



**THE EFFECT OF THE EXTERNAL CONFLICT IN THE FILM
“FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE”
DIRECTED BY DAVID YATES USING KENNEY’S THEORY**

**Presented as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Undergraduate
Program**

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“Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets Of Dumbledore” Directed By
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STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I honestly declare that this thesis is my own writing, and it is true that I do not take any scholarly ideas or work from others. Those all cited works are quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing.

Tangerang, July 24th 2023



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ABSTRACT

Conflict is disagreement, clash, or struggle between two or more people. One form of conflict is called external conflict which type of conflict that occurs between a person against other external forces such as other characters, nature, or society. The purpose of this study is to analyze the effects of the external conflict that happened in the film *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*, how the effects affect the plot and storyline, and also what kind of effects can be considered negative and positive. The writer uses the external conflict theory by Kenney (1966) to determine the kinds of external conflict and finds two types of external conflict that occurred in this film, they are Man vs. Man and Man vs. Society conflict. The writer finds there are four effects of external conflict, those effects are creating tension and drama, revealing important aspects of the characters, contributing to the themes and messages of the film, and acting as a catalyst for character development. Revealing important aspects of characters, and acting as catalyst for character development can be decided as the positive effects. While tension and drama, and also racism, homosexuality, and animal violence as the themes of this film can be concluded as negative effects. of In this study, the writer uses the qualitative method to collect all the research data.

Keywords: *external conflict, film, conflict, effects, fantastic beast*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Films as part of literary works are powerful means of presenting beloved stories to new audiences, providing dynamic visual interpretations to complement the storyline, and ultimately enriching our understanding of the source material and its lasting cultural significance.

Literature is one of the results of human thoughts which contains the imagination and life experiences of the author. Those ideas are poured into some kinds of romantic, comedy, slice of life, fantasy, and other forms of stories. An author often pours his idealism, creativity, life experiences, and feelings into his work. It can be said that literature is part of the author himself. According to Greil Marcus and Werner Sollor (2009), “Literary means not only what is written but what is voiced, what is expressed, and what is invented, in whatever form”. From the statement above, we know that literature can be seen through novels, poems, drama/plays, short stories, songs, and films.

As one of literary works, films show us the depiction of a different world which is sometimes difficult to understand if we only read about that. The films make literary works look more realistic. In Hornby (2006: 950), film means a series of moving pictures recorded with a sound that tells a story, shown at a cinema/movie. From that statement, the films are real-life version of written literary works, and through films, we can see how written literary works would appear as

if in real life, and hear directly the dialogues in the story. It makes the audience feel as if they are part of the story.

In films, conflict is one of the important driving aspects to push the storyline to its closure, and is an enticing element to the audiences. The conflict that we often discover in films is the external conflict, which develops because of the disagreement between the characters. The external conflict can produce many impacts on the story and it affects the characters. Those effects can be seen as the goal that the filmmaker or producer wants to achieve to finalize the whole story.

The external conflict can be seen in the film “Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore” directed by David Yates and released in 2022. This film is the third franchise of the Fantastic Beasts film series. The film is about Gellert Grindelwald, who wants to rule over the wizarding world and dominate the muggle world to strengthen the identity of the wizards. This idea was opposed by Albus Dumbledore because the peace and balance that had existed so far would be destroyed and adversely affect wizards and muggles. The conflict between them is widespread and affects themselves, as well as the other characters involved between them.

Films are often aimed at a wider and broader audience than written literary works. The external conflict in itself is one of the elements to engage the audience in the story. For this reason, the writer chose the film Fantastic Beasts: The Secret of Dumbledore as the main resource because the whole storyline of this film is driven by external conflict, and those conflicts create some effects on the characters in the film. The analysis of the effects of external conflicts in this film helps to

evaluate how filmmakers make these conflicts relevant and interesting to a wide audience and may influence the perception of the source material.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The beginning of the conflict in this film occurred because Gellert Grindelwald wanted to participate in the election of the Supreme Mugwump (the title of the elected chairman of the International Confederation of Wizards). If that happened, Gellert Grindelwald would begin to undermine the order between the wizarding world and the muggle world and threaten the safety of many parties.

This event is the trigger of why the external conflict in this film takes its place. Because the external conflict arises, so do the effects. The effects hugely play the role in engaging the storyline, characters, and also the audience.

1.3 Research Questions

On the basis of the previous statement, the writer wants to find the following answer to the following questions:

1. How the external conflict been delivered in the film “Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore?”
2. What are the negative and positive effects of external conflict revealed in the film “Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore?”

1.4 Goal and Function

Through this study, the writer aims to provide further knowledge of the negative and positive effects of external conflict.

1.4.1 Goal

The goal of this study is to find out the effects of external conflict in the film *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* and classify it into positive and negative effects.

1.4.2 Function

The function is for the audience to have a better understanding and explanation of the effects of external conflict that occurs in this film.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is the effect of the external conflict in the film *“Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore”*. As for the limitation, The writer only uses the third series of the *Fantastic Beasts* film franchise and only focuses on the effects of external conflict because of the lack of time, knowledge, resources, and experience from the writer to conduct research regarding the effect of external conflict.

1.6 Conceptual Framework

To achieve the objectives of this research, the writer makes a conceptual framework as follows:

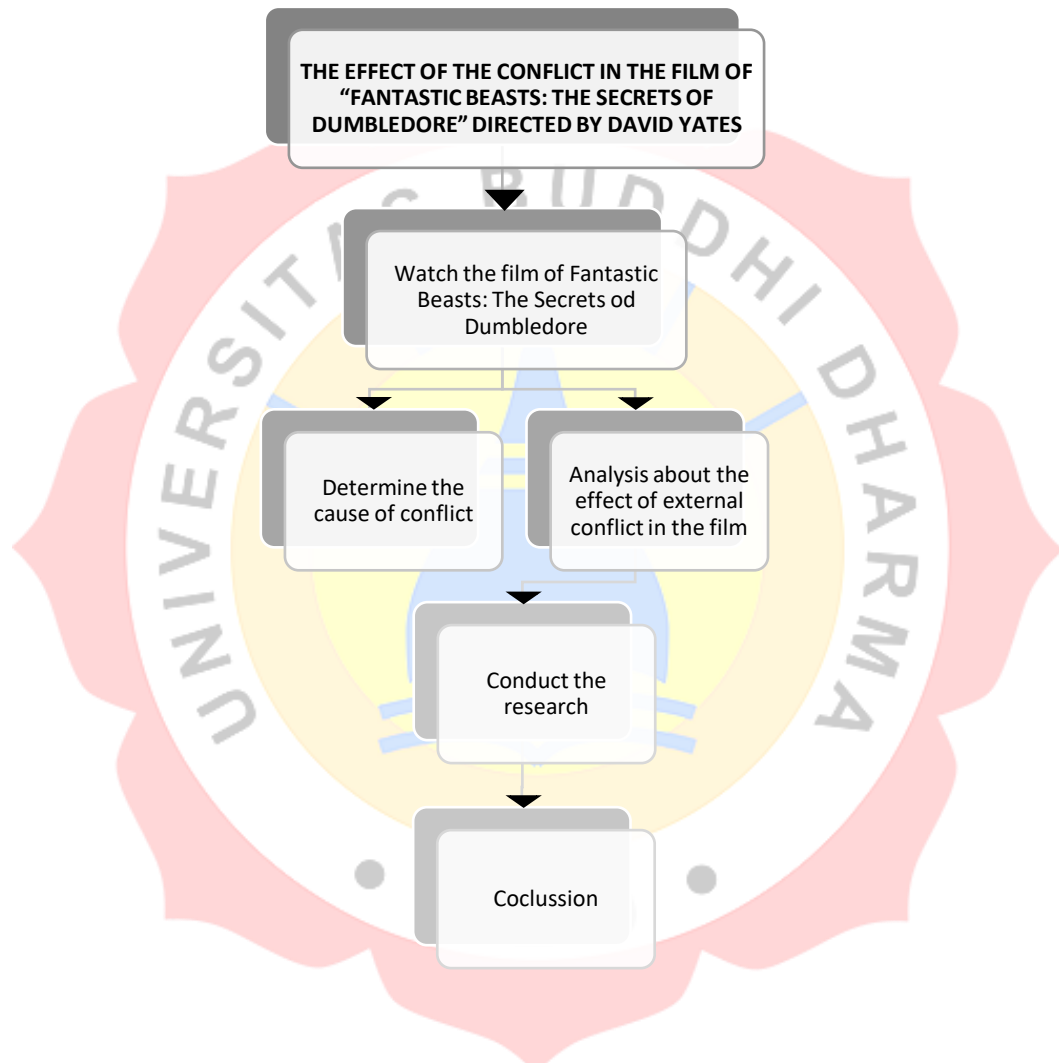


Chart 1.1

1. Analyzing the effects of external conflict in the film *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*. The writer makes an analysis related to the research topic.

2. Watch the film as the main resource for this research.
The very first step is to watch the film which is the main source of this research. Through this step, the writer hopes to find things that support the hypothesis in this study.
3. Determine the external cause of conflicts and analyze the cause and effect. After watching this film, the writer analyzes external conflict and then finds out about the cause and effect that occurred in the film.
4. Conduct the research of the film. After determining the cause and effect of external conflict which is the objective of this research, then, the writer begins to analyze which are the positive and negative effects, and then write this research thesis.
5. Making the final conclusion of the research. After the previous steps are completed, the writer will make a final conclusion about this research.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Previous Studies

The first study the writer found is research entitled “External conflict as seen in the film Aquaman by James Wan” researched by Hapizoh (2021) from State Islamic University Sulthan Thaha Saifuddin Jambi. She used the film Aquaman as the objective of her research. Her study found that the external conflict that occurred in the film Aquaman is the Man vs. Man conflict, which arose because of differences between individuals and differences in interests. Her study also found two ways to resolve the conflict in the film Aquaman, those are coercion and mediation.

The second study is entitled “An Analysis of the main character’s conflict in The Fault In Our Stars novel by John Green” researched by Khasina Nita Soraya (2018) from Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara. This study finds two types of conflicts which are internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict is a conflict between the individual with himself and external conflict is a conflict between the individual with another character, nature, society, supernatural, and destiny.

The third research is “A study of the main character’s internal and external conflicts in Extremely Loud And Incredibly Close movie” investigated by Dwi Yunita Sari (2013) from Universitas Brawijaya. This study used a psychological approach to analyze the data, and a qualitative approach to describe the events. This study found out that character Oskar as the main character in this film reaches his

satisfaction because he successfully gets what he wants after facing the conflicts in his life.

From those studies, the writer sums up that the source of conflicts can be varied. It can come from an internal source, which is the main character itself, and from external sources, which come from other characters, the environment, society, different beliefs, etc. As for the resolution, it can be done when the main character successfully faced their problems, or make coercion and resolution to solve the conflict.

The differences between the three previous studies and this research are even though the main topic is conflict, this research is more focused on the negative and positive effects of external conflict which is not described in the previous three research, and this research only aims the external conflict that happened in the film.

2.2 Literature

Literature is a very inherent form of entertainment. All forms of literature ranging from novels, poems, short stories, films, drama/plays, and songs can be encountered every day. We can see various stories and expressions in the literary works. Through literary works, we can feel as if we are in a new world made by the author.

According to Greil Marcus and Werner Sollor (2009), “Literary means not only what is written but what is voiced, what is expressed, what is invented, in whatever form”. These varieties of literature contain the inspiration, thoughts, opinions, imagination, and beliefs of the author. Therefore, literature is not limited only to writing alone.

Author C.S. Lewis (1898-1963), once said “Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.” He believes literature adds imagination to this world. What eyes have never seen, and what has never happened before, can be found in the literature.

From some of the statements above, the author argues literary works are not limited. Literature is a picture of the world itself and can be expressed in various media. For some people, literature is a place to feel new experiences through the various stories that exist in literature itself.

2.3 Film

Film is one form of literature that is known to everyone. In the films, we can see various stories, from fantasy stories to actual events in life. The film itself is a moving image that displays color and sound. Novel stories are also often adapted into a film, and in that adaptation, we can see the real events of the story.

According to Hornby (2006: 950), film means a series of moving pictures recorded with a sound that tells a story, shown at a cinema/movie. The films in cinema are now divided into live-action and animation. Filmmakers record all the movements, places, scenes, and sounds that will become part of the film's story. These recordings form a scene, and the scenes will be put together to form the whole story of that film.

2.4 Sociological Theory

Sociology is the study of human behavior and its relation to society. According to Alan Swingewood (1972) "Sociology is essentially the scientific and objective study of individuals in society, the study of social institutions and processes; it seeks to answer questions about how society is possible, how it works, and why society persists.". By that statement, the writer assumes sociology encompasses all aspects of human relations.

One of the sociological theories called Symbolic Interactionism argues that society is built by individual behavior. According to Macionis in the book *"Introducing Communication Theory: Analysis and Application"*, symbolic interactionism is "the framework for constructing the theory that views society as the product of everyday interaction by individuals". In other words, it is a reference framework that better understands how individuals interact to create a symbolic world and in turn how these worlds shape individual behavior. (West & Turner, 2007)

By reason of those statements above, the writer concludes that social interaction is built by many interactions, including conflict. Conflict itself is divided into internal and external conflict, and the external conflict, as well as the effects, is the major problem in the film *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* as the subject of this research.

2.4.1. Conflict

Conflict is a disagreement, clash, or struggle between two or more people. Conflict usually happened when there's some difference in opinion, goal, and point of view

about certain circumstances. (Lukens, 2003) said Conflict is the struggle against the opposing forces. Meanwhile, (Robbins, 1998) stated that Conflict is defined as a process in which one party perceives that another party harms others or is about to harm the first person's feelings. From those statements, it can be said that one of the effects of conflict is harmful to one party, or even both parties.

Conflict itself is divided into two categories, External Conflict, and Internal Conflict. External conflict is the type of conflict that occurred between a person and other external factors, meanwhile, Internal conflict occurs when someone is in disagreement with themselves. According to Kenney (1966), "A story may deal within a single man (e.g. desire vs, duty), a conflict between man, a conflict between man and society, between man and nature, and so on". Therefore, the writer concludes that conflict within a single man can be considered as internal conflict, meanwhile, the other three is external conflict.

2.4.1.1. External Conflict

External conflict is the type of conflict that occurs between a person against other external forces such as other characters, nature, or society. Unlike internal conflicts that occur within a character's mind and emotions, external conflicts involve conflicts between characters and external entities. Kenney (1966) portrays external conflict as a clash between the protagonist and outside forces such as another character, society, or nature. He focuses on how outside struggle can take numerous shapes and can be utilized to investigate subjects and concepts related to human involvement. Another perspective is from Joseph Carroll in the book "Evolution and Literary Theory" (1995). Carroll argued that external conflict is an essential

element of storytelling because it holds the reader's attention and creates tension and suspense. suggested that it could be seen as a metaphor for the struggle between every creature on earth.

External conflict itself is divided into three categories Man versus Man, Man versus Society, and Man versus Nature.

1. Man versus Man

This conflict involves more than two conflicting characters with different beliefs (such as opinions), goals (desired result), and values (one's principle). Normally, the conflict occurs between the protagonist and the antagonist. This conflict is resolved when one character successfully overcomes the challenges of the other.

2. Man versus Society

This conflict is a type of external conflict when a certain character face opposition or challenges from their larger society or groups. This conflict occurs when the beliefs, values, actions, or goals of a character conflict with the norms, rules, or expectations of other larger group.

3. Man versus Nature

The main cause of the conflict is natural disasters affecting the inhabitants of the city, country, or planet, such as weather, climate, or animals, which attack the inhabitants where the protagonist lived. The main character must survive in these conditions to fulfill his mission.

The writer assumes external factors have a huge impact on creating conflicts in a story. Also, those conflicts become the key element in a storyline.

2.4.1.2. Internal Conflict

Internal conflict refers to a person's emotional struggle. It is a state of inner turmoil or tension caused by conflicting desires, beliefs, or needs. Inner conflicts can arise in many areas of life, including relationships, ethical dilemmas, and identity issues.

Internal conflict in literature refers to a character's struggle within their mind, feelings, or beliefs. It is not a conflict with other characters outside the character, nature, or society, but a conflict that occurs within the character. Inner conflict is a common literary device that creates tension and suspense in stories and explores the inner world and motivations of characters.

2.4.2. Effects of the External Conflict

The effects of external conflicts on films can vary depending on the stories and the specific characters involved. However, in general, external conflicts can have some effects on a film's plot, characters, and themes.

Conflict creates crucial tensions in any story and is used to advance the story. It is often used to reveal deeper meanings in the story and emphasize the motivations, values, and weaknesses of the characters. (MasterClass, 2021). In other words, conflict is a necessary element to drive the plot to the next level and reveal the personality of the character.

The conflict should affect the characters involved in the story. It should emphasize these issues and make them make the right or wrong decision. This forces the characters in the story to act with their true intentions, whether or not they want to. The conflict must bring the characters to face their fears and problems related to the main conflict. (Harris, 2021). From this statement, the writer assumes that

conflict is a force to make the character fulfill their purposes in a story by facing the problems they have with the audience and to make the audience focus on the storyline.

The writer concludes the effects of the external conflict as stated below:

1. External conflict can create tension and drama. This is a crucial thing to keep the audience engaged and interested in the story. By pitting the protagonist against external forces or antagonistic characters, external conflicts can create a sense of danger and uncertainty, causing the audience to wonder how conflicts are resolved.
2. External conflicts can reveal important aspects of the characters involved, such as motivations, values, and personality traits. It is also can reveal how the characters respond to challenging situations.
3. External conflicts can contribute to the film's themes and messages. By examining the reaction of the characters to external conflicts, the filmmakers can examine larger issues related to power, justice, morality, and social norms.
4. External conflicts can act as catalysts for the character's growth and development.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research is the systematic investigation, study, and analysis of specific fields of research to generate new knowledge, increase understanding, and solve problems.

Research methodology is a systematic and structured approach adopted by researchers in research. It describes specific procedures, techniques, tools, and strategies for collecting data, analyzing information, and drawing conclusions.

In the chapter, the writer will discuss the Subject matter to support the analysis. Then, the Subject material will be presented to support the research data. After that, the writer will explain the approach that the writer uses when conducting this research. Lastly, the procedure for collecting the data for this research will be explained by the writer.

3.1 Subject Matter

The writer uses the descriptive qualitative method to conduct this research. Descriptive qualitative research is a method that aims to provide detailed and complete descriptions or understandings of a particular topic. Its objective is to investigate and capture the richness, complexity, and specific context details of the subject under investigation. (Patton, 2002) refers the descriptive research as an approach to observing, recording, and analyzing phenomena' characteristics, processes, and dynamics.

From the statement above, the descriptive qualitative method is a systematic way of conducting research and providing detailed and complete descriptions by observing and analyzing the data.

The writer uses the theory provided by William Kenney about external conflict in literature. Then, the writer will analyze the effects of external conflict found in the film *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* by using that theory.

3.2 Subject Material

The subject material of this research is the film “Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore” directed by David Yates and released in 2022. This film is the third film of the Fantastic Beasts film franchise following the first film “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” (2016), and the second film “Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald” (2018). The writer uses film scenes, and dialogue to find the proof for this research argument, as well as journals, articles, books, and the internet to support the theory and for the references.

The plot in the film Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore is driven by conflicts between the characters, one of the most prominent conflicts is the dispute between Albus Dumbledore and Gellert Grindelwald. Apart from that, the conflict that is no less important is the relationship between Albus Dumbledore, Aberforth Dumbledore, and Credence Barebone which is the inspiration for the title of this film. Therefore, the conflict that happened between those characters creates a huge impact on the storyline.

3.3 Approach

The writer uses the qualitative approach for this research. Creswell (1994) stated that qualitative research is the process of understanding social or human problems by constructing a complex, global picture of the structure, reporting the detailed views of the informant, and conducting in a natural environment through words. In other words, the writer observes the data provided by the film through pictures,

dialogues, and sound and from those data, the writer will collect all data she needs by using the qualitative approach.

3.4 Procedure

The procedure of collecting the data and conducting this research begins when the writer watched the entire film and understands the storyline through the film scenes and dialogues and analyzes it in accordance with the research theme. The writer also searches for other supporting resources such as articles, videos, journals, and books on the internet related to the film *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* to classify the data. Afterward, the writer begins to analyze the effect of external conflict in this film by using the expressions, dialogues, and conversational context of the characters in the film. Lastly, the writer concludes this research derived from the research analysis.

