CLASS CONFLICT IN FILM IN TIME: AN ANALYSIS USING MARXISM LITERARY CRITICISM

A THESIS

Presented to the Faculty of Adab and Humanities
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Strata-1 (S1)
In English Letters and Literature

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ABSTRACT

Yudaris Octian, “Class Conflict in Film In Time: An Analysis using Marxism Literary Criticism” Thesis: English Letters Department, Letters and Humanities Faculty of Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta 2015.

The unit analysis of this research is In Time (2011) film directed and written by Andrew Niccol. The research concerned class conflict that happened within society in the film. According to the issues that film brought, the research uses Marxism as the basic theory which related to the class conflict. The writer uses qualitative descriptive analysis as the method to analyze the characteristics of both classes in the film that related to role of Sylvia Weis to do revolution and the class conflict that portrayed in the film.

In the film, the character Sylvia Weis who came from bourgeoisie class was helping the main character to do revolution. She became an ambiguous character for helping proletariat’s revolution. As the result, the writer’s first finding is the distinction of characteristic between bourgeoisie and proletariat in the film. The research continues to the class conflict that following the society’s condition, how class conflict displayed and the reason of occurrence of class conflict. Then, to the analysis of Sylvia Weis’ ambiguous class, and determines her belonging class which is proletariat in the end. Finally, the writer found the motive and role of Sylvia Weis to the revolution. Her motive is to bring justice to the society (both proletariat and bourgeoisie) and her role is as a proletariat who started and does the revolution based on her own will. Her reason to do the revolution related to class conflict portrayed in the film through her experience within both bourgeoisie and proletariat class in In Time (2011) film.

Keywords: Class Conflict, Marxism, In Time, Sylvia Weis, Class Distinction.
APPROVALMENT

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A Thesis
Submitted to Faculty of Adab and Humanities
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The thesis entitled above has been defended before the Faculty Letters and Humanities Faculty’s Examination Committee on December 15th, 2015. It has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of strata one.

Jakarta, December 15th, 2015

Examination Committee

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person or material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.

Jakarta, December 15th 2015

Yudaris Octian
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First of all, the writer would like to express the most gratitude and praise to Allah SWT, the Lord of the universe for his help, affection and generosity in completing his study in the State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta. Then, peace and blessing are upon to our beloved prophet Muhammad SAW and all his family, his disciplines, and his followers.

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Jakarta, December 15th 2015

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Society is a group of people in general that living together in organized communities, with laws and traditions controlling the way that they behave towards one another.\(^1\) Society basically has same form in every country in the world. Generally, the point of why human make society because they share territory and culture. They build law to keep balance so that they could live in harmony, even though there problems that still coming in society.

Society in every part in the world always faced much problem; one of those problems is class conflict. Class conflict is a term that we can find in Marxism Theory. This term defines a conflict situation between different classes in a community resulting from different social or economic positions and reflecting opposed interest.\(^2\) This term also called class struggle and usually pointed to struggle of lower class or proletariat class to fight higher class or bourgeoisie class. According to Karl Marx, mostly class conflict occurs because of the economic organization in the most societies.

Class conflict can take many shapes and arise from political and economic situation. Marx has viewed the structure of society in relation to its major classes and the struggle of the proletariat class. As written by Marx titled *The Class*


Struggle in France: 1848-1850, and then continued by Der 18, Brumeire des Louis Bonaparte which describes condition and reason of coup’dè’etat of Napoleon Bonaparte. The book explains and proves that there is an example for class struggle that happened in past time based on political issues.

Economical class conflict is another base form of class conflict. What makes differ from both kind of class conflict is the reason of a form of class struggling that happened in the system. This economical class conflict is mostly happened in world and becomes the main interest of Karl Marx to social class conflict case. Economy class conflict could happened in the whole world during the economical situation in the world, from the advance country to develop country, they have similar problem. There is always a class distinction between people based on economy structure, as happened in America. In 1970, the total man-days lost as a result of work stoppages hit 52.7 million. That was the year of two –month-long strike of auto workers against General Motors. Social conflict based on economic reason, this thing happens many times in the whole world.

Karl Marx view is material dialectic historic which is a view that saw events related one to another and these events viewed by Marx as an identity of society in real form. Besides looking to the reality where Marx concern to lower class movement, Marx also views literature as a product of works who’s the practitioner emphasizes the role of class and Marx’s ideology as reflection of real social condition. The first Marx literary critic is by Karl Marx himself, he

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analyzes on such writer as Johann Wolfgang Goethe and William Shakespeare. Another literary work in modern era that describes class conflict as a main idea is a short story “Time is Money” by Lee Falk on 1879. The short story made on 1879 brings the same idea to the film that the writer wants to analyze in this research.

Nowadays, by the development of technology, a popular media that has some similar characteristic with drama is film. Film can become a medium to tell an idea in form of story but adding with act and scoring like drama. Film has much characterization like another literary work. Like poetry in particular, film communicates through imagery, metaphor, and symbol. Like the drama, film communicates visually and verbally; visually, through action and gesture; verbally through dialogue. Finally, like the novel, film expands or compresses time and space, travelling back and forth freely within their wide borders.\(^5\)

The title is *In Time*, the film that contains a main idea of class conflict or class struggle. It was written and directed by Andrew Niccol. It is a film that produced in United States of America, a country which applied Capitalism that contradiction to Marx” s ideology of Socialism. This film that was produced in 2011 brings class conflict as a main idea of the story in the film. The setting of the film is in future when money as a transactional device changes into “Time”. The reason why “Time” becomes new transactional device is because in the film, human stops aging in 25 and depend their live to sort of device that can help heart to keep functioning and the time of the device is shown in their hands. “Time” in

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their device then becomes more important than money and changed into transactional device.

Will Salas as the main protagonist character in the story lives in Ghetto, he works for his life and lives with his mother. One day, he gets 100 years because of helping Henry Hamilton from robbery but Hamilton himself died from giving his “Time” to Will. At the night, his mother died because the government raises the price and makes his mother cannot have enough “Time” to get back home. Motivated by vengeance, Will goes to main district, New Greenwich to get more time to give to his neighborhood. His existence is tracked by Time keeper and pushed him to go back to his district, but Will maintains to runaway with hostage, Sylvia Weis. Sylvia Weis is a bourgeoisie, a daughter of bank owner, Philippe Weis.

Sylvia Weis is a woman who does not put an interest to the system that pressing proletariat class life, the system which makes bourgeoisie wealthy with much “Time”. She then realizes and gets a turning point after being kidnapped by Will. After that, she and Will experience their lives as proletariat since they were robbed by Minutes Men. She realizes that the system is not fair for proletariat class and she has an initiative to help Will with his revolution. She suggests Will to rob his father's bank, saves Will from the Time Keeper, and gives more detailed information about the bank they plan to rob in order to fulfill equality.

This character, Sylvia Weis, is a unique and important character in the film. The writer found that the appearance of Sylvia Weis becomes the turning

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6 It is sort of district for labor or proletariat class in the film.
7 The apparatus in the story who keep time flow and keep currency in stable condition.
8 They are a gang who rob people in ghetto to keep system in the film.
point of the story. She is a person who belongs to bourgeoisie class, she could go back to her class since Will permits her to go but she does not want to. She chooses to help Will to bring equality to the country. The most important thing is, she is the character that brings a success to revolution since she is the one who had information about bourgeoisie since she is a bourgeoisie, but in ambiguity condition.

According to Marx, he perceived human history to have consisted of a series of struggles between classes--between the oppressed and the oppressing. The supposedly "natural" political evolution involved (and would in the future involve) "feudalism" leading to "bourgeois capitalism" leading to "socialism" and finally to "utopian communism." In bourgeois capitalism, the privileged bourgeoisie rely on the proletariat--the labor force responsible for survival. Marx theorized that when profits are not reinvested in the workers but in creating more factories, the workers will grow poorer until no short-term patching is possible or successful. At a crisis point, revolt will lead to a restructuring of the system. There are many points of Marxism that put in the film. It encourages the writer to make a decision to take this film as an object of the research. Things that have similarity with Marxism points are: the condition in the movie that separate bourgeoisie and proletariat classes by district borders; and capital ownership of

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9 Feudalism was a European political system in which a lord owned all the land while vessels and serfs farmed it. Quoted from http://vocabulary.com/dictionary/feudalism.html accessed on August 20th, 2014

10 Condition where people can built a new and ideal social system by their concerted deeds, demanding collective political action to change society to reflect the way it should be. (Meisner. 1982) and according to the terms, it is communism the system in utopia at the sentence.

economical system that symbolizes by “Time” as transactional device. Those things lead to class conflict that becomes the main issue underlay story of the film.

The interesting point is character Sylvia Weis that become the writer's concern. At the writer's first impression, she belongs to a bourgeoisie class but why she helps even becomes the pioneer of revolution in the film. According to Marxism Theories, the division between classes will widen and the condition of the exploited worker will deteriorate so badly that social structure collapse: the class struggle is transformed into proletarian revolution. 

There is a mismatch with Marx statement during the condition that draws in the film. It is revolution always started by proletariat class but in this film, revolution is started by Sylvia Weis, a bourgeoisie class. Whether she is still a bourgeoisie or already becomes proletariat when the revolution happened.

B. Focus of Research

The writer focuses on the representation of class conflict in the film. In the film In Time, the display of social distinction and how it leads to social conflict is interesting to concern. The characteristic of classes that the writer finds in In Time is using to find correlation to character Sylvia Weis” class position since she came from bourgeoisie class but she helped the proletariat. Those are some points that become focus of the research.

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C. Research Question

A phenomenon of class conflict appears along the film. This entire phenomenon is to emphasize the main idea for the plot of film. These are questions that underlay and become the basic reason for the writer to do research.

The questions are;

1. What is the base and superstructure in the film?
2. How does the class conflict in the film displayed?
3. What is the role of Sylvia Weis?

D. Significant of the Research

First, the writer hopes that this research can be beneficial for academic necessity. This thesis can help student to understanding a film analysis using Marxism Literary Theory. After learning this thesis, students can do advance research using this thesis as a reference, in order to develop a better quality of research. The writer hopes this research can be a contribution for others especially culture and literary studies in State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta. Furthermore, this thesis can useful to readers in general. Readers in general can know deeper about film *In Time* which contains some information about the idea of socialism.

F. The Methodology of the Research

a. The Method and Data Collection

The research to analyze the character and characterization of the
protagonist use qualitative method. It easier to describe how their lives showed in film In Time. The data of research take from the dialogue and the scene of the film In Time. The writer can analyze the characterization that served in the film by its cinematograph and the spoken language through the dialogue in the script and the gesture and appearance from scenes of the film.

b. The Technique of Data Analysis

In this research, the writer uses descriptive analysis technique. Here, the writer will explore the condition of financial and the social issues of protagonist’s society, both the bourgeoisies and proletarian that can cause the conflict in the film. By close reading and watch the movie carefully, the writer can find the clue to identify classes and characteristic of those classes. Then, when data is completed, the writer will try to arrange all, find the relation, and dig more information of the intention of character Sylvia Weis that ambiguous according to Marxism theory, also find the class conflict that occurs along Sylvia Weis experiences.

c. The Instrument of the Research

The instrument of this research is the writer himself, as the subject of the research by reading and watching the film. Besides that, the writer uses some reference books about movie’s elements and Marxism literary theories from library and internet that supporting the analysis of this research. The instrument is using the writer himself as the main instrument because this research is qualitative library research.
d. Objective of the Research

The objective reasons to be used can be seen as follows:

1. To know how base and superstructure in film built.

2. To know how class conflict happened and what its effect.

3. To reveal the role and the meaning of the ambiguous character Sylvia Weis in the film *In Time* with the theme of the film.

e. Unit of Analysis

The unit of the analysis is from one source, it is dialogue and act of the film *In Time*, directed by Andrew Niccol, made by Regency Enterprises Production House on 2011. The writer will watch carefully the movie so he can find the meaning of the setting and how the situation of class conflict displayed and settled in the film. This is the utility of seeing the dialogue in the film also internet for finding issues related to the film.
CHAPTER II
THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Previous Research

In doing this research, the writer is also looking for other research, or article, and other academic writing that having similar theories and method of research or similar object that used in a research or academic writing but with different point of view. There are some of academic writings that analyzing using Marxism Literary Theories on their research or academic writing. There are also some of researcher and writer that using *In Time* by Andrew Niccol as their object of the research but analyzes it with different point of view.

First academic writing is a thesis which analyzed using Marxism Literary Theory as tool to analyze issues in the object of the research. The title of thesis research is *An Analysis of Class Struggle in Sydney White* film by Joe Nussbaum written by Sarah Nur Affah, one of UIN Syarif Hidayatullah’s Alumni. Her thesis research is about analysis class struggle through character Sydney White in *Sydney White* film. She focused on two thing; character of the film and the issues about Marxism which is class struggle that portrayed by character Sydney White. Her thesis research has similar form and method with this research which is focus on character and class conflict of Marxism that seen implicitly by character Sylvia Weis’ experience. Her thesis research also becomes one of many references to compose this research. Even though this thesis research has same theories and method to analyze, the object of my
research and her research is different. She using *Sydney White* film as the object while I using *In Time* film as object of research.

The second academic writing is an article that using the same object of research, *In Time* film. The title of this article is *Eight Hours of Writing about Two Hours of Film: A Review of In Time* by Gary Westfahl. This journal was posted on Saturday, 29 October 2011 at [www.locusmag.com](http://www.locusmag.com). This journal analyzes film *In Time* only the surface according to writer’s opinion such as, the future of 2011 is not drawn as future but looks like America in 1920s, lack of modern technology, and miscellaneous tiny detail. The deepest thing about Marxism Literary Theory that stated in this journal is about “Darwinian capitalism”. This article focused on detail of future in film and Darwinian Capitalism on set of Will Salas life which is different with the writer’s research that put the point of view on character Sylvia Weis and class conflict that seen from her experience along the story.

Those paper-works are having similar points with my research but with different characteristic of research. First research has similar theory, method and form of analysis with my research. Second academic paperwork has similar object, which is *In Time* film. Although this second academic writing is not a research, the article can be counted as one of academic writings that can concluded as comparator research. Another reason is this is the only academic writing that uses *In Time* film as object of research. Despite of same object and theory, this article and my research have differences such as focus character to
analyze object, point of view theory that lead to different focus research and different conclusion.

B. Marxism Theory

a. Definition

Marxism is a scientific theory about society and action to change it (society or the system)."Karl Heinrich Marx is the person who brings the idea that nowadays called as Marxism. Karl Marx puts an interest to relation between people, especially relation between people based on social economic condition. According to Marx, this relation is an antagonistic relation between human in differentiate class, a struggle between one classes owned the means of production, while the other class owned nothing but their labor power, which they were obligate to sell in order to survive."

Marx said history is basically about the struggle between classes for dominance. "The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles". According to Marx, the problem that arose in almost of all human historical period and also made their history is class struggle. It means that the key to understand the development of human history is class struggle or class conflict.

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Marxism believes that economy conflict produces class (rich, middle, poor) and inherently class produces conflict. Marx thought that society would like to divide into 3 classes while now it simplified or we can say push into two main classes. Society as a whole is more and more splitting up into two great hostile camps, into two great classes directly facing each other—bourgeoisie and proletariat. For this condition, it is what looks in the real world and even portrayed in film is only these two classes. They are bourgeoisie, the one who owned production and proletariat, who lives by selling their labor power.

b. Class Structure

1) Base and Superstructure

In Marx’ theory, there is two concept to view human society; base and superstructure. Base in Marxism is an element that shapes the superstructure; how class divide, what matter that make class differentiate, the political structure, and economic climate following it. According to Marx, the base of economy leads to capitalism in its superstructure. The class structure is shaped in capitalist mode of production, and then the structure following it is divided into two main classes: the first is capitalist or bourgeoisie class and the second is Labor or proletariat class. A class is defined by the ownership of property.

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17 Harold J. Laski, Communist Manifesto Socialist Landmark, (Great Britain: Harold and Sons Ltd, 1959)
Whoever has the property has the power to control the production and workers for personal purpose.

The dominant class, bourgeoisie, is tend to exploit the bourgeoisie to get much profit and unconsciously oppress the proletariat. The relation between these two classes is much related and depends on each other. It is because, without proletariat, the bourgeoisie will not exist either. It is about rule and to be ruled. Bourgeoisie who have asset or means of production have some qualifications to proletariat who works for him, means bourgeoisie is ruling proletariat because proletariat can only rely their life by working to bourgeoisie. These social classes based on exploitation and class conflict.

All in all, the profit that comes much more is to the upper class, the bourgeoisie. The bourgeoisie has the property: factory, engine, and land. Proletariats do the job, but since they do not have the facility, they have to sell their power to bourgeoisie. Thus the product and the working process are not belonging to them, but bourgeoisie. And this is the basis of alienation of work. The proletariats have to suffer long hours, low pay and increasing alienation as the bourgeoisie just take profit fruit from their labor. The reality is the Marxist assault on bourgeoisie society.

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18 FransMagnis-Suseno, *Pemikiran Karl Marx: Dari Sosialisme Utopia ke Perselisihan Revisionisme* (Jakarta: PT GramediaPustakaUtama, 1999), p113

2) **Bourgeoisie**

Bourgeoisie is the class in dominant position, a class that rules in order to exploit, and exploits in order to rule. The bourgeoisie is the upper class that dominates production, they are not necessary to work because they can live from underclass work. This class is the one who stands above the underclass or we can say the proletariat.

The most prominent of this bourgeoisie is they can get the most benefit of the production. This can be happened because they are the owner of production property, and ruling whoever works to them. By employing labor (industrial capital), trade, and bargain (merchant capital), or banking and finance (finance capital), even utilized their land to rent (landed capital), the bourgeoisie can get the most benefit, unlimited likewise the wage of the workers.

The separation of these classes is not really separate their interaction. The mean of this statement is, even their class is different, they still can interact one to another in social life. In example is an upper class person pay the parking ticket, which is definitely has lower status than him. It is an example of interaction. The separation in this structure is in their status that rate based on economical wealthy level.

3) **Proletariat**

The proletariat is the weak class of this social structure. In every such society there must be an oppressed class, a class that is both ruled

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21 Franz Magnis-Suseno, *op. cit.* p.115
and exploited, and in Marx’s age this was the proletariat. They are the owners of labor power (the ability to work), with no resource than the ability to work with their physics and minds. In other word, they are exploited by bourgeoisie to make a profit from bourgeoisie’s property.

This antagonistic relationship evident that capitalist attempt to reduce labor’s wage and pushed them to work over intensively, while workers have their own different interest. In this capitalism mode of production era, work and labor process are organized to proletariat remain property-less. This situation makes proletariat keep on giving their power to capital or bourgeoisie and minimalists the rivalry. That is how modern slavery created in this modern era.

This exploitation is something that becomes Marx intention. The relationship between labor and capitalist might be look as “just” an economical relationship of equality in labor market, but Marx thinks it is contradictory. These two partners interest in this relationship is directly opposed each other and at the same time, their opposed interest are also condition that required in production and exploitative relationship. It is means the upper class as an exploiter, has interest to utilize proletariat to gain profit while labor has interest to get wage give their power, unconsciously exploited by bourgeoisie.

By mean, this relationship of bourgeoisie and proletariat create a problem. Different interest of production that they both had makes

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some conflict between them. Marx called this class struggle or class conflict.

c. **Class Conflict**

According to Karl Marx, the history of changes and development of society is the history of class struggle. There are some elements in this class theory of Karl Marx that need to put attention. First, how big their role is in structural compare to consciousness and morality. Bourgeoisie as the owner of property with proletariat as labor power are determining class conflict will happen or not. If bourgeoisie monopoly the means of production and exploit the proletariat, then the class conflict will happens.

Second element is different interest between Bourgeoisie and Proletariat. The bourgeoisie is conservative; they defend their status quo, and fight changes in dominance structure. While proletariat is progressive; they oppressed and do whatever to bring better changes. One that should give attention is this class conflict happen is neither because of jealousy of proletariat nor the selfish bourgeoisie, but this happened because the interest of both class is different. For bourgeoisie, their interest is to get much profit so they can stand their position in market, in order to that the bourgeoisie must press the outcome by put on minimal wage and long hours work to proletariat who works for them. For the opposite, the

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23 Franz Magnis-Suseno (2005), *Op Cit*, p. 117
24 Ibid, p. 118
proletariat wants to get wage as much as they can get and minimal work hours.

C. Character and Characterization

A. Definition of Character

Character is a person created for a work of fiction. That is definition of character generally but how literary character differs? Often, they are people the author knows or people the author observed or overheard. This is one of the most important elements in story. There is no story without character.

In analyzing a character or characters relationship we relate one act, one speech, one physical detail to another until we understand the character. Character in fiction can be classified as a major and minor, static and dynamic. A major character is an important figure at the center of the story’s action or theme. The major character is sometimes called a protagonist whose conflict with antagonist may spark the story’s conflict. Minor characters are often static or unchanging: they remain the same from the beginning of a work to the end. Dynamic characters, on the other hand, exhibit some kind of change—of attitude, of purpose, of behavior—as the story progresses. In the story, characters exist based on realistic classified, round character and flat character.

To Foster, round character is a three dimensional character complex enough to be able to surprise the reader without losing credibility. While flat character is one whom Foster deems incapable of surprising the reader. Besides that, there are also active and static characters. An active character is one who changes because of what happens in the plot. And static characters, remained unchanged, their character is the same at the end of the story as at the beginning.

B. Definition of Characterization

In order to make character livelier, there is characterization. Characterization is an aspect to show what kind of character is they and how to show it. There are two kinds of how the author characterized the character. First, by direct characterization, the narrator or a character summarizes or tells the reader what another character looks like or what kind a person he or she is. And the second way is by indirect characterization. Narrators and characters describe, without comment, a character’s appearance or dress. In this way they suggest something about character’s personality in the story: good, kind, bad, etc. Another way is a character’s repeated gesture or a facial tic, for example, may imply a character’s arrogance or nervousness.

As the writer said before, character divided into two methods, direct and indirect characterization. There are three aspects of direct characterization type, they are: characterization through appearance,

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27 Jane Bachman Gordon & Karen Kuehner, op. cit, p. 95
28 Ibid, p. 98
through dialogue, and through external action. While indirect characterization has two aspects, there are: characterization through internal action and characterization through reaction of another character. Each of these types of characterization are necessary in order to build the image of character stronger, so this character can affect the audience feeling. If characters are truly credible, it is almost impossible to remain completely neutral toward them.29

1) Characterization through Appearance

This kind of characterization is focused on display or appearance of character that described by author. The minute, we see most actors on the screen; we make certain assumptions about them because of their facial features, dress, physical build, and mannerisms and the way they move.30 The appearance of character is the first impression that we get from character when he or she appears for the first time in the story. As the story progress, our first visual impression may be proven mistaken, but it is the important means of establishing character.

2) Characterization through Dialogue

Dialogue is sentences that character said in the story. Whatever the character say, it can be a clue to reveal his characterization. The act of how they say it also a great deal to reveal it. Their true thought,
attitudes, and emotions can be revealed in subtle ways through word choice and through stress, pitch, and pause patterns of their speech.\textsuperscript{31}

The dialogue can also reveal more like their character status in the story. Element of speech such grammar, vocabulary, and structure of sentence can show characters status such as social, education, and economic.

3) Characterization through External Action

It is important measurement to reflect characters personality by their appearance, but it is often be misleading. Perhaps the best reflection of the characters is the act of what they do. It must be assumed, of course, that at real characters are more than mere instruments of the plot, that they do what they do for a purpose, out of motives that are consistent with their overall personality.\textsuperscript{32} Some actions can be more important to reveal character and sometimes it is not large action but only small ones, seemingly insignificant action by the character.

4) Characterization through Internal Action

This kind of characterization is the one that normally remains unseen and unheard by even the most observers. Inner action occurs within characters' minds and emotions and consists of secret, unspoken thoughts, daydreams, aspirations, memories, fears, and fantasies.\textsuperscript{33} An important thing to understanding character personality by showing their

\textsuperscript{31}\textit{Ibid}, p. 61
\textsuperscript{32} Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie (2000) \textit{op. Cit.} p. 62
\textsuperscript{33}\textit{Ibid}
hopes, dream and aspirations, the author reveals inner reality of the character so we see or hear the things the character deep in his personally.

5) **Characterization through Reaction of Other Character**

The way other characters view a person often serves as an excellent means of characterization. This kind of characterization is by another character sees the character by his thought and it states in the story. This kind of characterization is a method of author to help audience by giving hint by another character view.

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\(^{34}\text{iBid, p. 64}\)
CHAPTER III

RESEARCH FINDING

In this chapter, the writer will find out the reason why there are class conflicts in the film. The writer hopes to be able to describe the class distinction in the film that leads to the conflict that occurs and becomes the main problem in the film, also to find Sylvia Weis’ role in the film. The writer also focuses in character Sylvia Weis alongside to her point of view and experiences in both classes.

*In Time* film tells about a state where capitalism is at the peak of its glory. The setting is a world of modern capitalism where “Time” replaces money as a currency to stay alive. It is so hard to disrupt the superstructure system and poor people are much oppress. Will Salas is the main character and he comes from Ghetto community.\(^1\) He works as a labor of a factory that produces time capsule. One day, he gets a “century time” and goes to main district, New Greenwich, and the place where he meets Sylvia Weis. Gambling with Sylvia’s father, Philippe Weis, and wins the gambling, he is invited to Philippe’s party and gamble. Unfortunately, he was obstructed by Time Keeper and pushes him to back to Ghetto.

A twist happens that time. He runs away by kidnapping Sylvia Weis and brings her to Ghetto. Unfortunately, they have been robbed by Minuteman\(^2\) and left only some minutes on their hands. Many ways they do to keep survive for a day, and finally Will ask for compensation for Sylvia’s freedom. Philippe denies

\(^1\) Ghetto is a town which populate by Jewish people, a minority in such a province. In the film this term is set for district who populated by working.

\(^2\) Minuteman is a group of thief that conquers Ghetto in the film.
his offer. Then with Sylvia’s suggestion, they rob Philippe’s bank, her own father’s bank. This robbery keeps going until they rob Philippe’s one million years “Time” savings, and give it to poor people in Ghetto.

The writer interested in character Sylvia Weis as she is a bourgeoisie in the film, but she joins the revolution that doing by Will. In order to find Sylvia Weis’ role in this film, the writer needs to find the element of Marxism first; how bourgeoisie and proletariat described and shaped in the film. After that, the writer can analyze class conflict that happen between the two classes and then, continue to Sylvia’s character, because it is related to her motive why she persistent as proletariat and she helps Will doing the revolution.

A. Base and Superstructure: Class Distinction in In Time

1) Base

The writer uses the theory of Marx to conceal the main issue in the film, class conflict. Before going to the main issue, it is better to identify the main elements of Marxism, a class defines grouping of individuals with shared life situation, thus interest, proletariat and bourgeoisie. Marx viewed the structure of society in relation to its major classes, and the struggle between them as the engine of change in this structure.³

Before we going further, the writer analyze the base of the class structure in the film is economy. The main factor under the spotlight to the film is about the rich and the poor. There are two communities in the film divided based on their

rich status; they are New Greenwich community and Ghetto Community. Interesting part in setting of the film is the exchange value in the film; it changed into “Time”. The background of this value is because everyone in the film stops aging at 25 years old and then depend on heart pacemaker device which has timer shown in their left hand.

The new commodity value changes all the system of economy in the film. It leads every commodity in the film valued by “Time” such as prices of the needs, goods, tax. “Time” of their life device becomes more important than money. As we see in the picture below:

![Price list in In Time](image)

**Picture 1 Price list in In Time**

The picture 1 shows us some price list of commodity in the film. Everything valued by “Time”, so whether people needs to keep their “heart pacemaker device” keep functioning and the commodity to support live such as foods, beverage, cloth, etc, is depend to “Time”. The better the goods, then the more “Time” someone have to pay in order to get it. For instance according to the picture 1, you have to pay 3 minutes of your “Time” for a cup of coffee and for an Energy drink you have to pay 6 minute 30 second because the quality of Energy is higher than coffee. Another example, in real life if you want to go to
another country you have to pay some money to get visa, but in the film you have to deposit some large amount of “Time” to get to another district.

The position of “Time” in this film is so crucial. The proletariat people work and paid by “Time” for their salary, while for bourgeoisie people, they build company and hoping for “Time” as payment for the commodity that they are selling or offer. “Time” set up all structure of community in the film, for example the people’s class distinction and their lifestyle. Then, it can conclude that the base of community’s structure is “Time” as the commodity value in the film.

Furthermore, in the film the ownership of “Time” leads to class distinction in the film. According to Marx the dialectician saw all these categories resolving into two giant contradictory classes: bourgeoisies and proletariats, owner and non-owner, exploiter and exploited. It is necessary to identify these two communities in the film to find the relation with Marx’s structure; proletariat and bourgeoisie, especially their characterization to distinct them in film.

2) **Superstructure**

Superstructure in the film determined and shaped by the base of society structure. Superstructure is also influence the base as well, so these two elements related each other. The base of society structure in the film is economy which is affect the society structure based on economic condition. All the structure below the economic aspects such as, the class distinction determined

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4 Clinton Rossiter, *Loc.Cit*, p.100
by the ownership of commodity value, following it the life style and habit of two classes also different.

The two classes in the film put on different district. There are New Greenwich district and Ghetto district. New Greenwich community is filled by rich people in the country. The district is also the place to set every aspect of economic to support society, for example the head business building located in this district, security head office of Time Keeper also located in this district, the government office also located in the district. It leads to assumption that the New Greenwich community is the ruling class in the film.

Other district beside New Greenwich is the Ghetto. Actually, Ghetto is only an expression to call the place where most labor live and work outside New Greenwich. District distinction listed from district 1 to district 14, listed based on wealthy aspect. People in less wealthy district usually work as labor and the highest percentage of mortality since their “Time” so few. The Ghetto community has similar characteristic to proletariat people. They work as a labor, have a few commodity values, and feel the most oppression from the system. In order to gain more information about the superstructure in the film, the writer tend to do specific characteristic shaped from the ownership of “Time” in the film and to emphasize the role of this communities.

a) Bourgeoisie’s characteristic in the film In Time

First element of Marxism” s class structure, there is bourgeoisie class. This class is the class who rules means of production, according to Marx. The bourgeoisie plays a heroic role by revolutionizing industry and
modernizing society. However, it also seeks to monopolize the benefits of this modernization by exploiting the property-less proletariat. It means that this class is a ruler of economy on some places. In the film, New Greenwich community is the people who rules and decide the policy of the country, and also the people who own the production of “Time”. One of all characteristics distinctions between bourgeoisie and proletariat in general is the ownership of commodity such as goods, money and property. For this film, the ownership of gold is changed into “time.” The “Time” in this film is a transactional device, replacing money in real world. The New Greenwich community has much “Time” in their “Clock” which means they consider as the bourgeoisie in the film. The people who occur in the film that belong to the bourgeoisie are, Henry Hamilton, Philippe Wei, and Sylvia Weis.

The easiest specific characterization of bourgeoisie to notice is they move in slow. Bourgeoisie in the film never move in hurry and fast because they feel no worry of running out “Time”. This characterization becomes the first special characterization to distinct people class in the film. As we see in the dialogue below;

*Sylvia Weis* : “What do you do, Will?”
*Will Salas* : “I haven’t quite figured that out yet.”
*Sylvia Weis* : “Yes, why bother? What’s the hurry?”
*Will Salas* : “Right. Why do today that you can do in a century?”

(00:36:43 – 00:36:54)

The dialogue happened in Philippe Wei’s manor. It is showed in implicit that people in New Greenwich tend to not doing everything in hurry. It is
become a habit to bourgeoisie in New Greenwich. The bourgeoisie never fear their “Time” in minutes, so they do not bother to hurry.

Next is The New Greenwich community does not need to have debt or loan something that they have. It is the first special characterization of bourgeoisie. Of course the reason is because surely they live in abundant “Time” even when their clock starts to ticking. Since “Time” is use as commodity value in the film, The New Greenwich community can own everything in the film there is no need to have debts to get the commodity or loan their goods to get another commodity. We can recognize it from dialogue below.

Sylvia: It woke me. I looked in the mirror, I guess everybody does. That’s what you’re gonna look like for the rest of your life. My dad gives me a decade to celebrate.

(00:59:31 – 01:00:05)

The dialogue and picture 2 above happens when Sylvia and Will compare bourgeoisie and proletariat condition when their “time” start to ticking”. The picture 1 shows us that Sylvia as bourgeoisie never lack of “Time”. She even gets present a decade time to celebrate, much more than enough to live compare to proletariat in common.
The New Greenwich community or the bourgeoisie in the film tends to hire bodyguards. It is another characterization of bourgeoisie that appear in the film. As seen at the picture 3 below:

![Picture 3](image)

**Picture 3**

*Philippe*: You don’t have a guard, Mr. Salas? *Will*: I assumed I was amongst friends.

(00:30:54 – 00:31:01)

The dialogue above emphasizes that bourgeoisie has bodyguard (four men standing beside table). Will, who is newbie bourgeoisie, cannot be the same like other bourgeoisie, because the way he thinks and act is just like previously (as a proletariat). The scene representing the situation of Will when he is in first time being bourgeoisie. He turns to be a bourgeoisie because he has “Time” more than a hundred years from Hamilton and wins the gambling using “Time” from Hamilton as modal. At this point, he can be categorized as bourgeoisie because of his possession of “Time”, yet he cannot fully act as a bourgeoisie.

Another distinction character of bourgeoisie to proletariat is they love to spend their “Time” for prestige purpose. From the dialogue above, Will said sarcasm “I assumed I was amongst friends.” to answer Philippe”s question. This leads to writer”s assumption that bourgeoisie lives individualistic by having bodyguards, bourgeoisie tends not to trust
everyone even their friends. Another reason bourgeoisie hire bodyguards is for prestige purpose, some kind accessories. There also several proof to show this characteristic such as below:

**Picture 4** Will buying car

*Will Salas : “Fifty-nine years”*
*Car dealer : “Plus tax.”*
*“The price includes delivery.”*
*Will Salas : “Delivery?”*
*Car dealer : “To wherever you are going to display it.”*
*Will Salas : “Display it? Hell, I am going to drive it.”*

**Picture 5** Bourgeoisie use taxi

(00:34:44 – 00:35:09)
The picture 4 related to the dialogue below it. It is a screenshot when Will buy a car from the “Time” he won at poker. From this scene we see the sentence, “To wherever you are going to display it.” The word “display” means that the car was usually bought by bourgeoisie people not suit to its main purpose, to drive. This habit of bourgeoisie show that bourgeoisie people in New Greenwich which is spending “Time” to buy prestige, more precisely, for tertiary need since they have a lot of “Time.”

The picture 4 related to the dialogue below it. It is a screenshot when Will buy a car from the “Time” he won at poker. From this scene we see the sentence, “To wherever you are going to display it.” The word “display” means that the car was usually bought by bourgeoisie people not suit to its main purpose, to drive. This habit of bourgeoisie show that bourgeoisie people in New Greenwich which is spending “Time” to buy prestige, more precisely, for tertiary need since they have a lot of “Time.”

Picture 5 show another proof of spending “Time” for prestige purpose. The picture contain bourgeoisie people coming out from taxi, and still in the same scene, there is no bourgeoisie using their own car. It means that they spending “Time” more for transportation. We know that people in New
Greenwich afford to buy car to drive it themselves, yet the purpose of this commodity (car) has changed. They ride a taxi for prestige purpose too, to show the class by following bourgeoisie habit.

That is the special character of bourgeoisie in common. It can be emphasize by the character that drawn as bourgeoisie in the film. They are Henry Hamilton, Philippe Weis, and Sylvia Weis. Now we see the character of Henry Hamilton. These are proofs that show if he is a bourgeoisie;

*Picture 6 Henry Hamilton*  
*Picture 7 Hamilton’s Watch*

*Borel*: “You are not gonna believe me man. This madman is been buying drinks all night. He’s got century.”  
*(00:06:28 – 00:06:30)*

The name is Henry Hamilton he is a bourgeoisie. Picture 6 is showing Hamilton’s ownership of “Time”, it showing one hundred sixteen years in total. Hamilton can buy drinks to all people in the bar. The bourgeoisie habit of him, which is buying prestige, also shown in this scene. It attract the criminals to rob him but he saves by Will Salas, but he choose to do suicide give all of his “Time” to Will Salas.
There is another key character in the film; it is character Philippe Weis. He is the owner of time bank, Weis Bank in whole country made him as the main antagonist (Picture 9). Philippe Weis is one example of ruling class in the film. Along with this bank network, he can set up the tax of loan rate, and rule over proletariat on the financial condition. Thus, the character Philippe Weis and Henry Hamilton are live long enough to understand the system and take a part to keep the system.

We can take conclusion that the biggest differentiation between bourgeoisies from proletariat is the bourgeoisies never live in days, weeks or month. Averagely their minimum time is a decade (Picture 2). Within this much “Time” on their clock, it makes sense that they move slowly and relax, have bodyguards and buy commodity for prestige purpose, they never live in debts instead they are extravagant. Those entire characteristics of bourgeoisie are because the main factor, the “Time” they had. The bourgeoisie lives for a long time-period, slightly immortal. They slightly look immortal if they do not die by accident. They have reached the desire that provide by this “Time” currency.
b) Proletariat’s characteristic in film *In Time*

The second structure of class in Marxism’s superstructure that occurs in the film is proletariat. The writer found that Ghetto community in film is suit with the condition as proletariat. According to Marx, proletariat is a class of modern wage laborers who, having no means of production of their own, are reduced to selling their labor power to live.\(^5\) With this statement, we can conclude that they who belong to this class are they who only have power and work as labor.

Talking about characteristic of proletariat in the film, we are going to find the characteristic from Ghetto community. The main characteristic of proletariat is, they do not have much more money from laboring, and it is also portrayed in Ghetto community at the film. They gain “Time” only by laboring which bringing to their ownership of “Time” lacking. They are lack of “Time” instead lack of money in real life. Lacking of *Time* caused special characteristic that only occur in Ghetto community as the proletariat. The characters who reputed as proletariat in the film are Will Salas, Borel, Mya. Alongside main characteristic of proletariat which is lack of “Time”, there are special characteristics following such as they move in hurry, do not have bodyguards and cannot live extravagant, lives in debts, and the most prominent is they only live in days, as portrayed in the dialogue below:

Sylvia: What was it like when your clock started?
Will: I was in the street. It almost knocked me over. My year was gone in a week, we were so in debt. After that, I lived day to day.

(00:59:14 – 00:59:29)

The dialogue and picture above is when “Time” of Will Salas starts to ticking. It means Will already 25 years old and must live depending on “the clock”\(^6\). The condition of Will Salas is the same with another proletariat in Ghetto. From this dialogue we can take two characteristic of proletariat; they live in debt and live in days. Different with Sylvia Weiss that we discuss before, Proletariat does not get present “Time” a decade, but their “Time” decrease into days in order to pay debt so they can survive. This happens because everyone in particular proletarians actually has debt, the parents debts more accurately. This condition is strengthening by the dialogue below:

Mya: Will! Will! You got a minute?
Will: What are you talking about Mya? You have a whole year.
Mya: Not a year I can use yet. Come on Will, I’ve got bills to pay

(00:03:54 – 00:04:06)

\(^6\) Refer to heart pacemaker device since the “Time” left until the “Time” of the heart pacemaker display like a clock shown in left arm.
We can analyze the dialogue above, dialogue between a little girl of proletariat named Mya with Will when he wants to go working in the beginning of film. Mya has a year in her “clock” yet she does not need time to live because the “clock” starts ticking when she is 25. Back again to the basic condition where the world in In Time is running by “Time” transactional device, the situation pushes Mya to asking for everyone to share their “Time” since she is a kid and can not go to work yet.

**Picture 11** Will works as Labor
**Picture 12** Ghetto condition

As we look in the Picture 11, it is a similarity between general descriptions of proletariat with the condition that shown in the film. Will Salas as the main character, works as a labor in factory. The picture shows us that Will Salas works in a factory that produces “Time” capsule. It does not need high education to do that. This condition is an intention to match the statement of Marx, to emphasize the situation of film and become a hint to use Marxism theory to analyze it, as presumes of writer.

People in picture 12 surely are the proletarians in In Time. They are running or walking in hurry. This characteristic also reinforced by dialogue that addressed by waiter and dialogue between Time Keepers in dialogue below.
Waitress: You are not from around here, aren’t you? Will: (startled).
Waitress: You do everything a little too fast.

Dialogue above is said by waitress that lives in New Greenwich when she gives bill to Will Salas. It shows us that proletarian in this film is easily identified by bourgeoisie. The bourgeoisie people like the waitress in that scene can easily identify Will because he does not act like common bourgeoisie that moves slow. This gesture characterization, movement in hasty condition, become one of characteristics that distinct bourgeoisie and proletariat.

Raymond: He has no bodyguards and he runs.
Jaeger: But if he has time, he doesn’t need to run. Raymond: It’s hard habit to break.

This characterization emphasized by dialogue above. Time Keeper is also able to easily distinct proletariat even he already mimicking the appearance, but habit of proletariat is hard to leave. It means that move in hurry is a typical characterization of proletariat.

Another characteristic of proletariat in the film beside move fast and hurry, that they do not have bodyguards. This is simple logic; they do not have enough “Time” to live even in months, so they do not have “Time” to pay bodyguards. This characteristic, the bodyguard things, surely differentiate proletariat and bourgeoisie in this film while every elite bourgeoisie in the film has bodyguard.
The condition lack of “Time” for proletariat makes some behavior that only occur in Ghetto. From picture 11 we can see one of those activities; it is “Time” fighting, an activity that similar to arm wrestling to bet their “Time”. They have to do many ways to survive like this activity, using brute force to get barely few “Time”. Picture 14 is a portray of „usual“ situation because of oppression from lack of “Time” condition, makes criminal rise up and stealing to murder often happen in Ghetto and end by murder. They do not have chance to waste their “Time” to buy commodity for prestige purpose, unlike the bourgeoisie. In the film, people in Ghetto district usually walk to their destination, if the destination is far they would like to ride bus because it is cheaper than taxi.

**Picture 13** Time Fighting  
**Picture 14** Murder in Ghetto

**Picture 15**

*Sylvia*: Where did my time go? I have a half hour.

*Will*: You’re lucky. Minutemen.

*Sylvia*: Does everyone in the ghetto steal?
Dialogue above shows us information of emphasized condition of Ghetto. The dialogue is between Sylvia and Will when their car crashed and they are unconscious, after waking up they realized that their “Time” have been stolen. Look at the picture 10 of this scene, her face is showing anger and scare expression, it means Sylvia as bourgeoisie does not familiar with the condition, on the other side, Will who originally from Ghetto seems not surprise and usual to facing the condition.

The main character of the film is Will Salas. He belongs to proletariat people, as we see in Picture 2 above and the dialogue below it. It is showing Will Salas” ownership of “Time” he had days in his “Clock”. Even though he have chance to live in New Greenwich from inheritance “Time” of Henry Hamilton, he pushed back to Ghetto by Time Keeper because he originally a proletariat since born.

Another proletariat character in film is Borel. He is Will best-friend for a decade. He work in the same factory with will and he hang out in the same bar with will. By living in the Ghetto and have similar activities with Will Salas, we can conclude that he also do not have much “Time” and made him a proletariat. There is also Mya, a child who looking for charity as in the dialogue before. She has to find ways to help her parent to get “Time” to pay debt which is means that her parents do not have many “Time” that affect to Mya” s lifestyle and status as proletariat.
Proletariat or lower class has main characteristic, it is lack of “Time”. Following to this condition, the characteristic of people in proletariat widen, especially in gesture such as, they move in hurry because they literary live “days”, that is the only “Time” they have so they do not want to waste their “Time” for extravagant prestige purposes. They do not have bodyguard which is an improvidence of their “time” if they pay bodyguard, high criminality, live in debt, and the proletarian also usually take on bus if they have to go long trip.

After we identify characteristic of bourgeoisies and proletariat’s characteristic from both sub-subchapter. It is cleared that the distinction factor of bourgeoisie and proletariat in the film is the ownership of “Time”. “Time” is everything in this film; it makes people distinct into some districts which affect their life-style, such as gesture, people’s habit characteristic (e.g. criminality, prestige). Now for next research, the writer will continue to the question about class conflict, what is the reason caused it?

B. Class Conflict in In Time

The most background of the conflict is the desire of live in long time, or in their term called immortal. The problem coming from this desire is overpopulation. The world will be crowded if all of people immortal, so the bourgeoisies make a system that dependent to “Time” as transactional device. The two class of the film has their own intention to gain what the desire. With the system applied, the bourgeoisie people who having much “Time” can easily
reach the desire to “live immortal”, While the proletariat has to work extra hard to gain “live immortal.” The class distinguishing in film is resulting to some conflicts that happen within the storyline of the film. Bourgeoisie people started to be greedy, since they own means of productions. They can easily set the price and other matters to have monopoly “Time”, with the effect proletariat people as a sacrifice.

It is started by the effect of human mutation that stop aging at 25 which actually they die at 25 years old and have to live depend on heart pacemaker device makes people looks immortal. As we see from this screenshots;

![Picture 16 Will Salas & his mother](image1)

![Picture 17 Weis’ family member](image2)

The picture 16 above shows Will Salas and his mother (Rachel Salas) appearance. They look at the same age, surely because there is no aging to the face of Will’s mother. It is because people actually die at 25 years old, but they depend on heart pacemaker device so they can stay alive without aging. For the picture 17, is more example of immortality in bourgeoisie’s family. The picture is Philippe Weis’ family. The three girls in the picture are grandmother, mother, and Sylvia Weis as a daughter which look at same age. The three girls actually in different generation but their appearance say differ.
This “immortality” is desired by everyone in the film, both bourgeoisie and proletarian people, but their capacity are different. Bourgeoisie people has plenty of “Time” so they can reach this desire of “immortality”, while proletarian people have to work harder to gain “Time” to live longer, even in order to live tomorrow because the “Time” used not only for prolonging live but also to buy necessity.

A problem arose from this system of living. The overpopulation issue then becomes the problem. “For few to be immortal, many must die” is a sentence that says by bourgeoisie people who live long enough, such as Henry Hamilton as a person who live for 105 years and give his “Time” to Will Salas and another bourgeoisie is Philippe Weis. The bourgeoisie who already live long enough understand this world problem (in the film).

Hamilton : For a few to be immortal, many must die.
Will : What the hell is that supposed to mean?
Hamilton : You really don't know, do you? Everyone can't live forever. Where we would put them? Why do you think there are Time Zones? Why do you think taxes and prices go up the same day in ghetto? The cost of living keeps rising to make sure people keep dying.

(00:12:54 – 00:13:34)

From dialogue above, we can pull some information. The main point is some of economic policy in the film is to keep currency, as Hamilton says, “to make sure people keep dying.” The dialogue proves that currency of time in the film is soul. The information is bringing to the main problem of this system. Here is the scheme: people die at 25 years old and then hang their lives to heart pacemaker device. The effects of this condition are people stop aging at 25 years
old, they can keep alive if their “Time” of the device still ticking which is makes people can live slightly immortal. People can die merely by accident even they still have some “Time” on their “Clock” or “Watch”. This immortality makes mortality level going to almost zero level which can leads to overpopulation. The bourgeoisie people understand this bad effect since they live longer because of their “Time”, so they apply new currency system.

It is “life currency system.” The explanation of this system more or less is like this; they set maximum population number first, then if the maximum population number reached or even getting over, bourgeoisie people kill people by natural selection, “The stronger people are who live”. In this case the stronger is the people who own “Time” more plenty, so whoever has lack of “Time” is the sacrifice. This information reinforced by the dialogue between Will Salas and Philippe Weis below:

Philippe Weis: “Of course, something we have is unfair. The time difference between zones.
Will Salas: “I’ve heard that.
Philippe Weis: “But, isn’t this next logical step on our evolution? Hasn’t evolution always been unfair? It is always been the survivor is the fittest. I raise two another centuries. This is merely Darwinian capitalism. It is a natural selection.
Will Salas: “Absolutely. The strong is survived.

(00:31:33 – 00:32:27)

In order to make sure poor people who dead, changing “Time” as commodity value instead of the money is the key, as the dialogue said by Philippe Weis above, “Darwinian capitalism.” The stronger that live is Darwin theory, and

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7 Term to the display of people’s remaining “Time” in the film.
capitalism is the way, that is Darwinian capitalism. Proletariat lives is take by force indirectly by this system made by bourgeoisie since their ownership of “Time” is lacking. They were exploited indirectly by bourgeoisie. This is the side of exploitation to proletariat by bourgeoisie, the right to live.

Bourgeoisie people made boundaries between them and proletariat people. The country made districts for both of them, so bourgeoisie and proletariat will not mixing. With this condition, bourgeoisie can keep “Time” as exchange value circulate only in New Greenwich, and for the proletariat people in Ghetto district can be use as sacrifice of overpopulation policy. To avoid overpopulation, the bourgeoisie make sure there are people in Ghetto district die.

Picture 18 Rachel dead  
Picture 19 Rachel’s Clock

Picture 18 and 19 above are showing the idea proletariat dead as victim. The screenshots above happens after Rachel Salas pay the rent and debt, left some “Time” that usually enough to go back home by bus. Otherwise, the “Time” of her is not enough and pushed her to run to back home. Unfortunately, Rachel’s “Time” is running up and she faced the death. The death of Rachel Salas is one example of “proletariat sacrificing” because of the system that applied by bourgeoisie to prevent overpopulation. Death is only come to proletariat people
like Philippe Weis said before, “This is merely Darwinian Capitalism. It is a natural selection.”

The condition make people in Ghetto want to move to New Greenwich. For example, in order to crossing border seems impossible for people in Ghetto. There are some toll-gates to pass in order get to New Greenwich and the cost is about couple of years, as we see in conversation between Time Keeper below when they investigate Henry Hamilton” s death:

*Time keeper 1: “Sir, You’re right.”*
*Time keeper 2: “We turn back the clock to day when Hamilton death, at the “Time” check. Somebody spent years cost to cross four time border zone to New Greenwich.”*

(00:29:09 – 00:29:19)

From the conversation above, we also can take information that this Time Keeper is an apparatus of the country. They put a role as police in the film.

Time keeper job is only to keep “Time” stay in the district where it belongs. Time Keeper” s policy is everyone must not crossing border between districts because it can cripple the system. It is the system that applied for hundreds years which is the stronger that live or in other word, the rich is the only one who can live immortal. This policy makes sure that people in Ghetto is the one who can be sacrificed.

As apparatus of the country, Time Keeper considered injustice by the proletariat. They only want to take care of a case if the case related to unordinary “Time” flow movement. Time Keeper is taking side only to bourgeoisie people. From this point it can be concluded that Time Keeper is a
bourgeoisie’s dog. They are a merely tools for bourgeoisie people to keep the system on going, which is causing them to be hated by proletariat people. We get this information from screenshot and dialogues below:

![Picture 20]

Picture 20

Citizen of Ghetto 1: “Time keeper, what’s the hurry?”
Citizen of Ghetto 2: “Stay awhile! It might nice if you got to know us.”
Citizen of Ghetto 3: “Why so fast man?”
(Crowd murmuring sinisterly)

The picture 20 above happened after the confrontation with Will Salas when Will want to asking Sylvia Weis’ compensation to Philippe Weis by public phone. On the scene, people in Ghetto do not welcoming Time Keeper in Ghetto. They sarcastically invite Raymond to have a chat with people in Ghetto. The proletariats do this because Time keeper never put attention to their security, although many crimes happened in Ghetto.

The very clear of class conflict happened in the film is when Time Keeper try to deport Will Salas back to Ghetto. Again, the injustice policy occurs in this event. Time keeper forcing Will Salas back to Ghetto and taking all the “Time” of Will Salas even though the “Time” of Will Salas reaches a thousand year and the “Time” that Will get before gave voluntarily by Henry Hamilton. Time Keeper does not accept it and keep their way to make sure Will Salas back to his
class. They keeping the policy which is there is no body crossing district border like Will Salas.

The difference interest of two classes between bourgeoisie and proletariat is the reason. Proletariat want to increase their degree like Will Salas do when he have opportunity from Henry Hamilton. Another side, bourgeoisie do everything to prohibit something like this happen by establish Time Keeper. Bourgeoisie want to make sure from every single point to conquer “Time” to gain “Immortality” that desired by everyone in the film.

Beside establish Time Keeper, bourgeoisie also have other ways to control the population and the cycle of “Time”. As we see in dialogue when Henry Hamilton saved by Will Salas from Minutemen while he really wants to die. The main point is some of economic policy in the film is to keep currency, as Hamilton says, “Why do you think taxes and prices go up the same day in ghetto? The cost of living keeps rising to make sure people keep dying.”

Bourgeoisie can set up taxes and price because bourgeoisie already conquer the means of production. Bourgeoisie people’s companies that running in service or product also taken place in Ghetto such as Weis Bank that running “Time” saving and “Time” loan. Beside Weis Bank, the factory where Will Salas working also a property of bourgeoisie people although in the film did not mentioned the owner. By the existence of these factories and others company that own by bourgeoisie, the bourgeoisie people could willingly set up the prices and the taxes of loan.
In Picture 21 and Picture 22, it is chronological pictures that show the rise of tax by government after Will Salas robs so much “Time”. It is one example of some actions to control the commodity. That picture is appropriate with Henry Hamilton said in dialogue above, “Why do you think taxes and prices rise on the same day?” the answer is to control population and to show who is the ruler.

Philippe: Because everyone wants live forever. They all think they have a chance at immortality even though all the evidence is against it. They all think they will be the exception. But the truth is, for few to be immortal, many must die. (01:32:33 – 01:32:49)

The dialogue above is sentence when Philippe is robbed by Sylvia and Will.

In this dialogue, the sentence “for few to be immortal, many must die” is repeat again. In order to maintain the balance of number of population, the bourgeoisie make sure people from proletariat class dying, by set up taxes and price to control population indirectly. Therefore, bourgeoisie who has plenty “Time” on their “clock” can live “immortal” because they can pay anything to keep alive. Live forever becomes special right to everybody who has plenty of “Time”. While proletarians have to struggling their selves to survive, day by day or they can die as victim of system.
The tax raise in picture above is bourgeoisies’ one of ways to oppress proletariat. They do it because Will Salas and Sylvia Weis have robbed a numbers of Weis bank, so the “Time” flowing to Ghetto district, cripple the system of “Time” circular flow. The bourgeoisie raise the tax of loan so they can get back the “Time” that Will and Sylvia robbed. This action is also showing to proletariat if Will and Sylvia” s robbery not affecting bourgeoisie, showing that every revolutionary act either it is small or big will not affecting them.

C. Sylvia Weis’ Role

1. Sylvia Weis’ Class Position

The bourgeoisie” s strategy to maintain the system of “Time” circular is perfect. The system has been running for hundred years and became hegemony. It is so hard to break. In addition by having Time Keeper as bourgeoisie” s underling also make the system harder to break. Either way, although the condition that bourgeoisie made is so hard to break, revolution still can happen in the film. Character Sylvia Weis who come from bourgeoisie people but ended as a proletariat people is the key of revolution. In the end she following Will Salas” to do the revolution and give advice of how the revolution form.

This subchapter, the writer wants to analyze the class changing of Sylvia It is clear if in the beginning of the film, the class where Sylvia Weis belong to is bourgeoisie class, but her class position viewed by common
audience become ambiguous since the first impression as a bourgeoisie people planted in common audience mindset. Note from Karl Marx as the founder of Marxism is, the proletariat would lead a revolution against the bourgeoisie. When we see the film, the audiences will find Sylvia Weis join forces with Will Salas to do revolution, and this will mismatch with the Marx’s statement beforehand which is revolution comes from proletariat since Sylvia Weis is a bourgeoisie.

The purpose of first chapter is to abridge differentiate someone’s class position. As the writer found in first subchapter, in order to differentiate people class we can see their ownership of “Time”. The character of Sylvia Weis in the beginning is has plenty of “Time”, we can know it from the proof below.

Picture 23

Rado : The girl is still breathing.
Roth : She is got a decade.

(00:48:55 – 00:49:00)

The dialogue above reveal about Sylvia Weis’ clock. This is happened when Will and Sylvia caught for Minutemen’s trap then they had car accident. The picture clearly shows “Time” that Sylvia Weis had. It is about a decade, we

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see at the first four digits from left. It is written 0010-11-20-14-0x, read as
ten years - eleven months - 20 days - 14 hours - (some digits is covered).
This amount of “Time” is typical characteristic of bourgeoisie, the main
characteristic, which means that she includes into bourgeoisie class.

In the middle of the film, Sylvia Weis being kidnap by Will Salas as a
ticket for him to flee from Time Keeper arrestment. In the middle way to
Ghetto they robbed by Minutemen, made Sylvia Weis” ownership of
“Time” from a decade drop to minutes. At this moment, Sylvia Weis
dragged into proletariat class because of her ownership of “Time” became
the same with the proletariats. As we saw at the moment when they reach
Borel” s house below;

On that situation, (picture 24) along with the dialogue proves that she lacks
of “Time”. She only has 2 minutes and 30 seconds. For, the dialogue above,
we can see that Sylvia is shocked. She did not familiar with the condition
lack of “Time”. This scene is to emphasize condition when Sylvia is
experiencing the first time of lack of “Time”, one characteristics of proletariat in the film. It makes her panic and hysteric (picture 25). She becomes a proletariat physically, as we saw her “clock” that drained to hours, but her mental still in bourgeoisie since she did not accustomed to the condition lack of “time.”

On Picture 26 Sylvia running with Will. For will, it is not too shocking because he is used to run before, but for Sylvia it is her first time. Because of Sylvia Weis’ “clock” is lacking of “Time”, it pushed her to run for survive. Running is one of gesture characteristic that only having by the proletarian’s characteristic, which is another proof that Sylvia Weis can now be categorized into proletariat since this moment.

Alongside those series of action happened, Sylvia then has some characteristics of proletariat. The first is Sylvia” s “Time” becomes lacking, she has only some minutes on her “clock”. She becomes panic, this scene also shows us that Sylvia Weis never experience this before and emphasizes that she is a real elite bourgeoisie before. Second characteristic, her movement becomes fast and hurry because limitation of her life-time span. Third, she does not have bodyguard on her side anymore, besides she is
kidnapped by Will, she has robbed and does not have extra “Time” to pay bodyguard.

It is clear enough to conclude that Sylvia Weis become proletariat in the end. The class changing of Sylvia Weis is happened when her ownership of “Time” dropped to minutes. Within the drop of Sylvia Weis’ “Time”, her commodity value become low, she cannot having luxurious life of bourgeoisie like before and pushed her to have another proletariat special characterization because of her lack of “Time”. From then on, Sylvia Weis has to accustom with proletariat class and see the life from proletariats point of view.

2. Sylvia Weis’ Motive as Proletariat

Sylvia Weis has class conscious when she becomes proletariat. Proletariat being oppressed and exploited then bring her to follow Will Salas to do revolution. Her point of view to the system is changing when she turned to proletariat.

*Sylvia: The clock is good for no one. The poor die and the rich don’t live. We can all live forever as long as we don’t do anything foolish.*

(00:37:35 – 00:37:45)

The argument of Sylvia Weis that stated above is when she still lives as bourgeoisie. Sylvia’s as bourgeoisie from born, thought that everyone even proletariat in Ghetto can still live forever if they do not do something foolish, some activities that can bring them to death. She do not know yet the reality that rules and policy that made by elite bourgeoisie to conquer “Time” suffers proletariat. Elite bourgeoisie set rules, policy, taxes, price,
currency in order to exploit the proletariat explicitly exploit proletariats right
to live, so only bourgeoisie can immortal and proletariat dies as a victim of
currency of population as Hamilton said.

After Sylvia Weis turn to proletariat, Will Salas and Sylvia Weis do
some robbery to bourgeoisie. They doing some kind of Robin Hood act.
Will Salas believe that by this robbery act, they can cripple the system.
Unfortunately, bourgeoisie people as the ruling class in the film show their
fang by their power. As we see in picture 21 and 22 above, they raise the
tax to take back the “Time”.

Sylvia Weis with her experience as bourgeoisie before can give
information to cripple the system. Even though she is a proletariat, she still
the only heir of Weis Bank owner, she knew where “Time” in big amount
saved. From this point, the writer can conclude that Sylvia Weis knowing
the secret of bourgeoisie and use it for proletariat to do revolution. This is
emphasized by the act of Sylvia Weis offer a plan to rob her father as the
dialogue below;

Will : It’s over. We Lost. We’re not doing any
      good. Sylvia : At least we’re trying.
Will : No. You don’t understand. All they have to do is keep
      raising the cost of living. A hundred. Two. A thousand. It
does nothing.
Sylvia : So what? We just stop fighting?
Will : We can’t win. We can’t hurt them. The time we’re
taking makes no damn difference.
Sylvia : What would? What would hurt them?
Will : A million years. You got a million years on you?
Sylvia : I guess it really would take a million years. Let’s give up.

(01:28:38 – 01:29:20)
The dialogue above is the scene that we can see that showing the turning point of Sylvia Weis. We can see if Sylvia Weis is not only following Will's order. She even gives a suggestion to do robbery in his father's saving. Sylvia said, “Let's give up.” It means that they come to her father, pretending surrender and then they rob him. The reason of act that does by Sylvia is because some reasons, she is conscious to the oppression of the system. This means that she does the robbery by her own will.

**Picture 27 Sylvia “surrender”**

Picture 27 above is about the scene where Sylvia pretends to surrender but suddenly Will comes up in the middle of Philippe Weis' bodyguards. After that, Will and Sylvia drag Philippe to his safe. The picture shows us that Sylvia does robbery on her own without order or compulsion of Will Salas, and Will Salas look like a sidekick following Sylvia's order while she puts the gun against her father.

**Picture 28**
Philippe: Try to understand, even if you gave a year to a million people, you’re just prolonging their agony.
Sylvia: You are prolonging their lives.
Philippe: Flooding the wrong Zones with a million years. It could cripple the system.
Will: Let’s hope so.
Sylvia: We’re not meant to live like this. We’re not meant to live forever. Although I wonder, father, if you’re ever lived a day in your life.

(01:31:59 – 01:32:04)

Dialogue above shows us Sylvia’s new thought of life. This is conversation when they rob and get Philippe’s “a million years time” as in picture 18. Sylvia argues what his father’s way of thinking. On the last sentence, we can take information that she is already conscious about the condition and take side to proletariat based on her mind. It is clear enough that she has the thought from her experience as proletariat, and she compares it with bourgeoisie’s experience that she had been. Then, Sylvia Weis has new thought, “We’re not meant to live like this. We’re not meant to live forever.” The sentence that Sylvia Weis said is an ideology, for everyone to live normally to live free and chance of die, a justice to everyone, both bourgeoisie and proletariat.

The system applied by ruling class pushes lower class people to survive, to be alive within their short-days “Time”. By looking the transition of Sylvia Weis’ class, we can see how distinctions between bourgeoisies’ live and proletariats’. From bourgeoisie class that can have abundant life to proletariat that have to struggle to live. It leads to one idea that it is not fair to gain immortality if you have to sacrifice another people’s live or in other word is you do not have to take someone happiness for your own sake.
The revolution in the film is the fight of “Time”. A million years of “Time” robbery is the only way to end bourgeoisie dominance. Big amount of “Time” is going out the New Greenwich district to Ghetto. “Time” as commodity value is vital aspect to run the economic state of social structure in the film. Ghetto district that received a million years “Time” from Sylvia Weis and Will Salas can across “Time” border after they give the “Time” equally. At the end of film, some district such 11, 12 and 14 already succeed to be freed.

News: These are live pictures from Dayton. Citizens have taken to the streets. There’s so much stolen time in circulation. Factories in Dayton lie idle and, now citizens are crossing Zones, seen here entering New Greenwich. While authorities claim they have situation under control, others fear the system may be headed for collapse. We will continue to update you on this developing story.

(01:41:17 – 01:41:40)

Monologue of news above and picture (29 and 30) within it shows the condition of the end of the film, the revolution is success. Proletarians now is free from system that tangle them for hundreds years. The conclusion is the revolution that entangles for hundreds years can be broke with proletariat agent who comes from bourgeoisie and know well the bourgeoisie itself.
This revolution is considering a success. With that amount of people, Time Keeper unable catch all people from Ghetto, take their “Time” and push them back to Ghetto since everyone in Ghetto across the border. It is also threatening bourgeoisie position, because the distinction from their “Time” ownership becomes bias. There are much people on Ghetto become bourgeoisie lead to class equality, so the pure bourgeoisie will face same condition, everyone can be dead not only the proletariat. It proves that the system is on the way to collapse.
CHAPTER IV
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. CONCLUSION

In Time is directed and wrote by Andrew Niccol and distributed by New Regency Entertainment. It is first released in United States in 2011. The film is about struggle of two districts of main classes, bourgeoisie and proletariat. The film is set in future society where people stop aging at 25 and depend on heart pacemaker support device and the device time displayed in their left arm. With this situation, the transactional device changes into “Time” replacing money. Bourgeoisie could lived immortal because their ownership of “Time” was high while proletariat struggling to stayed alive because their ownership of “Time” was limited. It leads to conflict which coming from proletariat who wants to feel “immortal life.” The writer analyzed this class conflict in the film, from how is the class distinction display in the film from the base and superstructure element. Continue to the class conflict that coming from the class distinction and each intention to the desire in the film. Finally, the analysis end to the character of Sylvia Weis that the writer saw as an interesting element because she is the key of revolution in the film.

The research has three questions that come from relation of the film and the theory of Marxist. There are three points of conclusion that the writer will present based on this research. In order to analyze the film using Marx, the writer focuses on the base and its superstructure. The base of the film is economy. “Time” has
important role as commodity value and transactional device in the film. Every aspect in film following to the base of economy, the classes divided into two and it also build the superstructure in the film. The class divided into bourgeoisie and proletariat according to the ownership of “Time” and each class has special characteristic and lifestyle. Bourgeoisie is the class who own means of production and monopolize market and control the population, they set the rich people can live immortal.

The second conclusion is the reason to conflict of these two classes is desire to live immortal. Each class has similar desire but different approach to immortality. The bourgeoisie want to monopoly “Time” and make sure the proletariat who dead as sacrifice regarding to overpopulation issue. For proletariat, they want to live longer than days, they interest is to life longer than days and upgrade they status but the apparatus as the tools of bourgeoisie prevent it. So this condition leads to conflict that happen between the two classes, most of it implicitly such as the death of Rachel Weis because of the system.

The third conclusion is about Sylvia Weis’ role as key of revolution. First, the writer determines class position of Sylvia Weis. The writer found the distinction characteristic in both classes including their special characteristic following their ownership of “Time” from both classes. With this finding, the writer used it as reference Sylvia Weis’ class position in film. Sylvia Weis experiencing class changing in the film. She is a bourgeoisie at the early film and then changed into proletariat. At the beginning, Sylvia Weis has plenty of “Time” on her “clock” that proves her belong to bourgeoisie class. Then in the middle of
film, Sylvia Weis’ ownership of “Time” becomes lacking, precisely from a decade to become half hour after robs by Minute Men. This condition drags her to be included as the proletariat class. This is a finding to answer the ambiguous of Sylvia Weis class position in revolution of proletariat, because of Karl Marx statement, “Revolution always comes from proletariat class.”

Then, through character Sylvia Weis, as a character that experience both classes, we can find the class conflict that brings the idea to the film. In fact, the writer finds that the role of character Sylvia Weis is the key of the revolution in *In Time* according to the issue in the film. When the two classes find conflict in each of their own demand or will, then revolution has to be rise to get the justice. In the film it caused by legitimacy of bourgeoisie they made currency of soul system to oppress proletariat and made them to rejecting their oppression. Bourgeoisie in the film also form Time Keeper apparatus to keep this system goes on steady for hundred years.

Sylvia has class consciousness when she changing class. It made her has new view to the system that applied in the film which is the same chance for both classes to get “immortal life” or same chance to face death. However, after class position of Sylvia Weis clear that she is a proletariat and has class consciousness of the oppression. It lead Sylvia Weis to want to stand the justice by doing revolution using the information that she has when she live as bourgeoisie, that is why she considered as the key of revolution. So it can conclude too that Sylvia Weis’ motive is to stop this bourgeoisie monopoly and reach equality for society in the film.
B. SUGGESTION

Based on information that the writer have found from the film, there are several issues which interesting to observed beside class conflict issues. Since the writer found that in the certain sense humans are have some level of needs, and people in both classes have some needs that lacking, the writer noticed that *In Time* film represent sociological and psychological issues.

The writer suggest that Abraham Maslow’s human hierarchy of needs theory which related to human psychological needs can be used to observe condition character in bourgeoisie class such as Sylvia Weis or Henry Hamilton to their situation that seems bored of life, which leads to human needs that lack of something in *In Time* film. Beside this theory, feminism theory also can be apply to analyze character Sylvia Weis through all of her action in doing such robbery and make decision to join Will’s revolution. Sylvia act independently in the film that can be stereotyped to men’s representative instead of women’s.
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