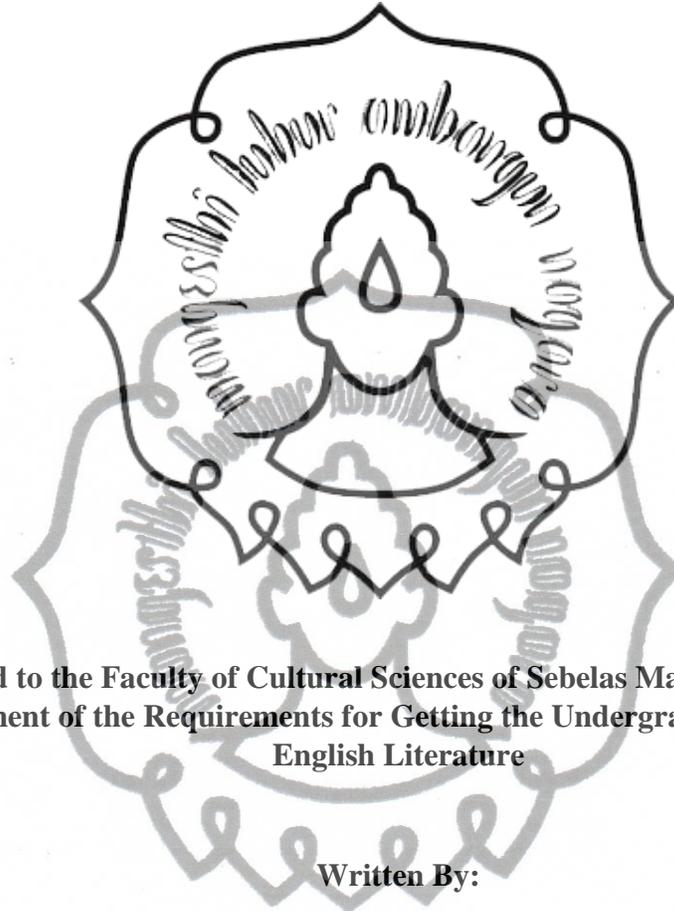


Winning Spelling Bee Competition: The Representation of Black Girl in *Akeelah and The Bee* (2006) Movie



Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences of Sebelas Maret University as a Fulfillment of the Requirements for Getting the Undergraduate Degree of English Literature

Written By:

Fiska Nur Hananto Laudycya Antonius

B0315024

**English Department
Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Sebelas Maret University
Surakarta
2020**

APPROVAL OF THESIS SUPERVISOR

WINNING SPELLING BEE COMPETITION:
THE REPRESENTATION OF BLACK GIRL
IN *AKEELAH AND THE BEE* (2006) MOVIE

Written by:

FISKA NUR HANANTO LAUDYCYA ANTONIUS

B0315024

Approved to be examined before the Board of Examiners
Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Universitas Sebelas Maret

Thesis Supervisor



Dra. Susilorini, MA.

NIP. 196506011992032002

Head of English Department



Dr. Fitria Akhmerti Primasita, S.S., M.A.

NIP. 196912161998022001

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD EXAMINERS

WINNING SPELLING BEE COMPETITION: THE REPRESENTATION OF BLACK GIRL IN *AKEELAH AND THE BEE* (2006) MOVIE

Written by:

FISKA NUR HANANTO LAUDYCYA ANTONIUS

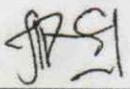
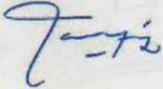
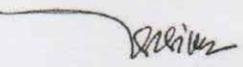
B0315024

Accepted and Approved by the Board of Examiners

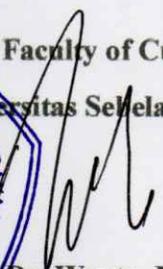
Faculty of Cultural Sciences

Universitas Sebelas Maret

On July 2020

Position	Name	Signature
1. Chair	Dr. Fitria Akhmerti Primasita, S.S., M.A. NIP. 196912161998022001	
2. Secretary	Muhammad Taufiq Al Makmun, S.S., M.A. NIP. 197806272005011003	
3. First Examiner	Dra. Susilorini, MA. NIP. 196506011992032002	
4. Second Examiner	Dra. Sri Kusumo Habsari, M.Hum., Ph.D NIP. 196703231995122001	

The Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Universitas Sebelas Maret


Prof. Dr. Warto, M. Hum
NIP. 196109251986031001



PRONOUNCEMENT

Name : Fiska Nur Hananto L.A

NIM : B0315024

Stated sincerely that this thesis entitled *Winning Spelling Bee Competition: The Representation of Black Girl in Akeelah and The Bee (2006) Movie* is originally and formerly written by the researcher. It is not a plagiarism, nor made by others. The things related to other people's work are written in the quotation and included within the bibliography.

If it is subsequently proven that the researcher cheats, the researcher is positively ready to take the responsibility.

Surakarta, July 2020

The writer



Fiska Nur Hananto Laudycya Antonius

MOTTOES

Whatever you do, work it with all your heart,
As working for the Lord, not for human masters,

- Colosians 3 : 23 (niv)

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. We ask ourselves 'who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?' Actually, who are you not to be?"

- Akeelah and the Bee

"When you rely on yourself, you can see how far you can go. But, when you rely on GOD, you can see how far you can SOAR!"

- Felice Hwang

DEDICATION



All this work is for
My Mom and Dad,
My sisters , My brothers, my nephews
And my self.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to thank to the Lord for all his blessing and guidance to complete this study and thesis. Thus, it is impossible for me to finish this thesis without support and guidance from many people. In this chance, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to.

First of all, I would like to give my sincere gratitude to my Thesis Supervisor, Dra. Susilorini, M.A., for your support, knowledge, patience, and motivation given to me. It is been an honor to be mentored by her. Her guidences gives me some knowledge when I get many mistakes in writing my thesis. Thank you so much for your help, ma'am.

I want to thank to the dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Prof. Dr. Wardo, M. Hum., Head of English Department, Dr. Fitria Akhmerti Primasita S.S., M.A., my academic supervisor, Prof. Drs. Mugijatna M.Si., Ph.D. I would like to thank to the lecturers in the English Department. It is so much fun to have knowledge from all of you. Thanks a lot.

I thank to the librarian in UNS Central Library and SAT. I got so many references to accomplish my thesis, especially for SAT in UNS Cetral Library which gives me a comfortable place to write my thesis.

I also thank to the Modjola Coffee which gives me a cozy place to finish my thesis and the Wi-Fi connection. You save my data connection.

I express my full gratitude to my parents who always give support and pray for me to finish my thesis. I will never diasppoint you, mom and dd. Your advice gives me spirit to finish it. I would say thanks to my sisters, my brothers and my nephews who always cheer me up and streghtent me when I am down.

Secondly, I thank Menix Fatilah for lending me her laptop so that I can Finish my study in University and my thesis also. Also to my classmate for the fun and joy that we have had in the class and outside the class. I would like to thanks to all of my friends who helps me in finishing this thesis.

Surakarta, July 2020

The Writer



Fiska Nur Hananto Laudycya Antonius

Table of Contents

COVER	i
APPROVAL OF THE CONSULTANT	ii
APPROVAL OF THE BOARD EXAMINERS	iii
STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	iv
MOTTO	v
DEDICATION	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ix
ABSTRACT	xi
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	
Research Background	1
Scope of Research	6
Research Question	6
Research Objective	6
Significance of Research	7
CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW	
African-american Vernacular English (AAVE) in Education	8
African-American Stereotype in Hollywood	10
Spelling Bee Competition	12
Semiotic and Semiotic Film Theory	14
CHAPTER III: METHODS OF RESEARCH	
Research Design	20
Source of Data	20
Data	20
Technique of Collecting and Analyzing Data	21
Theoretical Approach	22
CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS	
A. The stereotype of African-American in <i>Akeelah and the Bee</i> (2006)	27

B. Akeelah’s National Spelling Bee Achievement: Breaking the Stereotype39

 1. Asssimilating American Value.....39

 2. Mentoring45

 3. The contribution of African-American community48

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

 Conclusion51

 Recommendation53

REFERENCES55



ABSTRACT

Fiska Nur Hananto Laudycya Antonius, B0315024. English Department. Faculty of Cultural Science Surakarta 2015. Thesis: **Winning Spelling Bee Competition: The Representation of Black Girl in *Akeelah and The Bee* (2006) Movie**

This research examines the representations of African-American stereotype and the struggle of Black American girl in National Spelling Bee contest in Hollywood movie entitled *Akeelah and the Bee* (2006). The use of African-American English (AAVE) is one of the stereotype often depicted in Hollywood movie. Race theories are used to examine the relationship between race, racism and power. Meanwhile, Roland Barthes's theory and semiotic film theory are used to examine the meaning portrayed in the movie. Findings show that the representation of *Akeelah* as a successful participant in the spelling bee competition challenges the stereotype of African American as academic underclass, and as associated with crime, failure and frustration. *Akeelah* is represented as a successful African American girl as she assimilates (adopts) American values of change/mobility, time and its importance, action and work orientation. The assimilation is achieved through a mentoring process and support from African American community.

Keywords: African-American, African American Vernacular English (AAVE), Stereotype, Spelling Bee