

**EXISTENTIALISM OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE  
PROFESSOR* MOVIE (2019) DIRECTED  
BY WAYNE ROBERTS**



**Submitted to Fulfill Part of the Requirements for Completing a Bachelor's Degree  
in Department of English Education at the Faculty of Teacher Training and  
Education**

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FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
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**2023**

**APPROVAL**

**EXISTENTIALISM OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE PROFESSOR*  
MOVIE (2019) DIRECTED BY WAYNE ROBERTS**

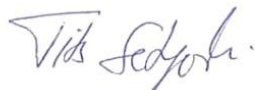
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**EXISTENTIALISM OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE PROFESSOR*  
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By:



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Has Been Defended In Front Of The Examiner Board  
Faculty of Teacher and Training Education  
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On January 10<sup>th</sup> 2023  
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## TESTIMONY

I hereby declare that in this scientific publication there is no work that has ever been submitted to obtain a bachelor's degree at a university and to the best of my knowledge there is also no work or opinion that has been written or published by another person, except in writing referred to in the manuscript and mentioned in the text of bibliography.

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The Researcher,



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## **EXISTENTIALISM OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE PROFESSOR* MOVIE (2019) DIRECTED BY WAYNE ROBERTS**

### **Abstrak**

The Professor adalah salah satu film Robert Wayne. Ini adalah kisah tentang Richard Brown, seorang profesor bahasa Inggris. Dia menderita kanker paru-paru yang telah berkembang ke stadium 4. Istrinya berselingkuh dan putri satu-satunya ternyata lesbian. Banyak momen terbalik dalam film ini. Tokoh utama digunakan sebagai sarana Robert untuk menyampaikan pemikirannya. Ada dua masalah yang dirumuskan dalam penelitian ini; Bagaimana karakter utama, Richard Brown, dicirikan dalam cerita? Apa gagasan eksistensialisme yang diungkapkan melalui tokoh utama dalam film tersebut? Peneliti menggunakan metode dokumentasi untuk mengumpulkan data. Dalam menyajikan keabsahan data, peneliti menggunakan triangulasi dari Denzin (2009). Penelitian ini menggunakan teori karakter dan penokohan, serta teori eksistensialisme dari Jean Paul Satre untuk menganalisis data. Berdasarkan hasil tersebut, peneliti menemukan beberapa kesimpulan. Pertama adalah penokohan Richard Brown sebagai tokoh utama dalam film tersebut. Peneliti menemukan empat karakterisasi. Ada yang memberontak, apatis, sarkastik dan mencintai putrinya. Berdasarkan karakterisasi Richard brown peneliti menemukan gagasan baru tentang eksistensialisme yang ditawarkan oleh Wayne Roberts. Yaitu pandangan Richard terhadap cinta, pandangan Richard terhadap kematian, dan pandangan Richard terhadap kebebasan.

Kata Kunci: Eksistensialisme, Karakter & Perwatakan, Film, The Professor

### **Abstract**

The professor is one of the Robert Wayne's movies. It is a story about Richard Brown, an English professor. He has lung cancer that has progressed to stage 4. His wife is cheated on him and his only daughter is turn out to be a lesbian. A lot of upside down moment in the movie. The main character is used as Robert's means to deliver his thought. There are two problems formulated in this research; How is the main character, Richard Brown, characterized in the story? What are the ideas of existentialism revealed through the main character in the movie? The researcher uses the documentation method to collect the data. In presenting the data validity, the researcher uses triangulation by Denzin (2009). This research applies the theory of character and characterization, and the theory of existentialism by Jean Paul Satre to analyze the data. Based on the result, the researcher founds some conclusions. First is the characterizations of Richard Brown as a main character in the movie. The researcher found four characterizations. There are rebellious, apathetic, sarcastic and loving his daughter. Based on the characterization of Richard brown the researcher found the new idea of existentialism offered by Wayne Roberts. Those are Richard's view towards love, Richard's view towards death, and Richard's view toward freedom.

Keywords: Existentialism, Character & Characterization, Movie, The Professor

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Since the ancient Greece period, human is asking and finding about their meaning in life. Plato and Aristotle took it as given that everything has an essence in life. Everything has an essence – including humans. Essence gives human a purpose. This

belief known as essentialism was the standard view of the universe until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. As the time goes, many tinkers started to challenge the idea.

Then in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the path had been paved for Jean-Paul Satre to return the question of essence and ask “What if we exist first? What if we’re born without any hard purpose?” those questions are the framework of existentialism. According to Panza and Gale existentialism is the philosophy that makes an authentically human life possible in a meaningless and absurd world (Cagri Tugrul Mart, 2012). It is essentially the search of the condition of man, the state of being free, and man's always using his freedom. Existentialism is to say that something exists, is to say that it is. To state something’s essence, is to state what it is

Flynn (2006) states existentialism is working to develop a social conscience and with it a conviction that the fine arts, literature at least, should be socially and politically committed. Existentialism, as a branch of philosophy, is worth discussing. The fact that existentialism focuses on human beings is one of the aspects that makes it intriguing. The other aspect is that it is concerned with how individuals think. Every person in the world is unique, especially in terms of the way he or she chooses to think. Existentialism has many diverse conceptions as a result of people's different ways of thinking.

Existentialist is a group after the World War II who reflects on the meaning of existence. One of the concepts of existentialism is essence. The main figures of existentialist are Soren Kierkegard, Friederich Nietzsche, Jean Paul-Satre, and Albert Camus.

Moreover, there are two types of existentialists: Christians, among whom I would name Carl Jaspers and Gabriel Marcel, both professing Catholics; and atheistic existentialists, among which we should include Heidegger, the French existentialists, and myself (Sartre et al., 2007).

Wayne Roberts earned a bachelor's degree in Film History and Philosophy from the Tisch School of the Arts in New York. He was born in Alaska and currently lives in Brooklyn. His directorial debut is "Katie Says Goodbye" in 2017. Then he directed "The Professor," a film in 2019.

The professor movie is a story about Richard Brown, an English professor. He is in his doctor's office when he receives bad news about his health. He has lung cancer

that has progressed to stage 4. His doctor has given him a six-month life expectancy without therapy, which might be prolonged to 12–18 months with intensive and painful cancer treatment. Richard is upset by the news, and he becomes violent to himself in verbal rants. When Richard returns home for dinner, he informs his wife, Veronica, and only daughter, Olivia, of the dreadful news and prepares them for the worst possible situation. However, the dinner conversation takes unforeseen twists. His daughter reveals that she is a lesbian who has found a lover. Olivia storms out of the dining room after Veronica dismisses her daughter as going through a phase. Richard and his wife have a difficult and torturous relationship. Veronica confronts Richard about his terrible marriage and the fact that she has a lover with the head of the college where Richard works.

On campus the next day, Richard begins telling his students about the urgency of experiencing life to its fullest. He criticizes a variety of stereotypes that he notices in the classroom and begins to weed out students who he believes are merely there to get easy excellent scores or to gain other superficial benefits from a nice staff. Richard is left with a core group of students who seem to be drawn to his unconventional form of straight speaking after more than half of the possible classroom students drop out. The niece of the college dean is among the remaining students, and she appears to admire Richard. Richard requests his friend, Peter Matthew, who also happens to be the head of his department, to arrange for an emergency sabbatical leave for him. The chairman informs him that with such short notice, it's impossible, but Richard persists. Finally, Richard informs him that he is dying from cancer and that he has no choice but to obtain a sabbatical leave as soon as possible. The chairman, who views Richard to be a personal friend and colleague, promises to do his best and offers emotional support to Richard.

In the days and weeks following of his devastating news, Richard's addiction on alcohol and recreational drugs becomes increasingly severe. He passes out and has to be hospitalized in one incident due to his acute intoxication. He emphasizes the necessity of seizing one's own existence in his closing words to his students and colleagues. To accept the idea that we are all going to die and to appreciate the (little) time we have left. Richard is able to communicate warmth to his close family members and remaining friends following his bad news diagnosis. He eventually bonds with his daughter by

embracing her coming out as a lesbian, and he makes peace with his wife to some extent. At a faculty dinner in one of the final scenes. Richard berates the dean eloquently, tells his wife that he loves her for what it's worth, and reveals to the entire faculty and families that he is dying, mildly surprising his wife and other guests. Richard returns home to await Olivia's arrival, but she arrives crying because her girlfriend has betrayed her. Richard consoles her and tells her that he is proud of her, then discloses that he is dying and bids her farewell. For his final sabbatical abandon, he chooses to leave his home and family. Richard stumbles across two roads on the road in the last scene, but decides to take neither and forge his own path, driving into the night with his dog, choosing his own path to death in his own way.

Viewers have given this film some feedbacks. For example, Allen (2019) claims that while there's nothing incorrect with a little cheese in a lesson about life, there's nothing more to it with "The Professor." In Roberts' film, Richard's first defiant apathy and later emotional admissions aren't woven together with depth; instead, both life views are left exposed, resulting in a mildly liberating first and second act, and a horrifying third act. It's impossible to picture Richard not being brought to tears by such an account of his life. He'd likely just roll his eyes instead. He said that the story is plain and leads to an easy predicted ending. Moreover, he says the first and the second part of the movie are good and the last part is disappointing.

Moreover, Kenigsberg (2019) at *New York time* state the writer-director Wayne Roberts complements this tired (at best) depiction of cancer as a liberating force with equally worn-out screenwriting devices, as when Richard lets loose in a mortifying toast at a formal dinner near the end. Depp's turbocharged archness is basically the whole show. The actor is as lacking of ideas as the character he's portraying, with no concern in clearly enunciating or concealing his arrogance. While his mugging is entertaining to watch, but he is not convincing as a dying man.

The researcher's opinion about the movie is that it's portrayed about the point of view of a dying man. It tells about how we should value our life. The movie gives the viewer another perspective of life and death. Moreover, the Johnny Depp's acting in the movie is amazing. The researcher thinks that Johnny Depp succeeded playing as the main character.



The reason why the researcher wants to analyze *The Professor* movie is because it can be considered new movie and there are few of researchers who choose the movie as the object of their research. Moreover, this movie raises issue about life and the purpose of life also the existentialism ideas in the movie from the main character. The researcher wants to know more detail about the issue in the movie.

According to some of the reasons from the researcher above, the researcher decides to analyze the existentialism ideas in the movie using existentialism theory by Jean-Paul Satre. Therefore, this research is entitled “Existentialism Of The Main Character In *The Professor* Movie (2019) Directed By Wayne Roberts”.

## **2. METHOD**

The type of the study conducted by the researcher is descriptive qualitative. Descriptive qualitative research, as according to Bogdan & Biklen (2003), collects data in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers. The descriptive qualitative approach is used to explore a phenomenon in depth in order to identify patterns and themes concerning life events when the researcher has a specific inquiry about the phenomenon.

The material object of this research is the movie *The Professor* directed by Wayne Roberts. The movie is released on May 17, 2019. The duration of the movie is 120 minutes. The formal object of this research is the existentialism ideas through the main character in the movie *The Professor* directed by Wayne Roberts.

The type of data in this research is text and image. Text is the original words that came from certain someone. The type of material that will be used in this study is text from the movie in the form of words, phrases, sentences, and dialogues that are linked to the research's formal object. The type of material that will be used in this study is the image from the movie such as visual illustration, graphic images, and screen captures that are linked to the research's formal object.

The data sources in this study are categorized into two which are the primary data and secondary data source. The primary data source of this research is the movie *The Professor* directed by Wayne Roberts. The movie is released on May 17, 2019. The duration of the movie is 120 minutes. The secondary data sources of this research are journal, books and website which discuss about the formal object of this research.

In this research, the technique for data collection is documentation method. The data are collected from primary and secondary data sources. To make it easier to locate

the data, the researcher noted down the scene and dialogue in which the main character in the film demonstrates existentialism's principles.

The procedures to collecting the data are: (1) watching the movie repeatedly, (2) reading the script of the movie, (3) identifying the data which express the characterization of the main character and existentialism in *The Professor Movie*, (4) classifying the data which express the characterization of the main character and existentialism in *The Professor Movie*.

In this research, the analysis process was done by answering the problem formulated in the in the first chapter. The first problem is about the main character's characteristic, so the theory of character and characterization was used. The theory was combined with the event which occurred in the movie. Then the second problem was answered by focusing entirely to the main character's characteristic that demonstrates the idea of existentialism, as well as the director's delivery of existentialism through the main character. In this process, the theory of existentialism by Jean-Paul Satre is used. After that, the researcher draws a conclusion. This process was done by summarizing the answer of the problem formulation and selecting the important point of the research.

The qualitative research process of analysis, according to Miles & Hubberman (1996) consists of three activities: (1) data reduction refers to the phases in which a researcher selects, selects, disentangles, centers, and changes the information that appears in research. This can be accomplished by summarizing and paraphrasing the data, (2) data display refers to the procedure by which the researcher gathers data that will be presented later in the study. To continue the examination, a section of the novel that has been deemed intriguing or important is being used, (3) conclusion drawing inferring meanings from the displayed data be the last activity in the data analyzing process.

Validity data verification is a technique used in research to ensure that the data collected is accurate, typically through triangulation techniques. According to Denzin (Fusch et al., 2018) there are four types of triangulation, including using, sources, methodologies, investigations, and theories.

- 1) Triangulation with source; which means comparing and contrasting the level of confidence of data acquired using distinct qualitative methodologies and tools.

- 2) Method triangulation; There are two strategies: (1) employing numerous data collection approaches to analyze the degree of trustworthiness of the study findings, and (2) using the same method to analyse the degree of confidence of several data sources.
- 3) Investigator triangulation; refers as searching employing researcher or other observer to double-check the level of trust data. Other observer assisted in reducing data gathering distortion.
- 4) Theory triangulation; which mean other theories can be evident in the degree of trust in one or other hypotheses, as well as the initial attractiveness (explanation rivals).

To check the validity of the data in this study, the researcher used the triangulation strategy, which involved checking the level of confidence in the results of several data collection studies and using the same procedure to evaluate the amount of trust in multiple data sources.

### **3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

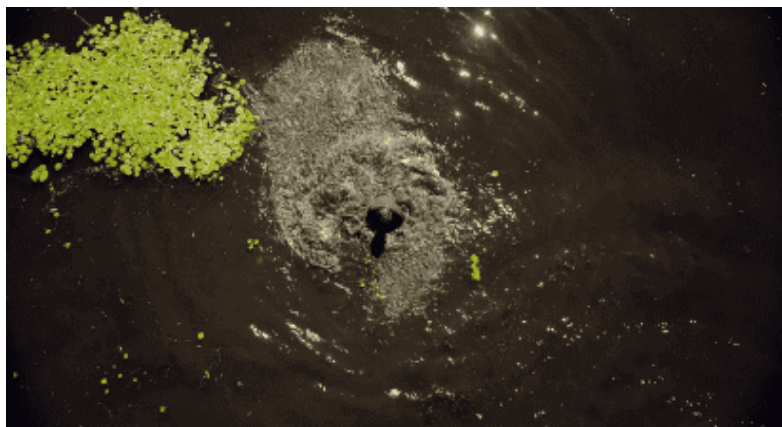
#### **3.1 Finding**

Based on the research questions are as:

3.1.1 how is the main character, Richard Brown, characterized in the story?

1) Rebellious

After learning that he has stage IV lung cancer, Richard becomes a rebellious individual. His actions and speech throughout the film portray him as a rebellious individual. Richard can be seen cursing to himself three times after leaving the doctor's office. The first is when he is driving, at a meeting, or in a classroom. After finishing his class, he goes outside to the campus's little pool with a fountain and gets himself drenched while ranting and cursing stuff. He continues to break the rules on school.



Picture 1. Scene of Richard in the pool while cursing and yelling

Table 1. Monologue of Richard in the pool while cursing and yelling

<b>Time</b>	<b>Dialogue</b>
00.04.49	Richard: “Jesus fucking jesus. Jesus. God. Fuck.”
00.05.54	Richard: “Fucking bastard! Fuck! Jesus!”
00.05.02	Richard: “ <b>Fuck it, huhh? Fucking god! Fuck you! Fuck you.</b> ” (Duck quacking) (Music continues softly)
00.05.26	Richard: “Fuck.”

From the dialogue and the picture above, we know that Richard is causing a commotion by going into the pool and cursing things out. It’s because he cannot accept the reality yet that he recently has been diagnosed with stage IV cancer. So, he expresses his feeling by creating a commotion which also means breaking the rule of the campus.

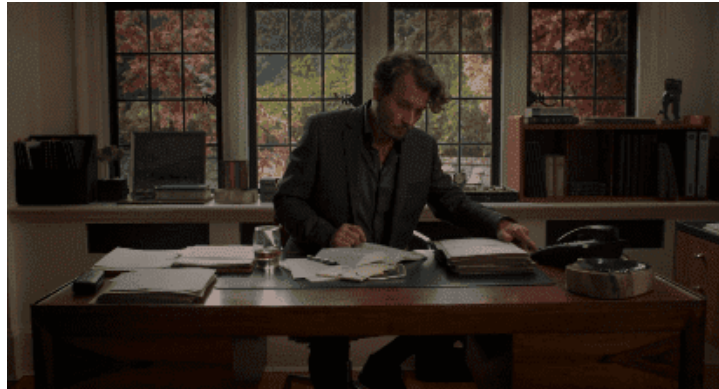


Picture 2. Scene of Richard while teaching and drinking alcohol.

Table 2. Dialogue between Richard and his students while teaching and drinking alcohol.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Dialogue</b>
01.00.58	Daniel: ”Do you mind if I smoke a joint?”
01.01.00	Richard: “ <b>Mm-mmm</b> ” “ <b>Umm...</b> ” <b>(Passing the alcohol to Claire)</b>
01.01.01	Claire: “Thanks.”

We can tell from the picture and dialogue above that Richard is allowing one of his students to smoke marijuana while they are in the middle of a lesson. Henry, the Dean of the College, forbids such behaviour. Furthermore, Richard is passing on his booze to Claire. Both of these behaviours put Richard in a difficult situation because Henry is aware of Richard's actions.



Picture 3. Scene of Richard answering phone from Carol

Table 3. Dialogue of Richard answering phone from Carol

Time	Dialogue
00.54.42	(Phone Ringing) Carol: "Richard?"
00.54.43	Richard: "Yes."
00.54.45	Claire: "Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't hear you answer. Uh, It's Henry's secretary." "Uh, Richard, Henry would like to have a word with you."
00.54.55	Richard: "When?"
00.54.56	Carol: "Now."
00.54.58	Richard: " <b>Tell him I'm busy.</b> "
00.55.01	Carol: "He says the matter is urgent."
00.55.03	Richard: " <b>Tell him I'm urgently busy.</b> "
00.55.05	Carol: "Richard."
00.55.07	Richard: "Yes?"

Richard gets called to his boss's office, Henry's. Richard, on the other hand, does not appear to want to go to Henry's office. Richard's rebellious side is appearing once more. He makes an attempt to avoid Henry's urgent call. Richard is making an excuse to Carol, Henry's assistant, by saying he is busy. It can be seen that Richard does not appear to respect his boss. But, Richard still ends up obey the call from Henry's assistant.

## 2) Apathetic

Richard now simply doesn't care in the slightest. He's changing, and now he's simply being himself and doing it without hesitation. After enduring a lot of life's unexpected events, such as his stage IV lung cancer, his daughter's gay revelation, and his wife's hard-bitter truth affair with his own boss, Richard is attempting to savor the pleasures of life while he still has the opportunity.



Picture 4. Scene of Richard and Claire in a bar

Table 4. Dialogue between Richard and Claire in a bar.

Time	Dialogue
00.47.41	Claire: "I'd like to say how much I admire your bravery."
00.47.45	Richard: "Bravery for what?"
00.47.49	Claire: "For being who you are, and doing so, unflinchingly."
00.47.55	Richard: " <b>That's not bravery, that's apathy.</b> "
00.48.01	Claire: "No, it's not."

In the dialogue, we can see that Claire is admiring Richard's bravery, especially in how Richard is being himself, and doing it perfectly. However, Richard denies that it is a bravery. Instead, he simply calls it apathy. Because he is doing it for himself, and he doesn't care about anybody's opinions.

From the data found above, we can see that Richard is being characterized as an apathetic man. Claire admires Richard's bravery in being himself, although Richard prefers to call it apathy rather than bravery. Richard simply changes his mind after the unexpected events occur and determines that he will only do what he wants. He changes his teaching style; he tries drugs; he tries an affair. Moreover, Richard also doesn't care about people's opinions and prejudices about him. He just does whatever he wants.

### 3) Sarcastic

In the movie, Richard uses a lot of sarcasm toward other people. He uses it for his wife, students, and even his co-workers. It's just in his trait. He sometimes uses it to offend, annoy, and degrade his interlocutors.



Picture 5. Scene Richard, Olivia, and Veronica at dinner time.

Table 5. Dialogue between Richard, Olivia and Veronica at dinner time.

Time	Dialogue
00.05.34	Richard: <b>“Shall the atheist say grace then?”</b>
00.05.36	Veronica: “Shut up, Richard.”
00.05.39	Richard: “Of course, my dear”

We can see the Richard family having supper together in the picture above. Before dining, they say grace, as is customary in American society. Richard suddenly says something to Veronica, his wife, regarding why she "as an atheist" is saying grace. Then Veronica tells his husband to be quiet. During diner, Richard expertly creates an awkward situation.



Picture 6. Scene of Richard in the Henry’s office

Table 6. Dialogue between Richard and Henry in the Henry’s Office

Time	Dialogue
00.55.34	Henry: “Tell me, Richard, do you like fish?”
00.55.36	Richard: <b>“No, I mean to eat it sometimes, but outside of that, no. No, I don’t.”</b>
00.55.42	Henry: “I believe men could learn a lot form fish.”
00.55.44	Richard: <b>“That’s the most asinine things I’ve ever heard. Why don’t we just cut to the chase?”</b>
00.55.50	Henry: “Alright.”

In the dialogue, Richard really doesn't respect Henry as his boss. Richard even uses sarcasm toward his own boss, the dean of the university. The reason is that Richard knows about the affairs between Veronica and Henry. So, Richard doesn't fully respect Henry as his boss. At first, Henry tries to open the topic with a small talk before going to the serious matter. However, Richard only responds it sarcastic utterances toward Henry.

#### 4) Loving His Daughter

In the movie, Richard is always showing his love to his daughter. He puts a lot of concern on his lesbian daughter, Olivia. In the movie, we can see a lot of how Richard is showing his love to his daughter.



Picture 7. Scene between Richard and Olivia talking about their marriage.

Table 7. Dialogue between Richard and Olivia talking about their marriage.

Time	Dialogue
00.18.47	Richard: <b>“One request, that we do it discretely.”</b> <b>“Let us at least attempt to keep the parental damage to our sweet lesbian love child to a minimum.”</b>
00.18.59	Veronica: “I wholeheartedly agree.”
00.19.01	Richard: “Wonderful. And the matter is settled.”

Richard is no longer concerned with his marital relationship with Veronica. However, this does not imply that he will abandon his daughter and cause her to be unhappy. We can see Richard making a request to Veronica in the dialogue. They are free to do whatever they want, Veronica with his affair and Richard with his own life, but Richard insists that this subject should not involve their children in order to minimize parental damage to their own daughter.



3.1.2 What are the ideas of existentialism revealed through the main character in the movie?

1) Richard's View Towards Love

The concept of love is also being explored in the movie story. Through, Richard's view toward love, Roberts wants to convey his idea about love. Richard as the main character has a unique attitude towards love. Richard doesn't seem bother about his daughter being a lesbian. However, his wife, Veronica, doesn't think the same with Richard.



Picture 8. Scene of Olivia revealing about being gay.

Dialogue 8. Dialogue between Olivia, Veronica, and Richard about Olivia being gay

<b>Time</b>	<b>Dialogue</b>
00.05.40	Olivia: "I Actually have something to say"
00.05.46	Veronica: "Go ahead, kid. What do you got"
00.05.50	Olivia: "I wanted to know that I'm gay."
00.05.53	Veronica: (Laugh) "What on earth?"
00.05.46	Richard: "Jesus Christ. Olivia, I thought it was something bad."
00.06.02	Veronica: "No, you're not, Olive.
00.06.07	Richard: "what do you mean I'm not?"
00.06.08	Veronica: "You're not gay. I mean, you're not a lesbian."

In the dialogue, we can see that after Olivia's confessing Veronica is laughing and doubting Olivia. She thinks that Oliva is just confuse. That attitude of Veronica hurts Olivia. Then after that Olivia leave the dinner in anger.

## 2) Richard's view towards



Picture 9. Scene of Richard telling Peter about his stage IV lung cancer in the bar

Table 9. Dialogue of Richard telling Peter about his stage IV lung cancer in the bar

<b>Time</b>	<b>Dialogue</b>
00.15.00	Richard: "I have cancer, Peter."
00.15.02	Peter: "What?"
00.15.03	Richard: "I have cancer and it doesn't look good."
00.15.08	Peter: "Jesus Christ, Richard." (ambient music playing)
00.15.12	Richard: "I don't wanna to die here." "I don't wanna die here like this." "Please let me die in peace"
00.15.21	Peter: "Oh, Richard"

At first, Richard wants to have a sabbatical, so he asks Peter for it. With his sabbatical, Richard can go far away and face his death in peace. But, in order to request a sabbatical a person needs a solid reason for it. In the dialogue, we can see that Richard reveals that he has cancer and it's really deadly to him. Peter is really shocked by his dear friend's condition. Later, Peter feels sad about Richard.

Richard views death as the natural thing that will happen to everyone. Even our beloved one will eventually die. Therefore, when we all alive we should try to seize our existence. We should try somethings new, stir something now, focus on enriching our live. Then we should extract a lesson from our life. Moreover, Richard also thinks that we should make death our closest companion in order to cherish the time that we left. Richard then adds that we should live well, so we may die well, because in this very moment is the moment when we are so close to death.

### 3) Richard's view towards Freedom

According to Satre (Sartre et al., 2007) humans are condemned to be free. Human has terrifying abundance of freedom. There are no guidelines for our action, then each of us is forced to design our moral code, to invent a morality to live by. Satre(Sartre et al., 2007) also says that once human casts into the world he is responsible for everything he does. Richard also has his own view about freedom.



Picture 10. Scene Richard and Olivia talking about their marriage.

Table 10. Dialogue between Richard and Olivia talking about their marriage.

Time	Dialogue
00.18.06	Richard: "You do whatever you please. <b>But you have to realize that from here on out, I'll be living just as freely.</b> "
00.18.16	Richard: "I've played a rather quiet role in the tragedy that is our marriage. And... quite frankly. I'm done."
00.18.26	Richard: "It's time that we lived a bit closer to the... primal truth of it all."
00.18.31	Richard: " <b>So, from this point on, let us fuck who we wanna fuck. Let us ingest what we wanna ingest. And all in all, just do whatever the hell we damn well please.</b> "
00.18.45	Veronica: "Here, here."

We can see from the dialogue that Richard tells his wife that he wants to live freely and does anything he wants. Richard gains his freedom of choice by telling his wife that he will live freely. Richard has been in a passive role in his marriage for a long time and is tired of it. As a result, he determines that he will do anything he wants from now on.

### 3.2 Discussion

In this discussion part, this research was done by answering the problem formulated in the in the first chapter. The first problem is about the main character's characteristic, so the theory of character and characterization was used. The theory was combined with the event which occurred in the movie. Then the second problem was answered by focusing entirely to the main character's characteristic that demonstrates the idea of existentialism, as well as the director's delivery of existentialism through the main character. In this process, the theory of existentialism by Jean-Paul Satre is used.

The first is how Richard is portrayed as the movie's main character. Richard is rebellious and dislikes being controlled, according to the research. He's also a man who enjoys doing whatever he wants. He simply refers to it as apathy. Furthermore, Richard is a man who enjoys sarcasm directed at others. In addition, Richard loves Olivia, his only child. Richard is really concerned about Olivia's well-being. Therefore, the researcher concludes that Richard has 4 characteristics which are rebellious, apathetic, sarcastic, and loving his daughter.

By paying a great attention on Richard's characteristic, the writer finds some principles of existentialism portrayed in Richard's characteristic. There three points that have been discussed in relation with the ides of existentialism that Robert tries to offer.

The first is Richard's view toward love. According to Satre (Satre et al., 2007)there is no potential for love other than that which manifests in loving; there is no love other than the acts of love. The way Richard sees love in the movie, especially toward his daughter, is magnificent in the movie. He always tries to accept, comfort, and protect her daughter. Moreover, even though his wife, Veronica, cheated on him, Richard still thinks that without her his life will not be that fun. It means that love is what we do for love.

The second is Richard's view towards death. At the beginning of the movie, Richard seems to be in a denial state about his condition. His IV stage lung changed his life. He tries to tell to his family but seems to be unable to do so. Hence, he only tells it to his only friend and co-worker, Peter. By that time, Richard had already kept his mind about what is he trying to do next. He decides not to get treatment and just face his death head on. His sickness also changes his opinions about death and life. He told to his students that death will come to us all. Then he also adds by saying that his students

should not just simply exist but try to stir something up and enrich their life. Because Richard views death as the natural thing that will happen to everyone. Richard also thinks that we should make death our closest companion to cherish the time that we left. Roberts wants to deliver his idea about death. According to Roberts death is the cycle of life. It means that death is a natural thing. The best thing that people should do , according to Roberts is, we should try to enrich and cherish our life.

The third is Richard's view towards freedom. According to (Sartre et al., 2007)An absolute freedom has to be owned by a man. A freedom that doesn't has a limit. There is nothing that can limit Richard's freedom. Richard first tries to acquire his freedom by having a conversation with his wife. He does everything freely, such as changing his method in teaching, cheating to his wife, criticizing his wife's artwork. Although a man should have an absolute freedom, a total responsibility should follow one's freedom. Richard is still a father and he is still doing whatever he wants to. But he still tries be a great father to his own daughter by keeping his marriage. It means that with great freedom comes great responsibility too.

#### **4. PENUTUP**

##### **4.1 Conclusion**

The researcher used the movie *The Professor* directed by Wayne Roberts to analyze the new idea of existentialism offered by Wayne Roberts through the main character in the movie. The movie is about a professor who has a stage IV lung cancer. It tells about his story facing his dying condition and problems from his own family, and workplace. This research applies an existentialism study by Jean-Paul Satre. Based on the finding and discussion above, the researcher found several conclusions in this research:

First is the characterizations of Richard Brown as a main character in the movie. The researcher found four characterizations. There are rebellious, apathetic, sarcastic and loving his daughter.

Based on the characterization of Richard brown the researcher found the new idea of existentialism offered by Wayne Roberts. Those are Richard's view towards love, Richard's view towards death, and Richard's view toward freedom.

Richard's view towards love. The way the main character, Richard Brown, sees love in the movie, especially toward his daughter, is magnificent in the movie. He always tries to accept, comfort, and protect her daughter. Moreover, even though his

wife, Veronica, cheated on him, Richard still thinks that without her his life will not be that fun. It means that love is what we do for love.

Richard's view towards death. Richard views death as the natural thing that will happen to everyone. Richard also thinks that we should make death our closest companion to cherish the time that we left. It means that death is a natural thing. Therefore, we should try to enrich and cherish our life.

Richard's view towards freedom. He does everything freely, such as changing his method in teaching, cheating to his wife, criticizing his wife's artwork. Although a man should have an absolute freedom, a total responsibility should follow one's freedom.

## **4.2 Suggestion**

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher wants to suggest:

### 4.2.1 For the other researcher

The movie "The Professor" is one of the recommended movies, especially if you want to have deeper understanding about human existence. Furthermore, the movie should be deeper to analyze by the other researcher because it has a big opportunity to raise some issues based on character, conflict, etc.

### 4.2.2 For the viewers/watcher

The viewer/watchers can take the deeper values and knowledge about the movie from this research.

## **4.3 Pedagogical Implication**

The research on the idea of existentialism offered by Wayne Roberts through the main character is applying an existentialism study which has the following implications:

### 4.3.1 For Researcher

This research can serve as a reference for other researchers or students who are looking to learn more about the topic of existentialism.

### 4.3.2 For English Students

English students can utilize this movie as a study tool for literature. In particular, the study of existentialism.

### 4.3.3 For instructor or lecturer

The instructor can utilize this movie as teaching material for a literature course. This film explores human freedom and existential crisis. So, it might be a subject for a more in-depth analysis of existentialism research.

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