

CHAPTER II

THEORY AND METHOD

2.1 Theoretical Framework

2.1.1 Intrinsic Elements

2.1.1.1 Characters and Characterization

Characters are individuals who perform actions in a secondary world that is connected through chronology, cause, and effect (Hawthorn, 1985: 8). Moreover, characters can be divided into two types, which are main characters and supporting characters. The main character is a factual position within a story whose objectives form the purpose of the story and get resolved at the end of a story (Haven, 2000: 82). The second type is supporting characters which may act as circumference for the main character and enable aspects of the story (Childs & Fowler, 2006: 24). Therefore, characters are assigned to each role to further expand the scope of the story.

Furthermore, characterisation is a method of creating a distinctive aspect for each character in the story (Abrams & Harpham, 2011: 48). In addition to that, there are two types of characterisations, the first one is 'showing', which is a method where the author presented the character speaking and acting and leaving the reader to infer their motives and personality, it also extends to the characters' mind, how they feel, and their respond toward an event (Abrams & Harpham, 2011: 49). The second one is 'telling', which is a method where the author steps in in order to

describe and evaluate the character's motives and personality (Abrams & Harpham, 2011: 49). Ultimately, both methods of characterisations will provide depth for the characters throughout their journey.

2.1.1.2 Settings

Settings revolve around the location of the story, the time in which it happens, and social circumstances that occur in the story (Abram & Harpham, 2011: 362). Additionally, according to Abram & Harpham (2011: 355), the location of the story, especially science fiction, can occur on another planet, the future version of earth, or even a parallel universe. Furthermore, the setting of time indicates when the story took place such as the day, month, or year. Finally, according to Abram & Harpham (2011: 257) the setting of social circumstances signifies social structure and customs as important conditions that affect the thoughts, emotions, temperaments, and interactions of the characters. In addition, Cuddon (1977) stated that using details which are related to the region to enrich the narrative may include descriptions of the location, traditions, music, attire, and many others. These aspects of settings provide the necessary information to understand the basics of the story.

2.1.1.3 Conflicts

Based on Wellek and Warren (1956: 217), conflict can be viewed as a dramatic event that refers to the clash of protagonist and antagonist with their own action and counteraction. Moreover, there are two types of conflict, the first one is internal conflict which is about the conflict of internal desires and values of the character (Abrams & Harpham, 2011: 294). This means that a character undergoes

a conflict with himself that involves confronting his own morals and values in life. The second one is external conflict which is a conflict where the protagonist must fight against fate, external forces, or events that hinder his progress (Abrams & Harpham, 2011: 294). This means that the character faces challenges from outside forces and not from his own way of thinking and he needs to overcome it in order to further his progress. Therefore, a story has two conflicts that may occur, either internal or external, or perhaps even both occurring at the same time.

2.1.2 Psychological Approach

2.1.2.1 Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow (1943) argued that human needs are organized to a hierarchy pyramid based on pre-potency where the emergence of a new need depends on the fulfilment of the more predominant needs. Moreover, needs cannot be handled like if it were isolated or separated which means it cannot function independently. Therefore, he states that “every drive is related to the state of satisfaction or dissatisfaction of other drives” (p. 6) which means that needs are interconnected with other needs and the state of its fulfilment will affect other needs as well. Furthermore, needs are separated into five distinct types that form a hierarchy. These needs are:

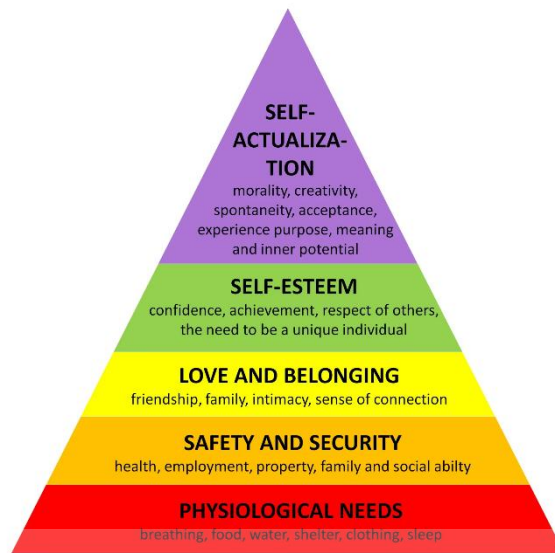


Figure. *Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs* [Image]

McLeod, S. (2026). *Simply Psychology*.

2.1.2.1.1 Physiological Needs

According to Maslow (1943) the initial point of motivation theory started with physiological needs which he considered as the most pre-potent of all needs. The consideration of putting this need as the most pre-potent is because physiological needs would be more dominating on someone who has lost everything in life. This is further backed up by this quote “A person who is lacking food, safety, love, and esteem would most probably hunger for food more strongly than for anything else” (Maslow, 1943: 9). The reason for this is because physiological need mainly revolves around the fulfilment of certain basic things that the body needs in order to keep functioning and maintaining a normal blood stream such as food, water, and sleeping. Additionally, this need also includes action that is not related to bodily necessity such as reproduction.

Furthermore, other needs may be put aside if the person is being controlled by physiological needs. The hunger that was caused would make the individual think that utopia is a world full of food. All of the individual's

capabilities will be directed toward satisfying starvation. The capabilities include the individual's intelligence and experiences, which may now be described as hunger-gratifying instruments. Therefore, an individual who only has physiological needs would put all his abilities to ensure that at least his most basic needs would be satisfied.

All of this suggests that a character who undergoes a journey throughout a story must have physiological needs as their starting point as it is the most important of all needs. This need is the most important part of someone's needs because if the person lacks any other needs, he will crave for food and want to fulfil it and failing to fulfil these basic things will cause disturbance to the bodily functions because the body does not have the materials necessary to keep operating. However not all physiological needs are important to the function of the body such as the act of reproduction which does not cause any harm if it is not fulfilled.

2.1.2.1.2 Safety Needs

Maslow (1943) stated that a new need called safety needs emerge when physiological needs have been fulfilled. The idea of safety itself may affect the person, resulting in him becoming completely controlled by this need and therefore strongly serve and direct the person's behaviours to achieve safety. Moreover, this strong need for safety is not only a factor for the individual's present philosophy and world view, but also for the individual's future outlook. Therefore, the person would think that

everything else is less important than his own safety and he would live for safety alone if here were to be pushed to the extreme state.

Moreover, a person wants to have a feeling of security in his life. This sense of security may include living in a peaceful and well-organized society where dangers from criminals, attack, wild animals, and murder do not exist. Furthermore, a sense of security can also include living without the dangers of extreme temperatures and tyranny. Therefore, a sense of security has a deep connection between the person and the environment that he lives in.

On the other hand, safety needs can also be observed in people from lower social class. This is supported by Maslow who stated “for instance, the common preference for a job with tenure and protection, the desire for a savings account, and for insurance of various kinds” (Maslow, 1943: 15). This means that the person may seek safety needs in the form of seeking a stable job, savings for his money, and insurance for various needs in his life which may secure his future. Therefore, a person may try to find a way to live without having to be afraid of external threats that can jeopardise his way of life.

2.1.2.1.3 Love and Belonging Needs

The need for love and belonging refers to an individual’s desire for a close relationship with others such as lovers and friends and to be treated with affection and acceptance by them. This is further elaborated by Maslow

(1943) who stated that the need for love and belonging may emerge if the previous needs are relatively well gratified. After both previous needs have been satisfied, the need for love and belonging emerges where the person may slowly feel the absence of friends, spouse, or children. Therefore, in order to fulfil this feeling of absence, the person will try to forge an affectionate relationship with other people in general and try to fit in a group.

An individual who desires relations with others will try numerous things to be accepted by them. This struggle for belonging will make the individual desire it more than anything else in life. This indicates that a person will find himself requiring others' company so he will feel loved and not excluded from society. Therefore, an individual may attempt to integrate himself with someone or a group through various methods such as accepting invitations or expressing his thoughts to others in hope that it will open a window for him to be accepted by them.

2.1.2.1.4 The Esteem Needs

According to Maslow (1943), almost everyone who lives in society yearns to have a high evaluation of themselves and be respected by others. This need is manifested in the forms of self-esteem, self-respect, and acknowledgement from others. The self-esteem may derive from the person's abilities, accomplishment and respect from peers. In addition to that, self-esteem is further divided into two types, the first is the desire for

power, accomplishment, competence, self-assurance, autonomy, and freedom. The second type is the need for reputation or prestige from others such as respect, acknowledgement, attention, importance, and appreciation. Therefore, achieving those aspects will fulfil the needs as the individual received a high evaluation for themselves and from others.

Moreover, Maslow also stated that when self-esteem has been fulfilled, it will lead the person to feel positive evaluations of themselves. These positive evaluations include self-confidence, worth, strength, and capability as well as feeling functional and an essential part of the world. However, if the self-esteem need is not fulfilled, it will result in the feelings of being ineffective, inferior and powerless. Therefore, a person may attempt to achieve his self-esteem by striving to achieve significant achievements that bring fame and success that further showcase his capabilities and contributions to others with the aim of gaining respect, attention, and positive evaluations about himself.

2.1.2.1.5 Self-Actualization Need

Maslow (1943) argued that even after all of the previous needs have been achieved, a person can still feel dissatisfaction about his life unless he does what he is capable of. This is reflected in activities such as a writer writing a book or a singer performing a piece of music. Therefore, this need reflects an individual's desire to have self-fulfilment in the field that they are capable of and have great potential to develop. As Maslow put it “This

tendency might be phrased as the desire to become more and more what one is, to become everything that one is capable of becoming” (Maslow, 1943: 18). This quotation means that a person may thrive to achieve the highest level that he is capable of and become the best version of himself.

Furthermore, the types of fulfilment that a person takes may vary from one person to another. This variation occurs because the fulfilment of this need depends on the individual’s own capabilities and does not necessarily result in a creative urge. In addition to that, in order to be on this stage, the individual should have fulfilled all the previous stages of needs. This suggests that a person strives for self-actualization by pursuing his fullest potential based on his own capability after all of his previous basic needs were satisfied.

2.1.2.2 Preconditions for Need Satisfaction

Basic needs have a few preconditions that need to be satisfied in order to advance to a higher level. In *A Theory of Motivation* (1943), Maslow provided an argument regarding preconditions of human needs, “There are certain conditions that are immediate prerequisites for the basic need satisfactions. Danger to these is reacted to as if it were direct danger to the basic needs themselves” (Maslow, 1943: 19). This quotation means that certain conditions are required in order to fulfil needs and if these conditions are threatened then it may impact the fulfilment of needs themselves as one cannot advance their progress of fulfilment.

The preconditions for needs have various aspects that are required to be fulfilled in order for needs to be satisfied. These preconditions include freedom to speak, freedom to perform any actions that the person wants as long as it does not endanger others, freedom to express themselves, freedom of self-defence, freedom to collect knowledge. In addition, individuals will also need justice, honesty, fairness, and orderliness in society. These conditions are required because in their absence, the basic satisfactions may become impossible or heavily compromised.

2.2 Research Method

2.2.1 Research Approach

This research uses a psychology of literature approach that delves deeper into human psychology. Psychology of literature approach is a study of the physiological types or laws that exist inside the works of literature (Wellek & Warren, 1949: 81). Therefore, the analysis in this research utilizes theories such as Hierarchy of Needs and the Preconditions for Need Satisfactions by Abraham Maslow. After the data has been gathered, the writer will apply Hierarchy of Needs theory and the Preconditions for Need Satisfactions theory to analyse the data's relation with the theory itself.

2.2.2 Method of Data Collection

The method that the writer uses for collecting data is library research in which the author identifies and locates sources that necessitate factual information (George, 2008: 6). Furthermore, primary data are collected

from primary sources, which are evidences that are created as close as possible in time or place to an event and made by participants, witnesses, investigators, or people in similar roles (George, 2008: 189) which is the novel *Mickey 7* itself. Moreover, for secondary data, it is the interpretation of evidence by someone else related to the event, a person, or issue under the study (George, 2008: 193) which means that the secondary data for this research is collected by the author from various sources that are relevant to the topic which is the analysis of needs in the novel *Mickey 7*.

2.2.3 Method of Data Analysis

The data are gathered by reading through the novel, gathering evidences such as dialogues, monologues, and actions that fit the criteria of Hierarchy of Needs and Preconditions for Need Satisfaction. After the data has been collected, they will be inserted into the thesis in the order of the research questions and theories, starting from the first research question which is hierarchy of needs that consists of physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, self-esteem needs, and self-actualization and then the second research question which is preconditions of needs satisfaction. The data will then be interpreted and analysed based on the circumstances of the scenes, Mickey's motivation, character development, and conflicts that he must brave through to fulfil his needs.