CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the discussion of questions from the problem formulation stated in chapter 1. The writer will discuss the development of character through the plot. The discussion of plot can be carried out through narration such as exposition, conflict, climax, and resolution. Exposition is the opening of the story. Conflict is related to the rise of crisis or conflict, and climax is the turning point in the plot whereas resolution is the last event in a novel or the outcome of a conflict when the main character has decided something that will affect his future.

4.1 Exposition

The narration below explains the main characteristic Okonkwo as a famous person.

Corpus 1

> *"Okonkwo became famous when he was young man. At eighteen year old, Okonkwo fought the best wrestler in all Umuofia and he won the match".*
> (Page: 8)

This corpus states that *Okonkwo became famous when he was young man,* he is famous because he is the best wrestler, his career as the best wrestler makes him be known by most of people. This indicates the wrestler is prestigious job in Okonkwo's clan. He is a good fighter because Okonkwo is a man who has a good

physical power, he can defeat all his rivals "… *he put the other man flat on his back on the floor" (P: 7).*

> *"His fame had grown like a bush fire and he was very famous indeed. He was tall, big and he walked like someone with springs in his feet. He had thick back eyebrows over his eyes. His nose was wide". (Page: 8)*

As a wrestler, Okonkwo is a good looking person because *"He had thick black eyebrows over his eyes. His nose was wide."* Since he is tall, big and has good ability in fighting, he is able to defeat his rival and win in every match.

Corpus 2

> *"A few latter, Okonkwo had married three wives. He owned a large farm and he had large compound with a thick wall of red earth round it, Okonkwo's hut was built behind the only gate in the red walls of compound. Each of his three wives had her own hut.*"(Page: 9)

Okonkwo is also described as a responsible person, because as a husband and a father he can fulfill the needs of his family, give a place to live, do farm as it is seen from the house he gives to three wives and his effort in which he has barns built for his wives daily meal. "*Two barns were at one end of the compound, and they were full of yams". (P: 8-9).* The corpus shows that Okonkwo has an adequate amount of yams to fulfill his families' daily meal.

Corpus 3

> *"Okonkwo had become one of the greatest men in Umuofia at that time. Everyone in his clan respected him because he was not like his father"*. (Page: 9)

Okonkwo's is one of the respectable persons in his clan as mentioned previously he is a good wrestler and responsible person, unlike his father through which his description is narrated.

> *"Unoka was a very last person and he didn't like work. He did not like seeing blood and he was afraid of fighting. Unoka had been all his life because he never save any money." (page: 8)*

His father is a weak person, he hates to see blood and afraid of fighting. The young Okonkwo lives in poor because his father always spends the money to drink palm wine. *"When Unoka have some money he always spent it on lots of palm wine" (Page: 8).* so, with that reason Okonkwo has a strong willingness to be different from his father, he must be a successful man. *"When Unoka died, he left nothing for his wives and children. Okonkwo wanted to be strong and rich and powerful but he began with nothing." (Page: 8*). It's shown that when Okonkwo's father died, he left nothing to his family and they live in poverty. For that reason Okonkwo wants to have a better life and struggle to be strong, powerful and rich but Okonkwo starts it from zero.

Corpus 4

> "*There was special house near the barns. Okonkwo kept the wooden figures of his family gods in this house. It was the family shrine and Okonkwo often went pray for himself and his family and to give gifts to gods"*. (Page: 9)

The corpus above shows that Okonkwo is a religious person, he has a place to pray in his house. He takes his wives and children to keep pray for *His* blessing that he can be success just like now.

> *"You must do something to please the Earth Goddess, Ezeani said to Okonkwo " you must take to the shrine of the Earth Godness one goat, one hen, a long piece of cloth, and one hundred cowries shell, so the next day, Okonkwo visited the shrine of the Earth Goddess. He brought with everything Ezeani had said. (P: 17)*

Based on the corpus above Okonkwo is a religious man, Okonkwo gives gifts to his God. As mentioned in the corpus "*you must do something to please the Earth Goddess"* and he brings all things that is said by Ezeani to please the Goddes. This sentence indicates Okonkwo does worship to his god.

Corpus 5

> *"If you did not know Okonkwo, if you just looked at him, you would think he was a serious man and not very kind to people". (Page: 8)*

The corpus above shows that in the perception of the clansmen Okonkwo is assumed as a serious and unfriendly. In Fact, Okonkwo does not show his kindness to maintain his image as a strong and powerful person.

> *"Even Okonkwo liked Ikemefuna but of course he did not let anyone know this. Okonkwo never let anyone see that he was kind. He always had to saw people that he was strong and powerful." (Page: 14)*

From the corpus above, the writer thinks that this main character tries to show that he wants to be a respected man in his clan. But in this clan, he always acts as a person who appears the unfriendly trait to anyone. In truth condition, his acts done wants to show that he is respectable person.

4.2 Conflict

Conflict usually begins with a problem or the rise of the character problem. Through the conflicts, the character development of Okonkwo will be seen.

Corpus 6

> *"Ikemefuna's legs began to shake. He was afraid to look back again. The man behind him raised his matchet quietly and quickly and brought it down on Ikemefuna's head. Okonkwo heard the matchet hit pot of wine. The pot fell of Ikemefuna's head and broke on the ground. Okonkwo hear Ikemefuna cry out.*
> *'My father, they have killed me,' Ikemefuna cried.*
> *Ikemefuna ran towards Okonkwo. Okonkwo was very afraid, but he raised his own machete and brought it down onto Ikemefuna's head and killed him. Okonkwo did not want to do this. Hi was very afraid. And he loved Ikimefuna. But he was afraid that his friend would think he was weak if he did not kill Ikemefuna. (Page: 27)*

Ikemefuna's father was killed by Umuofia clan for murdered a woman from Umuofia. As another punishment he is taken to the Umuofia clan separated from his mother and clan, he is treated by Okonkwo. Several years letter, Ikemefuna grows up as a teenager and Okonkwo assumes that Ikemefuna as his own son, but Okonkwo is afraid that the clansmen will assume him as a coward if he does not kill Ikemefuna.

The conflict due to the arrogance of Okonkwo, by killing Ikemefuna he breaks one of the rules of the clan, because he is so proud. *"Okonkwo had broken one of the rules of the clan because he was so proud" (Page: 28).* Oracle one of the Gods the Umuofia clan has given message that Ikemefuna has to die, but Okonkwo should not involve himself. Thus, he breaks the rule from his God because he is so proud.

According to the conflict above, it shows that Okonkwo is an arrogant person. When the oracle who is umofian's god wants Ikemefuna dies, however the oracle does not ask Okonwo to kill him and his belief that he is strong and brave. He breaks the rule of oracle by killing Ikemifuna himself, the changing of Okonwo is can be seen while he breaks the rule of oracle, thus for now he believes in his god, but he breaks the rule, because he was so proud.

Corpus 7

> *"Okonkwo did not eat any food for three days after the death of Ikemefuna. But he drunk palm wine from early in the morning until late at night. He was very tired and his eyes were red and angry looking". (Page 29)*

After killing Ikemefuna, Okonkwo's depress, he does not eat any food for three days because he feels guilty for killing his adopted son. So it influences his physical and mental abilities. He becomes like his father that he hates the most. One of his father habits is to spend the money to drink palm wine.

Based on the explanation above, Okonkwo is changed at first he hate his father behavior because he gets depression he become like his father who spend

his time with drinking all the night, from early in the morning until the night comes.

Okonkwo cannot forget Ikemefuna and he is shivering when remember him *"why have I become like a shivering old man"*. He tries to forget Ikemefuna but he could not do so. He thanks about him all the time.

> *"Why have I become like a shivering old man? Okonkwo asked himself. Every body in all the nine village know that I am a brave man. I have killed five men in battle. Why am I like a weak woman because I have also killed a young boy? I have become like a woman." (Page 30)*

On the corpus above, Okonkwo shows that he regrets for killing Ikemefuna, which makes him feel like a woman; he becomes like a shivering old man, he does not look like a courageous person just like in the past time.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that on one hand, he feels so guilty, but on the other hand, he thinks that it is not a big problem for him because he is a wrestler who had killed five men in a battle. Thus, in someway, Okonkwo keeps his proud. He tries show to everyone that he is not affected by the incident, as shown in the following quotation.

> *"No, maybe not, replied Okonkwo. But someone had to kill him. If everyone was afraid of blood, no one would have killed the boy. These words made Oberika very angry. He thought that Okonkwo was calling him a coward. You know, Okonkwo said Oberika, that I am not afraid of blood. And lets me tell you one think, my friend. If I were you, I would have stayed at home. I would not have killed Ikemefuna. What you have done will not pleased the Earth Goddes. She said that Ikemefuna had to be killed, but she told you not to have killed him. The earth Goddes cannot punish me, replied*

> *Okonkwo. I did not want to kill Ikemefuna. The Oracle said Ikemefuna must die." (Page: 31)*

It shows that Okonkwo tries to show that he is brave, because he can kill the boy, eventhough, their Goddess forbid it.

Corpus 8

Another conflict occurs when Okonkwo accidentally killed the son of Ezeudu.

> *"Then the drum beat the name of the village where the dead man lived. It was Okonkwo's village. At least, the drummer beat out the name of the dead man. His name was Ezeude. As Okonkwo heard the name of his friend, Ezeudu, he shivered.*
>
> *… Drummers were beating the drums of death and the guns were firing to show him respect" (Page: 40)*

In the Umuofia clan they use drums to announce that somebody is died and firing guns to show the respect. To show his respect he fires his old gun and accidentally he shots a young boy, a son of the Ezeude. So, he and his family have to leave the clan for seven years and after that he could return.

> *"As soon as Okonkwo knew that he had killed the boy, he knew what he had to do. He had to leave Umuofia and leave the clan because he had killed another person in the clan. (Page: 41)*

From the corpuses above, it shows that even Okonkwo is one of the important men in his clan; he still must accept the punishment for the crime. This

makes him sad and disappointed because he is a respectable person in his clan, but he has to be exiled from his clan.

Corpus 9

> *"I want Okonkwo to answer this question,' said Uchendu.*
> *'I do not know the answer, 'said Uchendu.*
>
> *'So you see you are like a child.*
>
> *You have many wives and many children.*
>
> *You have more children that I have.*
>
> *You were an important man in your clan. But you are still like a child. (Page 46)*

The corpus shows that after he moves to Mbanta clan (Okonkwo's mother clan), Okonkwo is not like he used to be; he is not working and he is acting like a child. He rather chooses to be alone and think about his past. *"When he was not working, he sat in silence and was half-asleep" (Page: 45)*

The corpus also shows the changing of Okonkwo's character. He was the hard worker. After he faces many conflicts he is not like at the past time, and now he does not do anything, he only keeps sitting in silence all day long.

He can be concluded that Okonkwo becomes a solitary person, drift away to despair. He is too much thinking about his past but there were no actions from him. *"You have made your mother unhappy and you won't let anyone comfort you" (Page: 48).*

Corpus 10

> *"Who knows what might happen tomorrow? White men have already come to see us. Perhaps green men will come to our clan next and shoot us" (page: 52)*

The corpus shows the conversation between Obierika and Okonkwo, when Obierika visits Okonkwo in Mbanta, he tells Okonkwo the news about the arrival of the white men in their clan. The white men kills a lot of people in Abame clan *"then the white man began to shoot at the people. Everyone in the village was killed except the old people and sick people who stayed at home" (Page: 51)* they even govern the clan and spread a new religion.

Hearing the news, Okonkwo feels that Abame clan is a foolish clan, because they have been warned by God that something bad will happen and they do nothing to fight against the white man. *"They were very foolish, said Okonkwo, after another silence. The Oracle had told them that something bad was going to happen. The people should have taken their guns and their matchets when they went to the market." (Page: 51). Ok*onkwo thinks that they have to fight against the white. They should not let the white take over everything.

Corpus 11

> *"Nwoye went back to the church. He told Mr. Kiaga that he had left his home and was going to Umuofia. In Umuofia the white missionary has started a school to teach young Christians to read and write" (page: 61)*
>
> *"Okonkwo felt very sad when he thought about his weak son. He was ashamed of Nwoye. Now Nwoye had left his family, Okonkwo knew that he would never see his son again." (page 62)*

The white men also come to Mbanta and spread religion there. Nwoye, Okonkwo it son is also influenced with a new religion brought by the white men. After all these years that Okonkwo teach his son to pray, obey and grateful to the gods, family and clan. But his own son against all teach of his father, because the arrival of the white missionary. So, that's why Okonkwo is angry and beat his son. *"They screamed loudly when they heard Okonkwo beating Nwoye" (page: 61).* Okonkwo is angry because he is a religious person. So, he does not want his son convert his religion into Christian.

Corpus 12

> *"Okonkwo speak truth, said another man,' we must do something. Let us exclude these Christians from the clan. Then the gods will not think that we agree with the things they do." (Page: 67)*

Okonkwo persuades Mbata clan to do rebellion against the white men. The best thing that should be carried out is to evict the white. There is a strong willingness from Okonkwo about his rebellion; he does not want a change happens in the clan.

The clansmen are agree with Okonkwo that they will not let the *Christian* takes control of Mbata clan *"Everyone at the meeting spoke. In the end all agreed not to let the Christian take any part in the life of the clan anymore". (Page: 67)*

Corpus 13

> *"So Okonkwo built a very large compound. It was much bigger than his first one he built a bigger barn." (Page: 69)*

After seven years Okonkwo finally comes back to his clan, but Umuofia has changed a lot during the years. The corpus shows that Okonkwo still has the arrogance and proud attitudes, because he builds a very large compound so the Umuofia clan can notice that Okonkwo is still important man and they can respect him and Okonkwo still wants to be one of the leaders of the clan. As shown in the following quotation *"When Okonkwo got back to his village in Umuofia, he wanted all his own clansmen to notice him. He wanted them to think that he was still an important person. Okonkwo hoped everyone in Umuofia would still respect him. He still wanted to be one of the leaders of the clan." (Page: 69)*

4.3 Climax

Climax is the point of greatest tension in a work of literature and the turning point in the action. In a plot line, the climax occurs after the rising action and before the falling action.

Corpus 14

> *"Five court messengers were standing a few feet from the crowd. Nobody had seen them arrive. They had come silently.*
>
> *'What do you want here?' Asked Okonkwo.*

> *'I have come with a message from the white man'. The messenger replied. 'The white man says that you must stop this meeting at once.'*
>
> *Suddenly Okonkwo lifted his matchet. The messenger bent down to escape from Okonkwo's matchet but he was late. Okonkwo brought down his matchet twice, and the messenger's head lay on the ground beside his body. (Page: 82)*

According to the corpus, in the middle of Umuofian meeting, five court messengers come and tell the Umuofian to stop the meeting, but Okonkwo kills the chief messenger with his matchet. It shows that he is a rebel person and he does not want to obey the rules of the white man. As shown in the following quotation *"We must not be weak like the people in Abame. We must fight these white men and chase them away from our country" (Page: 71)*

After Okonkwo kills the chief messenger, he runs away to avoid the chase from the white men and becomes a fugitive. As shown in the following quotation *"Okonkwo wiped his matchet after he had killed the messenger, and walked away" (Page: 83).*

The four messengers who run away, go to the Commissioner and tell him that Okonkwo has killed the chief messenger. So, the Commissioner and some soldiers go to chase Okonkwo. *"The four messengers who had run away from the meeting went straight to the Commissioner. They told the Commissioner that Okonkwo had killed their friend. Then the Commissioner went with some soldiers and his messenger to Okonkwo's compound" (Page: 83).*

4.4 Resolution

A resolution is the last event in a novel or the outcome of a conflict. The main character has finished solving this problem and this result in a happy or sad ending. Resolution refers to stage where the crisis or conflict is resolved.

Corpus 15

> "*Obierika led the men to a place just outside one of the walls of Okonkwo's compound. Then they came to a tree. Okonkwo's body was hanging from the tree. Okonkwo knew that the white man would hang him if he found him alive. So Okonkwo had decided to hang himself." (Page 84)*

According to the corpus, the writer finds that the characters of Okonkwo hanging himself on a tree. These refer to a sad ending, because whether he kills himself or not, the white man will hang him. But that's not the main reason why he hangs himself, it's because he is disappointed and depressed to his clan, himself, and his surroundings.

> *"Okonkwo then knew that he was alone. He was alone without his clan. He was still brave and strong bad his clan was weak and cowardly. He had fought the white man by himself. His clansmen were cowards. The white man had broken up the clan. His people had fall apart. The clan did not angry anymore." (Page: 82)*

After analyzing the corpus above, the writer finds that Okonkwo is still proud, but in fact he is afraid to deal with the reality that he will be chased by the white man. The main reason why Okonkwo kills himself is because he depressed and disappointed to his clan after what he has done to his clan. He gives a big sacrifice to his clan when he has to kill his adopted son and when he fights the

white man for the sake of the clan but he does not get the support from the clan. He only fights by himself which makes him depressed.

The resolution of this novel is the death of Okonkwo. He wants to be looked strong and powerful and he is so proud with himself. However, in fact Okonkwo is afraid in facing real problem in the world.

> *"It is against our laws, replied one of the men. It is crime for a man to kill himself. It is against the Earth Goddess, and the man who kills himself cannot be buried his own clansmen. His body is bad and only strangers can touch it." (Page: 85)*

Okonkwo at first describes as famous, respectable, religious, but in fact he is afraid to face the problem in his life. Thus, his live ends miserably.