

## **AN ANALYSIS OF MAIN CHARACTER'S MOTIVATION IN JACK LONDON'S SHORT STORY ENTITLED *TO BUILD A FIRE***

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### **Abstract**

This research examines psychology which is motivation of the main character in the short story. Motivation is a state inside us that demands a change, whether in ourselves or in our surroundings. Moreover, motivation is a person's desire to achieve the needs that they want. This research focuses on the types of motivation and the hierarchy needs that the main character try to achieve in the short story. This research is a qualitative research and the method used in this research is a qualitative descriptive method. In addition, the theories used in this research have two theories. The first theory was the theory of motivation proposed by Ryan and Decy to analyze the types of motivation found in *To Build a Fire* short story. The second theory is the theory of hierarchy needs proposed by Abraham Maslow to analyze the needs that the main character try to achieve. The results of this research indicate that there are two types of motivation which consist of intrinsic motivation, they are five data of behavior and five data of passion. In addition, they are extrinsic motivation which are three data of status and two data of rewards. Meanwhile, there are five types of hierarchy needs which consist of three data of psychological needs, four data of safety needs, three data of love and belongingness needs, two data of self-esteem needs and three data of cognitive needs.

**Keywords:** *hierarchy needs, motivation, psychology*

## **1 Introduction**

Psychology included in the study of literature to find out the behavior and motivation of a character (Utama, 2013). From that point, psychological theories can be used to analyze the motivations of characters that appear in literary works such as novels, poetry, and short stories. Through psychological approaches, people can also learn and find out about the human mind, actions, and behavior.

The motivation of the character is often described in literary works. One of those is a short story. According to Gwynn (2002), a short story is a literary work that includes the elements of character, plot, theme, problem, climax, and resolution. Many people are interested in literature. Some of them choose to read short stories because they get bored quickly if they read a novel that contains several chapters. A short story is a literary work that is short and only consists of a few pages, which the reader can only spend a little time or their spare time reading. Short stories have advantages when lovers of literary works want to enjoy some literary work but do not have much time to read. Short stories are the solution because they can be read in just one sitting.

It can be assumed that motivation is a behavior connected to intrinsic and extrinsic reasons in someone's life. Reeve (2015) also added that the environment and society will play a big role in terms of extrinsic motivation. As can be seen from the previous explanation about the main character of the short story above, the man has intrinsic and extrinsic motivations. There is also the hierarchy of needs that is represented in the *To Build a Fire* short story, which can be used in order to analyze the character's motivation.

*To Build a Fire* is a short story that tells the story of a man who walks on the Yukon snow to go to a mining camp. On the way to the camp, the man was followed by a dog. This man isn't afraid of the extreme weather that he will face. Even though the old man already warned him not to go alone in extremely cold weather because no one has ever done that, he doesn't care. The man underestimated the weather because he believed in himself that he would be able to walk alone. On his way, the man encountered a lot of problems, obstacles, and, of course, a cold. There are so many motivations contained in this short story.

Based on the problem above, the researcher will analyze the main character from the short story entitled *To Build a Fire* by Jack London, which was published in 1908. The researcher will analyze intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation based on Ryan and Decy (2000) theory of Motivation. Moreover, the researcher will also analyze the main character's needs based on Maslow's theory of Hierarchy Needs. Those theories will help the researcher analyze and figure out the motivations and needs of the main character. In this case, Jack London's short story has a lot of data to analyze about the character and motivation, which makes the researcher realize that *An Analysis of the Main Character's Motivation in Jack London's Short Story Entitled To Build a Fire* is important to be analyzed.

## **2 Literature Review**

### **2.1 Literature**

Literature is one of the way to express human thoughts using literary work, which includes novels, short stories, drama, and also poetry. Wellek and Warren (1990) added, "Literature is a mirror of human life that shows the feelings, thoughts, and perceptions of humans that can be seen based on personal judgment." This means that literature is a tool to deliver emotions and ideas, that represent humans in every aspect of life. Klarer (2004) also added that literature is full of written expression, but with the condition that not all written documents can be assumed to be literature in terms of something with more precise words. This research will analyze literary works, which are produced by facts that happen in real life.

From those statements, it can be concluded that literature is connected with human life in every aspect. Those aspects can be translated into written expression through people's thoughts, perceptions, and ideas. There are several types of literary works, such as drama, novels, poetry, and short stories. People used to read novels or short stories in order to get rid of their boredom. It also helps people relax, gain knowledge, and calm their minds. Literature also taught us about life and the struggles using words. From those types of literary works mentioned above, this study will be focused on the short story.

### **2.2 Motivation**

Literature and psychology are studies that deal with people and their emotions, suffering, desires, and motivations; it is obvious that there is a significant correlation between literature and psychology (Aras, 2015). In addition, Uno (2012) said that motivation is an aspect of psychology that could explain someone's behavior. The essence of conduct is orientation toward one aim. In other words, the behavior of someone is planned to attain the aim. To reach such a goal required a process of interaction with certain parts. Thus, motivation is a force that encourages the person to performs anything to attain the goal.

## 2.3 The Types of Motivation

According to Ryan and Decy (2000) they divide two kinds of motivation which are intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation.

### a. Intrinsic Motivation

Ryan and Decy (2000) stated that intrinsic motivation has two parts, the first one is that people should control their behavior. The second is they should have feeling as a competent and capable person or their passion. It can be concluded that the difference between extrinsic and intrinsic motivation is in the activation of action. It also can be concluded that intrinsic motivation is some actions and behaviors that derive from someone's mind and desire. For example, someone who loves and has an interest in reading a book or someone who loves the arts and decided to study the meaning of some paintings in a museum. Moreover, the parts of intrinsic motivation will be described as follows:

#### 1) Behavior

Behavior is how someone acts in every aspect of life. It can be described as what and how a person does to make their dreams and wishes come true, to make something change the way they want it to be, or to keep things the same as usual. For example, behavior is a response to things that are happening based on the thoughts and feelings of someone.

#### 2) Passion

Passion is a word that is being used to imply powerful and persistent or barely manageable emotion or desire in relation to a certain person or thing. Passion may range from intense interest in, or admiration for, an idea, proposition, or cause; to the passionate pleasure of a hobby or activity; to the greatest interest, enthusiasm, or feeling towards a person. It is typically used in the context of romance or sexual desire. However, it often suggests a deeper or even more inclusive feeling than that conveyed by the term passion, often integrating thoughts of pleasure and/or misery.

### b. Extrinsic Motivation

The extrinsic motivation came from external factors. For example, status, promotion, and also including rewards. Besides, intrinsic motivation comes from inside. Which means that the people's actions derived from satisfaction and enjoyment, something inside themselves. Ryan and Decy (2000) stated that extrinsic motivation is a desire to behave in specific ways based on external factors, and it leads to external benefits. These factors include grading systems, employee assessments, rewards and honors, and the respect and admiration of others. Moreover, the parts of extrinsic motivation will be described as follows:

#### 1) Status

Status is a phrase of position in a community or a social structure, such as female, male, mother, kid, student, teacher, and many more. A status holder is expected by others to act in a certain way, relating to particular circumstances. According to Ridgeway (2014), individuals must take status opinions into consideration in their own behavior, whether or not they personally approve of them, since they anticipate that others will evaluate them in light of these beliefs. It means that a status that someone already occupied at the moment they were born or joined a family is different from a status that someone wants to achieve, especially status as a doctor, lecturer, or pilot in terms of their profession.

#### 2) Promotion

Promotion is a word that being used when an employee goes from one position to another which is better in terms of income, responsibilities, and prestige. It is a climbing move in grade and responsibilities. According to Spiegel (2004), who describes that promotion as a transition to a position where responsibilities and status grow, It means that promotion can

also be used in someone's life when the person has a desire to have promotion in a career or in a society group.

### **3) Rewards**

Reward is a kind of gift that is usually given to someone who has already worked hard. For example, after every race or competition, there will be rewards after that. That is also becoming one of the reasons why people will work really hard in order to achieve the rewards. They are provided mainly to acknowledge the performance of another individual and to encourage them. The reason is because motivated workers result in better output, and the company as a whole grows.

## **2.4 Hierarchy Needs**

Psychology approach is one of part theory in literature. This approach relates to human personality. This approach has psychological elements that come from the authors and the readers of the literary work. In this approach, motivation is one of contained from the psychology because has desire of human. Motivation is a person's desire to get what they want. By having motivation, someone will continue to struggle and want to know more about something they want.

According to Maslow (1970), motivation is defined and classified into the needs hierarchy. Maslow states that a hierarchy of human basic needs is necessary to classify human motivation. It is started from the psychological needs, safety and security needs, the love and belongingness needs, the self-esteem needs, cognitive needs, aesthetic needs, the self-actualization needs and transcendence needs. The definition will be explained as follows:

### **a. Psychological Needs**

Started Starting with the most important needs, which are psychological, there are the needs for food, oxygen, water, and sleep. According to Maslow, who added that some of these needs require human efforts to fulfill the body's need for homeostasis; that is, maintaining consistent levels in distinct biological systems (for example, maintaining a body temperature of 98.6 °F).

Maslow proposed physiological needs as the most basic of human wants. If someone is missing in more than one need, they're going to attempt to fulfill these physiological needs first. For instance, if someone is really hungry, it's difficult to concentrate on anything other than food. Another example of a physiological need would include the need for appropriate sleep.

### **b. Safety Needs**

Maslow added that as long as psychological needs are fulfilled, the safety and security needs come out when people feel danger or threats from other people, or law, order, and a sense of authority. Moreover, once people's physiological needs are fulfilled, the next need that emerges is a safe environment. Safety needs are visible from a young age since children have a need for secure and predictable situations and often react with dread or anxiety when they are not provided. Maslow pointed out that among adults living in developed nations, safety needs are more visible in emergency situations (such as war and disasters), however, this need could also describe why we tend to prefer the comfortable or why we do things like acquire insurance and deposit to a savings account.

### **c. Love and Belongingness Needs**

The needs of love, affection, and belongingness will emerge when the safety needs are fulfilled. According to Maslow, the next need in the hierarchy includes being loved and accepted. This need involves both romantic relationships along with bonds with family and close friends. Moreover, it involves our need to feel that we belong to a social group. Significantly, this need includes both feeling loved and experiencing love towards others.

During Maslow's time, researchers have proceeded to examine how love and belonging needs influence well-being. For example, having strong bonds is associated with better physical health and,

alternatively, feeling isolated. For example, having unfulfilled belonging needs has negative repercussions for health and well-being.

**d. Esteem Needs**

Maslow stated that self-esteem is divided into two components. The first one includes the needs of power, accomplishment, competence, knowledge, and ability. In addition, confidence, independence, and freedom are also included. Meanwhile, the second component is the desire for reputation and prominence position, fame, greatness, dominance, recognition, dignity, and admiration. Maslow also mentioned that the fulfillment of the self-esteem needs leads to the emotions of self-confidence, worth, strength, capability, and sufficiency of being helpful and essential in the world.

It can be concluded that Maslow particularly emphasizes that self-esteem is separated into two types. They are, esteem which is focused on respect and appreciation from others, the second is esteem which is focused on personal self-assessment. Self-confidence and independence derive from this later sort of self-esteem.

**e. Cognitive Needs**

Maslow argued that individuals need to become more intelligent in order to pursue knowledge. The need to learn, investigate, explore, and create in order to get a greater grasp of their surroundings is expressed by cognitive needs. If this need for learning and self-actualization is not met, it can result in uncertainty and an identity crisis. Furthermore, this is strongly tied to the desire to discover or an openness to new things.

It can be concluded that the fifth level of Esteem, which comes after the fourth, is Cognitive needs, which includes the desire for knowledge, information, study, interest, and exploration. Knowledge is powerful. People feel more secure and certain about their lives and the decisions that people make the more knowledge they have. Many of the successful people have a strong desire for knowledge. People are fascinated. People are always learning. People never stop investigating.

**f. Aesthetic Needs**

According to Maslow's theories, the hierarchy states that while people may advance farther toward Self-Actualization, they require attractive imagery or something unique and aesthetically satisfying. In order to completely appreciate and extract the beauty that the earth has to offer, people need to renew themselves in the sight and beauty of nature. That need for a beautiful connection to our surroundings is at a higher level and ends in a lovely sense of closeness with everything that wonderful.

**g. Self-Actualization**

Maslow stated that "What man can be. He must be. He must be true to his own nature ". It means that people should not imitating others and just have to be themselves. The lack of self-actualization needs satisfaction needs may cause bad feelings, inferior, and powerlessness. Self-actualization relates to feeling fulfilled, or feeling knowing that people are living up to their potential.

Moreover, one unique characteristic of self-actualization is that it feels different for everyone. For one individual, self-actualization may include helping others or for another person, it might require achievements in an artistic or creative sector. Essentially, self-actualization involves believing that people are doing what they believe that they are meant to do. According to Maslow, obtaining self-actualization is relatively unusual, and the examples of famous self-actualized individuals include Abraham Lincoln, Albert Einstein, and Mother Teresa.

**h. Transcendence Needs**

Maslow eventually divided the triangle's top to include self-transcendence, commonly known as spiritual needs. In comparison to other requirements, spiritual needs may be met on numerous levels.

When this desire is met, it results in sentiments of integrity and pushes everything to a new level of being.

Transcendence needs are those that go beyond the individual self. For example are Religious needs, commitment to others, and transcending beyond oneself and the materialist worldview. Moreover, in Maslow's original theory of motivation, transcendence needs are when an individual is motivated by needs other than self-interest. Factors like spirituality, contributing back to the society without any self-interest connected, a goal of making people smile, and more.

### **3 Research Method**

This study is analyzing the main character's motivations in the short story *To Build a Fire*. The researcher uses the descriptive-qualitative method in order to analyze this study. Moleong (2016) stated that qualitative research contains of research procedures which it produce descriptive data, such as the spoken words of the person or people and the behavior or characterization that will be analyzed.

### **4 Result**

The researcher discovered five types of feminism in Colette movie script. They are Liberal feminism, Radical feminism, Anarchist feminism, Marxist feminism and Socialist feminism. Moreover, the researcher also discovered four women's rights of the main character. They are rights to work, rights to own property, rights to own literary and artistic production and freedom from slavery. The findings will be described in detail below.

#### **4.1 Types of Motivation of The Main Character**

##### **a. Intrinsic Motivation**

Intrinsic motivation come from inside. Which means that the people's actions derived from the satisfaction and enjoyment, something inside themselves. Intrinsic motivation has two parts, the first one is the people should control their behavior. The second is they should have feeling as a competent and capable person or their passion.

##### **1) Behavior**

Behavior can be described as what and how a person does to make their dreams and wishes come true, to make something change the way they want it to be or to keep things the same as usual. As can be seen from the findings below,

*"...Now, he must build the fire again, and this second time he must not fail. He made a new foundation for a fire, this time in the open space, where no would be above it."* (p.73)

The main character is a person who tend to never give up in order to still alive. The man kept failing build a fire because of the bad situation around him. The weather did not help him at all. It is impossible to build a fire in a cold weather that full of snow. But, that is not make the man surrender for his dream. He tried several ideas to build a fire, with a small chance that would ruin his fire, it is shows that the man's behavior can be used as one of the intrinsic motivation to help him survive in an extremely cold weather. The persistence that the man have, become the reason why it is a part of behavior in intrinsic motivation.

*"He climbed the high earth-bank where a little-traveled trail led east through the pine forest. It was a high bank, and he paused to breathe at the top."* (p.64)

The situation shows that the man climbed the high earth-bank which is has never been done by any traveler because it is too dangerous with the little traveled trail. But, the man still climbed and took a deep breathe while looking at the trail that he will going through. The man did not afraid with the dangerous, his behavior has

shown that he will do anything in order to join his friends on the mine camp. The man wanted to start earn money by mining gold, that is why he come a long way from India to Canada, Yukon. The man's behavior that never give up to achieve what he wanted has become one of the reasons this data is a part of behavior aspect in intrinsic motivation.

*"It was nine o'clock in the morning. There was no sun or promise of sun, although there was not a cloud in the sky. It was a clear day. However, there seemed to be an indescribable darkness over the face of things. That was because the sun was absent from the sky. This fact did not worry the man. He was not alarmed by the lack of sun. It had been days since he had seen the sun."* (p.64)

The man looking at the sky and realized that there is no sun and there is no sign that the sun will shows up in a couple hours or even days. The situation did not bothered the man at all, he did not thinking about the dangerous that he might face. for example, snowstorm. The man did not even consider it or afraid of it. The way he underestimate the nature will lead him to his death. Yet, it is not bothered him at all. The behavior of not afraid with every bad situation that he might be face has shown that the man's behavior has motivate him to not give up and still focus with his goal to arrive at the mine camp.

*"The old sled trail could be seen, but a dozen inches of snow covered the marks of the last sleds. In a month no man had traveled up or down that silent creek. The man went steadily ahead. He was not much of a thinker"* (p.67)

There is no man had traveled through the sled trail in month, which makes the marks are gone. The man was supposed to be worried with this situation, especially he was all by himself. But, he did not even think about it and started to walk with full of confidence without considering that he might be get lost on the way. The man believes on himself and trust his skills because he already know about the struggle to survive in a long journey. But he forgot that he was never been in a winter season before. Instead, the man was excited with winter season especially to walking under it. The man's behavior has motivate him to walking in an extremely cold weather. That is why this data become one of the behavior aspect of intrinsic motivation, which is the factors that derived inside the man itself.

*"Such were his thoughts, but he did not sit and think them. He was busy all the time they were passing through his mind. He made a new foundation for a fire, this time in the open space, where no tree would be above it. Next, he gathered dry grasses and tiny sticks. He could not bring his fingers together to pull them out of the ground, but he was able to gather them by the handful. In this way he also got many pieces that were undesirable, but it was the best he could do."* (p.73)

The man tried his best not to give up building a fire, because his hands already frozen and numb. He could not feel his fingers anymore. The man tried to gathered all the dry grasses and tiny sticks with hard work using his frozen hands. But, it is useless because it is not easy to pick up those things by frozen hands and especially in a cold weather. Regardless all of the struggles, the man did not even thinking to stop or give up in order to build a fire. The man still fighting for it to survive and keep alive. The behavior of not give up become one of the reason it is a part of intrinsic motivation.

## **2) Passion**

Passion may range from intense interest in, or admiration for, an idea, proposition, or cause; to the passionate pleasure of a hobby or activity; to the greatest interest, enthusiasm, or feeling towards a person and pleasure. As can be seen from the findings below,

*"He was a newcomer in the land, and this was his first winter."* (p.65)

The man is a newcomer, he was from India, where he has never experienced winter before. It can be seen that the first time he arrived at Yukon, which located in North Canada near Alaska. At that time, it is actually a bad situation for the man to walk alone in the cold weather in order to gather with his friends in a mine camp. Yet, because of the excitement towards his first winter which makes him blind with the situation that he will face after that. It can be seen that, the first winter is one of the man's passion to walk in a cold weather.

*"He had taken the long trail to look at the possibility of floating logs from the islands in the Yukon down the river when the ice melted." (p.66)*

The phrase above shows that the man also has a dream to see a floating logs, which is a thing that he never saw before. That is the reason why he took the long trail in order to see the floating logs without even considering the decision that he made will put him in a dangerous situation ahead. It is because the long trail means that the man will have to survive in a cold weather longer than he should be. It can be seen that the floating logs is one of the man's passion to be brave taking the long trail.

*"The man looked along the way he had come. The Yukon lay a mile wide and hidden under three feet of ice. On top of this ice were as many feet of snow." (p.64)*

The Yukon trail, which is known as the hardest trail when winter comes did not make the man hesitate to start his journey. The man already walked about an hour and he is satisfied with his accomplishment. Despite the thickness of snow, the man did not hesitate and keep walking through the cold winter. He believes at himself that he will able to arrived in a mine camp by 6 p.m. It is still a lot of trail that the man must walking through. The man's passion has shows that he will not give up until he was able to see the floating logs and join his friends in a mine camp. The passion has become one of the intrinsic motivation which motivate the man to keep walking in a cold weather alone by himself.

*"This dark line was the trail—the main trail. It led south 500 miles to the Chilcoot Pass, and salt water. It led north 75 miles to Dawson, and still farther on to the north a thousand miles to Nulato, and finally to St. Michael, on Bering Sea, a thousand miles and half a thousand more." (p.65)*

The long trail above has showed that it is not easy to walking through the trail. It is far, dangerous, and the weather was extremely cold. The snowstorm also make it even worse for a human to walk through it. These obstacles are supposed to make the man worried or scared and even thinking twice or hundred times before he started his journey. But, the man was too underestimate the nature and over confident with his survival experiences. The passion that the man have, shows that he will do everything to fulfill what he wanted. That is why this data indicates passion aspect which is derived from the man himself.

*"At half-past twelve, on the minute, he arrived at the divide of the creek. He was pleased at his rate of speed" (p.69)*

The time shows that the man already arrived at the divide of the creek, which is quite far and the man were supposed to be arrived there longer than it should be. The man pleased and satisfied with it. The reason why the man could walk so fast even though in an extremely cold weather was because walking or having a journey was part of his hobbies. Hobby is one of the desire that every human being has, the man willingly to walk alone because he loves to do it. Having a journey makes him excited, which is the thing that the man interested with and shows his enthusiasm. That is why the man's hobby become one of the passion aspect that derived from intrinsic motivation.

## **b. Extrinsic Motivation**

Extrinsic motivation came from external factors. Extrinsic motivation is a desire to behave in specific ways based on external factors and it leads in external benefits. These factors include, status, promotion and rewards



that purposes to gain respect and admiration of others. The researcher only found two extrinsic motivation which are status and rewards that will be described as follow

### **1) Status**

Status which gained with a purpose to proof the society or someone is known as accomplished status. The purpose is to show someone's ability and what they capable of. Any public image maintained by someone as a consequence of his or her own accomplishment in direct formal or competitive pressures with others is known as accomplished status. As can be seen from the findings below,

*"....He remembered the advice of the old man on Sulphur Creek, and smiled. The man had been very serious when he said that no man should travel alone in that country after 50 below zero. Well, here he was; he had the accident; he was alone; and he had saved himself. Those old men were rather womanish, he thought. All a man must do was to keep his head, and he was all right. Any man who was a man could travel alone." (p.72)*

As can be seen from the findings above, it shows that the man has extrinsic motivation which is from an old man who warned him that he should not walk in a an extremely cold weather alone. The old man also warned him that nobody has ever walk alone in Yukon's cold weather, the old man did not one something bad happen to him. Meanwhile, the man took the advice and warning as the reasons to proof that the old was wrong. He wanted to proof that the old man was too afraid of cold weather. The desire to proof that the old man is wrong, has become one of the extrinsic motivation of the man to proof his status as a man who are able to travel in a cold weather alone.

*"It was his last moment of fear. When he had recovered his breath and his control, he sat and thought about meeting death with dignity." (p.78)*

The man already accept his destiny to die in a cold weather without any body accompany him, except the wild dog who followed him when he started his journey. The man cannot finish his journey or even arrived at the mine camp, because he failed to build a fire and that make his numb hands and frozen feet were getting worse. The situation get more intense at the moment when the man cannot feel his hands anymore, he even cannot feel the pain anymore. The man feel grateful that he will died in this condition, he remembered that there are more people who died in a worst situation than what he experienced at the moment. The man still being positive with his death because he wanted to show that his death is not because he fell through the breaking ice, which is something that he proud of. He wanted to show his status as a man who able to walking half way in an extremely cold weather alone by himself, and died peacefully with dignity. He already imagined all of his friends found his body and proud of him. The expectations and desire to be admired by others is the reason why this data indicates extrinsic motivation, which is the factors from outside that motivates the man.

*"When he returned to the United States he could tell the folks what real cold was." (p.79)*

The data above also supporting the status that the man wanted people are able to see it from him. It is because at the moment when the man was exhausted and almost cannot handle the coldness that he face, he convincing himself that he will able to tell the folks what real cold was, because he was the one who able to walking alone in Yukon's deadly winter. The data shows that the man craving for being admired by others. It is become one of the factors of extrinsic motivation that motivates the man to keep walking and able to handle the coldness, which is described as a part of status that the man want to achieve.

### **2) Reward**

Reward is a kind of gift that usually will be given to someone who already working hard. For example, after every race or competition there will be rewards after that. That is also become one of the reason why people will working really hard in order to achieve the rewards. As can be seen from the findings below,

*“....He would be in camp by six o’clock that evening. It would be a little after dark, but the boys would be there, a fire would be burning, and a hot supper would be ready.” (p.66)*

According to the phrase above, it can be seen that the man is starving, freezing, and hope to arrived soon at the mine camp in order to be able to eat hot soup, warm his body in front of the burning fire, and also gather with all of his friends. Even though it is hard for him to survive while traveling in an extremely cold weather, the man still believe with the rewards that he will received after arrived in a mine camp which he used as an external motivation in his journey.

*“It was ten o’clock. He was traveling at the rate of four miles an hour. Thus, he figured that he would arrive where the stream divided at half-past twelve. He decided he would eat his lunch when he arrived there.” (p.67)*

The man has already planning that he will eat his lunch after he arrived at the stream divided by half-past twelve. The man could eat his lunch right at that moment, but he decided not to do that and saving his lunch. The man did that in purpose because he wanted to reward himself after he walked for two hours under an extremely cold weather when he arrived at the stream divided. His lunch will become his reward in order to congratulate himself. The lunch itself become one of the extrinsic factors that motivates the man to keep walking without thinking of giving up or surrender over the bad weather.

## **4.2 Hierarchy Needs**

Motivation is defined and classified into the needs hierarchy. Maslow (1970) stated that a hierarchy of human basic needs in order to classifying human motivation. It is started from the psychology needs, the safety and security needs, the love and belongingness needs, the self-esteem needs, the self-actualization needs. In this findings, the researcher has found three hierarchy needs from the main character of To Build a Fire short story, they are psychological needs, safety needs and self-esteem needs. The findings will be described as follow,

### **a. Psychological Needs**

The most important needs are psychological needs, they are the needs for food, oxygen, water, and sleep. According to Maslow who added that some of these needs require human efforts to fulfill the body’s need for homeostasis; that is, maintaining consistent levels in distinct biological systems (for example, maintaining a body temperature of 98.6°). As can be seen from the findings of psychological needs below,

*“....He remembered the story of the man, caught in a storm, who killed an animal and sheltered himself inside the dead body and thus was saved. He would kill the dog and bury his hands in the warm body until feeling returned to them.” (p.76)*

As can be seen from the phrase above, the main character shows his psychological needs when he tried to figured out how to warm his hands that almost frozen, he tried to kill the dog that followed him before, in order to warm his hands inside the dog’s dead body. Yet, he failed to kill the dog. The man tried several things to build e fire, but he also failed. Those actions shows the psychological needs of the man who tried to maintaining his body temperature in order to keep survive and not dying.

*“It would be a little after dark, but the boys would be there, a fire would be burning, and a hot supper would be ready. As he thought of lunch, he pressed his hand against the package under his jacket.” (p.66)*

The man did not worry about the cold weather and forced himself to keep positive and keep walking because, he was already convincing himself that there will be a hot supper ready for him to eat, and also there would be a fire where he could warm his frozen hands and all of his body that already shaking because of the coldness. Even though the man’s hands already frozen at that time, he did not really panic because he was hungry and wanted some hot supper. As can be seen from Maslow’s statement about psychological needs that a person

would not concentrate or thinking about anything else if they were really hungry or need to eat something. That is why this data become one of the psychological needs of the man who need food.

*“He smiled contentedly to himself as he thought of those pieces of bread, each of which enclosed a generous portion of cooked meat.” (p.66)*

The man had a rough time when he started walking through the cold weather, because he never thought that winter could be this cold, especially in Yukon which is known as the place that really cold when winter season was arrived at that time. The man suffered with the coldness. The starving that he felt at that moment make it even worst, but the man suddenly realized that he had the pieces of bread which filled with delicious cooked meat which makes him smile instantly. By only remembered the food that he brought with him, was enough to fulfill his desire and psychological need of food.

## **b. Safety Needs**

Safety needs comes after psychological needs. Once people’s physiological needs are fulfilled, the next need that emerges is a safe environment. Safety needs are visible from a young age since children have a need for secure and predictable situations and often react with dread or anxiety when they are not provided. The findings that indicates safety needs will be described as follow,

*“....Nor did he think about man's general weakness, able to live only within narrow limits of heat and cold. From there, it did not lead him to thoughts of heaven and the meaning of a man's life. 50 degrees below zero meant a bite frost that hurt and that must be guarded against by the use of mittens, ear coverings, warm moccasins, and thick socks.” (p.65)*

The situation above shows the man’s safety needs when he got anxiety because of the dangerous of snowstorm that killed him slowly. The man was afraid because of the weather that will make him experienced the pain of coldness even though he already use ear covering and thick socks. The man needs safety place to get rid of all his anxiety about dying in winter season at Yukon.

*“But the animal sensed the danger. Its fear made it question eagerly every movement of the man as if expecting him to go into camp or to seek shelter somewhere and build a fire.” (p.66)*

It shows that the wild dog that followed the man sensed the danger because the man did not stop to build a fire and have a rest for a while because he kept walking without even notice that his hands already frozen. The man decided to build a fire after he feel numb of his hands and looking for a shelter to rest for a while. It is shows that the man need to find a safety place to rest. That is become one of the man’s needs of safety needs.

*“The sight of the dog put a wild idea into his head. He remembered the story of the man, caught in a storm, who killed an animal and sheltered himself inside the dead body and thus was saved. He would kill the dog and bury his hands in the warm body until feeling returned to them. Then he could build another fire.” (p.76)*

The man did not think too much about the dog, he did not considered the dog as his company who accompany him from the started, even though the dog was coming out of nowhere. The man did not thinking about it at all. He was planning to kill the dog and put his hands inside the dog’s body just because he cannot build a fire because of the coldness and storm. The idea to kill the dog because of his needs of safety. The man wanted to save himself from the coldness, that is why the situation derived him to thinking about the idea of killing the dog. This is become one of the man’s safety needs that he tried to fulfill by trying to kill the dog.

*“Maybe if he ran far enough, he would find the camp and the boys. Without doubt, he would lose some fingers and toes and some of his face. But the boys would take care of him and save the rest of him when he got there.” (p.77)*

Whenever the man ran, the more he realized that he should never underestimate the nature. Every time he started to running, he remembered the warning of the old man that nobody could survive in a cold weather of Yukon's winter season. He confirm the warning while he was running. The reason why the man running is because he know that he will able warmed his body by running because his body started shaking by the cold winter. The effort that the man make in order to be able fulfilling his needs of safety, because the man wanted to stay safe and alive until he arrived at the mine camp and gathered with all of his friends.

### **c. Love and Belongingness Needs**

This need involves both romantic relationships along with bonds with family and close friends. Moreover, it involves our need to feel that we belong to a social group, that we cannot live alone and we need somebody to accompany and become a partner. Significantly, this need includes both feeling loved and experiencing love towards others. By having unfulfilled belonging needs has negative repercussions for health and well-being. The findings of love and belongingness needs are described as follows;

*"There was nobody to talk to; and, had there been, speech would not have been possible because of the ice around his mouth" (p.67)*

The man felt the sadness of regret of being alone, even though there is a wild dog who followed him. But, he wanted a real person at least one to accompany him in this journey. The man wanted to talk to someone and having a conversation in order to forget how cold the weather was. The man's feeling shows that he stand to be alone, he needs someone else. This is why the data become one of the love and belongingness needs, because the man cannot be alone and need someone to accompany him.

*"The man was shocked. It was like hearing his own judgment of death. For a moment he sat and stared at the spot where the fire had been. Then he grew very calm. Perhaps the old man on Sulphur Creek was right. If he had a companion on the trail he would be in no danger now. The companion could have built the fire." (p.73)*

The man remembered the advice of the old man about not walking alone in a cold weather, he confirmed and agreed about that advice. It is because just now he realized that he should not walking alone and because it is important to bring someone with him, in order to helping each other if something bad happened and cannot be handled alone. The man realized that if he had a company or a partner, then they would able to help him to build a fire and that would make the journey more easier. The man regretted his choice by walking alone in a cold weather. This is make the data become one of the love and belongingness needs of the man's needs because he just realized that every human being must not be alone and should have a partner or companion who able to help each other with care and love.

*"Maybe if he ran far enough, he would find the camp and the boys. Without doubt, he would lose some fingers and toes and some of his face. But the boys would take care of him and save the rest of him when he got there." (p.77)*

The moment when the man cannot run anymore, he tried to convince himself that he must running more as far as he can, no matter how far the trail until he get to gathered with his friends. The boys will be there and they will taking care of him, even though if he must lose his fingers that probably broke because they were frozen by the coldness. The man knew and convince himself that his friends will take care of him with love because he is part of them. That is why this data become one of love and belongingness needs.

### **d. Self-esteem Needs**

Self-esteem is divided into two components. The first one include the needs of power, accomplishment, competence, knowledge and ability. Moreover, the second component is the desires of reputation and prominence position, fame, greatness, domination, recognition, dignity or admiration. The findings that indicated self-esteem needs will be described as follow;

*"...Fifty degrees below zero meant 80 degrees of frost. Such facts told him that it was cold and uncomfortable, and that was all. It did not lead him to consider his weaknesses as a creature affected by temperature." (p.65)*

As can be seen from the phrase above that the main character shows the needs of self-esteem which is the first components. The man did not even considered the dangerous that he might be face in his journey through cold weather. The man believes that he will able to walk alone without the help of anyone in order to show his ability. The worst thing is the man has never experienced walking on snow or cold weather, which makes him believe that he will able to accomplished his journey.

*"....That man from Sulphur Creek had spoken the truth when telling how cold it sometimes got in this country. And he had laughed at him at the time! That showed one must not be too sure of things." (p.70)*

The second findings above shows the self-esteem needs of second components. The phrase above shows the situation where the man underestimate the warned of an old man who told him to not walking alone in a cold weather at Yukon, because nobody has done that before. Yet, the man laughed at the old man and use that warned as a reason to motivate him for his journey. The man did that in order to achieve recognition and also admiration from all of the people who doubting and scared to walk in a cold weather at Yukon, especially the old man who warned him.

#### **e. Cognitive Needs**

The need to learn, investigate, explore, and create in order to get a greater grasp of their surroundings is expressed by cognitive needs. If this need for learning and self-actualization is not met, it can result in uncertainty and an identity crisis. Furthermore, this is strongly tied to the desire to discover or an openness to new things. The data of cognitive needs will be described as follows;

*"But all this—the distant trail, no sun in the sky, the great cold, and the strangeness of it all—had no effect on the man. It was not because he was long familiar with it." (p.65)*

The data above, shows that the man is craving for adventure and having a long journey by himself. It is not his first time to have an adventure, but this is his first time to walking in a winter. The man also knew that there is no sun that shows that day and the trail was really far to be able to arrived at the mine camp. Without considering the weather the man feeling the excitement to learn new things about winter and how he will survive in a cold weather. That is why this data indicates the man needs of Cognitive needs.

*"The trouble with him was that he was not able to imagine. He was quick and ready in the things of life, but only in the things, and not in their meanings" (p.65)*

It is true that the man already had a lot of knowledge about adventure, survival, and long journey. But, the man was never knew about the meanings, he cannot decides and figure out which one is dangerous and which one is safe. Through this journey, the man will be able to get the knowledge about nature and learn more about how the nature works. That is the reason why this data also become one of the Cognitive needs.

*"As he turned to go, he forced some water from his mouth as an experiment. There was a sudden noise that surprised him. He tried it again. And again, in the air, before they could fall to the snow, the drops of water became ice that broke with a noise." (p.65)*

As the researcher stated before that, this is the man's first winter, which is he was never experiencing winter before or even knew how winter works. The data shows that the man was curious with the cold weather and did some experiment to find out what will happened. He found out that the water from his mouth become frozen and fall to the snow. He was so amazed by the result, which makes him more excited to begin his winter journey.

This is become one of cognitive needs because the man was curious with new things and learn something new from the nature.

## 5 Discussion

In this part, the researcher give the description and also explain more about the findings that already mentioned above. The researcher were able to found the types of motivation which is intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. Moreover, the researcher also found the needs of the main character that portrayed in *To Build a Fire* short story. The discussion will be described below,

### a. The Types of Motivation in *To Build a Fire* Short Story

The findings above, shows that the main character in *To Build a Fire* short story, has more than one reason that motivate him to start his journey and walk alone in an extremely cold weather at Yukon. Based from the findings, it shows that there are two types of motivation which are intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation.

Intrinsic motivation is some actions and behavior that derived from someone's mind and desire. For example, someone who love and interest to read a book, someone who love arts and decided to study about the meaning of some paintings in the museum. Moreover, intrinsic motivation has two parts, the first one is the people should control their behavior. The second is they should have feeling as a competent and capable person or their passion. It can be seen that, both of the two parts are shown in the short story. They are behavior and passion.

Behavior in this research shows the behavior of a man who never give up to survive in an extremely cold weather in order to arrive at the mine camp where all of his friends will be there. The persistence that the man shows when he tried build a fire again and again without considering his body already half frozen. It described the man behavior that derived from his desire to be able to survive and continue his journey alone.

Passion of the main character shows that he was someone who is willingly to walk alone in a cold weather because that was his first winter. The man has never experienced an extremely cold weather. That is one of the reason why the man has passion to walk in order to experience the winter by himself. The man was so excited when he saw there is a lot of snow in Yukon. Without thinking longer, the man starts his journey by walking alone in fifty degrees below zero in order to get pleasure of his first winter ever. The man thought that it can be an amazing journey he ever have in his entire life.

Extrinsic motivation is a desire to behave in specific ways based on external factors and it leads in external benefits. These factors include status, promotion, and also including rewards in order to get the respect and admiration of others. The short story shows that the man has two parts extrinsic motivation, which are status and reward.

Status gained with a purpose to proof the society or someone is known as accomplished status. The purpose is to show someone's ability and what they capable of. The short story shows that the man laughed at the old man who warned him that it is dangerous to walk in winter season at Yukon, especially alone. The reason is because nobody has survived in that cold weather. Yet, the man use this warn as a reason to motivate him and also in order to proof that the old man was wrong. The man wanted to show that he is able to survive and accomplished his journey, in order to get his status as someone who able to proof that the old man and all of the society of Yukon who cannot walk in winter season that they were wrong.

Reward is a gift that usually will be given to someone who already working hard. That is also become one of the reason why people will working really hard in order to achieve the rewards. As can be seen from the short story, the man did not give up to build a fire when all of his body almost frozen because of the cold weather. Moreover, the snow storm get worst in every second, the man almost give up and said in his mind that the old man was right about the dangerous of Yukon's winter season. Yet, he tried really hard to ignored that thoughts and thinking positive. The man remember that he must not give up, because after his long and dangerous

journey, he will get the rewards, such as hot soup and warm fireplace at the mine camp where all of his friends were there.

#### **b. The Hierarchy Needs of The Main Character in *To Build a Fire* Short Story**

As can be seen from the findings that described before, the main character has several needs that he tried to fulfill. The researcher found five hierarchy needs out of eight needs according to Maslow that already explained in previous chapter. The first needs is psychological needs, the second is safety needs, the third is love and belongingness need, the fourth is self-esteem needs and the last one is cognitive needs that the main character tried to fulfill.

Psychological needs are the most important needs, they are the needs for food, oxygen, water, and sleep. Moreover, some of these needs require human efforts to fulfill the body's need for homeostasis, which is maintaining consistent levels in distinct biological systems (for example, maintaining a body temperature of 98.6°). It can be seen that the man in the short story tried to build a fire in order to maintaining his temperature body in order to stay normal and still alive, because he need to continue his journey. It is shows that the action of maintaining his temperature body was in order to fulfill his psychological needs to stay alive and warm enough in a cold weather.

Safety needs is the next needs after physiological needs are fulfilled, the next need that important is a safe environment. Safety needs are visible from a young age since children have a need for secure and predictable situations and often react with dread or anxiety when they are not provided. It is shows from the short story that, the man used to worried about the coldness that will enter his ear even though he already wore ear covering, the man was afraid about the pain that he will experienced soon or later but definitely will happened. It means that the man shows his needs of safe environment in order to not feel anxiety about the pain of coldness that he will experienced soon. The man tried his best to not died alone there.

Love and Belongingness needs become one of the important needs because it shows that human cannot live alone, we need someone to accompany us. Because every human being needs love, care, the feeling of accepted and the feeling of belongingness to family, partner, or society. As can be seen from the short story that the man showed his regret and sadness for walking alone without any friends accompany him. He cannot talk or having a conversation with someone in order to forget the coldness of winter season. The man realized that every person must not live alone and having someone else who can give or share the love together.

Self-Esteem needs is one of the needs which is divided into two components. The first one include the needs of power, accomplishment and ability. Moreover, the second component is the desires of reputation and prominence position, fame, greatness, domination, recognition, dignity or admiration. Based on the findings, it is shows that the man has both of the two components of self-esteem needs. The first is the self-esteem needs that derived from needs of power, accomplishment and ability. It shows from the findings that the man tried to fulfill his needs of accomplishment and ability. The man already experienced a lot of bad situations in his life, he believes that winter season or extremely cold weather was nothing compared to what he had been through in the past. It can be seen that the man has needs of accomplishment and ability that he tried to fulfill.

Self-esteem needs derived from desires of reputation and prominence position, fame, greatness, domination, recognition, dignity or admiration. As can be seen from the findings that the man has self-esteem needs to get recognition, admiration and also greatness from the society old man. The old man who already warned the man about the dangerous of walking alone in winter season of Yukon. Especially, nobody has never done it before. The warning did not make the man scared or considered to cancel his journey. It is become one of the reasons to motivate him in order to get recognition as the first man who able to walk alone and survive in a cold weather.

The last need is cognitive needs that also become one of the important needs that every human being must have. Cognitive needs is the needs to get knowledge. People must have knowledge in every aspect of life. Every human is curious with all of the things that they never see or experience before. The needs of cognitive will help

them to learn new things and also get knowledge about how the world works, especially the nature. It shows that the man experience his first winter, which is allowed him to learn new things that he never knew before.

Moreover, all of the data from the findings and discussions above shows that there are differences between this research and the previous research which analyzed the same short story of Jack London, which is the short story of *To Build a Fire*. From the findings above, it shows that there are two types of motivation which consist of 15 data. They are intrinsic motivation which is 5 data of behavior and 5 data of passion. In addition, they are extrinsic motivation which is 3 data of status and two data of rewards. Meanwhile, there are five types of hierarchy needs which consist of 15 data. They are 3 data of psychological needs, 4 data of safety needs, 3 data of love and belongingness needs, 2 data of self-esteem needs and 3 data of cognitive needs.

It can be seen from this research that, the results are completely different compare to the previous research by Pangestu (2020) which also analyzed *To Build a Fire* short story. The reason is because Pangestu was only focused with the social conflict of the main character, even though there are a lot of motivation sides and the needs that portrayed in the main character. That is also become the reason of the differences theories that the researcher used and the theories that Pangestu used in his journal article. That is why the researcher has able to make an upgrade or novelty from the previous research.

## 6 Conclusions

From the findings and discussions above, it shows that the theory of motivation by Ryan and Decy (2000) can be used to answering the first research question which focus on the reason that motivates the main character. Ryan and Decy described two types of motivation, which are intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. The intrinsic motivation consist of behavior and passion, which is found in the main character. The extrinsic motivation consist of status, promotion, and rewards which is only promotion that not found in the short story because the main character did not experience any promotion.

Furthermore, the hierarchy needs by Maslow (1970) can be used to answering the needs that the main character tried to fulfill in the short story. Maslow described that the hierarchy needs consist of eight needs. They are psychological needs, safety needs, love and belongingness needs, self-esteem needs, cognitive needs, aesthetic needs, self-actualization needs, and transcendence needs. As the result, the aesthetic, self-actualization needs and transcendence needs are not found in the short story. It is also because the man did not have the needs of those three needs.

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