

AN ANALYSIS OF CULTURAL TYPES IN *EAT PRAY LOVE* MOVIE AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING CROSS CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

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Abstract:

This study investigates analyze cultural types in Eat Pray Love movie and its contribution to teaching cross cultural understanding. The objectives of the research are: 1) To find out the cultural types found in Eat Pray Love movie. 2) To find out the contribution of cultural types on Eat Pray Love movie to teaching cross cultural understanding. The researcher used descriptive qualitative, that is a type of qualitative research. Eat Pray Love movie is a primary object in this final project. The techniques are watching the film several times to gain the comprehensive understanding about the subject, analyzing the data, collecting the data to classify it into categories of cultural types, then interpreting the data. In the process of analysis, the researcher found the cultural types in Eat Pray Love movie are language, art. Food or beverage, body language, social norm, physical characteristic, social structure and beliefs. As example the difference culture types Indonesian and Italian, when Italians are angry they will raise their tone of speech and bite their palms, indicating that they are very angry. In Indonesian culture, when someone gets angry, they will only raise the tone of his speech. If it is followed by a palm-biting gesture like Italian culture, it is considered strange. Based on the analysis, the writer found cultural types can be used to teaching cross cultural understanding with non-verbal communication including body language, eye contact, touch, body distance, paralanguage. Eat Pray Love movie was shown cultural types as an alternative learning material in cross cultural understanding, this study can be used as a source for teaching cross cultural understanding.

Keywords: culture, *Eat Pray Love* movie, cross cultural understanding

1. Introduction

Language as a means of communication involves the sending and receiving process information. Language is known as a symbol of the country's identification and has different languages from each other. Every human being tries to master English because English is used in modern times. English is the most spoken language in the whole world. Many films that inspire people through the description of human feelings can be delivered in voice messages and conversations. Each language becomes different depending on the culture that is in a country or region because the culture is part of people's lives in general.

Culture is one of the ways of life of a group of people who are usually passed down from generation to generation. The culture will continue to develop over time. Many cultures in the world, each country have their own culture and has its characteristics. Also, culture can be a differentiator when we visit a country or region that we have not yet visited. According to Raymond, (2018:2) culture is a part of the practice of the to do with the values of implementing positive in life, however, the body of someone and thinking will work simultaneously to process culture that they believe. The culture should not specifically intellectual or artistic, but can bring meaning and value.

Watching movies can be said to be part of a hobby for those who like movies. Everyone has their own reason for seeing movies, for example, the genre and who the actors are in the movies. For students who like movies, movies are very interesting because, in the learning process, movies can be used as a medium for learning and easily understood by a student.

According to Munir, (2019:20) movie is the most effective media used in learning. Film media is very liked by the way the workings of the learner's brain, with sound, movement, scenes, and imagination the most beautiful to make teaching material interesting and likable dish to the brain, so that the enthusiasm and attention of students is maintained

A movie is a visual media that can be used to study media in education. This movie shows the cultures of several countries that are very interesting to watch and learn. Through movie, we can watch whatever display is shown in the movie and we can see the character of a nation, through the movie we can detect the extent of our ability to respond to movie content. Given that this movie is a strong learning medium, producing and presenting quality movies must prioritize the contents in the film.

Cross-cultural understanding is important for the learner who will begin learning outside of his country and the outside of the region. As a student, students need to know the cultural differences in any country. In this study, the writer chooses the film titled *Eat Pray Love* movie because the content in the film has some interesting culture. The story is about Liz Gilbert has got everything a modern American woman wants. Apart from having a husband and house, ambitious and educated Liz also has a brilliant career. However, instead of being happy, he panicked, was sad, and had doubts about life. Liz felt the pain of divorce, depression, failed love, and lost her life. To improve herself, Liz took a pretty extreme step. She left her job and her loved ones to travel around the world alone. In this movie, there are some characters have characteristic changing during the movie. *Eat Pray Love* is one of the movies is famous in the world because the producer is actor senior Brad Pitt and the actress is Julia Robert one of the Hollywood Star.

From the explanation above, the writer will investigate an analysis cultural types of *Eat Pray Love* movie and its contribution to teach cross cultural understanding

2. Literature Review

2.1 Culture

Culture is one of the ways of life of a group of people who are usually passed down from generation to generation. The culture will continue to develop over time. Many cultures in the world, each country have their own culture and has its characteristics. Also, culture can be a differentiator when we visit a country or region that we have not yet visited. According to Valsiner (6:2012) culture is a positive word in general terms but difficult to explain directly. The importance of emphasizing cultural learning in general is to make it easier to understand the cultural values that are seen.

According to Robert et al, (4:2009) culture is a unique tradition of knowledge because it is shared among a group of interconnected individuals, who are often limited by race, ethnicity or nationality which is weakened by symbols, artefacts, social construction, and social institutions whose cultural icons, advertisements, and news media are used to establish a common basis for communication between members transmitted from one generation to the next or from old members to new members and undergoing continuous modification because aspects of the tradition of knowledge can be falsified or deemed invalid by the newer social order and reality. In a country with many cultures, the

emergence of a common culture can occur gradually and peacefully as people interact over time or when immigrants voluntarily assimilate to a dominant culture.

2.2 Cross Cultural Understanding

By teaching the students Cross Cultural Understanding, lecturer can help the students to improve their knowledge about another culture, rules, tradition, and belief in the other country. It is so important to be taught for introducing the students new experiences that can lead them do the right thing in the place with different culture. According to Saifudin, (2018:517) Cross Cultural Understanding is very important to learn to understand the cultures of various countries, regions and ethnic group. A broad cross-cultural understanding will help negotiator and communicator in conducting intercultural dialogue. Understanding cross-cultural communication before cross-cultural communication will improve chance of success from the communication goal.

According to Epitacio (2007:43) types of culture generally, culture consists of all the products of a society that are created overtime and shared by members of that society. There are two types of culture: material and non-material. The term non material culture refers to all the nonphysical products of society that are created overtime and shared. Non material culture also includes common patterns of behaviour and the form of interaction in a particular society. It is a “design for living” that distinguishes one society from another. Like an owner’s manual for social life, non-material culture tells us how our society works, what is possible, what to value, how to conduct our everyday lives and what to do if something breaks down. Without an understanding of a society non material culture, peoples behaviours not to mention the symbolic significance of their material world would be thoroughly incomprehensible. Material culture includes the physical artefacts that shape or reflect the lives of members of a particular society.

2.3. Movie

According to Nagnath, (2016:150), film and literature are two different things with the same goal to make sensitivity into human imagination and understanding. Both film and literature work together to drive the progress of human civilization and they which is free and one cannot replace the other, such as letters and voice in human communication. Films and literature inspire and enrich knowledge for many people.

To most people, movies are popular entertainment, products manufactured and marketed by major commercial studio. It can be valuable intellectual exercises in interpreting other people's cultures. In the teaching process, a lecturer has to make his students pay attention to the media. So lecturers must be creative in making funny classes. Movies are useful in teaching because it is familiar, evocative, important, and constructive. Through the movie, the lecturer hopes that students can enjoy and are interested in paying attention to the learning process.

Movie is a popular entertainment in the community, the product produced by are produced and marketed by large commercial studios to the public. Movie comes from celluloid strips are motion pictures initially captured, cut, and projected. Barsam and Monahan (2010:71-77) In addition, there is a clear explanation about three major types of movie. Those are narrative, documentary and experimental.

3. Methods of the Research

This analysis applies "Descriptive Qualitative Research". Descriptive Method is type of qualitative research in which data is in the form of oral and written. In other words, qualitative research has several methods. One of them is descriptive qualitative method. In a qualitative descriptive method, the authors compile the data in the form of written or spoken words and use literature study in analyzing to find the data as well. The author looks for several sources such as articles, journals, etc. in libraries and the internet or e-books. The author use a analyzing to find the data as well. The author look for several sources such as literature studies to analyze cultural types by watching and reading film scripts to find data, and the authors search for several sources such as books, articles, journals in libraries, and the internet. The object of this research is *Eat Pray Love* movie. In this research, the researcher becomes the main instrument in collecting data. Qualitative research has an actual setting as the direct source of data and the researcher is the key instrument Bogdan & Biklen, (2007:5). Based on this statement the writer is the best role of the researcher is the key instrument or primary data collecting instrument. The researcher used the documentation method to collecting data. Documentation is a method to collect data obtained from the documents or notes, good in the form of a note transcript, the book, newspaper and so forth Prabhat&Meenu, (2015:80). But, the document of this research is the movie. The data taken are as follows : 1) Watching the movie more than twice or more times to understand the existence of cultural types in the film; 2)

Collecting the data on the movie; 3) Analyze cultural types can found in the movie; 4) Finding the contribution to cross cultural understanding; 5) Finding conclusions.

4. Findings and Discussion

This research founds types of culture through 3 Material and 5 Non-Material culture in *Eat Pray Love* movie.

Types of Culture in <i>Eat Pray Love</i> Movie	
Material	Non-Material
1. Arts	1. Language
2. food or beverage	2. Social norm
3. physical characteristic	3. beliefs
	4. Social structure
	5. Body language

The researcher discussed the research findings in two sections. The first section was discussed the cultural types found in the *Eat Pray Love* movie. The second was discussed the contribution of the cultural types in this research to the Cross cultural understanding.

4.1 Cultural Types Found in *Eat Pray Love* Movie

Therefore, in this section the researcher randomly explain the strong cultural types found from this movie through Material and Non Material culture. The result as follow:

1. Material

a. Art

The cultural types of art in this movie is that in Italy the art is presented in the form of old buildings adapted from ancient Roman culture. India is increasingly perfecting its arts in the religious field, such as forming several more modern special rooms for prayer and meditation. In Indonesia, to be more precise, Balinese building architecture still follows the cultural heritage of their ancestors such as making temples for prayer in every house.

b. Food or beverage

The cultural types of food or beverage culture in this movie is that

Italian food prioritizes appearance rather than taste compared to Indian food which prioritizes spices as the main ingredient in food and Indonesia has many natural basic ingredients that are useful as medicine for the body.

c. Physical characteristic

The cultural types that characterizes the physical characteristics of this movie is that Italians are taller and whiter than Indians and Indonesians. Meanwhile, what distinguishes Indonesian and Indian society is the shape of the nose and skin. Indians have black skin and a sharp nose, while Indonesians have brown skin and small noses.

2. Non-Material

a. Language

The cultural types language used in this movie is that Napoleon which is food in Italy can change its meaning to someone's name if Napoleon is called in Indonesia to be Napoleon Bonaparte, a revolutionary in France. Guru gita, who used to be a holy book in India, changed its meaning to a teaching profession named Gita when the sentence was changed to Indonesian. "*See you later alligator*" is a language of entertainment that is often used in Indonesia but its meaning will change if it is changed to English as a mockery

b. Body language

The cultural types of body language in this movie is that Italians use hand gestures and a slightly loud voice to convey a different message if it is done in Indonesia it might show a different cultural perception because Indonesians when angry only raise their tone. While Indians shake their heads when they understand something someone is saying. If Indonesians do this, it will be considered strange because when they understand they just nod their heads. Indonesian people convey their hospitality through a smile that is different from western culture which tends to be serious in conveying something.

c. Social norm

The cultural types of social norms in this movie is that Italians place more emphasis on eating etiquette than easterners who pay less attention and Indians who adhere to the customs of marriage than Americans and Indonesians who can freely choose their partners. Indonesian people show politeness when Talking to parents and

western culture doesn't care about politeness and think everyone is equal when talking

d. Physical characteristic

The cultural types that characterizes the physical characteristics of this movie is that Italians are taller and whiter than Indians and Indonesians. Meanwhile, what distinguishes Indonesian and Indian society is the shape of the nose and skin. Indians have black skin and a sharp nose, while Indonesians have brown skin and small noses.

e. Social structure

The cultural types of the social structure in this movie is that Ketut gets his social structure as a religious leader because he helps people in worship, in contrast to Geovanni, who has a social structure obtained from helping people learn languages.

f. Belief

The cultural types of belief in this movie is that European society, especially Italy, mostly adheres to Christianity, while Bali and India adhere to Hinduism. The difference is that Balinese people still believe in their ancestral cultural beliefs so that the religious ceremonies they perform are very attractive to some people.

4.2 The Contributions for Teaching Cross Cultural Understanding

a. As a reference for teaching cultural perspective in cross cultural understanding.

The cultural type is one of the materials in cross-cultural understanding. To understand the cultural type in the classroom, there are several methods that teachers can use. In cross-cultural understanding learning, the teacher asks more students to make group presentations. This can make students have different assumptions in understanding the material. The teacher asks students to watch films several times, then they analyze to find out cultural differences based on cultural types. It's easy because students can differentiate the culture in movie from their own or other cultures. Furthermore, the teacher can ask students to categorize cultures that reflect the non-verbal communication from the movie and interpret the results.

Furthermore, if the teacher only explains material based on books or journals, students cannot get real examples. The cultural types is

expected to become a reference in learning cross-cultural understanding. By analyzing the movie. Students can get real-life examples of studying cultural types and easily apply theory from books to analyzing movie. Students will enjoy the teaching process and be able to understand the material.

b. As a reading material for understanding cultural perspective

This research contains the cultural perspective found in the movie and contributions to teaching cross cultural understanding. By reading this research the reader will get knowledge of cultural type .The reader can use this research as a comparison to another cultural perspective research to enrich the reader's knowledge in understanding cultural types

From the discussion above, the researcher through that question 1 and 2 had been answered. The researcher found cultural types in 8 aspects, namely language, art, food or beverage, social norms, physical characteristics, social structure, and beliefs. The researcher also added non-verbal communication to make it more effective with an analysis of cultural types in the context of teaching cross cultural understanding in class.

5. Conclusion

The cultural types in *Eat Pray Love* movie can found are language, art, food or beverage, social norm, structure social, physical characteristic. The teachers can use this cultural types to be applied in teaching cross cultural understanding. Because of learning from a movie, the students can understand the cultural types from *Eat Pray Love* movie. A movie is an interesting media in teaching cross cultural understanding. After preparing the movie, the teachers ask the students to watch the movie several times. Then, they analyze to find out the differences culture based on the cultural types in *Eat Pray Love* movie.

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