people or characters in the novel which is in contrast to the existing social norms or religious beliefs at that time and also to the attitude of the people of which they make justification.
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL REVIEW

A. Review of Related Studies

Many researches have been conducted to analyze Vanity Fair, particularly the characters Becky and Amelia. Didik in his paper “A Portrayal of Liberal Feminism of Victorian age: A Feminist Study of William Makepeace Thackeray’s Vanity Fair” (1999) found Rebecca Sharp had many strong characteristic. She was clever, educated, talented, independent, forceful and confident. She could play piano well and she had a wonderful voice as advantage when she want to attract everyone’s attention. She believed that she was the only one who could determine her own life. Once she sold her husband’s horses without his permission. This shows her independence that she could make a decision by herself. Her strength and confidence brought her step by step into a higher position in the society. She never lost her strength though her husband deserted her. She kept her life moving forward. (pp.53-54).

Deasy (1993) in her paper “Thackeray’s Moral Criticism and Social Pragmatism and Social Idealism” found that Becky Sharp was a girl with an unfortunate fate had to struggle in order to change her course of life from a penniless woman into a woman with power and money in her hands. She witnessed in her world that the system was based on money and rank, which then turned her into a pragmatic woman. Being poor and classless she had nothing but misery and humiliation from the high class and middle class society that assumed them as the best human race in the world. Thus, under these circumstances she made up her mind to manage and lift her life to different from the previous one. With her charm, courage, ambition and intelligence she stepped into the best life of England ’s nobility and held many admirers round her (p.62).
In other words, Becky was an opportunist. She took an opportunity whenever it was useful for her life. At the time, she saw the social system was full of hypocrisy and marriage money oriented; she used this knowledge to reach her dream. In Deasy’s opinion, Amelia’s childhood shaped her character as an ideal woman in Victorian Era.

In contrast to Becky, Amelia Sedley’s previous life was somewhat pleasant and luxurious. She was a sweet, gentle, and kindhearted woman whose life was surrounded by her parents’ life, compassion and protection. She could afford anything that a poor girl like Becky could only dream of. Her parents prepared her well to fill position in the refined circle that characterized the young English gentlewoman at that time. This was why she was sent to the best school for girls at Miss Pinkerton’s school. The principal purpose of their school was related to marriage market. As a result, Amelia was modeled into a very perfect definition of social ideal that the society expected to. She became a loyal wife for her husband even though the husband had already died, she nurtured into a notion of motherhood when she reared her son. These social ideas made her suffer because she tried to live entirely by them and stopped recognizing the reality round her” (p.63).

It can be said that Amelia was a girl who had a comfortable life. Her life was full of compassion from her family and of easy surrounding. Amelia was a submissive person who became the ideal character that Victorian society expected to. Her role as a loyal wife and good mother limited her. She was difficult to decide her future.

There are some essays on William Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair*. Nickname Larissa claims that “Vanity Fair is not a historical novel but a social one, and Thackeray’s main purpose is to portray English society’s morality and habits as a whole and not as a particular moment in time. Therefore, the essence of the relations between people in the bourgeois society remained until nowadays the same with the ones that Thackeray described in Vanity Fair, although time has changed fashion design and external conditions”.

Larissa again points out that “almost all Thackeray’s characters in Vanity Fair are individualized, no matter how briefly they appear. Taken together the characters make up the society that Thackeray calls *Vanity Fair*. Taking into account the characters’ vitality and their representing major institutions it can be said that society is the real protagonist, the main character of Vanity Fair”. Larissa assures that “by using the technique of generalizing from the individual, Thackeray exposes the mercenary and impersonal bases of marriage money oriented status conscious society. The society described in Vanity Fair is “built upon an economy of obtaining other people’s money and for one’s own enjoyment and finally running oneself and others”. There is a moral corruption “resulting from the constant desire for wealth, ostentation and status”. This moral corruption has spread throughout society from the aristocrats to the servants. According to Larissa, “Becky is not natural born vicious, but she is the result of the society she lives”. (Larissa [online])

Edwin Percy Whipple states in *The Atlantic Monthly* that “the novel not only has no hero, but implies the non-existence of heroism. The novel is fascinating due to various causes, but the most prominent are the perfect intellectual honesty of the writer, the sad or satirical sincerity with which he gives in his evidence against human nature”. He also comments about the characterization in *Vanity Fair*. He refers the characterization in Vanity Fair as almost perfect of its kind. Further he argues:

Thackeray's theory of characterization proceeds generally on the assumption that the acts of men and women are directed not by principle, but by instincts, selfish or amiable--that toleration of human weakness is possible only by lowering the standard of human capacity and obligation--
and that the preliminary condition of an accurate knowledge of human character is distrust of ideals and repudiation of patterns. This view is narrow, and by no means covers all the facts of history and human life, but what relative truth it has is splendidly illustrated in Vanity Fair (Whipple, Edwin Percy [online]).

According to Edwin Percy Whipple, Vanity Fair is fascinating because Thackeray wrote it with his intellectual honesty. Human behavior is controlled by natural instincts and natural human desire, such as selfishness. Humans tend to deny the environment and its norms. The novel is full of human weakness. He didn’t mean to cover all the facts of history and human life, but the relative truth is the real illustration in *Vanity Fair*.

In this research the researcher analyzes the setting of William Makepeace Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair* and the social condition and values reflected in the setting. The researcher believes that there is a close relationship between the setting and the social conditions. Setting refers not only to the description of place where the story took place but also to the inclusion of social circumstances which heavily influenced the story. In *Vanity Fair*’s settings, there are some events that reflect Victorian social conditions and social values.

**B. Review of Related Theories**

1. **Theories of Setting**

   Setting is described by Holman and Harmon (1986:465) as “the physical, and sometimes, spiritual background against which the action of a narrative (drama, novel, and poem) takes place”. They further say that the elements making up a setting are:
(a.) The actual geographical location, its typography and such physical arrangements as the location of the window and doors in a room.

(b.) the occupations and daily manner of living of the characters

(c.) the time or period in which the action takes place for example, epoch in history or season of the year.

(d.) the general environment of the characters, for example the religious mental, moral, social, and emotional conditions though which the people in the narrative move (Holman & Harmon, 1986:465).

While Abrams in *A Glossary of Literary Terms* (1981:157) states that “the setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs”. Further he explains that “the setting of an episode or scene within a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place. When applied to a theatrical production, setting is synonymous with mise en scene, a French term denoting the scenery and the properties, or movable pieces of furniture, on the stage. The term “mise en scene” sometimes includes the positioning of the actors in particular scene” (1981:157).

Lastly, Rohberger and Woods (1971 define setting as “the particular time and place in which a work of literature occurs” (p.22). They further say that “the setting of a successful piece of fiction is as functional as any of the other elements, and like the other elements, it never exists by itself. They add that setting aids in establishing credibility: it can help to explain both characters and situation, it can contribute to the atmosphere or predominant mood, it can be active in foreshadowing, and it can be symbolic” (p.22).
2. Relationship between Literature and Society.

Wallek and Warren (1956) stated that “literature has also a social function which cannot be purely individual. Hence, literary study has raised some social questions, ultimately or by implication. These questions are “of tradition and convention, norms and genres, symbols and myths” (Wallek & Warren, 1956:94).

They also state that

the common approach to the relations of literature and society is the study of works of literature as social documents, as assumed pictures of social reality. It cannot be doubted that some kind of social picture can be abstracted from literature” (Wallek & Warren, 1956:102).

In other words, Literature is a medium to depict the reality occurring in the society. The social condition can be seen from the work of literature.

In Wallek and Warren book, the phrase made by De Bonald, ‘literature is an expression of society’ (1956:95) has become pre-lude for starting the discussions in studying the relationship between literature and society.

However, it does not mean that literature, at any given time; mirror the current social situation correctly. It is also vague to say that literature depicts some aspects of social reality. It is more ambiguous to say that literature mirrors or express life. A writer inevitably expresses his experience and total conception of life, but it would be manifestly untrue to say that he expresses the whole of life or even the whole life of a given time-completely and exhaustively (1956:95).

As an expression of society, Literature also has the weakness that it has a limit when accommodating the facts. Literature can only depict some aspect of social reality. The writer should express his/her point of view about the society at a certain time not the whole of time. This has also been stated by Wellek and Warren, in Theory of Literature.
There is great literature which has little or no social relevance; social literature is only one kind of literature and is not central in the theory of literature unless one holds the view that literature is primarily an ‘imitation’ of life as it is and of social life in particular. It needs to be remembered that literature is no substitute for sociology or politics. It has its own justification and aim. (1956:109).

So it can be concluded that literature is one form or document for expressing social and cultural values and norms of a society. There is the term “social literature”, but not all literature can be categorized as such. *Vanity Fair*, however, belongs to this type of literature since the author William Thackeray presents his ideas in the whole forms of society norms and values as we can see in this novel. Furthermore, literature can not replace the function of sociology or politics. Literature has its reason and purpose.

C. Review on Victorian Society

Henkle states that “when interpreting a social novel, we should expect to look for the interpretations of the nature of the society – how it operates, what its dynamics are, and what its values are – and we will often find our self discovering insight about human societies in general” (1977:27). The novel was written in Victorian era hence it is very important to learn the nature of Victorian society: the social structure, values, family, women condition, religion, morality, economic problem to get description about social conditions in the novel. As a way to comprehend the review, Victorian Society was divided into:

1. Social Structure of Victorian Society

Victorian society as described by McKay in *A History of Western Society* consisted of various class structures: “the aristocratic class, middle classes,
working classes” (1983:847). The first, the aristocratic class, were those who belonged to the royal family. The person included to this class was determined by heredity. The second class, the middle class, was divided into three categories:

1. The upper middle class. This class composed of mainly of the most successful business families from banking, industry, and large-scale commerce.
2. The middle – middle class. This class lived quite comfortably but lacked great wealth.
3. The lower middle class consisted of independent shopkeepers, small traders, and tiny manufacturers and numbers of white collar employees (1983:847).

White collar workers had less property and often earned no more than better-paid skilled or even semi-skilled workers did. Yet, they were fiercely committed to the middle class and to the idea of moving up in society. Elementary school teachers largely succeeded in this effort. From being miserably-paid part time workers in the early 19th century, they rode on the wave of mass education to respectable middle class status and income (McKay, 1983:848-849).

The middle class were united by a shared code of expected behavior and morality. This code was strict and demanding. They laid great stress on hard work and personal achievement. People, who fell into poverty or crime, did not have mercy from the society, because they were generally assumed to be responsible for their own situation. Traditional Christian morality was reaffirmed by this code and preached tirelessly by middle class people who took pride in their own good conduct (McKay, 1983:850-851). The middle classes needed far more than the aristocracy did to appear respectable. Even those of them who inherited their
wealth or their gainful occupations were exposed to competition and needed to guard their reputations. Therefore, they tended to conform to social conventions and to common standards of education and manner (Clark, 1971:445). History notes that the middle class played a big role in industrial development. They created many inventions and established the applications of science and technology. Briefly, this social class seemed to dominate England in economic, political, and social life.

The last description is about the working class. McKay (1983) notes that about four out of five people belonged to the working classes at the turn of the 19th century. The working classes were divided into three subclasses. In the first place, stood the highly skilled; the “labor aristocracy” class. They were construction bosses and factory foremen, who had raised their rank and were fiercely proud of their achievements. Below the labor aristocracy stood semiskilled and unskilled manual workers. A large number of the semi skilled was factory workers, who earned highly vulnerable but relatively good wages. The unskilled were the largest group, such as wagon-driving teamsters, teenagers, and many kinds of helper (pp.851-854). Many members of the working class – that is people whose livelihood was dependent on physical labor and did not employ domestic servant – were still small landowning peasants, and hired farm hands (p.851). Clark (1971) then adds that the rich and the poor were separated not only by the primary material differences in diet, clothing housing, and so forth; they lived in segregated system of knowledge and ideas (p.444).
2. Victorian Family

Arnstein then stated that “the Victorian family was patriarchal, in which, a wife was not an equal partner to her husband, but served as a household manager. She was most obviously and significantly the mother to his children. Further, Arnstein states that home, at any event, was felt to be the center of moral virtue and refuge against the barbarism of the outside world” (1989:78-79).

In other words, Victorian family emphasized on woman’s duty to take care domestic matters and upbringing children.

3. Victorian Women

Most of women at Victorian Era tended to choose marriage as a result of lack of choice. Women were left uneducated in many areas of life and they had no control over their education. As a result, the women were expected to marry in order to find someone beneficial to support their life.

In Victorian Era, marriage and motherhood were the most important career for Victorian women and the determining factor for success as women. A woman also had to be innocent, virtuous, dutiful and ignorant of intellectual opinion, and she would be regarded ideal if also having the ability to sing, play instrument, and to speak a little Italian and French (www.victoriansociety.com).

Furthermore, Charlotte Despard writes about her feeling as a young woman in the 1850s in a brief unpublished memoir:

The women of the well-to do classes were made to understand that the only door open to a life at once easy and respectable was that of marriage. Therefore, she has to depend upon her good look according to the ideal of the men of her day (Despard, Charlotte[online])
Victorian society believed that lack of education was the block that kept women from gaining equal status in society, separating them from men. It has also been the door to the dream of equality. Before women gained the right and privilege of higher education, they were believed to be lower-class citizens, not worthy of voting or owning property, or any number of “inalienable rights”. Without education, many women believed that they should not hold the power to influence politics or even make decisions about their own property. Women were stripped of their self esteem and privileges by men of the community and even by their own husbands. However, they were finally able to break free from these social constraints through education (Horany, Elisabeth and Ulrich [online])

4. Religion

According to Sanders (1994:398), religion remained a powerful force in Victorian life and literature. He further explains about the people attending worship in the Victorian society: The vast numbers of people who failed to attend public worship on Sundays were working class men and women who easily found alternative and more agreeable way of spending the one day of rest allowed to them. Amongst them and also the educated classes, there were deep and growing doubts as to the very doctrinal and historical bases of Christianity (p.399).

Derry strengthened Sanders’s point of view in A Short History of 19th Century England. He stated that “Victorian religious values centered on family prayers, and family prayers centered on the Bible. Religious experiences were communicated through conventional forms of phrase, usually derived from passages of scripture” (pp.202-203).
5. Morality

Morality is the quality of being in accord with standards of right or good conduct. Actually, Victorian society banned its people to have bad habit of drinking and gambling but the Victorian people broke the rule. They tended to show bad habits or the degradation of morality.

Meanwhile, Derry states that drinking and gambling were forbidden and denounced as vices in Victorian daily life. Total abstinence from alcohol became a doctrine of the age (1963:202). In A History of Western Society by McKay, it is stated that most working class people sought fun and recreation, and they found this in drinking. Drinking was unquestionably the favorite leisure time activity for working class people. Among working people drinking was the most common way of releasing themselves from their misery. However, it was also the commonest cause of dispute and misery in working class homes (pp.852-855).

6. Economic problem

Economic problems were also a part of in Victorian Era, two of these problem were unemployment and bankruptcy.

The government of Victorian England did not protect English men, women, and children from the personal economic disaster created by unemployment. Unlike citizens of modern industrialized nations, the Victorian who lost his or her job did not receive any help from the government. In an economic world just a little removed from the pre-industrial, pre-capitalist world, one in which traditional relations between master and worker were the norm, no
government, or representative of the government, provided paid unemployment allowances, gave assistance in securing another job, or arranged and funded job retraining. Eric Hobsbawn claimed that the threat of bankruptcy was “negligible” in major industries during the three decades before the first World war. He cited as evidence that fact that even during a period of depression (1905-1909) less than one half of one percent of cotton manufacturers failed each year. He concluded “freed from the specter of sudden impoverishment and social ostracism—the very horror of bankruptcy was itself a symptom of its comparative rarity—the British business did not need to work much.” Hobsbawn, Eric [online]) Therefore, the economic disaster triggered bankruptcy as the main threat of major industries.

7. Victorian values

Value is a principle or standard or quality considered worthwhile and desirable. Derry states that “the Victorians are usually remembered for their solid and useful virtues: thrift, hard work, self help, temperance and respectability” (201). In addition, Beckoff (1972), in his English Literature II says that Queen Victoria was not a “liberated woman,” but a puritan; as such she set the pattern for external conformity, strenuous energy, sobriety, hard work, and joyless self-denial of worldly pleasure (p.58). Furthermore, Lunt (1945) says that duty, self-seriousness and self-improvement were judged as outstanding virtues since the Victorians were convinced that man’s future reward or punishment was not only determined by his faith, but above all, his conduct (p.751).
Victorian value concerned of the principle of sex. As affirmed by Arnstein (1989) that “the deliberate de-emphasis of sex is the most widely remembered element of Victorianism” (p.78). Arnstein then further states that “normally sex was never implied in conversation or in print. Sexual experimentation before married was considered illegitimate. Such questions concerning sex were considered improper both in polite conversation and in public opinion polls” (pp.79-81). “For middle classes Victorians, sexual purity and fidelity were appreciated as virtues” (McKay, 1983:850-851). Purity was indeed the standard for a lady, and continence became at least the professed ideal of a gentleman (Arnstein, 1989:78-81). Women, during the Victorian era, did not enjoy the same sexual freedom as men and often experienced intense frustration of the sexual desires.

Victorian society held a monogamous system, as stated by Sanders (1994:399) in The Short Oxford History of English Literature that Mid-Victorian Society was still held together by the cement of Christian moral teaching and constricted by the triumph of puritan sexual mores. It laid a particular stress on the virtues of monogamy and family life, but it was also widely aware of obvious moral anomalies throughout the social system. Although the supposed blessings of ordered family life were generally announced to be dominant, many individual Victorians saw family as an agent of oppression and as the chief vehicle of encompassing conformity.

Victorian values were good to be implemented in daily life, but such value had expired since the closing years of the 19th century, such mid-Victorian moral confidence had begun to sound oppressively, even comically outmoded (Sanders,
The quotation strengthened the fact that moral confidence hard to attain and as a result, by the end of the 19th century, Victorian Values were no longer usable. As stated by Derry in A Short History of 19th Century of England (1963) that “their achievements were denied and their falling ridiculed, it proved that Victorian society met the failure to create good environment based on moral value” (p.200). Victorian society was considered immoral because of the defying sexual conventions, as stated by Arnstein (1989:79): “Certainly it was Victorianism that helped give the word immoral the connotation it retains – that of defying sexual convention rather than of practicing fraudulent bookkeeping or telling lies or beating children”.

C. Theoretical Framework

In this research, the researcher analyzed the social condition and social values reflected in the setting. In order to achieve the objectives, this study bases its discussion on several theories to answer the problems formulated in the problem formulation. Here, the researcher will explain briefly how the theories reviewed in the previous part are used in the discussion. The researcher will use some theories, namely theories of setting, theory on the relationship between literature and society, reviews of Victorian society.

The first part of the analysis includes the analysis of the settings found in the novel. The theories of setting help the researcher to identify the setting clearly. The second part analyzes the Victorian social condition and hypocrisies as reflected in the setting. This part puts on review of Victorian Society to analyze.
The third part analyzes the characteristics of Victorian society as revealed in Vanity Fair by applying the relationship between literature and society.

The researcher believes that the theories are useful in helping the researcher analyze the settings found in the novel and the Victorian social conditions and hypocrisies as reflected in the setting. The result of the analysis will be used to characterize Victorian Society as revealed in *Vanity Fair*. 
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

A. Object of the Study

The novel analyzed in this study is *Vanity Fair*, which was written by William Makepeace Thackeray. The novel, like many others at that time (1847-1848) was published as a serial, printed in 20 part editions from January 1847 – July 1848. This work is the first one of Thackeray’s that was published under his own name. Later on, it was published as a book with Thackeray’s own illustrations inside. The novel gives clear image of the rotten moral of Victorian society, and the characters are full of human weaknesses. It is no surprise that the tag line of this novel is A Novel without a Hero. The phenomenal character, Becky Sharp, is in fact a reflection of Thackeray’s grandmother, Harriet Becher. He lives with her in Paris around 1830’s and 1840’s. In terms of writing style, in this novel Thackeray used a technique where he placed himself as an omniscient narrator. He is best known for this technique because other authors rarely use this technique.

Based on the findings of the study, the novel is a social novel. It asserts an opinion on the idealism and pragmatism of Victorian society and tells us about the class prejudice in the society between two social classes: Middle Class and Lower Class. It seems that the author did not defend either of the two sides by entitled the sub title of *Vanity Fair*, A Novel without a Hero.

Thackeray included several places where the plots occur. They were London, Brighton, Brussels, etc. Thackeray also highlighted woman’s employment
and stated that being a governess was the most common employment for women. Women in Victorian era got married at young age as a result of lack of choice and use the marriage to enable their self-improvement. The Middle class is the class that is prominently described by Thackeray. He describes the value of the middle class which placed a greater emphasis on the material achievement. Therefore, bankruptcy has become the fear among the middle class.

B. Approach of the Study

An approach is a significant method to achieve the aim of the research. An approach is a way to investigate the social environment within a literature work, such as a novel. In this analysis, the researcher used sociocultural-historical approach proposed by Rohrberger and Woods. They stated that “literature is not created in a vacuum and second, that literature embodies idea significant of the culture that produced it” (1971:9)

Thackeray had aims when he wrote *Vanity Fair*. Thackeray used the environment around him to create the plot of *Vanity Fair*. *Vanity Fair* conveys a significant ideas, values, or rules of the society in which it occurs.

This sociocultural-historical approach thus helps us a lot in understanding literature from the social and historical point of view. It is from this approach that later we can figure out what’s going on in the society at a particular time and place as exposed in the literary work and also see the effect on the people living in it, i.e. their attitudes and actions.
This approach was used because it is from this approach that the settings and conditions at the time and place of the novel can be revealed. The socio-cultural historical approach is appropriate in order to relate the novel to the condition in Britain in the 19th century. By doing this the researcher acquired a picture or impression at the messages intended to be revealed through the novel, regarding the settings and, social conditions and hypocrisies reflected in the settings in the novel.

C. Method of the study

In doing this research, the researcher did literature study. There were two kinds of data used in this study, i.e. the primary and secondary data. The primary data was the novel, *Vanity Fair*. It was used as the text that was analyzed and was also as a reference to obtain evidence to support the answers to the question in the problem formulations. The secondary data comprised the books that provided criticism on the novel and some critical reviews obtained from some internet sites.

Some procedures have been followed. First step was reading the primary source, *Vanity Fair* novel, in order to get a good understanding of the content of the story. The second step was referring to references that are related to the studies of William Thackeray’s novel and theories of literature focusing on setting and social conditions reflected in the novel. The third step was applying the sociocultural-historical approach in order to relate the novel to the condition in Britain in the 19th century. The fourth step was analyzing the problem formulation. The last step that had to be taken was drawing a conclusion. This part contains the statement based on the answer to the problem and also a broader conclusion that is related to the topic of the study.
CHAPTER IV
ANALYSIS

This chapter is divided into three parts. The first part presents the settings as depicted in the novel. The second part is settings which reflected Victorian Social Conditions and hypocrisies. The third part is the characteristics of Victorian society as revealed in Vanity Fair.

A. Settings as Depicted in the Novel

There are ten settings of place that are worth discussing, namely Chiswick Mall, Russell Square, India, Dr. Swishtail’s School, Royal Gardens, Queen’s Crawley, Miss Crawley's House, Brighton, The Ball in Brussels, and a Local Gambling Place in Germany.

1. Chiswick Mall

The story opened in Miss Pinkerton’s academy for young girls, Chiswick Mall in London, on one clear morning in June. Thackeray gave a clear image on this setting:

While the present century was in its teens, and on one sunshiny morning in June, there drove up to the great iron gate of Miss Pinkerton's academy for young ladies, on Chiswick Mall… (p. 21)  
The academy is for young ladies of high social strata, as it is a luxurious place for studying. The academy has Miss Pinkerton’s shining brass plate, and it is “of stately old brick house” (p.21), with narrow windows and “some geranium-pots in the window” of Miss Jemima Pinkerton’s drawing room. In the drawing room, some refreshments such as “a seed-cake and a bottle of wine” are also served “as on the solemn occasions of the visits of the parents” (p.25).
It was on this academy, however, that Rebecca Sharp, an orphan of poor family, had been brought to teach French for two years. The Chiswick Mall then served also as her home. Here in this Mall, there was “a rigid formality” for her: “the prayers and the meals, the lessons and the walks” which were “arranged with a conventual’s regularity” (p.30). The Mall somehow oppressed her and she didn’t have freedom while living in it. In this novel, it was also described how Rebecca missed her old home in his father’s old studio in Soho. In the Mall, she had “a little room in the garret” where she often cried at night. It was in this academy that “the pompous vanity of the old schoolmistress, the foolish good-humor of her sister, the silly chat and scandal of the elder girls, and the frigid correctness of the governesses” took place (p.30). This academy, however, was also a place for Rebecca to develop her musical and linguistic ability, although she taught herself by listening only (p.31). All in all, Rebecca hated this place. In this place she was not honored since she came from a poor family, whereas the academy was only meant for those wealthy families.

2. Russell Square

Then the story moved to Russell Square, the Sedley family residence. The house of the Sedleys was big; it had some halls and many rooms, including the drawing-room and housekeeper’s room. It was clearly described in the novel that this house was evidence of how noble and wealthy the Sedley were…; and that night in a conversation which took place in a front room in the second floor, in a sort of tent, hung round with chintz of a rich and fantastic India pattern, and double with calico of a tender rose-color; in the interior of which species of marquee was a featherbed, on which were two pillows, on which were two round red faces, one in a laced nightcap, and one in a simple cotton one, ending in a tassel… (p.43)
Dining room in Russell Square was often used not only for dining, but also for drinking, as it can be seen in a scene where George Osborne and Joseph Sedley drink “a fitting quantity of port-wine, tête-à-tête, in the dining room” (p.44). The drawing-room, however, was used for chatting, relaxing and amusement, such as drinking and playing piano along with singing. One scene described Amelia Sedley doing “the honors of the drawing-room” and the four young persons (Amelia, Rebecca, Joseph and George) passed “such a comfortable evening together” (p.44-45). While George and Amelia moved toward the piano, which was “situated, as pianos usually were, in the back drawing-room”, Joseph was doing “tête-à-tête with Rebecca, at the drawing-room table,” where the latter was “occupied in knitting a green silk purse” (p. 46).

In this house, Rebecca first thought of marrying a rich unmarried man, Joseph Sedley (p.34). It is also in this place that Rebecca experienced plenty of gaiety and was amused by John Sedley’s practical jokes (p.37).

3. India

There was a place in East India, located in Bengal, called Boggley Wollah. This was where Joseph Sedley worked as a collector. This place was “an honorable and lucrative post” and “was situated in a fine lonely, marshy, jingly district, famous for snipe-shooting,” and “where not frequently you might flush a tiger” (p.36). There was also a town near Boggley Wollah, namely Ramgunge, “where there was a magistrate, about forty miles off”, and “there was a cavalry station about thirty miles farther” (p.36-37). Boggley Wollah played an important part in Joseph’s life as he had been living there for about eight years.
Joseph also described about India, its social activities and tiger hunt to Rebecca:

Miss Rebecca asked him a great number of questions about India, … He described the balls at Government House, and the manner in which they kept themselves cool in the hot weather, with punkahs, tatties, and other contrivances; and he was very witty regarding the number of Scothmen whom Lord Minto, the Governor-General, patronized; and then he described a tiger-hunt; and the manner in which the mahout of his elephant had been pulled off his seat by one of the infuriated animals (p.47).

4. Dr. Swishtail’s School

In Dr. Swishtail’s school, we were introduced to the young William Dobbin. In this school too, social class differentiation was often emphasized. There were bullies everywhere in this school, and those being bullied were students of lower class, like Dobbin. He was often mocked because his father was “a grocer in the City” and “his father paid the school tuition with goods, not money” (p.51). In the school, there was “a remote outhouse in the playground”, where Dobbin passed “a half-holiday in the bitterest sadness and woe” (p.52). It was in this school that Dobbin foughts Cuff, a boy of high social status, in defend for little George Osborne, and this was where their deep friendship began. Dobbin won the fight, and that moved him “triumphantly out of the little-boy class into the middle-sized form” and earned “a fair place for him” (p.57).

5. Royal Gardens

This place was the place where the Vauxhall party was held. The Vauxhall party at Royal Gardens was one of the greatest party in town, and was attended by many high social class people. George, Dobbin, Amelia, Rebecca and Joseph went to this place. Here the author describes precisely what the party at Royal Gardens was like; we could see a lot of social activities:
..., that of all the delights of the Gardens; of the hundred thousand extra lamps, which were always lighted; the fiddlers midst of the gardens; the singers, both of comic and sentimental ballads, who charmed the ears there; the country dances, formed by bouncing cockneys and cockneyisms, and executed amidst jumping, thumping and laughter; the signal which announced that Madame Saqui was about to mount skyward on a slack- rope ascending to the stars; the hermit that always sat in the illuminated hermitage; the dark walks, so favorable to the interviews of young lovers; the pots of stout handed about by the people in the shabby old liveries; and the twinkling boxes, in which the happy feasters made believe to eat slices of almost invisible ham—of all these things, and of the gentle Simpson, that kind smiling idiot… (p.63)

The party held in this place usually made “parties of two and two”; they “keep together during the evening”, and separate “ten minutes afterwards”. They would “meet again at supper-time, when they could talk of their mutual adventures in the interval” (p.63). People went in this party usually by couple; there was a box where the separated couples could meet, “where the most delightful and intimate conversation” took place (p.64).

6. Queen’s Crawley

We could see that Rebecca was brought to the Crawleys to work as a governess for their two daughters. Queen’s Crawley was the place where the Crawleys lived, except for Sir Pitt Crawley, who had additional town house miles away from Queen’s Crawley.

Queen Elizabeth was the one who named this place as Queen’s Crawley. As a matter of fact, she visited this place for breakfast, and was so “delighted with some remarkably fine Hampshire beer” served by “the Crawley of the day”. From that day, it took the name of Queen’s Crawley (p.71).
Queen’s Crawley was “an odious old-fashioned red-brick mansion, with tall chimneys and gables of the style of Queen Bess and “there was a terrace flanked by the family dove and serpent, and on which the great-hall opened” (p.80). The great hall was “as big and as glum as the great hall in the dear castle of Udolpho” (p.80). Rebecca described this place in her letter to Amelia:

It has a large fireplace, in which we might put half Miss Pinkerton's school, and the gate is big enough to roast an ox at the very least. Round the room hang I don't know how many generations of Crawleys, some with beards and ruffs, some with huge wigs and toes turned out, some dressed in long straight stays and gowns that look as stiff as towers, and some with long ringlets, and oh, my dear! Scarcely any stays at all. At one end of the hall is the great staircase all in black oak, as dismal as may be, and on either side are tall doors with stags' heads over them, leading to the billiard-room and the library, and the great yellow saloon and the morning-rooms. I think there are at least twenty bedrooms on the first floor; one of them has the bed in which Queen Elizabeth slept; and I have been taken by my new pupils through all these fine apartments this morning. They are not rendered less gloomy, I promise you, by having the shutters always shut; and there is scarce one of the apartments, but when the light was let into it, I expected to see a ghost in the room. We have a schoolroom on the second floor, with my bedroom leading into it on one side, and that of the young ladies on the other. Then there are Mr. Pitt's apartments—Mr. Crawley, he is called—the eldest son, and Mr. Rawdon Crawley's rooms—he is an officer like SOMEBODY, and away with his regiment. There is no want of room I assure you. You might lodge all the people in Russell Square in the house, I think, and have space to spare (p.80-81).

There was a little drawing-room where they usually had dinner in it (p.81).

This room played an important role in Rebecca’s life as it was the place where her ambition as a social climber began.

*Miss Crawley's House*

Rebecca was brought by Miss Crawley to her house in London. The house was located in Park Lane, Brighton.

About this time there drove up to an exceedingly snug and well- appointed house in Park Lane, a travelling chariot with a lozenge on the panels, a
discontented female in a green veil and crimped curls on the rumble, and a large and confidential man on the box. It was the equipage of our friend Miss Crawley, returning from Hants. (p. 125)

8. Brighton

Brighton provided a blue sea for travelers and it “always looks brisk, gay, and gaudy, like a harlequin's jacket—for Brighton, which used to be seven hours distant from London at the time of our story; which is now only a hundred minutes off;… (p 202)” This was the place where George and Amelia spent their honeymoon after their marriage

Our young bride and bridegroom had chosen Brighton as the place where they would pass the first few days after their marriage; and having engaged apartments at the Ship Inn, enjoyed themselves there in great comfort and quietude, until Jos presently joined them. (204)

They also came across Becky and Rawdon at Brighton. They lived in an apartment after they were sent out of Miss Crawley’s house, since their marriage was not given approval. Apparently, Rebecca really loved Rawdon so that she was willing to live in an apartment.

"A comfortable inn in Brighton is better than a sponging-house in Chancery Lane," his wife answered, who was of a more cheerful temperament. (p. 231)

9. The Ball in Brussels

On the 15th of June in 1815, there was a ball in Brussels, to which most of the officers and their wives were invited. Brussels could offer many pleasures.

Everyday during this happy time there was novelty and amusement for all parties. There was a church to see, or a picture gallery—there was a ride, or an opera. The bands of the regiments were making music at all hours. The greatest folks of England walked in the park—there were a perpetual military festival (257)
10. **A Local gambling place in Germany**

After Rawdon’s death, his son, Rawdy, was left in the care of his aunt and uncle, Rebecca went to Germany. In Germany, she made her living by exploiting her wit and her charm.

Becky—must it be owned?—took to this life, and took to it not unkindly. She went about from town to town among these Bohemians. The lucky Mrs. Rawdon was known at every play-table in Germany. She and Madame de Cruchecassee kept house at Florence together (p.596).

**A b. Social Circumstances Reflected in the Novel**

Setting refers not only to the description of place where the story took place but also to the inclusion of social circumstances which heavily influenced the story. Vanity Fair illustrated social circumstances that appeared characteristics of Victorian Society.

1. **Morality**

Morality can be described as involving right or wrong: relating to issue of right and wrong and how individuals should behave. Morality can be seen from the relationship between mother and son. A mother should show caring attitude to her son, not neglecting him. A caring mother also should not treat her son roughly. But, the reverse attitude happened to Becky. She struck her son with boxes when her son knew about her relationship with Lord Steyne, as revealed in the sentence:

His mother came out and struck him violently a couple of boxes on the ear (Thackeray, 1954:412)

As seen on quotation on page 412, Becky came out and struck her son with boxes. This incident happened when Becky realized that her son knew about her relation with Lord Steyne.
Victorian society also revealed the fact of hypocrisy, where somebody pretended to be holly person, somebody with no sin but she/he did something wrong. Hypocrisy was shown by the character of Becky. She pretended to refuse Mr. Sedley’s money that actually she needed for, as described in

… and soon as she had taken leave of Amelia, and counted the guineas which good-natured Mr. Sedley had put into purse for her, and as soon as she had gone wiping her eyes with her handkerchiefs(which operation she concluded the very moment the carriage had turned the corner of the street)… (72)

2. Money oriented

Victorian Society grew as materialistic people since industrial growth in England. They measured all things from money and wealth. The economic system of industrial revolution triggered the people to respect each other from the money. Having a lot of money made somebody powerful because she/he could use it to influence other people. Having money also indicated that she/he could expand the business bigger because she/he wanted more profit, as shown by Amelia/s brother, Joseph Sedley. He went to India as debt collector. This proved that Joseph Sedley was expanding his business to obtain more revenue, as described

He was in the East India company’s civil service, and his name appeared, in the Bengal division of the East India register, as collector of Boggley Wollah”(36)

3. System of Family Life

Victorian society was known with its patriarchal mindset. Men determined qualification of good women from their ability to sing, play music instrument and speak in Italian and French. Further they demanded women to stay at home,
bringing up children and house affairs. Men tended to work out of home. A woman had to obey her husband because she was law responsible to him.

Victorian marriage was a patriarchal authorian institution where the husband was a family protector and representative, while the mother was to be submissive and fruitful. A woman should make a home comfort for her children and her husband. A woman’s main duty was to bear a large family and to maintain a smooth family atmosphere so that a man did not need to bother himself with domestic matters. (http://members.lycos.co.uk/HastingHistory/19/overview.htm)

Mrs. Sedley was the representation of ideal women in Vanity Fair. Amelia inherited her mother’s kindness and compassion to others.

It now became clear to every soul in the house, except poor Amelia, that Rebecca should take her departure, and high and low (always with the one exception) agreed that event should take place as speedily as possible. Our good child ransacked all her drawers, cupboards, reticules, and gimcrack to make a little heap for Rebecca. And going to her papa, that generous British merchant, who had promised to give her as many guineas as she was years old-she begged the old gentleman to give the money to dear Rebecca, who must want it, while she lacked for nothing. (70)

4. Love affair

Victorian society revealed moral degradation in marital relationship that was love affair. Love affair was common happened in England at that time. Legal spouses sometimes played cheat behind, as shown by Becky. She had a good and caring husband, Rawdon, but she could not keep her loyalty to her husband. She made love affair with Lord Steyne as described in the novel

He had her hand in his, and was bowing over it to kiss it, when Becky started up with a faint scream as she caught sight of Rawdon's white face.
At the next instant she tried a smile, a horrid smile, as if to welcome her husband; and Steyne rose up, grinding his teeth, pale, and with fury in his looks. (492)

B. Settings which Reflected Victorian Social Conditions and Hypocrisies

1. Chiswick Mall

Chiswick Mall was an academy for young girls in London. This academy was only for young ladies of high social strata. Most girls in Victorian Era were not well-educated, because schools were not meant for girls. Only girls from high social strata could study in Chiswick mall. This happened because of the economic pressure at that time. Parents from Lower Class could not pay the fees to study at school.

“MADAM,—After her six years' residence at the Mall, I have the honor and happiness of presenting Miss Amelia Sedley to her parents, as a young lady not unworthy to occupy a fitting position in their polished and refined circle. Those virtues which characterize the young English gentlewoman, those accomplishments which become her birth and station, will not be found wanting in the amiable Miss Sedley, whose INDUSTRY and OBEDIENCE have endeared her to her instructors, and whose delightful sweetness of temper has charmed her AGED and her YOUTHFUL companions….” (22)

Chiswick Mall showed social structure and its social aspect, such as money and position were important things in Victorian era. People considered that wealth and social status were the parameter by which to assess people. For example, Miss Pinkerton obviously respected Miss Sedley, because her father was rich, unlike Miss Sharp who was a poor orphan. Miss Pinkerton treated Miss Sharp badly.
Miss Sedley's papa was a merchant in London, and a man of some wealth; whereas Miss Sharp was an articled pupil, for whom Miss Pinkerton had done, as she thought, quite enough, without conferring upon her at parting the high honor of the Dixonary. (23)

The hypocrisy found in Chiswick Mall was the snobbery of Miss Pinkerton. Snobbery was reflected in the behaviour of classes wishing to secure a position in the society. As a matter of fact, Miss Pinkerton did not know any French, but her snobbery forbade her from admitting this. Therefore she pretended that she understood French in front of her students. She did not want to be seen as an unskilled teacher.

Miss Pinkerton did not understand French; she only directed those who did: but biting her lips and throwing up her venerable and Romannosed head (on the top of which figured a large and solemn turban), she said, "Miss Sharp, I wish you a good morning." (25)

Becky Sharp and Amelia Sedley became good friends in Miss Pinkerton’s academy. Becky was not a student in the academy. She was there to teach French in return for free lodging and a little money in order to gain knowledge from the professors. Becky’s and Amelia’s friendship was not appropriate at that time, because they came from a different social class. Becky Sharp came from the lower class, while Amelia came from the middle class. The social value reflected in the setting was the friendship between Amelia and Becky although they were from different social classes.

And as Miss Sedley, being now in her seventeenth year, was about to leave school, and had a friendship for Miss Sharp ("tis the only point in Amelia's behavior," said Minerva, "which has not been satisfactory to her mistress"), Miss Sharp was invited by her friend to pass a week with her at home, before she entered upon her duties as governess in a private family. (32)
Chiswick Mall showed the aspect of humanity, that was the friendship of Becky and Amelia. Friendship was accepting the weakness and the strength of each other as well. This relationship was shown by Becky and Amelia. Amelia felt at ease in making friends with Becky because Amelia was very humble and sweet-tempered. The other reason was she was strengthened by Becky’s character. Meanwhile in Becky’s side, she could raise her social status by making friends with Amelia.

2. **Russell Square**

Russell Square was the Sedley’s family residence. In this house, Rebecca first thought of marrying a man for the wealth to upgrade her social status. The man was Joseph Sedley, Amelia’s brother. Joseph Sedley was a timid man, yet he was wealthy, his family was wealthy, and he came from a respectable family. Marriage was considered as one way of securing someone’s future. Becky saw Joseph Sedley as her way to secure her future and upgrade her social status.

Becky was determined to marry a rich man because she had a bad childhood. She came from a poor family, her dead mother had been a French opera girl and her father had been a painter, who died when Becky was a teenager. She had nothing from her childhood, whereas she thus wanted more. All her life, she wanted to change her fate. She tried to bring herself up in the society little by little with her charm, wit, and intelligence. She thought that marrying a rich man would provide a way to achieve a higher social and economic status, so her bad fate would change. She either got married for wealth or for a royal title.
…"If Mr. Joseph Sedley is rich and unmarried, why should I not marry him? I have only a fortnight, to be sure, but there is no harm in trying." And she determined within herself to make this laudable attempt…." (33-34)

As a matter of fact, marriage in the Victorian era was arranged by the parents. The parents would choose future spouse for their children. Since Becky had no parents anymore, she would find her future husband herself. As a contrast, it had been arranged that Amelia Sedley would marry George Osborne, a good friend of the family.

… and she looked at him for a moment, and if I should say that they fell in love with each other at that single instant of time, I should perhaps be telling an untruth, for the fact is that these two young people had been bred up by their parents for this very purpose, …. (46)

Hypocrisy is shown in this part. Becky pretended to have good behaviors in front of the people. She covered herself and her secret desire. In front of other people, she presented the good behavior; so that the society really thought she was good. As a matter of fact, she was not how she presented herself. She performed a certain action, because she was up to something.

"He's very handsome," whispered Rebecca to Amelia, rather loud. "Do you think so?" said the latter. "I'll tell him."
"Darling! Not for words," said Miss Sharp, starting back as timid as a fawn. She had previously made a respectful virgin-like curtsey to the gentleman, and her modest eyes gazed so perseveringly on the carpet that it was a wonder how she should have found an opportunity to see him. (34)

Rebecca’s behavior and attitude towards Joseph Sedley revealed the pretense she used to attract Joseph into loving her. Rebecca was playing tricks on Joseph with her beauty, and wit.
... She was dressed in white, with bare shoulders as white as snow—the picture of youth, unprotected innocence, and humble virgin simplicity. "I must be very quiet," thought Rebecca, "and very much interested about India." (38)

Russel Square also revealed economic aspect, as shown by Sedley’s bankruptcy. For middle class society, bankruptcy was the most awful moment for them. The economic condition in this era was rather unstable. A slight mistake in investment would make people go bankrupt. When they got bankrupt, their belongings were sold at auction to pay for the loss in investment. This happened to the Sedleys. Their belongings had to be sold at auction to cover their lost in investment. They were forced to leave the house and lived as tenants in the cottage of Mr. Sedley’s clerk.

The sale was at the old house in Russell Square, where we passed some evenings together at the beginning of this story. Good old John Sedley was a ruined man. His name had been proclaimed as a defaulter on the Stock Exchange, and his bankruptcy and commercial extermination had followed. (156)

3. **India**

This was the place where Joseph Sedley lived and worked as a collector in East India. Joseph was a rich man, because of his job in India. He enjoyed his work in India very much and he also enjoyed himself there. As one of the British colonies, India had become another place for government post, military post and also a holiday retreat for some English people. Working in India became a good career for the middle class to fulfill their dream to earn money.

Miss Rebecca asked him a great number of questions about India, ... He described the balls at Government House, and the manner in which they kept themselves cool in the hot weather, with punkahs, tatties, and other contrivances; and he was very witty regarding the number of Scothmen
whom Lord Minto, the Governor-General, patronized; and then he described a tiger-hunt; and the manner in which the mahout of his elephant had been pulled off his seat by one of the infuriated animals (p.47).

What happened in India taught readers how hard it is to reach the dream. As shown by Jos Sedley that he went to India to earn more money. Choosing India as a place where he wanted to work was a correct option. It proved Sedley knew how to raise his social status by working hard in India. Sedley achieved many things in India. What was being underlined in this case was there was no instant way to gain his career. Sedley did not want his life to be stagnant in England. Indirectly India presented the value of human characteristic to be hard worker.

4. **Dr. Swishtail’s School**

This was where William Dobbin and George Osborne went to school. Even at school, social class differentiation was already being shown. As the son of a grocer, William was continually bullied. Other students also made fun of his parent’s job. Even George Osborne, whose father was a merchant, also mocked William.

Young Dobbin had no peace after that. The jokes were frightful, and merciless against him.” Hullo, Dobbin," one wag would say, "Here’s good news in the paper. Sugars are ris', my boy." Another would set a sum.” If a pound of mutton-candles cost seven pence-halfpenny, how much must Dobbin cost?" and a roar would follow from all the circle of young knaves, usher and all, who rightly considered that the selling of goods by retail is a shameful and infamous practice, meriting the contempt and scorn of all real gentlemen. (51-52)

One day, George Osborne was being bullied by a bigger boy named Cuff and Dobbin was defending George. After Dobbin won, everybody showed more respect to him. Nevertheless, because of his compassion for George, Dobbin chose to protect and love George.
… He chose, from some perverseness, to attribute his good fortune to the sole agency and benevolence of little George Osborne, to whom henceforth he vowed such a love and affection as is only felt by children.

This college revealed aspect of education and compassion. For Victorian men, education was easier to achieve than women. Dobbin, who was from lower class, could go public school to reach higher education. Thus, the Victorian value here was compassion. Dobbins’s compassion for George strengthened his character as an English gentleman. A man of any class who had the requisite character and integrity could be a gentleman.

5. **Royal Gardens**

Royal Gardens was the place where the Vauxhall party was held. People went there to enjoy themselves with music and drinking. It showed the social condition of that time that social drinking between couples and friends was widely accepted. Drinking was unquestionably the favorite leisure activity for people in Victorian Era.

The two couples were perfectly happy then in their box: where the most delightful and intimate conversation took place. Jos was in his glory, ordering about the waiters with great majesty. He made the salad; and uncorked the Champagne; and carved the chickens; and ate and drank the greater part of the refreshments on the tables. Finally, he insisted upon having a bowl of rack punch; everybody had rack punch at Vauxhall. "Waiter, rack punch." (64)

Joseph Sedley was planned to propose to Becky Sharp. Joseph’s parents were considering the good and bad aspects of approving Becky as Joseph’s spouse.

Every soul in the coach agreed that on that night Josh would propose to make Rebecca Sharp Mrs. Sedley. The parents at home had acquiesced in the arrangement, though, between us, old Mr. Sedley had a feeling very much akin to contempt for his son. (61)
6. **Queen’s Crawley**

Queen Crawley was the place where the Crawley’s live. This was the place where Becky’s ambition as a social climber began to take effect. She started as a governess to Sir Pitt Crawley’s daughters to teach them basic education.

… by whom he had two daughters, for whose benefit Miss Rebecca Sharp was now engaged as governess. It will be seen that the young lady was come into a family of very genteel cognitions, and was about to move in a much more distinguished circle than that humble one which she had just quitted in Russell Square…. (72)

As a governess, Becky was stuck in the middle between her employer and the other employee. She could not make herself equal to her employer, because she was not of the same rank as her employer. On the other hand, she was of a higher rank than the other employee, which did not make them suitable for her. When she ate, she ate without any company. Queen Crawley showed women employment where Becky started her career as governess. Becky represented a woman with high ambition and perseverance

"Not let Miss Sharp dines at table!" said she to Sir Pitt, who had arranged a dinner of ceremony, and asked all the neighboring baronets. "My dear creatures, do you suppose I can talk about the nursery with Lady Fuddlestone, or discuss justices' business with that goose, old Sir Giles Wapshot? I insist upon Miss Sharp appearing. Let Lady Crawley remain upstairs, if there is no room. But little Miss Sharp! Why, she's the only person fit to talk to in the county!" (104)

Some governesses might end up without any spouse. The revelation to Miss Crawley, of the marriage between Becky and Rawdon Crawley, had caused him to be erased from her will.

There was a drawing room where they usually had dinner in it. This dining room played an important role in Rebecca’s life as a social climber while
interacting with Miss Crawley, because it was the starting point for Becky that she was accepted to enter higher social status.

Becky had a strategy to elevate her status. By being occupied as a governess, she had drawn one step closer to her ambition. Even though she met difficult situation, Becky attempted to gain a higher status.

7. Miss Crawley's House

Miss Crawley was a rich woman, because she inherited her mother's large fortune. She intended to divide her inheritance between Sir Pitt's second son and the family at the Rectory. Consequently, she was respected when she came to Queens Crawley. She was also respected at her house in Park Lane, London. She gained respect from Miss Briggs, Becky and her relatives because of her fortune. People tried to entertain her and make her comfortable when she was sick, because they were expecting share of her fortune in her will.

… all the families were in a fever of expectation regarding the will, and Rawdon Crawley was making sure of at least forty thousand pounds before the commencement of the London season. Mr. Crawley sent over a choice parcel of tracts, to prepare her for the change from Vanity Fair and Park Lane for another world; …. (129)

What Becky did in Miss Crawley’s house showed hypocrisy. In this place Becky hid her intention to get her own benefit. Becky represented an opportunistic person. She pretended to be nice woman to attract Miss Crawley in order to marry with Rawdon Crawley.

This was also the place where Becky tried to manipulate Miss Crawley for her own benefit. Becky used her charm to attract Miss Crawley’s sympathy to her. She was nice to Miss Crawley and tried to get as close as she could to her, because
Becky wanted to make Rawdon Crawley, Miss Crawley’s heir, her husband. Becky managed to become her confidante, and also Rawdon’s wife, but failed to get her fortune, because Rawdon was erased from her will.

… She rallied him about it; she had perceived his folly; she warned him; she finished by owning that little Sharp was the most clever, droll, odd, good-natured, simple, kindly creature in England. Rawdon must not trifle with her affections, though—dear Miss Crawley would never pardon him for that; for she, too, was quite overcome by the little governess, and loved Sharp like a daughter…. (130)

Occurrences in Miss Crawley house revealed hypocrisy of pretense and deceitfulness. Becky played her role as a good person here to attract Miss Crawley and she lied about her mother being a Montmorency, a prominent family in France. In fact, she had been an ordinary person and had not had a noble lineage. She lied because she was in a place where people did not respect others. They only respected status. Becky was frightened that people would underestimate her. She deceived about her mother to gain respect from Miss Crawley and Rawdon, and not to be humiliated.

"Do you suppose I have no feeling of self-respect, because I am poor and friendless, and because rich people have none? Do you think, because I am a governess, I have not as much sense, and feeling, and good breeding as you gentlefolk’s in Hampshire? I'm a Montmorency. Do you suppose a Montmorency is not as good as a Crawley?" (131).

8. **Brighton**

Down by the sea at Brighton. George and his wife, Amelia, were enjoying their honeymoon. After George Osborne refused his father’s will to marry Miss Swartz, George was persuaded by Dobbin to marry Amelia Sedley whom he was beginning to love. Although at first they were matched by the parents, gradually love came. George could not betray his love for Amelia by marrying Miss Swartz
for the money.

"I've done it," said George, coming into the Slaughters' an hour afterwards, looking very pale.  
"What, my boy?" says Dobbin.  
George told what had passed between his father and himself. "I'll marry her to-morrow," he said with an oath. "I love her more every day, Dobbin." (198)

On one hand, there was George Osborne’s love to Amelia; on the other hand, there was the old Osborne’s passion for money and status. In Victorian marriage, people always calculated whether or not marriage was profitable. It was shown by Old Osborne. When the old Osborne knew that Amelia Sedley had lost her wealth, he ordered his son George Osborne to cancel the plan to marry her and marry Miss Swartz instead, because she was rich. He did this without even considering the growing feeling between George and Amelia. He deliberately broke the agreement between him and Mr. Sedley about George and Amelia’s engagement. The most important things for him were money, status, and success. It showed the social condition that parents considered economic status when they chose a wife for their son.

… that if he didn't marry Miss S., he might at least have an engagement in writing, to come into effect when he returned to England; and that a man who could get ten thousand a year by staying at home, was a fool to risk his life abroad.  
"So that you would have me shown up as a coward, sir, and our name dishonored for the sake of Miss Swartz's money," George interposed. (193)

Dobbin persuaded George to marry Amelia, therefore old Osborne become very angry. At Brighton, George, meanwhile, was very anxious to know the result of Dobbins’s visit to his father. When George and Dobbin were alone, Dobbin gave his father’s letter. This letter told him that old Mr. Osborne no longer
considered George a member of his family.

9.  The Ball in Brussels

A ball in Brussels was an occasion held for military officers of all ranks. Everyone was busy getting acquainted with people of higher rank with the expectation that they would be remembered and appointed to higher status in the military.

"My dear Captain George!" cried little Rebecca in an ecstasy. "How good of you to come. The General and I were moping together tête-à-tête. General, this is my Captain George of whom you heard me talk." "Indeed," said the General, with a very small bow; "of what regiment is Captain George?" George mentioned the —Th: how he wished he could have said it was a crack cavalry corps. "Come home lately from the West Indies, I believe. Not seen much service in the late war. Quartered here, Captain George?"—the General went on with killing haughtiness. "Not Captain George, you stupid man; Captain Osborne," Rebecca said. The General all the while was looking savagely from one to the other. "Captain Osborne, indeed! Any relation to the L——— Osborne’s?" (263)

The ball in Brussels showed the situation of hypocrisy for instance insincerity. People would always try to introduce themselves to someone who was in a high position. In this novel, Becky tried to raise her husband’s dignity and identity by attempting to impress the general and gain his friendship. Becky has some reason, she wanted to raise her and her husband social status and be recognized as an important person with a certain status. The ball was an occasion to make friends and being a fine person was an absolute way to attract someone else’s interest to approach them. People needed to be friendly in interacting with other people, especially in social situation.

The ball in Brussels, it was obviously seen that Becky was very socially fluent. She knew a lot of important people and they knew her too. The ball also
showed how fluent Rebecca was in social intercourse. She could mingle with everybody easily.

…Mrs. Rawdon Crawley's debut was, on the contrary, very brilliant. She arrived very late. Her face was radiant; her dress perfection. In the midst of the great persons assembled, and the eye-glasses directed to her, Rebecca seemed to be as cool and collected as when she used to marshal Miss Pinkerton's little girls to church. Numbers of the men she knew already, and the dandies thronged round her. (268)

10. A Local gambling place in Germany

In Germany, Joseph met Becky again in the public gambling house. Since then Becky had wandered about the world, getting even poorer as the years went by. When she had money, she gambled. When she lost, she found it a hard matter to live; so that meeting Joseph Sedley again meant a great deal to her. Becky determined that Amelia's brother should not escape from her the second time.

"Yes; ay nap after dinner," said the mask archly. But Jos looking frightened, she continued, in her pretty French accent, "You do not play to win. No more do me. I play to forget, but I cannot. I cannot forget old times, monsieur. Your little nephew is the image of his father; and you—you are not changed—but yes, you are. Everybody changes, everybody forgets; nobody has any heart."
"Good God, who is it?" asked Jos in a flutter.
"Can't you guess, Joseph Sedley?" said the little woman in a sad voice, and undoing her mask, she looked at him. "You have forgotten me."
"Good heavens! Mrs. Crawley!" gasped out Jos.
"Rebecca," said the other, putting her hand on his; but she followed the game still, all the time she was looking at him. (587)

The social condition reflected in the setting was gambling. Gambling became a trend/popular. It was an acceptable way of living because of the economic unpredictability and instability of capitalism.

People wanted to live properly but they received low wage. As consequence, gambling was the only way to reach more money. People in
Victorian Era gambled because they were lazy to work. Gambling was the easiest way to earn money.

Particularly, to Becky, this was how she made money. She was skillful in various games; cards and billiard. The more frequent she played, the more skillful she was.

..., the mania for play was so widely spread that the public gambling-rooms did not suffice for the general ardour, and gambling went on in private houses as much as if there had been no public means for gratifying the passion. At Crawley's charming little reunions of an evening this fatal amusement commonly was practiced—much to good- natured little Mrs. Crawley's annoyance. (339)

C. The Characteristics of Victorian Society as Revealed in Vanity Fair.

1. Hypocritical

Hypocrisy is an attitude of being pretender. The people in Victorian Era were good at hiding their real intention. They pretended to be good people and covered their behavior with nice words and politeness, but they had particular intention.

Hypocrisy here was shown by the duplicity of Becky in climbing the social strata. Her speech and behavior to one person and another might be different, only to raise herself or to secure her future with money.

"What an accomplished little devil it is!" thought he. "What a splendid actress and manager! She had almost got a second supply out of me the other day; with her coaxing ways. She beats all the women I have ever seen in the course of all my well-spent life. They are babies compared to her. I am a greenhorn myself, and a fool in her hands—an old fool. She is unsurpassable in lies." His lordship's admiration for Becky rose immeasurably at this proof of her cleverness. Getting the money was nothing—but getting double the sum she wanted, and paying nobody—it was a magnificent stroke. (483)
Another hypocritical person was Lord Steyne. He pretended to be a gentleman in front of the public by treating his wife in a polite way.

Despite his open womanizing and other vices, his “distinguished courtesy” toward his wife in public “caused the severest critics to admit how perfect a gentleman he was and to own that his lordship’s heart at least was in the right place (576)

In private, where society could not see or hear his treatment of his wife or other female dependents, Steyne showed his real character. He was heartless and rude. He verbally abused his wife, Lady Steyne, and daughter-in-law, Lady Gaunt, to force them to invite Becky to their home. He did not care about his wife’s feeling when he wanted to invite another woman to his house without clear reason. Moreover, “to see his wife and daughter suffering always put his Lordship into a good humor” (757).

2. Materialistic

The importance of money in this era had pushed people to do anything to obtain money.

a. in Marriage

Marriage became an institution to allow somebody to marry someone else due to his/her wealth. Marriage no longer became an institution where the spouses love each other and were willing to live in sorrow and joy but was to be a place to use money. Marriage was a cover for someone’s evil will. Instead loving their spouses, they loved the belongings.

Becky’s proposal to get married, secretly at first, to Rawdon Crawley was not for love, but because of the money Rawdon was to inherit from his rich aunt.
If the mere chance of becoming a baronet's daughter can procure a lady such homage in the world, surely, surely we may respect the agonies of a young woman who has lost the opportunity of becoming a baronet’s wife. Who would have dreamed of lady Crawley dying so soon? She was one of those sickly women that might have lasted these ten years-Rebecca thought to herself in all the woes of repentance-and I might have been my lady! I might have led that old man whither I would (146)

It also happened to Lord Steyne, who showed materialistic behavior. It was stated in the middle of an argument between Lord Steyne and Lady George. Lady George wanted to confirm her position in front of her father-in-law by saying: "The money which I brought into the family, sir," Lady George cried out— (450)

b. in Gambling

Gambling was a means to achieve money without working hard. Gambling was an instant way to get money. Gambling became a kind of addiction that influenced people. Gambling seemed to be legal activity that everyone could do.

…, the mania for play was so widely spread that the public gambling-rooms did not suffice for the general ardour, and gambling went on in private houses as much as if there had been no public means for gratifying the passion. At Crawley's charming little reunions of an evening this fatal amusement commonly was practiced—much to good-natured little Mrs. Crawley's annoyance. (339)

c. in wealth

Materialism might be manifested in an attitude of greed; an intention to possess wealth. It seemed like almost everyone in Vanity Fair was greedy. They always wanted more.

… People in Vanity Fair fasten on to rich folks quite naturally. If the simplest people are disposed to look not a little kindly on great Prosperity … if the simple look benevolently on money, how much more do your old worldlings regard it! Their affections rush out to meet and welcome money. (191)
A real example was Becky; it seemed that it was never enough for her. She had got a thousand pounds from Lord Steyne, and she wanted more. She did not even want to share as much as a hundred pounds with her husband to pay for his debt.

3. **Patriarchal**

Victorian era was led by Queen Victoria without rulings the government in her hand. She was just a symbol, but actually men ministers always worked behind her. Victorian era did not pay attention to women’s rights. It was proven that at the time common girls were not allowed to go to school. Only noble women were permitted to go to private schools meanwhile common girls and women from the poor families were not allowed to get such education. Society still considered that men were the ones who would get the best education. The previous sentence proved that men had power to rule women and decide women’s destiny. For example: marriage arrangements were prepared for young girls. Marriage arrangements did not give the opportunity to women to choose their own spouse.

A marriage arrangement was also organized for Amelia Sedley. She was promised in marriage to George Osborne, a good friend of the family.

… and she looked at him for a moment, and if I should say that they fell in love with each other at that single instant of time, I should perhaps be telling an untruth, for the fact is that these two young people had been bred up by their parents for this very purpose, … (46)

Becky’s decision to marry somebody she loved without marriage arrangement showed that she had broken the patriarchal concept. She had the freedom to live with the one she loved without pressure.
If Miss Rebecca Sharp had determined in her heart upon making the conquest of this big beau, I don't think, ladies, we have any right to blame her; for though the task of husband-hunting is generally, and with becoming modesty, entrusted by young persons to their mammas, recollect that Miss Sharp had no kind parent to arrange these delicate matters for her, and that if she did not get a husband for herself, there was no one else in the wide world who would take the trouble off her hands. (35-36)

4 Moral degradation in marital relationship.

As revealed in Vanity Fair, some people showed moral degradation. It means that they had no principles to keep. After a person was married, he/she could not upgrade the title, but he/she could pile up wealth. People in this era considered an affair a normal way to obtain more wealth. They did it for support in money and to secure their future. After Rebecca Sharp and Rawdon Crawley were married, Rawdon was excluded from his aunts' will. Consequently, they had to work hard for their lives, earning money from here and there. Becky had to help her husband with her charm. She was also forced by her condition to have an affair with Lord Steyne in order to pay her debts and to secure her future.

… Rawdon heard laughter within—laughter and singing. Becky was singing a snatch of the song of the night before; a hoarse voice shouted "Brava! Brava!"—it was Lord Steyne's. Rawdon opened the door and went in. A little table with a dinner was laid out—and wine and plate. Steyne was hanging over the sofa on which Becky sat. The wretched woman was in a brilliant full toilette, her arms and all her fingers sparkling with bracelets and rings, and the brilliants on her breast which Steyne had given her. He had her hand in his, and was bowing over it to kiss it, when Becky started up with a faint scream as she caught sight of Rawdon's white face. At the next instant she tried a smile, a horrid smile, as if to welcome her husband; and Steyne rose up, grinding his teeth, pale, and with fury in his looks. (492)
CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION

The researcher has analyzed three problem formulations. These problems are: what settings are found in *Vanity Fair*, how the setting are reflected Victorian social condition and hypocrisies, and what the characteristics of Victorian Society are in *Vanity Fair*.

The researcher found ten settings of place in this novel namely: Chiswick mall, Russell Square, India, Dr. Swistail’s School, Royal gardens, Queen’s Crawley, Miss Crawley’s house, Brighton, the ball in Brussels, and a local gambling place in Germany. *Vanity Fair* illustrated social circumstances that appeared characteristics of Victorian Society for instance morality, money oriented, system of family life, and love affair.

The researcher discovered some Victorian social conditions in each setting of place. The social conditions are divided into some aspects, for example social structure, which consist of money and position were important things in Victorian Era. Social class encouraged people from lower class to raise their economic living. People always tried to reach higher position in society. The social structure as it heavily influenced women’s fate in that era. Women did not have right to choose their own path of life. They did not even have opportunity to have dream. Marriage was a key to get happiness. They got married at a young age as a result of lack of choice.

In addition, Victorian society also described hypocrisy, such as opportunistic, pretense, and deceitfulness. Opportunistic is proved by Becky when
she worked at Miss Crawley’s house. She used the opportunity to close to Miss Crawley to get part of her will. Further, in Victorian Era, people were also good enough to pretend and hide their real intentions as depicted by Lord Steyne within society. Deceitfulness was the peak of people’s attitude that they would dare to cheat and manipulate other people. Besides, the people were lazy about improving their living and depended on gambling to earn money.

The researcher observed that there were some characteristics of Victorian Society in Vanity Fair for instance hypocritical, materialistic, patriarchal, and moral degradation in marital relationship. Hypocrisy was frequently seen in Victorian Era. People liked to hide their emotions and real intentions in order to be considered as good people with good nature. Meanwhile for materiality, the importance of money in this era had pushed people to do anything to obtain money. Furthermore, the patriarchal system was still holding tight, that was proven by Queen Victoria. She ruled the country but actually the ministers made all the policies. Victorian era also allowed affairs within marriage even though they were banned by the religion norms.

Thackeray was criticizing the forgotten moral value in the society. Thackeray emphasized the inappropriate behavior of the people at that time in spite of the values of religion they confessed. Even though, they frequently went to church they still got drunk and gambled.

Thackeray successfully portrayed Victorian Society in Vanity Fair. Through his novel, Thackeray had a message for his own time and also for the present time. Some values are still shown in the modern society, such as morality.
Even though time changes, morality has the same meaning. Each era has a different way to understand morality. Morality is an issue which is important in every era. The values of morality may change from the past to present time but somehow morality issues are just the same. Thackeray showed that hypocrisy, materialism, patriarchy and moral degradation were wrong in Victorian Era and by reading *Vanity Fair*; we can see they are still wrong today
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APPENDICES

1. The summary of *VANITY FAIR*

   The story begins when Rebecca Sharp (Becky) and Amelia Sedley graduate from Miss Pinkerton’s academic school. Becky is a poor woman and comes from the lower class. While studying in Miss Pinkerton’s school Becky is badly treated, except by Amelia. Amelia comes from the middle class, she is sweet and gentle. After graduating, Becky visits Amelia’s house where she meets Amelia’s brother Joseph Sedley.

   Joseph Sedley likes Becky and he thinks that she is a charming woman. Amelia is happy when knowing that Becky and her brother love each other and Amelia held a party for Becky and Joseph. George Osborne, Amelia’s boyfriend, persuades Joseph not to marry Becky because she comes from lower class and he thinks she is a social climber. This makes Becky leave Joseph. And Joseph himself returns to India where he is in military service.

   Being disappointed, Becky leaves Sedley house and finds a job as governess in Crawley’s house. In the house, Becky is loved by Sir Pitt Crawley. Besides Sir Pitt, Rawdon Crawley, Sir Pitt’s son, is also in love with Becky. Sir Pitt proposes to her but she has already secretly married with his son Rawdon Crawley.

   On Amelia’s part, she finally marries George Osborne although George Osborne’s father John Osborne does not want to accept the marriage. He does not like the marriage because Amelia’s father goes bankrupt and they became a poor family. Although his father is opposed to his marriage, George Osborne married Amelia, with the support and persuasion from William Dobbin.
When Amelia and George are in Brighton for their honeymoon, they meet Becky and Rawdon who live there happily. The two couples meet again in Brussels where George falls in love with Becky.

George Osborne became more attracted to Becky. At a ball in Brussels George Osborne gives Becky a note saying that he wants to run away with Becky. but the intention is rejected. The next morning he is sent to Waterloo and dies in battle. Amelia gives birth to a son who is named George. After the death of George Osborne, William Dobbin expresses his love for Amelia, but Amelia can not forget her love for George Osborne. Because he can not receive the love from Amelia, William Dobbin goes to India for four years.

Meanwhile, Becky goes to London and meets Steyne, and he gives her much money and jewelry. The relationship between Becky and Steyne is known by Rawdon. Knowing her disloyalty, he goes out of England. Having lost her husband and credibility, Becky becomes a wanderer in Europe.

As George, Amelia’s son grows up his grandfather likes him and takes care of him. Meanwhile Joseph Sedley and William Dobbin return to England. Dobbin still loves Amelia. But she can not forget her husband. After Mr. Osborne dies, Amelia, Joseph, George, and Dobbin go to Germany, where they meet Becky. At this moment, Becky shows Amelia the note that had been written by George Osborne which said that George Osborne would run away with Becky. This changes the image of George in Amelia’s mind. Finally Amelia opens her heart to Dobbin and marries him.
Becky seduces Joseph Sedley again and finally she is able to control him. Joseph Sedley dies of diseases after giving money to Becky as life insurance. By a twist of fate Rawdon Crawley dies weeks before his elder brother whose son has already died. Thus the baronetcy descends to Rawdon and Becky’s son. Rawdy, Becky’s son declines to see his mother, to whom he makes a liberal allowance. At the end Becky busies herself in works of piety.

2. Biography of Thackeray

William Makepeace Thackeray was born in Calcutta, India, in 1811, son of Richmond Thackeray, an Indian Civil Servant, and his wife Anne (née Becher). Just a few years later his father died, his mother remarried, and the shy and retreating young William was sent to England where he would deal with the harsh realities of isolation and bullying at Charterhouse, a private school in London. He went on to attend Trinity College, Cambridge, then studied law at the Middle Temple School, but soon after went to Paris to unsuccessfully try his hand at painting. It was in Paris that he met and married Isabella Shawe (1816–1893) in 1836.

Back in England and suffering massive financial losses, Thackeray started writing articles, reviews, essays and sketches as a journalist. Travel articles about France such as his Paris Sketch Book (1840) and The Yellowplush Correspondence (1841) were among his first efforts appearing in various magazines and journals including Fraser's, Punch, and The Times. He also illustrated many of his own works. After the birth of Harriet, Isabella started on
what was to be, until her death, numerous bouts of depression, an extensive search for a cure, and ultimately a slow spiral to insanity. She would live apart from William, rarely seeing him or her daughters. Ever the doting father, Thackeray remained close to his daughters all his life. Anne was his secretary for a while and they both lived with him at his house in London before marrying. The disintegration of his marriage however would have a profound effect on his life and be reflected in the characters of his novels.

Haunting the Literary Clubs of London including the Garrick Club, Thackeray also traveled the Mediterranean, A Journey from Cornhill to Grand Cairo (1846) the result. Book of Snobs (1848) and Vanity Fair (1848) followed soon after, but it was not until The History of Pendennis (1850), his semi-autobiographical novel that Thackeray's success as a humorist was confirmed. He then embarked on a series of lectures published as English Humorists of the Eighteenth Century (1851) and Four Georges (1860).

In 1860 Thackeray became editor of the monthly literary journal Cornhill Magazine, but died suddenly three years later, in 1863, at the age of fifty two. He lies buried beside his mother in the Victorian Garden cemetery Kensal Green in London, England (http//: www.online-literature.com/thackeray)