



**THE CHARACTERIZATION ANALYSIS OF ATTICUS
FINCH IN LEE'S *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* 3rd ed.
NOVEL USING TRANSITIVITY SYSTEM**

A THESIS

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
the Sarjana Degree Majoring Linguistics in English Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

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2026

PRONOUNCEMENT

I genuinely confirm that this thesis entitled *The Characterization Analysis of Atticus Finch in Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird 3rd ed. Novel Using Transitivity System* is written and prepared entirely by myself without stealing and taking any works from other people from any universities. I also confirm that I do not use any contents from other publications other than the sources cited.

Semarang, 19th December, 2025



Kanza Namira Shafa Sazaly

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“Families are the compass that guides us. They are the inspiration to reach great heights, and our comfort when we occasionally falter.”

-Brad Henry-

I would like to dedicate this thesis for my dearest parents who always support me unconditionally, my beloved aunty, my sweetest and the most amazing thesis advisor, Ma'am Mytha Candria, to my lovely sister and to my awesome best friends who always be there for me through thick and thin.

Thank you very much

APPROVAL

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Semarang, 19th December 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kanza' with a horizontal line underneath.

Kanza Namira Shafa Sazaly

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	i
PRONOUNCEMENT	ii
MOTTO AND DEDICATION	iii
APPROVAL.....	iv
VALIDATION	Error! Bookmark not defined.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	ix
LIST OF TABLES	xi
APPENDIX	xii
ABSTRACT	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Research Problems	3
1.3 Objectives of the Study.....	3
1.4 Previous Studies	4
1.5 Scope of the Study.....	6
CHAPTER II THEORY AND METHOD	8
2.1 Theoretical Framework.....	8
2.1.1 Transitivity System	8
2.1.1.1 Material Processes	9
2.1.1.2 Mental Processes	9
2.1.1.3 Relational Processes	10
2.1.1.4 Behavioral Processes	11
2.1.1.5 Verbal Processes.....	12
2.1.1.6 Existential Processes.....	12
2.1.2 Characterization	13
2.1.2.1 Trait Classification Based on Abrams’ Characterization Theory.....	14

2.1.2.2	Incisive Trait	15
2.1.2.3	Principled Trait	15
2.1.2.4	Compassionate Trait	16
2.2	Research Methodology	17
2.2.1	Type of Research.....	18
2.2.2	Data and Data Source	19
2.2.3	Method of Data Collection	20
2.2.4	Method of Data Analysis	21
CHAPTER III RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS		24
3.1	Result	24
3.2	Discussion	26
3.2.1	Atticus Finch’s Incisive Trait.....	26
3.2.1.1	Verbal Processes.....	27
3.2.2	Atticus Finch’s Principled Trait.....	34
3.2.2.1	Verbal Processes.....	35
3.2.2.2	Material Processes	37
3.2.2.3	Behavioral Processes	39
3.2.3	Atticus Finch’s Compassionate Trait	41
3.2.3.1	Verbal Processes.....	41
3.2.3.2	Relational Processes	43
3.2.3.3	Mental Processes	44
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION		46
REFERENCES		48
APPENDICES.....		50

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Atticus Finch's Transitivity Traits Data	24
Table 2. Material Process of Atticus Finch's Principled Trait	37
Table 3. Behavioral Process of Atticus Finch's Principled Trait	39

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Atticus Finch's Incisive Traits Lists	50
APPENDIX B : Atticus Finch's Principled Trait Lists	53
APPENDIX C : Atticus Finch's Compassionate Trait Lists.....	55

ABSTRACT

This research analyzes the characterization of Atticus Finch in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* 3rd edition novel using transitivity analysis within Halliday and Matthiessen's Systemic Functional Linguistics framework. The study focuses on selected courtroom dialogues and narrative descriptions involving Atticus Finch, which were purposively sampled to maintain analytical focus and avoid repetitive trait representation. Employing a qualitative descriptive method, the analysis identifies the dominant transitivity processes associated with Atticus and examines how these linguistic patterns shape his character. The findings indicate that verbal processes are most prominent, presenting Atticus primarily as a speaker whose incisiveness, ethical principles, and compassion are expressed through controlled and purposeful speech. Material, behavioral, relational, and mental processes further support his principled conduct and empathetic disposition. Overall, the study demonstrates that Atticus Finch's moral and intellectual identity is constructed through systematic linguistic choices, highlighting the role of language in shaping literary characterization.

Keywords: characterization, transitivity analysis, Systemic Functional Linguistics, Atticus Finch, *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel, courtroom scenes