

**STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF PLOT IN RICK RIORDAN'S "*PERCY  
JAKCSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF*"**

**THESIS**

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**By:**

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LETTER DEPARTMENT  
HUMANITIES FACULTY  
MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALANG**

**2015**

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JAKCSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF*"**

**THESIS**

**Presented to**

**Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang**

**in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)**

**Advisor:**

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**2015**

## APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that Dani Irawan's thesis entitled **STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF PLOT IN RICK RIORDAN'S "PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF"** has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Board of Examiners.

Malang, July 6, 2015

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## MOTTO

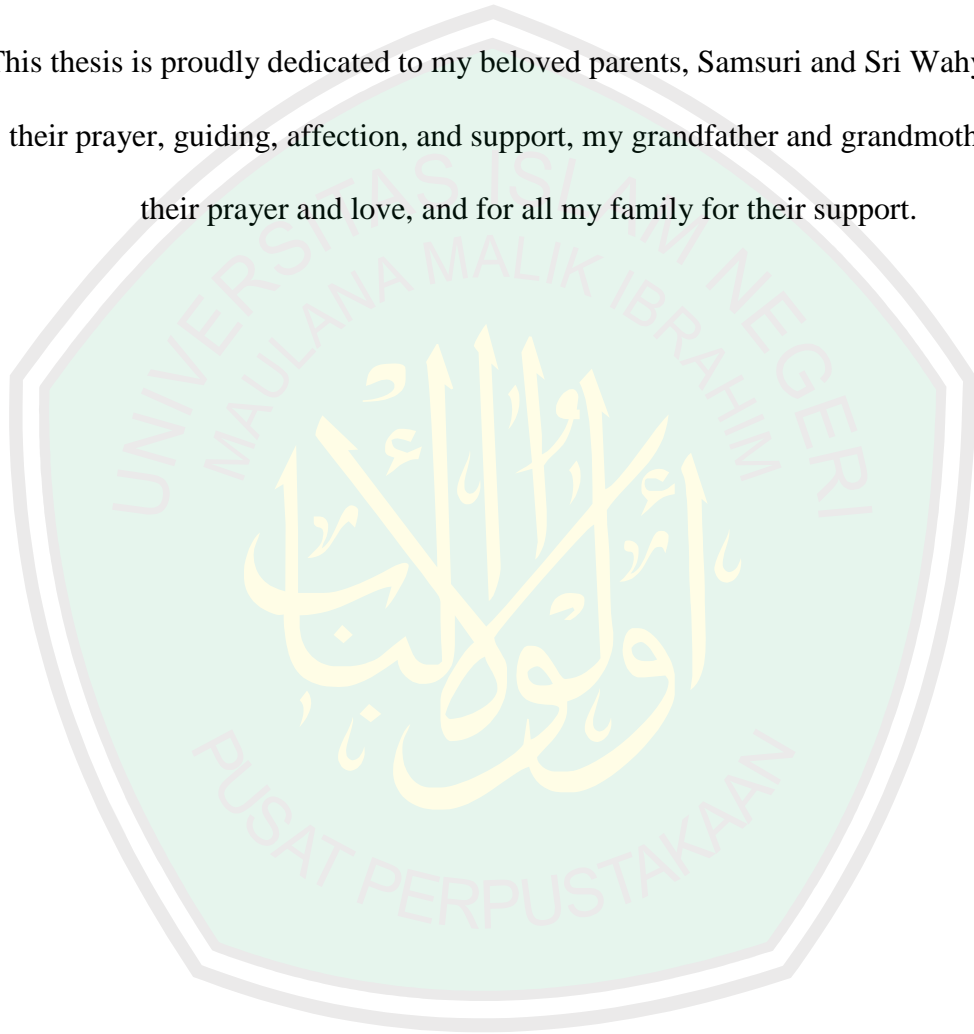
“In my shoulders are my parents; in my heart is my  
love and family.”

-Dani Irawan-



## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is proudly dedicated to my beloved parents, Samsuri and Sri Wahyuni for their prayer, guiding, affection, and support, my grandfather and grandmother for their prayer and love, and for all my family for their support.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*

I would like to express my best gratitude to Allah swt who has given me great of knowledge to complete this thesis. Peace and salutation be upon to the Greatest Prophet, Muhammad SAW, who has delivered the truth to human beings all over the world. Because of that divine gift of grace from Allah, I am finally able to finish the thesis entitled **STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF PLOT IN RICK RIORDAN'S "PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF"** as the requirement for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S.) in English Letters and Department Faculty of Humanities at Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang.

I would like to thank to my supervisor, Dra. Andarwati, M.A for her guiding, support, motivation, and suggestion in doing this thesis. Also, I would like to thank to Mr. Kiki (Muzakki Afifuddin, S.S., M.Pd) and Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum for the comments and suggestions to this thesis. Besides, I would like to express the deepest gratitude for lecturers of English Department for their comments, support and suggestion. Moreover, I don't forget to say thanks to my love Ifah Ulil Maziyah for the support when I am upset. Also, my beloved best friends; Sumanto, Rafi, Uun, Saipul, Jihad, Multazam, Ichwan, Raditya, Fatih and others friends who have supported me in doing this thesis.



Finally, I truly realize that this thesis still needs the constructive criticism, suggestion and encouragement from the readers especially students in English Letters and Language Department.

Malang, July 6, 2015

Dani Irawan



## ABSTRACT

Irawan, Dani. 2015. Structural analysis of plot in Rick Riordan's "Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief". Thesis. English Language and Letters Department, Humanity Faculty. Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang. Advisor: Dra. Andarwati, M.A

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Keywords: plot and plot structure

This thesis discuss about the analysis of Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief written by Rick Riordan using Greimas structuralism. The focus of the analysis is finding the kind of plot in the story. Plot is a sequence of events that occurs to characters in situations in the beginning, middle, and end of a story. Additionally, plot related to the ending of the story. The ending in the plot of the story is open and closed plot.

There are several questions that researcher wants to find, they are the elements of plot structure, how do the elements of plot structure compose the plot of the story and kind of plot is applied in the novel.

In finding the answer of those questions above, the research first step is finding the elements of plot. After finding the elements of plot, the researcher makes a plot table in order to put every event from beginning to the end. The next step is dividing the whole story into three events; every event is analyzed using actant by Algirdas Julien Greimas. After those events are analyzed, the researcher adds together those events in complete event. Then, the researcher makes a plot diagram based on that event. Finally, the researcher concluded what are kind of plot and the ending of the novel.

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## المخلص

في والرياضيين جاكسون بيرسي" في ريوردان ريك في للمؤامرة البنيوي التحليل. 2015. دانني إبراهيم مالك مولانا جامعة. الإنسانية كلية، الآداب وقسم الإنجليزية اللغة. روعة. "البرق اللص Andarwati M.A. ذراع: مستشار. مالانج الحكومية الإسلامية

ؤامرة وهيكلمؤامرة: البحث كلمات

ريوردان ريك كتب البرق اللص: في والرياضيين جاكسون بيرسي تحليل حول مناقشة هذه سلسلة هي المؤامرة. القصة في المؤامرة من نوع على العثور هو التحليل محور. البنيوية Greimas باستخدام ؤامرة، ذلك إلى بالإضافة. القصة ونهاية ووسط بداية الحالات في الحروف على تحدث التي الأحداث والمغلقة المفتوحة ؤامرة هو القصة من مؤامرة في النهاية. القصة نهاية تتصل

إمرة هيكلمعناصر وكيف، المؤامرة هيكلمعناصر فهي، يجد أن الباحث يريد التي الأسئلة من العديد هناك الرواية في المؤامرة من ونوع القصة من مؤامرة تطبيق يتم يولف

بعد. المؤامرة عناصر على العثور هو البحوث الأولى الخطوة فإن، أعلاه الأسئلة لهذه إجابة على العثور في النهاية إلى البداية دت كل وضع رة الجدول يجعل والباحث، المؤامرة عناصر على العثور التي actant باستخدام حدث كل تحليل ويتم. أحداث ثلاثة في كلها القصة تقسيم هي التالية والخطوة الحدث في الأحداث تلك مع الباحث ويضيف، الأحداث تلك تحليل بعد. Greimas جوليان الجيرداس كتبها المؤامرة من نوع هي ما الباحث خلص، أخيرا. الحدث هذا أساس على مؤامرة تخطيطي رسم يجعل الباحث، ثم. كاملة الرواية وإنهاء

## ABSTRAK

Irawan, Dani. 2015. Analisis Struktural pada Plot Dalam Novel Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief Karya Rick Riordan. Skripsi. Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora. Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: Dra. Andarwati, M.A

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Kata kunci: plot dan struktur plot

Skripsi ini mengambil novel Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief Karya Rick Riordan sebagai bahan kajian utama dengan menggunakan teori strukturalisme dari Greimas. Fokus pada penelitian ini adalah menemukan jenis plot dalam novel Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief Karya Rick Riordan. Plot adalah serangkaian kejadian yang terjadi terhadap karakter-karakter pada situasi awal, tengah dan akhir pada sebuah cerita. Imbuhanannya, plot berkaitan dengan akhir sebuah cerita. Akhiran dalam plot di sebuah cerita yaitu plot terbuka (open plot) dan plot tertutup (closed plot).

Dalam skripsi ini, ada beberapa rumusan masalah yang menjadi fokus penelitian; yaitu elemen apa sajakah dari struktur plot, bagaimanakan elemen dari struktur plot membentuk plot dalam sebuah cerita, dan apakah jenis plot yang digunakan dalam novel Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief Karya Rick Riordan.

Dalam menemukan jawaban dari rumusan masalah di atas, langkah pertama yaitu menemukan elemen-elemen dari plot. Setelah menemukan elemen-elemen plot, peneliti membuat plot table yang digunakan untuk mengurutkan kejadian-kejadian dalam cerita mulai dari awal hingga akhir. Langkah selanjutnya yaitu membagi cerita menjadi 3 cerita, setiap cerita di analisis menggunakan teori dari Algirda Julien Greimas. Setelah cerita-cerita tersebut selesai di analisis, peneliti menggabungkan menjadi satu cerita utuh. Kemudian peneliti membuat diagram plot dari kejadian-kejadian tersebut. Kemudian peneliti menarik kesimpulan untuk menyimpulkan jenis plot apakah yang digunakan dalam novel tersebut dan akhiran dari novel tersebut.

## ABSTRACT

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There are several questions that researcher wants to find, they are the elements of plot structure, how do the elements of plot structure compose the plot of the story and kind of plot is applied in the novel.

In finding the answer of those questions above, the research first step is finding the elements of plot. After finding the elements of plot, the researcher makes a plot table in order to put every event from beginning to the end. The next step is dividing the whole story into three events; every event is analyzed using actant by Algirdas Julien Greimas. After those events are analyzed, the researcher adds together those events in complete event. Then, the researcher makes a plot diagram based on that event. Finally, the researcher concluded what are kind of plot and the ending of the novel.



# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of the Study

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* is about Percy Jackson who goes to Yancy Academy which is a school for troubled kids. One day, in a field trip; Percy is attacked by his math teacher who turns out to be a monster, but he is saved by one of his professors. After the trip, he tells to his mother about what was happened during the trip. His mother and his friend (Grover) bring him to half-blood camps (camp for half human-half god) where he will be safe from monsters. In the half-blood camp, Percy learns that he is a demigod (half human-half god). There, he learns that his father is Poseidon because when he is in water; there is a tree-tipped spear: a trident. A few days after Percy arrives at camp, Zeus's lightning bolt is stolen, and Percy is accused of stealing it. Then, he has to go on a quest to find the lightning bolt. In the mission, he accompanies with his friends; Grover and Annabeth. Their time to find the lightning bolt is ten days, and returns it to Zeus in order to prevent a war between the gods (Riordan, 2005).

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* is a series novel by Rick Riordan. Richard Russell Riordan or familiar with Rick Riordan was born on

June 5, 1964. He graduated from the University of Texas. He taught English and Social Studies for eight years at Presidio High School in San Francisco. In 2002, he got *Master Teacher Awards* by Saint Mary's Hall school (Riordan, 2005). Riordan lives in Boston with his wife, Becky, and their two sons Patrick and Haley who inspired his Percy Jackson series as a bedtime story (Wikipedia, 2014). He got idea for Percy Jackson novel from talking to his pupils and children about Greek mythology (About Rick Riordan, n.d).

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* preferred as researcher discussions because the plot is episodic plot. Episodic plot is one incident or short episode is linked to another by common characters or a unified theme (*Strategies for Educational Improvement*, 2010). Additionally, the researcher perspectives that every series novel has open plot because the problem in the story is not solved only in one series. Thus, the researcher wants to analyze plot because plot is the most important aspect in the story. Plot is the important element of the story because there are several aspects of plot that should be show in the story such as beginning/exposition, problem of the story, conflict, complication, climax, suspense, surprise, resolution and ending (Peck and Coyle, n.d). Every story which is good story when all elements of plot are exists. If one of the elements of plot is not exist, the story is having bad plot. So, all elements of plot should exist in the story even if the event order is not same with other story.

In this research, the researcher uses Greimas structuralism's in analyzing plot because Greimas shows or introduces the smallest concept in text called by actant (Greimas, 1972). The actant is a tool that can theoretically be used to analyze any real or thematized action, but particularly those depicted in literary texts or images. Greimas structuralisms' preferred as researcher theories because the actantial analysis consists of assigning each element of the action being described to one of the actantial classes. These actants construct three binary relationships (Martin and Ringham, 2001).

Several studies have been done by several researchers in *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* are Retno Wulandari (2010) wrote *Formula Analysis in JK Rowling's Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief: A Comparative Study on Fantasy Fiction*. Retno Wulandari's research shows that the formula including the similarities, differences and the factors what makes readers loves to read it. The result of analysis shows that fantasy novel is having same formula in characterizing, narrating, and acting. The formula is the main factors that make the fiction is good and have positive response from the readers.

Love Fastiana March Alhimni (2014) wrote *Mythological Characters Representing The United States Environmental Issues in Rick Riordan's Jackson and The Olympians series*. Love Fastiana March Alhimni's research shows that some mythological characters symbolize environmental issues in America, particularly

about the degradation condition and the effort of make them better. They are Poseidon, Pan, and Satyrs. Poseidon is the mythical character representing of water condition. The function of Poseidon here is to repair the condition of polluted water in America. Pan is the mythical character representing wild area or forest. His condition pictures the decreasing certain number of forest area in America. And the last character is Satyr who represents the environmentalist movement in America.

Those research that researcher states above is different with this research because this research focuses on the plot in the story. Wulandari's research shows the result of analysis shows that fantasy novel is having same formula in characterizing, narrating, and acting. On the other hand, Love Fastiana March Alhimni's research shows symbolize environmental issues in America; particularly about the degradation condition and the effort of make them better. Thus, this research analyzes the scheme of plot using Greimas actantial's. Additionally, the result is finding the plot structure compose the story plot and what kind of plot in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel.

## **1.2. Research Questions**

Based on the title that is analyzing the plot, this research is aim to answer problems; they are (1) what are the elements of plot in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel?, (2) how do the elements of plot compose the

plot structure of the story?, and (3) what kind of plot is applied in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel?

### **1.3. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the research question above, the research purposes are (1) to know the elements of the plot in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*, (2) to know how the elements of plot compose the plot structure of the story and (3) to know the kind of plot in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel.

### **1.4. Scope and Limitation**

In this research, the research only focuses on analyzing the elements of plot (beginning/exposition, problem of the story, conflicts, complication/rising action, climax, suspense, surprise, resolution and ending), how the elements composing the plot of the story and finding the kind of plot in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel, also finding the ending (close plot or open plot). The limitation of the research is based on research questions, only limit on the elements of plot structure (beginning/exposition, problem of the story, conflicts, complication/rising action, climax, suspense, surprise, resolution and ending); elements of plot compose the plot of the story, and kind of plot in the *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel.

### **1.5. Significance of the Study**

The significance of the research is giving contribution to develop the literary theory to apply in research especially in literature. Theoretically, the writer aims to enrich the theoretical based on literary studies, especially related to plot in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel. Also, it can be reference in analyzing novel for next series of Percy Jackson and The Olympians novel or other novel or other literary work. On the other hand, the practical significance is related to the variant of literary analysis. This study is expected to be useful for many literary researchers especially in sociological literary criticism approach. The most important thing is the research can be one of requirement for the researcher for graduate in this university.

### **1.6. Research Method**

#### **1.6.1. Research Design**

The researcher uses literary criticism as his research design, as literary criticism is regarded as the analysis, interpretation and evaluation on the literary works. Besides, literary criticism is the only research design that is directly related to the literary work (Setiawan, 2014). Then, the researcher preferred Greimas structuralism as the theory because Greimas shows or introduces the smallest concept in text called by actant (Greimas, 1972). Actantial analysis consists of assigning each

element of the action being described to one of the actantial classes. These actants construct three binary relationships (Martin and Ringham, 2001).

### **1.6.2. Data Source**

The research object is *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novels. The author is Rick Riordan. The novel is first edition of Percy Jackson and The Olympians series. The novel has 135 pages including cover and contents. In the novel, there are 22 chapters. In the chapter 1, it shows the introduction or beginning of the story by introducing Percy Jackson and his life. Chapter 2 to 4 shows the Percy's research about half-blood camp. Chapter 5 is the first time Percy arrives in half-blood camp. Chapter 6 to 8 shows that Percy is learning how to fight and finally that he is son of Poseidon. Chapter 9, Percy offered by Mr. Brunner to find the lightning bolt. In the chapter 10 to 18, it shows the Percy's searching the lightning bolt. Chapter 19 to 20 shows the battle between Percy and Ares who trapped Percy that he is the thief of Zeus's lightning bolt. Chapter 21 is returning the lightning bolt to Zeus by Percy. And the last chapter is the ending.

### **1.6.3. Data Collection**

The research steps in collecting data are reading all pages, reread all pages, read in detail and giving the mark on words or sentences that related to research questions. Afterwards, the researcher is analyzing the data using Greimas structuralism and answering the research questions.

#### 1.6.4. Data Analysis

The researcher first way in analyzing data is reading all pages in detail. Then, the researcher gives marks on sentences that related to research questions. After that, the researcher is analyzing data that related to elements of plot structure. Next, researcher analyzes the elements of plot structure in composing the plot of the story. The last way is analyzing those data in finding the kind of plot and the ending (close plot or open plot).

#### 1.7. Definition of Key Terms

- **Plot** : literary term defined as the events that make up a story.
- **Plot Structure** : the elements of plot.
- **Actant** : the smallest concept in text.
- **Subject** : what is directed toward an object (Hebert, n.d).
- **Object** : could be the concrete (human) or abstract (knowledge, love and something).
- **Sender** : the doer that makes something happens.
- **Receiver** : something or someone which is receiving object from subject.
- **Helper** : someone or something that is helping subject to find the object.



- **Opponent** : someone or something which is preventing subject to find the object.



## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter is explaining aspects that contribute the analysis of the novel; they are Structuralist criticism, definition of plot, kinds of plot, Greimas structuralisms', and review of previous research.

#### **2.1 Structuralist Criticism**

Structuralism has very important implications. After all, literature is verbal art: it is composed of language. In addition, structuralists believe that the structuring mechanisms of the human mind are the means by which we make sense out of chaos, and literature is a fundamentals means by which human being explain the world the themselves. That is making out of chaos. Structuralist approaches to literature will focus on the narrative dimension of literary texts because structuralist criticism deals mainly with narrative (Tyson, 2006).

Structuralist analyses of narrative is examine in minute detail the inner “working” of literary texts in order to discover the fundamental structural units (such as units of narrative progression) or function (such as character functions) that govern texts’ narrative operations (Tyson, 2006). In the narrative, the structure is embodied in the form of plot formulas; such as conflict and resolution, struggle and reconciliation, and separation and union. These plot formulas are carried out by

means of *actants*, or character functions which are slots filled by the actual character (surface phenomena) in a given story (Tyson, 2006).

## **2.2. Definition of Plot**

According to Hancock in *Strategies for Educational Improvement* (2010), plot is a sequence of events that occurs to characters in situations in the beginning, middle, and end of a story. In conventional stories, plot has three main parts: rising action, climax, and falling action leading to a resolution or denouement. There are three major parts to a linear plot: Beginning – the characters and setting are introduced, and the central conflict/problem of the story is revealed. Usually the main character sets a goal to overcome the conflict/problem, or s/he may set a goal that creates a conflict/problem. Middle – the main character participates in a series of events or attempts to reach the goal that leads to a resolution of the conflict/problem. End – the main character may or may not reach his/her goal, thus resolving the conflict/problem (*Strategies for Educational Improvement*, 2010).

## **2.3. Kinds of Plot**

Plot is a sequence of events that move narrative from beginning to end (Wolf, 2004). There are several kinds plot that researcher found; dramatic or progressive or chronological plot, episodic plot, and flashback plot. Dramatic plot presents a closed pattern of exposition, complication, crisis and resolution (also known as the Freytag triangle) that defies expansion. The focus on interpersonal relations of the dramatic

plot describes both the tragic and the comic genre (Ryan, n.d). Flashbacks plot is an interruption in the chronological narrative of a literary work to relate events from an earlier time. Next is an episodic plot. Episodic plot is also a chronological structure, but it consists of a series of loosely related incidents, usually of chapter length, tied together by a common theme and/or characters. Episodic plots work best when the writer wishes to explore the personalities of the characters, the nature of their existence, and the flavor of an era (*Reading strategies and literary elements transparency*, n.d). Flashback provides a backstory to explain what caused the surprise outcome (Bae and Young, n.d). This structure conveys information about events that occurred earlier. It permits authors to begin the story in the midst of the action but later fill in the background for full understanding of the present events. Flashbacks can occur more than once and in different parts of a story (*Reading strategies and literary elements transparency*, n.d).

#### **2.4. Greimas Structuralisms**

Structuralism is an intellectual movement which began in France in the 1950s and is first seen in the work of the anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss (1908—) and the literary critic Roland Barthes (1915-1980). The structuralist approaches to literature focus on the narrative dimension of literary texts (the classification of literary genres, the description of narrative operations, and the analysis of literary interpretation). The structuralists do is to understand, in a systematic way, the fundamental structures that underlie all human experience and, therefore, all human

behavior and production. Structuralists believe that structures are generated by the human mind, which is thought of as a structuring mechanism. The order we see in the world is the order we impose on it (Barry, 2002). Structural analysis is the main priority than other in analyzing intrinsic aspect (Teeuw, 1983). There are several theorists that introduce structuralism such as Saussure, A. J. Greimas, Tzvetan Todorov, Gerard Genette, Robert Scholes, Northrop Frye and Jonathan Culler.

In this research, the researcher preferred Greimas structuralism because the researcher wants to analyze plot using actant. Greimas introduces narrative progression (opposition and negation) and characteristic function (actants): Subject-object, Sender–receiver, and Helper-opponent. Greimas shows or introduces the smallest concept in text called by actant (Greimas, 1972). For Greimas, the forwarding of the plot—the movement from conflict to resolution, struggle to reconciliation, separation to union, and so forth—involves the transfer of some entity (a quality or an object) from one actant to another (Tyson, 2006). Martin and Ringham (2001) said these actants construct three binary relationships, they are:

1. Subject-Object

According to Ratna (2004), the more important in three binary relationships is subject-object because there is no object if there is no subject. The subject should find the object from the sender. The object can be something which is concrete like human or something, but it can be something abstract like knowledge or love.

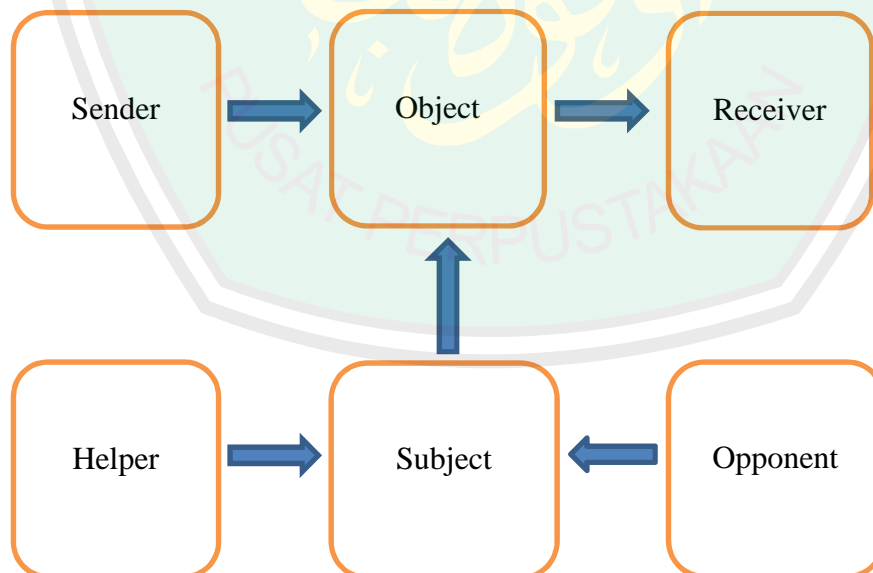
## 2. Sender-Receiver

Sender is the doer or someone (it can be the idea) which motivated actions, it cause something to happen (Amiruddin, 2002). Sender influences subject to do something in getting object. On the other hand, receiver is something or someone which is receiving object from subject.

## 3. Helper-Opponent

Helper is something or someone which is helping subject to find object. On the other hand, opponent is someone or something which is preventing subject to find object.

As the researcher cited from Greimas in Pujiyanti's (2010), the actantial model:



Based on the actantial figure model above, the sender sends the object to the receiver; the receiver could be the subject. The subject should find the object that send by the sender. In getting the object, the sender is helping by the helper in finding the object. In contrary, the opponent is preventing the subject in finding the object.

## 2.5. Previous Studies

There are two previous studies that related to this research, they are Retno Wulandari (2010) wrote *Formula Analysis in JK Rowling's Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief: A Comparative Study on Fantasy Fiction* and Love Fastiana March Alhimni (2014) wrote *Mythological Characters Representing The United States Environmental Issues in Rick Riordan's Jackson and The Olympians series*.

Retno Wulandari (2010) wrote *Formula Analysis in JK Rowling's Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief: A Comparative Study on Fantasy Fiction*. Retno Wulandari's research shows that the same formula in writing those novels including the similarities, differences and the factors what makes the readers loves to read.

The similarity is story theme. Those novels are about ancient mythology. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* is about the boy who has super power, he lives with witches and learns how to use and control his power to be good man and protect the world. Furthermore, *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* is about the boy who has super dad named Poseidon (god of sea). He lives in half-blood camp

to learn how to use and control his power also to prevent the war between gods. Those novels has same theme, that is about a boy who has super power and protect the world.

Next, the difference is about the character in the novel. Harry Potter's characters are human and witches. In contrary, Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief's characters are human and gods. Then, those novels has same factor that makes the readers loves to read it because of the story theme. The story theme is about the boy who wants to protect the world. Additionally, characterizing and imagination in the novel is very good. The readers will enjoy in reading the novel by taking the position of the reader in one of character in the novel.

The result of analysis shows that fantasy novel is having same formula in characterizing, narrating, and acting. The formula is the main factors that make the fiction is good and have positive response from the readers. The research contribution to this research is helping to find the act or plot of the story. Wulandari's research shows the act of the whole story of *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* from beginning to the end. It is very helpful to find the plot of the story in this research. Thus, the researcher is easy to analyze and find the plot.

Love Fastiana March Alhimni (2014) wrote *Mythological Characters Representing The United States Environmental Issues in Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and The Olympians series*. Love Fastiana March Alhimni's research shows



that some mythological characters symbolize environmental issues in America, particularly about the degradation condition and the effort of make them better. They are Poseidon, Pan, and Satyrs.

Poseidon is the mythical character representing of water condition in America. The function of Poseidon here is to repair the condition of polluted water in America. In 2007, around 56% of America's river was polluted by garbage and industrials garbage. It has bad effect for citizen because float comes bigger after the snow melting. In the novel, Poseidon is god of sea who has son named Percy Jackson. He has power to control water where in sea or running water. Percy Jackson uses his power to protect his friends in finding the lightning bolt from monster.

Pan is the mythical character representing wild area or forest. His condition pictures the decreasing certain number of forest area in America. In 2008, the American forest has been decreased because opening new land for the newcomers. Also, it helps in developing the companies in America at that time. In the novel, the Pan is one of great god who cares about area becomes clean (environmentalist). *"No. This makes me sad." He pointed at all the garbage on the ground (p.67).* And the last character is Satyr who represents the environmentalist movement in America. The American environmentalists are helping in preventing the global warming by reforestation. It is one of bug step to make America better than before. In the novel, Satyr shows that they love environmental clean because they always throw the garbage in the right way and consume tin as their main food.

The result of the analysis shows that the characters in the novel *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* represents the environmental issue in America. The research contribution to this research is helping to classify the characters which are belonging to good (protagonist) and bad (antagonist) character. Alhimni's research shows the protagonist characters. It is very helpful to fill the helper and opponent in analyzing the plot by the actant.



## CHAPTER III

### DISCUSSION

This chapter contains the analysis of Rick Riordan's "*Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*", the novel is analyzed by Greimas Structuralisms'. Based on the research questions, this chapter will discuss (1) the elements of plot structure, (2) the element of plot structure composing the plot of the story, and (3) kind of plot in the novel.

#### 3.1. The Elements of Plot Structure

##### 3.1.1. Beginning (exposition)

Beginning (exposition) is the introduction of the story to the audiences. In the beginning of the novel, the main character shows his perspective or opinion that he wants to be a half-blood. After that, continue by introducing the main character (Percy Jackson) in detail and he says that he is a trouble kid. "...*My name is Percy Jackson. I'm twelve years old. Until a few months ago, I was a boarding student at Yancy Academy, a private school for troubled kids in upstate New York. Am I a trouble kid? Yeah, you could say that...*" (Riordan, 2005: 1).

### 3.1.2. Problem in the Story

Problem of the Story is the main problem that shows in the story and it will solve in the end of the story. The problem of the story is Zeus's Lightning Bolt has been stolen, and Percy is accusing as the thief. Percy tries to prove that he is not the thief. "...*We are not fools, Percy Jackson,*" Mrs. Dodds said. "*It was only a matter of time before we found you out. Confess, and you will suffer less pain...*" (Riordan, 2005: 5).

### 3.1.3. Conflicts

A conflict is an active disagreement between people with opposing opinions or principles. In the *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief novel*, there are two conflicts; environmental and psychological conflict. The environmental conflict is a conflict that related to the environment. The environmental conflicts in the novel are the conflict between Percy and his step father (Gabe), conflict between Percy and his teacher (Mrs. Dodds), conflict between Percy with his friend (Nancy Bobofit), and the conflict between Percy and Ares. The conflict between Percy and his step father (Gabe) is Gabe's treatments to Percy are not in the right way. When Percy was arrived from school, the Gabe didn't say "welcome back" or something. "...*Hardly looking up, he said around his cigar, "So, you're home."*..." (Riordan, 2005: 11). "...*That was it. No Welcome back. Good to see you. How has your life been the last six months?...*" (Riordan, 2005: 11). The conflict between Percy and his teacher (Mrs. Dodds) is in the first day Mrs. Dodds came to Yancy Academy, she

hates Percy much. *"...From her first day, Mrs. Dodds loved Nancy Bobofit and figured I was devil spawn..."* (Riordan, 2005: 2). The conflict between Percy and his friend (Nancy Bobofit) is that the duty of Nancy. She is mad students and likes to annoy Grover (Percy's friend). *"...Nancy Bobofit was throwing wads of sandwich that stuck in his curly brown hair..."* (Riordan, 2005: 1). The conflict between Percy and Ares is that Ares tricked him by giving the backpack which is the master bolt's sheaf. *"...the backpack is the master bolt's sheath, just morphed a bit. The bolt is connected to it, sort of like that sword you got, kid. It always returns to your pocket, right?..."* (Riordan, 2005: 114).

The last conflict is psychological conflict. The psychological conflict is a conflict that related to human mind and feelings. He feels that he cannot control his mind, it called by ADHD and dyslexia. *"... The school counselor told me this was part of the ADHD, my brain misinterpreting things..."* (Riordan, 2005: 4). Additionally, he could not read English words; but he could read the Greek words. Sometimes, the English words are change into Greek words. *"...I tried to see what she was reading, but I couldn't make out the title. I thought my dyslexia was acting up. Then I realized the title wasn't even English. The letters looked Greek to me. I mean, literally Greek. There were pictures of temples and statues and different kinds of columns, like those in an architecture book..."* (Riordan, 2005: 30).

### 3.1.4. Complication

Complication is the rising action of the story. The rising action begins when all of people know who Percy is. Percy is son of Poseidon, god of sea. “....*the sign was already fading, but I could still make out the hologram of green light, spinning and gleaming. A three-tipped spear: a trident...*” (Riordan, 2005: 45). After all people who are Percy, all of monster in the world tries to kill him because the monster knows that Percy is having Zeus’s lightning bolt. So, the monsters try to take it from Percy and become the leader of the world. In order to prove that he (Percy) is not the thief, he offered a mission to find and return the lightning bolt.

### 3.1.5. Climax

Climax is exciting point in a story or situation, which usually happens near the end of the story. Also, climax is the turning point or the most intense moment. The climax is the battle between Percy and Ares. “...*Let’s get back to the problem at hand, kid. You’re alive. I can’t have you taking that bolt to Olympus. You just might get those hardheaded idiots to listen to you. So I’ve got to kill you. Nothing personal...*” (Riordan, 2005: 115). The battle between Percy and Ares is climax because after the battle, the problem is solved. Also, the battle between Percy and Ares is happening near to the end of the story.

### 3.1.6. Resolution

Resolution is falling action following climax. Percy finally knows that he has been tricked by his uncle (Ares). “...*You’re lying, Sending the bolt to the Underworld wasn’t your idea, was it?...*”, “...*Of course it was!...*” (Riordan, 2005:115). Also, Percy realizes that Luke is the friend that will betray him. Luke intends to kill Percy with the scorpion and leave Camp Half-Blood for good. Luke serves Kronos and feels that the gods are a waste of space. He disappears, leaving Camp Half-Blood to go serve Kronos forevermore. “...*Good-bye, Percy. There is a new Golden Age coming. You won’t be part of it...*” (Riordan, 2005: 130).

### 3.1.7. Surprise

Surprise is the story beyond the audience’s imagination. In the story shows that Percy’s mother is killed by monster, “...*the monster closed his fists around my mother’s neck, and she dissolved before my eyes, melting into light, a shimmering golden form, as if she were a holographic projection. A blinding flash and she was simply gone...*” (p.19). In the end of the story, his mother is alive. When Percy returns from Mount Olympus, Percy’s mother meets him at the doors and sweeps him up in her arms. “...*and there she was—my beautiful mother, smelling of peppermint and licorice, the weariness and worry evaporating from her face as soon as she saw me...*” (Riordan, 2005: 123).

### 3.1.8. Suspense

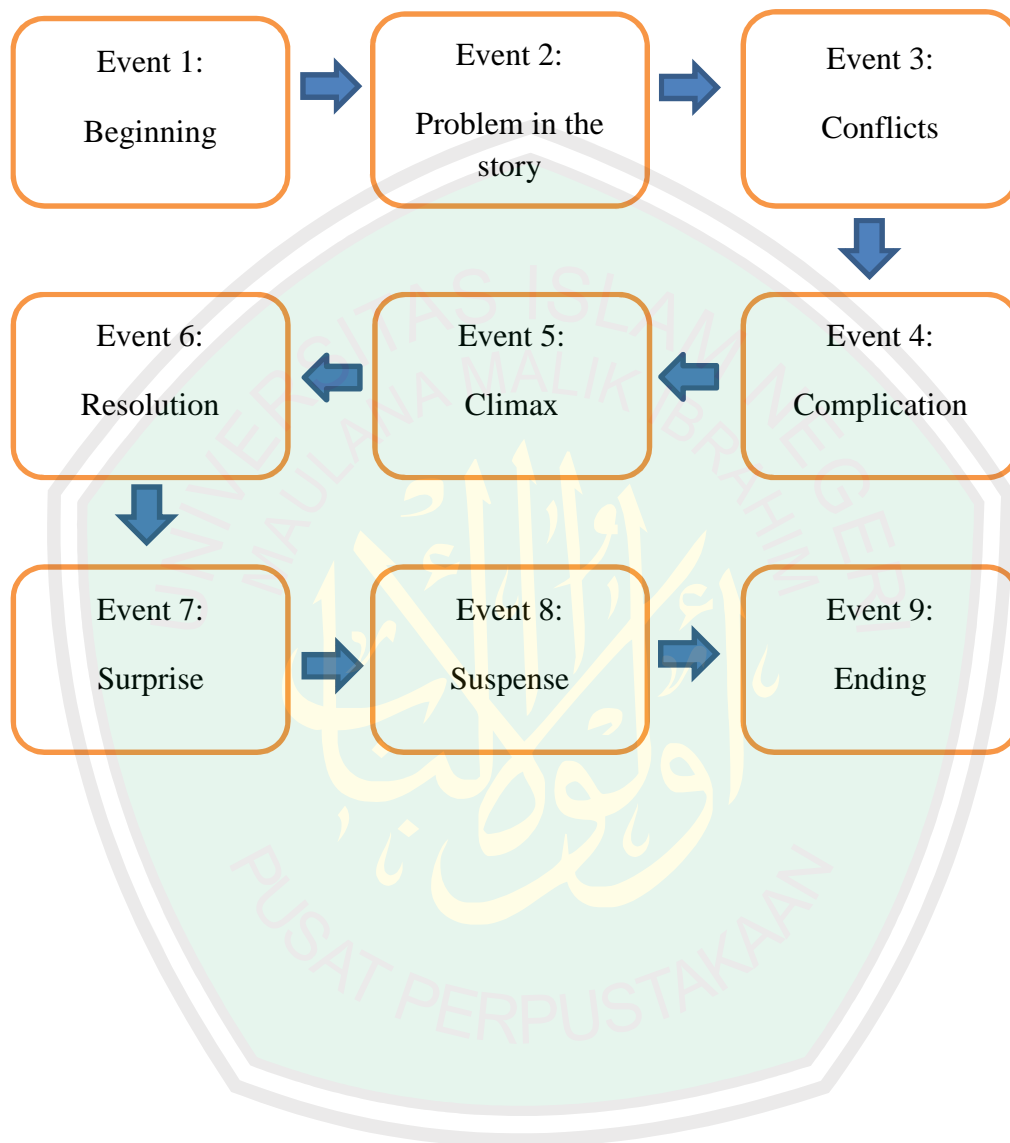
Suspense deals with something related to the future or focused on the future. After they finished the quest from Mr. D, Grover is on a quest to find Pan. On the other hand, Annabeth is going home for the year to live with her dad. Annabeth goes to meet her family on Half-Blood Hill. Percy decides he's going to go home too. Percy gets back next summer; they (Percy, Grover and Annabeth) will go on another quest together to find Luke. "...we'll hunt down Luke. We'll ask for a quest, but if we don't get approval, we'll sneak off and do it anyway..." (Riordan, 2005: 132).

### 3.1.9. Ending

Ending is the end of the story. The ending is happy ending because the war between gods is canceled. Also, Grover got the mission to find Pan. A mission to find Pan is the mission that Grover wants most in his life. Besides, Annabeth wanted to meet with his family.

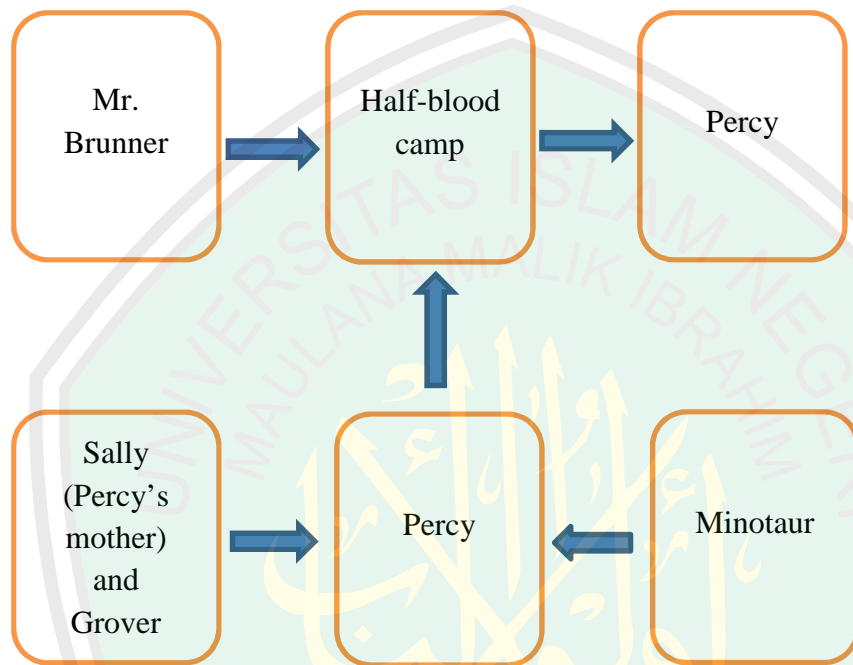


### 3.1.10. Plot Table of the Story



### 3.2. The Elements of Plot Structure Composing the Plot of the Story

#### 3.2.1. Actant Scheme 1 (Looking For Half-Blood Camp)



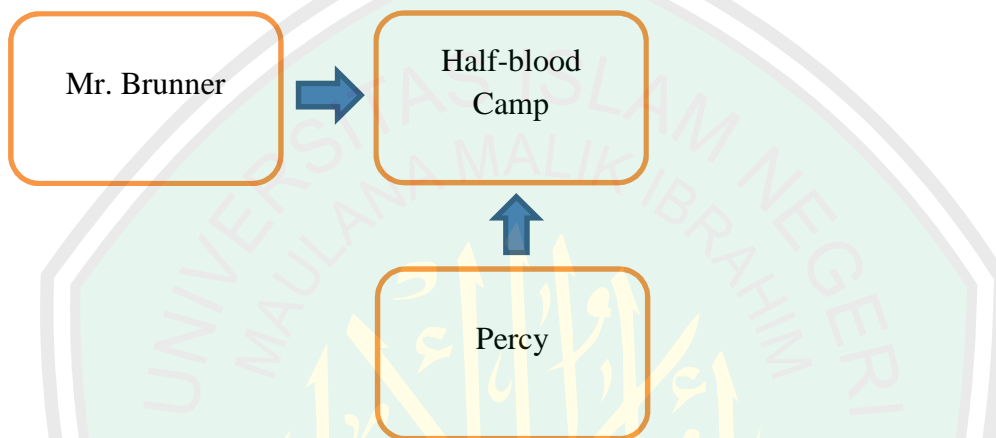
The main sentence in actant scheme above:

Actant scheme above shows that the conversation between Mr. Brunner and Grover about Percy after an ambush in the field trip. In the conversation, Percy should alive until next fall. The safest place for Percy is half-blood camp. In order to find the location of half-blood camp, Percy and Grover are helped by Percy's mother (Sally). But, in finding the location of half-blood camp; they have opponent. It is a monster.

## The plot

### Situation 1:

#### The Actant Figure in Situation 1:



Percy Jackson is twelve years old. He is a student in Yancy Academy in upstate New York. One day in a field trip, Percy was attacked by his math teacher (Mrs. Dodds) who turns out to be a monster. Mrs. Dodds said “... *We are not fools, Percy Jackson,*” “*It was only a matter of time before we found you out. Confess, and you will suffer less pain...*” (Riordan, 2005: 5). Then, Mrs. Dodds becomes a monster. “...*Her eyes began to glow like barbecue coals. Her fingers stretched, turning into talons. Her jacket melted into large, leathery wings. She wasn’t human...*” (Riordan, 2005: 5). Afterwards, Mr. Brunner appears and throws Percy a ballpoint pen which transforms into a sword. Percy slices Mrs. Dodds right before she kills him and she vaporizes like “...*a sand castle in a power fan...*” (Riordan, 2005: 5). Things get

stranger. When Percy returns to the front of the museum where the rest of the class is, nobody knows who Mrs. Dodds is. Even Grover and Mr. Brunner don't seem to know who Mrs. Dobbs is.

For the rest of the school year, nobody in Percy's class knows who Mrs. Dodds is. Percy feels like everyone is playing a trick on him. When summer approaches, he learns that he won't be invited back to Yancy Academy for his seventh grade year. While he's excited to go home and see his mom, Percy knows he's going to miss certain aspects of Yancy. He's been failing his classes, and so taking these exams won't be fun. Percy decides that he really wants to do well in Latin class, but studying for his Latin exam is terrible – Percy can't remember any of the names of the Greek gods or goddesses. He decides to go ask Mr. Brunner for some last-minute help the night before his exam. As he approaches Mr. Brunner's office, he overhears Grover talking to Mr. Brunner about Percy. “...*But he may not have time. The summer solstice deadline...*”, “...*Now let's just worry about keeping Percy alive until next fall...*” (Riordan, 2005: 7). When Grover and Mr. Brunner leave, Percy returns to his room, terrified by what he's heard. The next day after his Latin exam, Percy leaves Yancy for good. Percy and Grover take a Greyhound bus back to New York City.

## Situation 2:

### The Actant Figure in Situation 2:



On the bus, Grover is acting weird, looking nervously all around him. Percy flat out asks Grover about the conversation he overheard Grover having with Mr. Brunner. The bus breaks down in a nice, quiet stretch of country. Everyone gets off the bus. Grover suddenly gets very worried and tries to get Percy back on the bus, but Percy won't budge. The three old women seem to be staring directly at Percy. One takes out a pair of giant gold scissors and cuts a piece of yarn. It looks almost like a ritual. Soon after, the bus driver fixes the bus, and everyone gets back on the bus. Percy tells Grover what he saw the old lady do with the scissors, and Grover grows even more terrified. While Grover is in the bathroom, Percy heads home. Grover's behavior is starting to weird Percy out. Percy takes a cab home to his mom's apartment in Queens. When Percy arrived in home, Percy decides not to tell his mom about what happened with Mrs. Dobbs or about the three old ladies at the fruit stand. He doesn't want to upset her. Percy's mother tells him that she's going to take him to Montauk (the beach) to stay at a little house for the weekend. Percy is so excited.

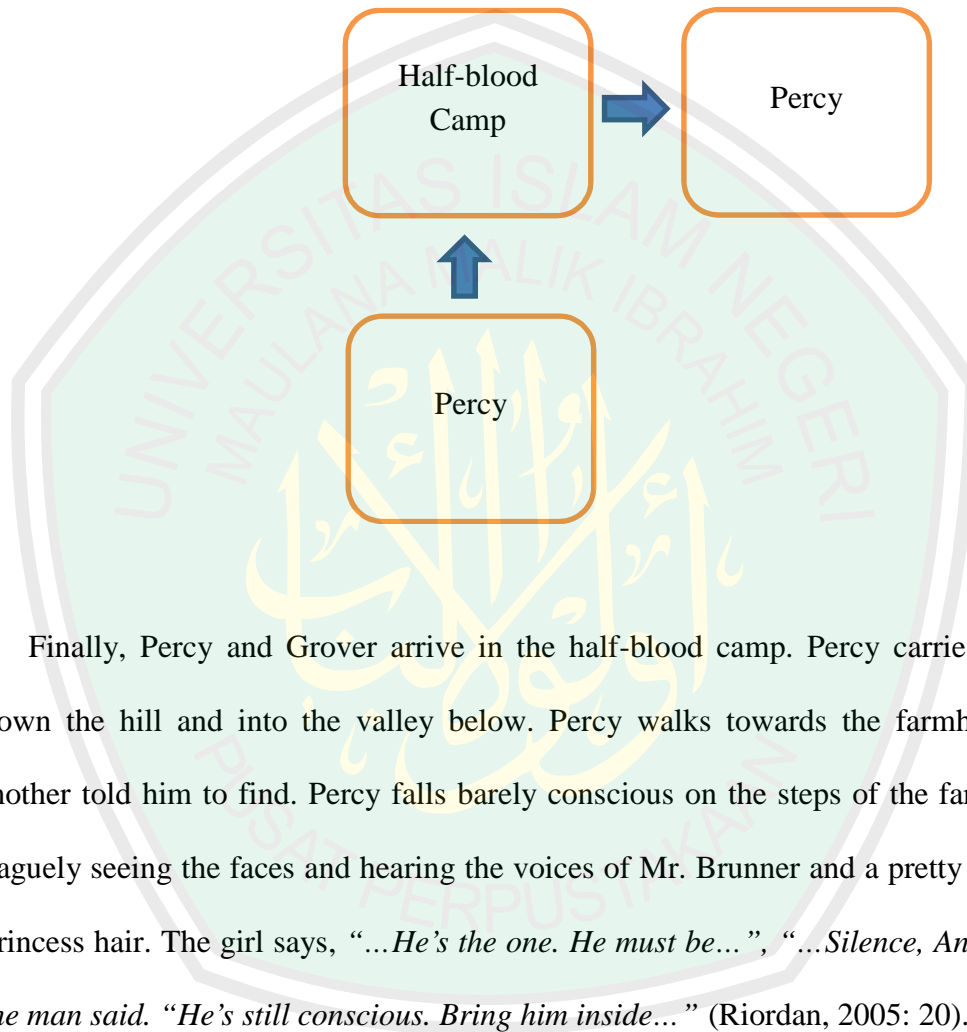
Sally and Percy drive Gabe's car to their rented house on the beach. That place is the place where Sally met with Percy's father. That's why she loves visiting it. They've been going to Montauk since Percy was a baby. They walk on the beach, feeding blue corn chips to the birds. They build a fire and roast marshmallows and hot dogs. Sally tells Percy stories of her childhood, how her parents died, and about Percy's dad. She tells Percy that his dad would be very proud of him. That night, Percy dreams about a beautiful white horse and an eagle fighting to the death on the beach. It is stormy in his dream and, just before he is able to stop the eagle from killing the horse, he wakes up. When he wakes up, Percy finds a hurricane is raging outside, which is very strange for New York in early summer. The next thing he knows, Grover is knocking on the front door. But instead of being crippled, Grover has furry legs and cloven feet. Grover is very worried, and Sally realizes that Percy hasn't told her everything about his school year. Grover says "*...its right behind me...*" (Riordan, 2005: 15). Sally tells everyone to get into the car immediately.

Sally drives fast down dark country roads. The hurricane howls. Grover tells Percy that Mrs. Dobbs wasn't just a myth, that the three old ladies at the fruit stand weren't just a myth. Percy really wants to know what's going on now and wants to know who he is exactly. Sally tells Percy that there's no time to explain. They have to get him to safety. The car has been struck by a lightning bolt and lies on its side in a ditch. The roof of the car has been blown out. Sally tells Percy to get out of the car and run as fast as he can past the tall pine tree on the crest of the hill near them. Percy

refuses to leave his mom behind, but she tells him that the thing that's chasing them wants Percy only. But Percy still refuses to leave without Sally and Grover, so Sally helps him pick Grover's limp body up and carry him up the hill towards the pine tree. The monster destroys Gabe's car completely, causing the gas tank to explode. The monster gets closer and closer, and Sally tells Percy to go on without them, to run as fast as he can. Now the monster focuses on Sally, who has just laid Grover's body down on the ground by the pine tree. Sally inches her way downhill, and the monster grabs her by the neck. Suddenly Sally turns into a glow of light and is gone. The monster charges at Percy, and Percy jumps straight up using the monster's forehead as a springboard. He lands on the back of the monster's neck, holding onto his horns. After a huge struggle, Percy pulls one of the horns of the monster's head and falls backwards off of the monster. His head hits a rock. The monster is really miffed now and charges at Percy. Percy drives the broken-off horn into the monster's ribcage. The monster dissolves into a sand-like substance, just like Mrs. Dobbs did. Percy is grief-stricken thinking about his mom, but he knows he has to take care of Grover.

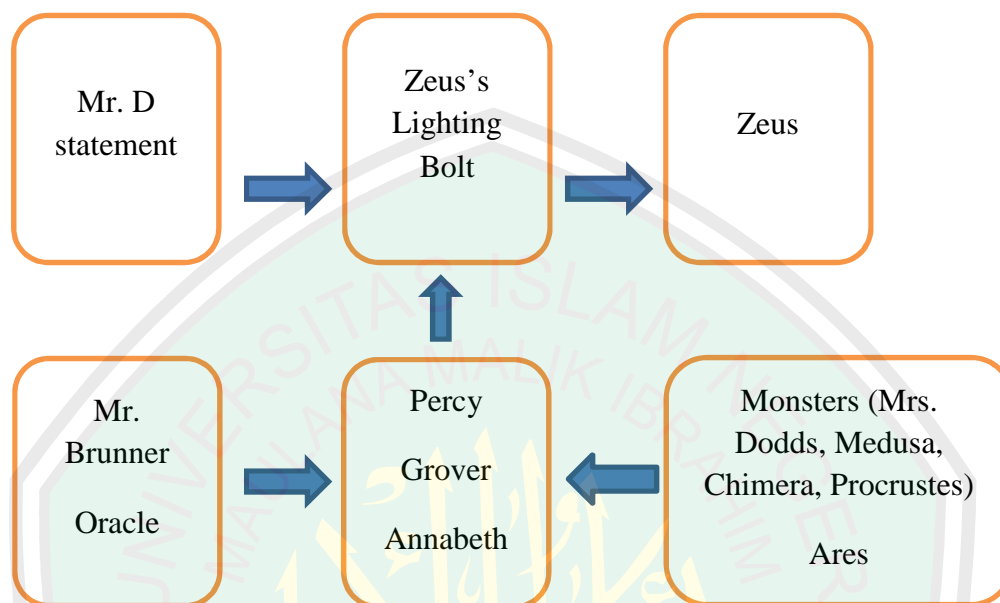
### Situation 3:

#### The Actant Figure in Situation 3:





### 3.2.2. Actant Scheme 2 (Looking for Zeus's Lightning Bolt)



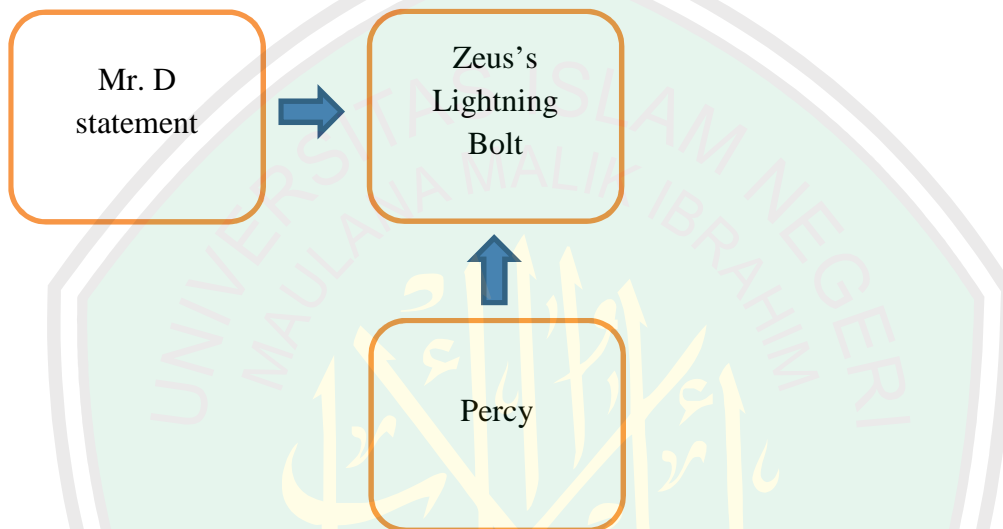
The main sentence in actant scheme above:

Actant scheme above shows that Mr. D has two choices for Percy; they are Percy can either let Mr. D turn him into an Atlantic bottlenose dolphin, or Percy can go on a quest. On his quest, Percy accompanied by his friends; Grover and Annabeth. Also, Mr. Brunner and Oracle give some helps like advice, direction and a sword (Reptide). On the quest, they get troubles from monsters (Mrs. Dodds, Medusa, Procrustes) and also one of god; Ares.

## The Plot

### Situation 1:

#### The Actant Figure in Situation 1:



When Percy fully wakes up, he finds himself resting in a nice chair on the porch of the farmhouse. Percy drinks a special drink and it tastes like his mother homemade chocolate chip cookies. After that, Grover appears. Then, Grover takes Percy into farmhouse to meet somebody named Chiron and somebody named Mr. D. Chiron and Mr. D are playing a game. Percy discovers that Chiron is Mr. Brunner and Mr. D is the director of Camp Half-Blood. Chiron tells Percy that the Greek gods are alive and well and that they have been for thousands of years. He tells Percy that gods have moved constantly over the years, settling in places where the “fire” of Western Civilization burns brightest. At this moment in time, it burns brightest in

America. Just look at the architecture, the statues, and the symbol of the eagle that is everywhere in America, Chiron says. Mount Olympus is now in America. Chiron tells Percy that they don't yet know who Percy is. Then, Chiron shows Percy around the beautiful camp. There's an arena, stables, a big outdoor eating area surrounded by huge columns overlooking the sea, a "fully stocked" forest, and more. Chiron takes Percy to the cabins where the campers live. Finally, Chiron meets Annabeth and asks her to take over the Percy's tour. Annabeth takes Percy to cabin eleven, where he will be staying. Cabin eleven is dedicated to Hermes, the god of travelers and thieves. Anyone who doesn't have a place to stay can stay in Hermes' cabin. Percy wants to know how he could possibly be related to a god, and Annabeth tells him that his dad most likely is a god. She doesn't know which god, though. After they go around the camp, Percy decides to back to cabin eleven for rest.

The next few days, Percy is really good. Percy has a sword fighting lesson, and Luke is the best swordsman. Percy learns much about sword fighting lesson. After several moments, there is an announcement from Chiron that is time for "Capture Flag Game". It's Athena, Apollo and Hermes versus Ares, Hephaestus and all other cabins. Percy's post on the team is border patrol. Annabeth stations him over a little creek. Percy feels ridiculous in his heavy armor and plumed hat. It seems like all the action of the game is happening far away. Clarisse and her friends are angry at Percy for making a fool out of Clarisse during the bathroom incident. They knock Percy backwards so that he finds himself lying in the creek. Annabeth draws her

sword and the hound leaps over her head and lands on Percy. The hound tears through Percy's armor, but Chiron shoots at it with his arrows and the hound soon dies. Percy is badly wounded, but Annabeth tells him to step into the creek again. Percy does so, and all of the campers gasp as an image, a glow of light forms above his head. The image is of a trident. Percy is son of Poseidon, god of sea. “....*the sign was already fading, but I could still make out the hologram of green light, spinning and gleaming. A three-tipped spear: a trident...*” (Riordan, 2005: 45).

### Situation 2:

#### The Actant Figure in Situation 2:



After that moment, Percy has a quest from Mr. D. Mr. D gives Percy two choices. Percy can either let Mr. D turn him into an Atlantic bottlenose dolphin, or Percy can go on a quest. Percy wants to know what this “quest” business is all about. Chiron tells Percy that Zeus and Poseidon are having the worst fight in centuries. Zeus's symbol of power, a master bolt (the source of Zeus's lightning bolts), has been stolen. Zeus blames Poseidon and thinks he got a hero to steal it for him. Now that

Poseidon has openly claimed Percy as his son, everyone thinks that Percy stole the bolt. This is where Percy comes in as the dude who goes on the quest to find the master bolt. Chiron sends Percy upstairs to the attic to have a chat with the Oracle. This is what the Oracle says: “...*I am the spirit of Delphi, speaker of prophecies of Phoebus Apollo, slayer of the mighty Python. Approach, seeker, and ask...*” (Riordan, 2005: 50). Percy asks the Oracle what his destiny is. The smoke turns to Percy and says: “...*You shall go west, and face the god who has turned...*”, “...*You shall find what was stolen, and see it safely returned...*”, “...*You shall be betrayed by one who calls you a friend...*”, “...*And you shall fail to save what matters most, in the end...*” (Riordan, 2005: 50). Percy reports back to Chiron and Grover about everything he heard everything except; the being betrayed by a friend part and the failing to save what matters most part. Percy decides to keep this info from Chiron and Grover. Chiron helps Percy and Grover figure out that they must travel to Hades in order to recover the master bolt. Hades is the god of the Underworld, which means that Percy and Grover have a ticket to Worm City. Percy, Grover, and Annabeth will travel together across the country to fetch the master bolt.

Between loans from the camp store and gifts from Chiron, Percy is outfitted with all of the things he needs to survive his quest: change of clothes, mortal money, drachmas (god money), ambrosia, and nectar. Annabeth packs her magic Yankees cap that her mom (Athena) gave her. Grover brings his reed pipes (he's a big fan of Mozart and Hilary Duff songs), his rasta-style green cap, and lots of apples and scrap

metal to munch on. Before they leave, Luke gives Percy a pair of magic sneakers with wings: flying sneakers! He wishes Percy well. Chiron gives Percy a super important present: Riptide. Riptide is Percy's new sword. *"...use it only for emergencies," Chiron said, "and only against monsters. No hero should harm mortals unless absolutely necessary, of course, but this sword wouldn't harm them in any case..."* (Riordan, 2005: 55). When they arrived in the bus station, after waiting awhile, the three board a Greyhound bus. Annabeth gives Percy her magic Yankees cap and he disappears down the aisle, just as the grandmothers are coming after him and his friends. They (grandmothers) attack Annabeth and Grover. Not soon after the bus has departed the station, Invisible Percy manages to grab the emergency break. The bus crashes into trees and spins around. Everyone evacuates the bus except for Percy, Annabeth, Grover, Mrs. Dobbs, and her friends. After an epic swordfight, Percy and company manage to get rid of the furies using Riptide and some skillful whip-tying action. The bus explodes right after Percy, Annabeth, and Grover get out of there.

Percy, Grover, and Annabeth are terrified by what they've just seen and done. All of their money and things burned up in the bus explosion. They've got nothing left but what they're wearing and holding. When they walk, they smell delicious food are coming from that curio shop. The curio shop is called "Aunty Em's Garden Gnome Emporium". A lady answers the door. The lady, Aunty Em, invites them in after they tell her they are orphans. The shop is a warehouse filled with even more statues of all kinds of people in all kinds of poses. The statues have all different kinds of looks on

their faces. Their eyes seem to follow Percy, Annabeth, and Grover. Annabeth feels it's time to leave, Grover agrees, but Percy is not so convinced. Aunty Em asks them if they wouldn't mind posing for her. Percy doesn't see the harm in that, but Annabeth and Grover realize that Aunty Em is Medusa. Medusa has snakes for hair, and if you look at her, you will turn to stone. They warn Percy just in time. The three fight their way out of Medusa's clutches. Percy manages to chop her head off by using a glass garden ball to watch her. As soon as the head is lopped off, Annabeth manages to cover it without looking at it. Percy finds some mailing materials and packs the head into a box. He sends it to the gods on Mount Olympus with his best wishes.

*I went back to the picnic table, packed up Medusa's head, and filled out a delivery*

*slip:*

*The Gods*

*Mount Olympus*

*600th Floor,*

*Empire State Building*

*New York, NY*

*With best wishes,*

*PERCY JACKSON (Riordan, 2005: 66)*

They also finds the address of the Underworld in Los Angeles, it turns out Hades is one of Medusa's costumers.

They got miserable that night; they decide to take turns keeping watch through the night. Percy takes the first watch. Grover offers to take the first watch. Percy falls asleep. Percy has another vivid dream. Percy is standing on the edge of a big chasm in cave. A voice rises from deep within the chasm. "...*barter with me. I will give you what you want...*" (Riordan, 2005: 69). The evil voice laughs and says, "... *Help me rise, boy. Bring me the bolt. Strike a blow against the treacherous gods...*" (Riordan, 2005: 69). Annabeth shakes Percy awake. Grover is cuddling with a pink poodle. Since Grover can talk to animals, the pink poodle told him that he ran away from a rich family because he didn't like living with them anymore. But the family has a reward out for him for \$200. He would let Grover return him to his owners and collect the reward. He wants to help them out, and they definitely need the money. They spent two days on the Amtrak train, heading west through the hills, over rivers, past amber waves of grain. While Grover sleeps, Percy tells Annabeth about the latest dream he had about the cold voice in the chasm. They make one stop in St. Louis with a three-hour lay over. There's no room for Percy on the elevator down to the lobby. He tells Annabeth and Grover to go without him. Percy is left on the observation deck with the big lady, her Chihuahua, a family, and a guard. The big lady suddenly has a forked tongue, and the Chihuahua is not a dog, but a Chimera. Chimera attacks Percy, and the rattlesnake tail gets a good bite out of Percy's leg. Chimera blasts a hole into the side of the observation deck. Percy drops his sword through this hole. Echidna laughs and taunts Percy, saying that if he were a real hero,



he would jump out of that whole and dive 600 feet down into the muddy Mississippi River below.

The river catches Percy comfortably. He realizes that he is completely dry, even though he's underwater. He also realizes that he can light a cigarette lighter underwater. He also realizes that he is breathing, underwater. Percy hears his mom's voice in his head urging him to remember his manners, so he thanks his dad for helping him. Percy sees Riptide in the muddy river bottom near him. A voice says, "... *Percy, take the sword. Your father believes in you...*" (Riordan, 2005: 76). He sees a spirit in the water. She is the color of water, and she has green eyes. The water spirit tells Percy she is simply a messenger. She says "... *fate is not as hopeless as you believe...*" (Riordan, 2005: 76) and tells him to go to the Santa Monica beach when he reaches Los Angeles.

The next afternoon, Percy, Annabeth, and Grover go to a diner; the poor kids are starving. A big man sits with them, he is Ares; god of war. Ares buys them cheeseburger because Ares knows that they are hungry. Then, Ares has a favor to ask of Percy and company – he left his shield in the Tunnel of Love ride at a local water park. He needs them to get it for him, as a way of proving themselves to him. Ares promises to get them a ride to Los Angeles if they successfully retrieve his shield. So, off they go to Waterland, the run-down water park down the road. They jump the padlocked fence and make their way through the park, past different rides, trying to find the Tunnel of Love. They find the Tunnel of Love ride, which is basically like a

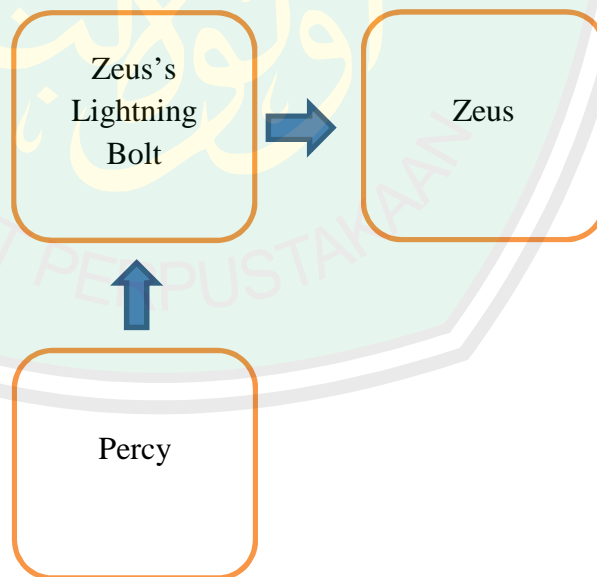
tunnel that leads to an empty pool. Surrounding the pool are statues of cupid. Ares's sword is right there in the boat, but when Percy grabs it, he breaks a cobweb-like substance. It is a trap. Metallic spiders start pouring into the pool. Annabeth is deathly afraid of spiders. Percy uses his water powers to pump the water into the pool and propel him and Annabeth on the boat toward the exit. After that, they go to Vegas with a truck of zoo.

They arrive at Santa Monica Beach at sunset that same day. They run into Crusty's Water Bed Palace. The owner of the shop invites them in and is understanding of their situation. Also, introduces himself as Crusty. Crusty invites them to try out some waterbeds while they hide from the mean kids outside. Grover and Annabeth are trying a water bed with built-in lava lamps. Suddenly, Crusty snaps his fingers and says, "*Ergo!*" and ropes bind Annabeth and Grover to their beds. Percy asks Crusty to let his friends go, but Crusty says he's got to make him fit the beds first. Percy charms Crusty into trying out a bed himself. Once Crusty is lying on the bed, Percy snaps his fingers and says, "*Ergo!*" Ropes bind crusty up, and Percy uses Riptide to lop off his head. Percy frees his friends and looks at the bulletin board behind Crusty's desk, and then they leave. Afterwards, then finally arrive in underworld and meet Hades. Hades tells him that he doesn't want war – he can't afford to have a huge surge in dead people. The Underworld is already way too full of dead people. And they're sucking his wealth dry. Hades accuses Percy of stealing the master bolt himself in order to help Poseidon start a war. He accuses Percy of stealing

his own symbol of power, his helm of darkness. Percy tells Hades that they don't have his helm of darkness and that they don't know where it is. Hades tells Percy that the master bolt is in his backpack, proving that Percy stole the master bolt all along. Hades tells Percy he knows that that Percy came to the Underworld to barter for his mother. Percy won't have any of it. He knows what he must do. Percy says goodbye to the glowing image of his mother and promises to come back for her. They break the pearl and arrive at the surface of Santa Monica Bay. More importantly, Percy has to have a talk with the god who tricked him.

**Situation 3:**

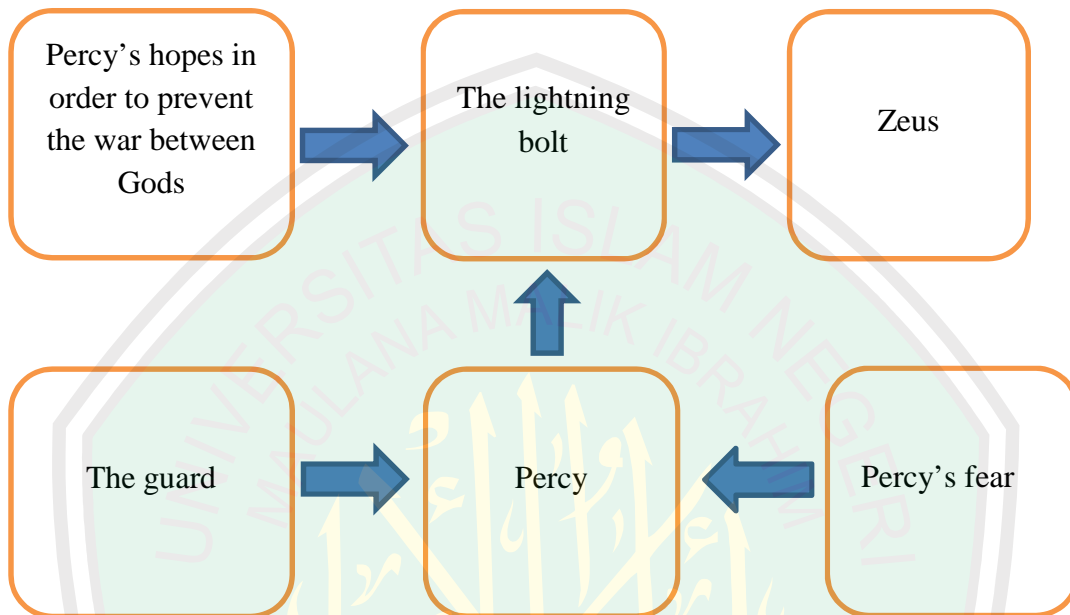
**The Actant Figure in Situation 3:**



In the distance, they see Ares on his motorcycle with a baseball bat, waiting for them. Percy accuses him of stealing the helm of darkness and the master bolt. The

backpack Ares gave them in Denver was enchanted. It is the master bolt's sheaf. So, just as Riptide always finds its way back into Percy's pocket, the master bolt would find its way into Percy's backpack as soon as he made it into the underworld. Ares and Percy start fighting one-on-one. It's a really tough battle. Percy tries to use his sea powers to his advantage, but Ares makes this hard, keeping Percy away from the water. Finally, Percy backs into the water, telling the waves to hold and build pressure. Then Percy releases a huge wave on Ares's head, throwing him off kilter. Percy stabs Riptide into Ares's ankle, causing his golden blood (ichor) to flow. The Furies arrive on the scene; they have watched the whole fight go down. They realize that Percy is not the thief after all. Fury tells Percy, "... *Live well, Percy Jackson. Become a true hero. Because if you do not, if you ever come in my clutches again...*" (Riordan, 2005: 118). Then, they decide they'll have to fly back to New York in order to make their deadline. That means flying through Zeus's territory.

### 3.2.3. Actant Scheme 3 (Returning the Lightning Bolt)



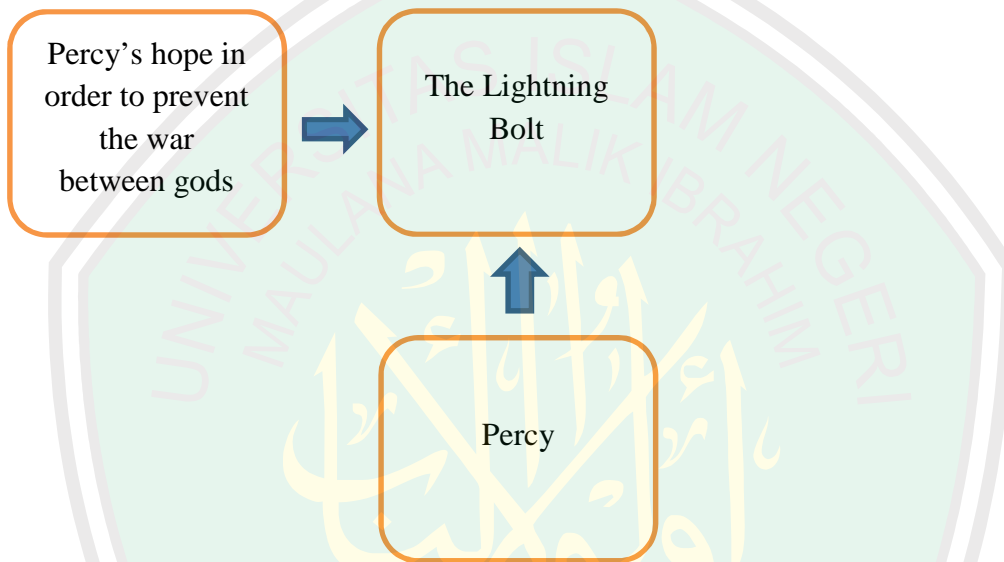
The main sentence in actant scheme above:

Percy's hope in order to prevent the war between gods by returning the lightning bolt, Percy already know all about it that Percy is not he thief. Percy should returns the lightning bolt by himself in to mount Olympus. On his purpose, Percy gets help from the guard of the Empire State Building. Unfortunately, Percy is afraid in returning the lightning bolt because he should go to face Zeus by himself and Zeus is going to angrier to him.

## The plot

### Situation 1:

#### The Actant Figure in Situation 1:



After fighting with Ares, Percy tells Grover and Annabeth to get back to Camp Half-Blood quickly and safely to let Chiron know the whole story. Percy is going to hand deliver the master bolt to Zeus. Percy takes a taxi and headed to Manhattan. Thirty minutes later, Percy walks into the lobby of the Empire State Building and asks to get to the 600<sup>th</sup> floor. The guard at the front desk looks at Percy like he's crazy. Just as Percy is about to run away from the guard, believing him to really be a mortal, the guard tells him that Zeus doesn't just meet with any ragamuffin from off the street. Percy shows the guard the master bolt and the guard frantically

hands him a special key, explaining how to use it in the elevator. Percy rides up to the 600<sup>th</sup> floor.

### **Situation 2:**

#### **The Actant Figure in Situation 2:**

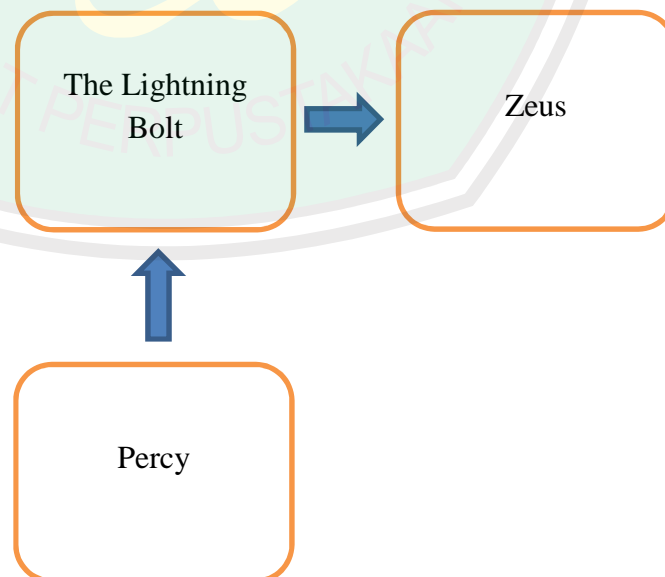


When the doors open, he sees a narrow bridge towering over Manhattan, leading to a mountain of clouds. Built into the mountain is a real live ancient Greek city, only it's not crumbling everywhere. It's beautiful, full of mansions and gorgeous architecture. As Percy makes his way to the top of Mount Olympus, he sees all kinds of things going on: people selling ambrosia-on-a-stick, wood nymphs throwing olives flirtatiously at him, the Muses giving a concert in the park. Everything about Zeus's palace is white and silver. Percy enters the grand palace of Mount Olympus, and finds the massive throne room. Inside the throne room he sees twelve thrones arranged in a U-shape, just like the cabins at Camp Half-Blood. The thrones are empty, except for two at the very right. There sit Percy's dad, Poseidon, and his uncle, Zeus. They look like giants, and they have been arguing. Zeus wears a blue pin-striped suit and has a platinum throne. Poseidon wears a Hawaiian shirt, khaki Bermuda shorts, leather

sandals, and sits on a deep-sea fisherman's throne. Poseidon has the same rebellious look that Percy has. Percy kneels in front of his dad first, which ticks Zeus off. Poseidon tells his brother to chill out – it's only right that Percy greet his own dad first. Poseidon is neither loving nor cold to Percy. He is very hard to read – just like the ocean is hard to read sometimes. Percy tells Zeus the whole story and everything he knows. He gives Zeus the master bolt. Percy tells them his suspicions about Kronos, but Zeus firmly closes the subject. As he says goodbye to Percy, he tells him that he will spare his life this time, but Percy should never fly his skies again. Poseidon tells Percy a little bit about Kronos, but he reminds Percy that Zeus has closed the discussion, so they cannot talk about it anymore.

### **Situation 3:**

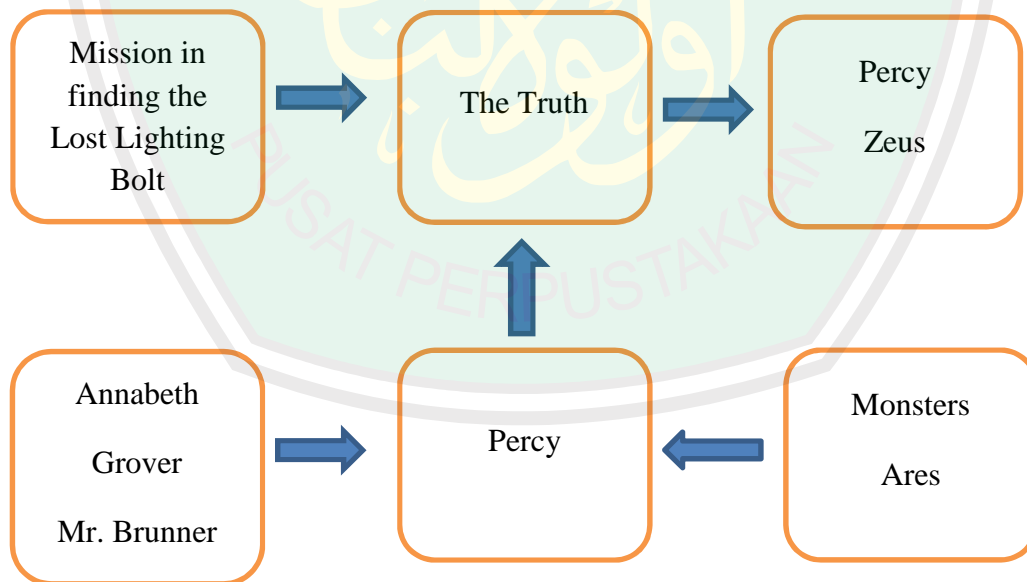
#### **The Actant Figure in Situation 3:**





When Percy gets home, he will have to make an important choice. Poseidon doesn't go into the details of what this choice will be, but he simply tells Percy there will be a package waiting for him. Poseidon says that Sally Jackson is a queen among women, but that he does not wish a hero's life on Percy. This feels like a punch in the guts to Percy. Poseidon tells Percy not to misunderstand him: "... *You did well, Perseus. Do not misunderstand me. Whatever else you do, know that you are mine. You are a true son of the Sea God...*" (Riordan, 2005: 122). As Percy walks back down Mount Olympus; everyone around him watches him and kneels with great respect. He is a hero.

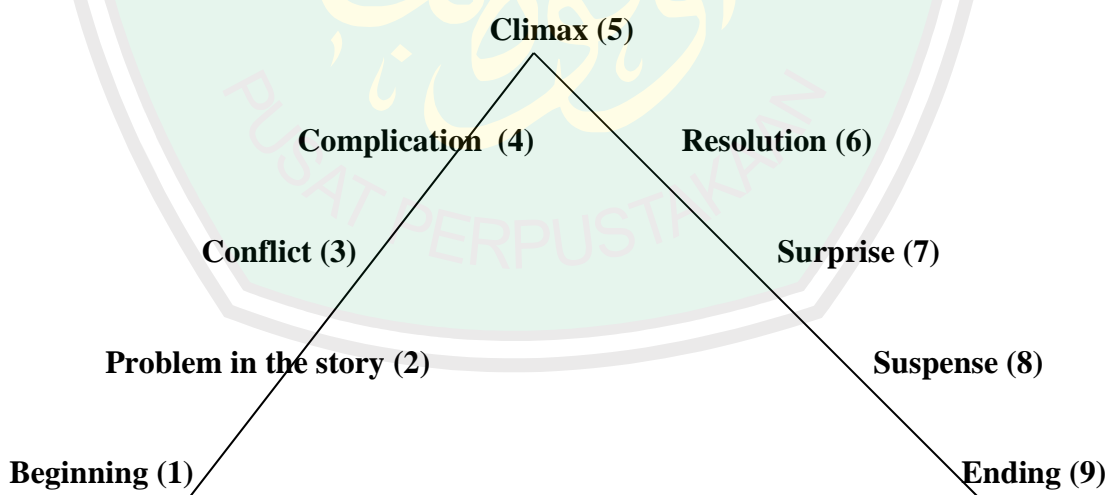
#### 3.2.4. Actant Scheme of Plot in the Novel (The Whole Story)



The main sentence in actant scheme above:

The mission from Mr. D to Percy in finding the lost lightning bolt after everyone in half-blood camp know that Percy is son of Poseidon. Percy should find the lightning bolt in order to prevent the war between Gods and also to prove that Percy is not the thief. In the mission, Percy is helped by Annabeth, Grover and Mr. Brunner. Also, Percy has enemies in order to find the lightning bolt; they are Ares (God of War), Mrs. Dodds, Medusa, Chimera, Procrustes and Minotaur. Finally, Percy found the lost lightning bolt and known the truth that he has been tricked by Luke and Ares. In returning the lightning bolt, Percy meets with his father; Poseidon

### 3.2.5. Plot Diagram of the Novel



The main sentence in plot diagram above:

One day, Percy went to a field trip to one of Greek museum. Percy saw lots of temples of Greeks' gods. The leader of the tour was Mr. Brunner. When Mr. Brunner was explained about Greeks' gods, he asked to Percy in order to explain everything that Mr. Brunner said. Percy explained one by one in detail, it made Mr. Brunner smile. Then, Mrs. Dodds was warning Percy to be serious during the tour (1). In the rest time, Mrs. Dodds asked Percy to follow her. In one of the room in the museum, suddenly Mrs. Dodds become a monster and tried to kill Percy. The monster (Mrs. Dodds) said that Percy should give the lightning bolt to her. Suddenly, Mr. Brunner appeared and saved Percy from the monster (Mrs. Dodds). After that trip, all students had time for holyday. Everyone were go home, included Percy (2).

When Percy was arrived in his home, he welcomed by his step father (Gabe). Gabe's treatments to Percy when he arrived at home were not in right way because Gabe asked a cash in the first time when Percy was arrived. It made Percy really hate Gabe much. Also, Percy still remembers what was happened during the field trip. It was so annoying for him (3). After several moments, Percy's mother gave a hug to him. Then, Percy was really happy to meet his mother again. They decided to spend the Percy's holyday together in beach. There, Percy told everything that happened during the trip. Percy's mother looked worried about Percy. After that, Grover came. Grover said that time is running out. Percy should go to half-blood camp as soon as possible. On the way to half-blood camp, they were attacked by a Minotarus. The car

was exploded, Percy, Percy's mother and Grover tries to run. They had no direction where they should go, Percy's mother decided to fight Minotarus in order to save Percy. Unfortunately, Minotarus killed Percy's mother. Percy decided to fight Minotarus using a pen that suddenly become a sword. They were fight. After that, Minotarus shoot Percy used it horns, but it missed. Percy cut on of Minotarus' horn and killed Minotarus use that horn. Then, Percy took Grover to enter the gate of half-blood camp.

In half-blood camp, Percy has a sword fighting lesson, and Luke is the best swordsman. Percy learns much about sword fighting lesson and a game, *Capture Flag Game*. It seems like all the action of the game is happening far away. The hound tears through Percy's armor, but Chiron shoots at it with his arrows and the hound soon dies. Percy is badly wounded, but Annabeth tells him to step into the creek again. Percy does so, and all of the campers gasp as an image, a glow of light forms above his head. The image is of a trident. After that moment, Percy can go on a quest to find the lightning bolt (4). On the quest, Percy accompanied with his friends; Grover and Annabeth. On the journey to find the lightning bolt, there were monsters that wanted to kill Percy and his friends. The first monster that wanted to kill Percy and his friends was Medusa. After Medusa, the monster that wanted to kill them was chimera. The third monster that wanted to kill them was Procrustes. Then, Percy and his friends were in underworld and met Hades.

After from underworld, Percy and his friends met Ares in a beach. Before they fight, Percy knows the truth that he has been tricked by Ares. Percy and Ares were fight. Ares and Percy start fighting one-on-one. It's a really tough battle. Percy tries to use his sea powers to his advantage, but Ares makes this hard, keeping Percy away from the water. Finally, Percy backs into the water, telling the waves to hold and build pressure. Then Percy releases a huge wave on Ares's head, throwing him off kilter. Percy stabs Riptide into Ares's ankle, causing his golden blood (ichor) to flow (5). The Furies arrive on the scene; they have watched the whole fight go down. They realize that Percy is not the thief after all. After the fight, Percy decided to return the lightning bolt to Zeus. As Percy walks back down Mount Olympus; everyone around him watches him and kneels with great respect. He is a hero. (6). After returned the lightning bolt, Percy decided to go home. When he arrived in his home, he met with his mother again. Zeus brought her (Percy's mother) as a gift from him because Percy could prove that he was not the thief and prevented the war between gods (7).

Several days after, Percy should go to half-blood camp again because that place is the safest place for him from monsters. When he arrived in half-blood camp, he had conversation with Luke. Surprisingly, Luke and Ares were worked together to make a war between gods. In the end of the conversation, Luke was walked away to find Kronos and bring it back. Also, Luke tried to kill Percy by a scorpion. Fortunately, Percy could saved from bites of scorpion. No one in half-blood camp knows where Luke goes. The next summer, Percy and his friends (Grover and

Annabeth) go on quest again to find Luke (8). Everyone in half-blood camp were happy, Grover got the mission to find Pan. A mission to find Pan is the mission that Grover wants most in his life. Besides, Annabeth wanted to meet with his family. They were not afraid to the monster again because they had a new hero to protect them. The hero is Percy Jackson (9).

### **3.3. Kinds of Plot in the Novel**

After analyzing those data, the last step in this research is finding the kind of plot in the novel. Based on the elements of plot, the researcher found that the plot of the story is dramatic (chronological) plot because the events drive through chronologically. There are no events that related to the past, but all events related to the future. The events are related to the future that shows in problem in the story. Also, the events go in chronological order. It shows from the plot diagram that the story started from beginning to problem in the story, conflict, complication, climax, resolution, surprise, suspense and ending. It drives chronologically. Thus, the plot of the novel is dramatic or chronological plot.

On the other hand, the novel has close plot because the problem of the story has been solved. In closed endings (close plot), all difficulties are resolved into some (preliminary) order: death, marriage, or simply restored peace after disagreements (Lethbridge and Mildorf, n.d).

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 4.1. Conclusion

In composing the plot structure of the story, the researcher divides the story into three stories. The first story is looking for half-blood camp. The second story is finding the lightning bolt. The last story is returning the lightning bolt. In analyzing every story that has been divided, the researcher uses actant in analyzing the story. The last step is finding the kind of plot of the novel. The plot of the novel is dramatic or chronological plot because the story through in chronological order. Also, the novel is closed plot because the problem of the story is solved. So, those are the researcher ways in analyzing plot if *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel using Greimas Structuralisms’.

#### 4.2. Suggestion

After doing an analysis on the novel *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*, the writer suggests for the next writers, especially who those are interested in analyzing plot of the story (novel or drama text); the next researchers can compare *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel with the others series of *Percy Jackson and The Olympians* novel or other novel, it is good to

know what the plot structure, how do plot structure compose the plot of the story, kind of plot and also the ending of the story in other series of *Percy Jackson and The Olympians* novel. Additionally, the next researchers can continue this research focusing on the conflict in the story, character and characterization, and etc. On the other hand, this research can be the reference for next researchers in using structuralism theory in analyzing novel especially in analyzing the plot of the story. The researcher hopes that this research is very helpful for next researcher who wants to analyze novel in using Greimas Structuralisms' or to analyze the plot of the story in other novel.



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## Appendix 1



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**Advisor** : Dra. Andarwati, M.A

No	Date	Description	Signature	
1	December 2, 2014	Submit chapter 1	1.	
2	December 5, 2014	Feedback of chapter 1		2.
3	December 9, 2014	Revision of chapter 1	3.	
4	December 12, 2014	ACC for proposal's exam		4.
5	March 18, 2015	Submit chapter 2	5.	
6	March 25, 2015	Revision of chapter 2		6.
7	April 23, 2015	Submit chapter 1, 2, 3, 4	7.	
8	May 4, 2015	Revision of chapter 1, 2, 3, 4		8.
9	May 13, 2015	Submit chapter 1, 2, 3, 4	9.	
10	May 20, 2015	Revision of chapter 1, 2, 3, 4		10.
11	June 3, 2015	Submit chapter 1, 2, 3, 4	11.	
12	June 10, 2015	Revision of chapter 1, 2, 3, 4		12.
13	June 22, 2015	ACC for thesis examination	13.	

Malang, June 16, 2015

Approved by,  
The Head of English Language and Letters Department

Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum  
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## Appendix 2

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1. OSIS (Organisasi Siswa Intra Sekolah) MTsN Panekan (2006-2007)
2. Wakil Ketua Dewan Penggalang MTsN Panekan (2007)
3. PASKIBRAKA SMAN 3 Magetan (2008-2010)