CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background and Reason of Choosing The Title

Literature is not solely what is written down, but what is voiced, expressed or invented in whatever form. Through literature, words express human imaginations, ideas, critiques and information’s. Literature comprises language, culture and human perspective expressed in different forms. Literature is the expression of an individual through language. Literature is an art form for human beings to convey, contribute, create and share ideas with the world.

A movie is a form of literary work which is both a unique and classic method of storytelling. It is a narrative form that uses a sequence of panels containing video combined with music and sound, where the viewer perceives time spatially. It can be broken down into levels that are easily understood by all age groups and genre.

Movies come with variable content, from cartoon, comedy, drama, action, musical and more. Every genre is divided into fiction and non-fiction depending upon whether it is designed to educate or entertain. It can also be formed with fact, inspiration, motivation, experience and numerous other factors. However, it can have different purposes, from pure entertainment to education.

Basically, the video in a movie verifies the script, reflecting the story that the dialogue is describing. The video helps the script to convey the meaning, providing a visual element to the story. It expresses the purpose in a more visual form. The subject matter should be of general human interest and the expression
should be clear. It should give pleasure and satisfaction to the viewer. Literature varies around the world, but movies are one of the most interesting media forms that are clearly understood and easily comprehended by all.

Thus, the writer intends to choose drama for the genre, based on true story. The writer aims to analyze the self-improvement within the main character of the 2002 movie *8 Mile* directed by Curtis Hanson. The specific genre of this movie is musical drama. The writer chooses *8 Mile* because it contains both inspiration and motivation which hopefully can be beneficial to the viewer.

*8 Mile* is a hip-hop dramatized movie based on Eminem’s (real name Marshall Matters) actual upbringing. He was one of the first Caucasian artists to be involved in the hip-hop scene. It is about the stereotype that hip-hop music was meant to be an expression unique to African American people. Eminem endeavors to break into this uniqueness. In so doing, he becomes role model for the youth of the time to never give up on their dreams and believe that a better life can be obtained if they are prepared to work for their goals.

This movie has both an interesting story line together with quality music and graphic content. Basically, this type of movie is intended to entertain the viewer whilst delivering a valuable message through creativity and imagination.

Character traits that can be taken from this movie are persistence, endless spirit, consistency and the motivation to succeed. These values are placed subliminally in the mind of the viewer, particularly the younger generations, who will learn valuable lessons in life that formal education does not offer.

The main character in the movie inspires both children and young adults to motivate themselves, whilst entertaining and improving their comprehension and
stimulating their thirst for knowledge at the same time. Life lessons to the ones who have been unfortunate enough to have experienced a rough start in life and self-improvement and aspiration to others, to encourage them to become better human beings.

1.2. Statement of the Problem.

Based on the explanation of the background and reason of choosing the title above, the problem will be analyzed in this research:

1. How is the characteristic of Jimmy’s self-improvement in 8 Mile movie?
2. What factors trigger the main character in this movie to improve his situation and life?
3. What is the moral message in 8 Mile movie?

1.3. Scope of the Problem

Based on the statements for study and discussion, the writer limits the study to focus on self-improvement of Jimmy as the main character in the movie 8 Mile, which was released in 2002, especially discussing about characteristic and factors of self-improvement.

1.4. Method and Procedures of the Analysis

The writer has watched the movie several times to memorize and comprehend the storyline of the main character and found the most interesting topic to analyze is the desire for self-improvement within the main character. The
topic is accessible to the masses and particularly to those in need of motivation and inspiration. A qualitative method is used in this research.

According to Stumfegger (2017):

“Such clear sampling criteria usually do not work for qualitative research as the number of participants is much smaller and statistically relevant results are not sought. These relatively small samples should be selected purposefully. Thus, the aim is to select information-rich cases for in-depth study, from which issues of central importance to the purpose of the research can be learnt.”

Therefore, the main goal this research is to describe, define, classify and analyze the data comparisons will be made where the subject character of the movie has a choice to make, the outcome of that choice and how his life could have been different had he not stayed with his beliefs and goals.

The research is written into four chapters. Chapter 1 is introduction that consists of four parts. First, background and reason of choosing the title, it is the general view of the writer about the study that is analyzed. Second, Scope of the problem, the writer focuses on some limits to make the analysis clear. Third is Statements of the problem, the main problems that are analyzed. Fourth is the writer’s method and procedure of the analysis. Chapter 2 is Theoretical review. This contains the definition of a movie, the main character, self-improvement and the factors that influenced Jimmy to take on the route of self-improvement. Chapter 3 is discussion that contains the summary and data source which are taken from the movie that will be analyzed. Chapter 4 is conclusion and suggestion. The writer concludes the result of this study as well as giving some suggestions.