

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literature covers various written works, each carrying its own meaning and artistic expression. According to (Astuti, 2021) literature can be seen as a creative work of art—an object crafted by an artist. Meyer on (Saina, 2020) further distinguishes literary works by emphasizing prototypical characteristics like careful language use, adherence to literary genres (poetry, prose fiction, or drama), aesthetic reading, and the inclusion of many implicit meanings.

A prominent form of literature is the novel, a compilation of ideas, stories, and characters interwoven with the author's boundless imagination to construct a captivating narrative. Through the creation of a novel, an author engages in a profound expression of various issues. These issues can span the spectrum of human experiences, including themes like love, the struggle for existence, conflicts in life, war, violence, and reflections on our own existence. The novel becomes a vessel through which the author articulates their perspectives on these matters (Mulyono, 2022).

The thematic core of a novel often revolves around the intricacies of human emotions, the unfolding of situations, and the development of characters. The author employs the novel as a canvas to delve into the depths of how individuals perceive and respond to the world around them. This exploration extends beyond mere storytelling; it encapsulates a profound examination of the intricacies of the human condition (Ningsih, 2022).

As readers immerse themselves aesthetically in a novel, they become witnesses to the nuanced expressions of emotions and the unfolding complexities of life. Whether the narrative revolves around the tumultuous journey of love, the relentless pursuit of survival, the inherent conflicts in existence, or the stark realities of war and violence, the novel serves as a vehicle for readers to engage with the myriad facets of the human experience (Ate & Ndapa Lawa, 2022).

Authors have a wide range of issues to choose from when creating a novel. Generally, authors choose simple issues or even things that often occur in everyday life,

such as friendship. In everyday life, the existence of friends is important to accompany one's life journey. When one feels lonely or sad, friends become an abundant source of ideas to bring laughter through their humorous wit (Tarsinih & Gina Putri Vidiandini, 2022).

Social penetration is defines the process of forming interpersonal relationships, such as friendship, through gradual and systematic self-disclosure. Initially, individuals engage in superficial interactions, sharing surface-level information. As trust and familiarity grow, deeper levels of disclosure occur, revealing more personal and intimate aspects of oneself. This gradual unfolding of information resembles peeling back the layers of an onion, with each layer representing a deeper level of intimacy. In friendships, social penetration theory suggests that as individuals share increasingly personal information and experiences, their friendships deepen, and the bond between them strengthens (Lei et al., 2023a).

Friendship is a relationship between individuals or groups that involves mutual influence, support and appreciation of each other. It is a strong emotional bond, where trust, loyalty and openness are established. Friendship creates a safe and supportive environment, allowing individuals to share experiences, thoughts, and feelings without fear of judgment. In the dynamics of friendship, mutually enriching social interactions are formed, strengthening interpersonal relationships and adding value to everyday life (Intan, 2021).

According to on (Mustajib, 2020), friendship is a roundness that deceives by claiming that it is true, at least to the extent that the opposite love is present. Friendship can exist between individuals of the same sex, such as between men-men or women-women, or even between individuals of different sexes, such as between men and women. Correspondingly, friendship can cross age boundaries, perhaps even between an old man and a young child, as expressed by (Kastner, 2021).

Elyot on (Lee, 2016)views friendship as something very special, calling it a blessed and stable relationship in which two individuals are united in good and suffering. In (Blieszner et al., 2019) view, friendship is considered a form of institutionalized non-institutional relationship. Sivertsen on (Khairunnisa H. & Manugeran, 2021) adds a complex dimension to this understanding by stating that each relationship between friends

reflects a complex set of challenges, arising from the contextual and interactional dynamics that friends create and manage. Friendship is thus a rich and complex theme that can be explored in novels, offering readers a deep understanding of the dynamics and meaning behind human relationships.

"Fast as the Wind" by Nat Gould is a captivating novel that intertwines the worlds of horse racing and the pursuit of justice. The story is set in the picturesque backdrop of Torquay, England, and revolves around Picton Woodridge, a wealthy sportsman and horse racing enthusiast, who is haunted by the unjust imprisonment of his brother Hector on Dartmoor Prison.

The narrative opens with Picton's arrival on his yacht, the Sea-mew, where he is greeted by his friend and captain, Ben Bruce. Their conversation is interrupted by the boom of a gun from a nearby warship, which stirs painful memories of Hector. Picton's determination to clear his brother's name is unwavering, and he finds an unlikely ally in Brack, a local boatman, who shelters the escaped convict, unaware of his true identity.

Picton's life is not solely consumed by his brother's plight; he is also a skilled jockey and horse breeder. He forms a close friendship with Dick Langford, a local auctioneer, and his sister Rita, who becomes an integral part of Picton's life. Rita's charm and Picton's promise to win races on her brother's horses bring joy to Torwood, the Langfords' home.

The novel delves into the intense world of horse racing, where Picton's skill and his horse, Tearaway, make a significant impact. His victories on the racecourse are a testament to his dedication and talent, but they are overshadowed by the looming shadow of his brother's imprisonment.

Hector's escape from Dartmoor is a harrowing tale of survival and cunning. He outwits his pursuers, including bloodhounds, by stripping naked and leaving his clothes behind to confuse them. His journey to freedom is fraught with danger, hunger, and exhaustion, but his will to escape the clutches of the law is indomitable.

As the story unfolds, Picton's and Hector's lives converge in unexpected ways. Picton receives a communication from his brother, revealing that the escaped convict,

William Rolfe, is indeed Hector. This revelation sets in motion a series of events that will test the bonds of family, friendship, and loyalty.

The novel reaches its climax with a St. Leger race that is long remembered for its intensity and the fierce competition among the horses. Picton's and Hector's fates are intertwined with the outcome of the race, adding to the suspense and drama.

"Fast as the Wind" is not just a story about horse racing; it is a tale of brotherhood, resilience, and the fight against injustice. Nat Gould's novel is a thrilling read that keeps the reader on the edge of their seat, as they root for Picton and Hector in their quest for truth and freedom.

Furthermore, the relationship within the Langford family - particularly between Dick and Rita - touches on the aspect of friendship within the context of kinship. Despite having different views on the decision regarding the Bastard, this brotherhood demonstrates support and understanding among family members. In the context of horse racing, where competition is often fierce, the warmth of family relationships brings an element of humanity and familiarity to the story.

Overall, "Fast as the Wind" illustrates that friendship in the world of horse racing is not just limited to human relationships, but also involves emotional bonds with animals and family togetherness. Gould brilliantly brings these elements into the narrative, creating a story that enriches the meaning of friendship across different layers of the characters' lives.

Based on the background above, the researcher encouraged to entitle the research as the following: **“Social Penetration and Friendship In Nat Gould's Novel 'Fast As The Wind”**.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problems of this research formulated as follows is:

1. What is the level of social penetration in the horse racing environment in Nat Gould's Novel Fast As The Wind?
2. What is the type of friendship between characters in the horse racing environment in Nat Gould's Novel Fast As The Wind?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Objective of this study is to know:

1. The social penetration in the horse racing environment in Nat Gould's Novel *Fast As The Wind*.
2. The type of friendship between characters in the horse racing environment in Nat Gould's Novel *Fast As The Wind*.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The scope of this research focuses on the depiction of characters and the process of friendship within the horse racing environment as portrayed in Nat Gould's novel "Fast As The Wind." Specifically, the study will analyze:

1. **Social Penetration:** This study focuses on analyzing social penetration within the horse racing environment as portrayed in Nat Gould's novel "Fast As The Wind." It involves examining the interactions between characters, their communication patterns, and the depth of relationships depicted within the context of horse racing. Through this exploration, the research aims to unravel the portrayal of social dynamics and interpersonal relationships within the milieu of horse racing as presented in the novel. By delving into these aspects, a deeper understanding of the intricacies of social interaction and relationship development within the horse racing setting can be gained.
2. **Type of Friendship:** This study delves into the exploration of the various types of friendships depicted among characters within the horse racing environment of Nat Gould's novel "Fast As The Wind." It involves analyzing the nature, development, and significance of these friendships within the narrative framework. The research aims to shed light on the diverse types of friendships portrayed and their impact on shaping the experiences and interactions of the characters within the context of the novel. By examining these relationships, a deeper understanding of the role and dynamics of friendships in the horse racing milieu as presented in the narrative can be attained.

The research will primarily focus on the portrayal of characters and the depiction of friendship within the context of horse racing as presented in "Fast As The Wind" by Nat Gould. Analysis will be conducted to gain insights into the characterizations and relational

dynamics within this specific setting, with attention to how they contribute to the overall narrative and themes of the novel.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of this research are as follows:

1.5.1 Theoretical Benefits

This research makes a theoretical contribution to the understanding of the dynamics of friendship relationships in literary contexts, particularly in relation to interactions between humans and animals. The in-depth analysis of elements such as emotional interaction, trust, loyalty and support in human-horse relationships provides new insights into the literary study of the theme of friendship. These concepts can be applied to other literary works, enriching our understanding of the role of friendship in narrative.

1.5.2 Practical Benefit

From a practical perspective, this research provides valuable insights for readers and literature lovers, providing a deeper understanding of friendly relationships, particularly in the context of horse racing. It can also positively influence the treatment and policies towards animals, especially racing horses, by highlighting the importance of emotional aspects and loyalty in human-animal interactions. As a result, this research may shape people's perceptions of the ethical treatment of animals and increase appreciation for friendly relationships involving animals.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Social Penetration

2.1.1 Definition of Social Penetration

The Social Penetration Theory is a theory that explains the closeness between individuals. In this theory, the development of interpersonal relationships is discussed. As we know, humans are social beings who constantly interact and build relationships. The theory describes the stages of development of interpersonal relationships between individuals, from the initial stages to the formation of more intimate relationships. This theory was developed by Irwin Altman and Dalmas Taylor. They explain that an interpersonal relationship will end up as best friends if they progress through a series of stages and forms from the beginning to deeper levels of exchange. At this level, the process of social penetration explains the stages of relationships where individuals move from superficial communication to more intimate communication. The theory describes how in the process of interacting with others, there are gradual processes or transitional periods that must be passed until the completion of the adjustment process itself, where there is a kind of adaptation process between them from their shallow or non-intimate origins to becoming more intimate.

The Social Penetration Theory essentially relates to the progression of a relationship. Relationships that are gradually formed move from the outer layers to the innermost layers. Altman and Taylor in (Lei et al., 2023a) argue that social penetration is a theory that explains the communication process toward intimacy between individuals. It's not just physical intimacy but also emotional and intellectual intimacy, leading to the individuals engaging in activities together. With this explanation, the social penetration theory can also be interpreted as a model showing the development of relationships, wherein individuals get to know each other through stages of information disclosure. Furthermore, several important concepts in this theory will be explained in the following sub-discussion.

a. Onion Layer Structure

Self-Disclosure Altman and Taylor in (Lei et al., 2023b) used the analogy of the onion model to explain the stages of social penetration. If we peel away the outer layers of an onion, we will find more layers beneath. Similarly, human personality has several layers.

The first layer is accessible to everyone. The outermost layer is the general self that can be accessed by anyone who cares to see it. This outer layer includes various details that help describe who the person is but are based only on their habits with others. On the surface, people see things like height, physical appearance, age, gender, occupation, and all sorts of non-verbal artifacts associated with them. Moving on to the second layer, it's a semi-private area that someone owns, not everyone can know exactly what someone's nature and personality are like. Then, if we delve deeper, it's the private area, this area is formed based on values, self-concepts, conflicts experienced, and also emotions. It's the private part that someone doesn't open up to the whole world. Even those closest to them, like parents or lovers, may not know about it. These deeper layers are more vulnerable, so they are more protected.

Altman and Taylor argue that at the surface level, biographical information can easily be exchanged at the first meeting. But they describe the onion skin layers as thicker and more tightly wrapped as the slices approach the center. Therefore, someone will be more careful in showing their true feelings.

b. Self-Disclosure

Our closeness to others, according to Altman and Taylor, can be seen by how far our penetration is into the layers of personality as described above. Allowing others to penetrate the layers of our personality means allowing them to get closer to us. To enter these layers, self-disclosure from both parties is needed.

Self-disclosure is the core of a relationship. Self-disclosure can generally be defined as the process of revealing information about oneself. The information disclosed is significant, such as in initial meetings where communication might involve asking for names, ages, and residences. For further communication, it can

become deeper and more personal, perhaps by discussing hobbies. This is what allows a relationship to move towards greater intimacy.

Self-disclosure helps shape present and future relationships between two people and makes opening up to others a satisfying experience. Self-disclosure can also occur spontaneously, such as sharing personal information with others in a public area. This process allows people to get to know each other. The main component of this theory refers to reciprocity, where one's openness leads others to be open. If both individuals begin to open up, this is called reciprocity. Reciprocity is a process where self-disclosure prompts others to also be open. Reciprocity is beneficial for both new and long-standing relationships. Intimacy cannot be achieved without this reciprocity. Proper self-disclosure can reduce anxiety, increase comfort, and intensify interpersonal attraction.

2.1.2 Stages of Social Penetration

According to Altman and Taylor in (Lei et al., 2023a) there are 4 stages of the social penetration process, as follows:

1. Orientation Stage

This is the initial stage in the social penetration process. At this stage, only a small part of oneself is visible to others. Conversations that occur are usually superficial and only reveal general information such as personal data. In this stage, individuals typically act cautiously in speech and behavior to avoid offending the other person.

At this stage, individuals are also more inclined to remain silent rather than offer criticism, as it may be perceived as odd by the other person. Both parties engaging in social penetration will try to avoid conflicts so that they have the opportunity to progress to the next stage. According to Altman and Taylor, if both individuals feel that they have had the necessary interaction at this stage, they will proceed to penetrate to the next stage.

2. The Stage of Affective Exchange Exploration

This stage marks the initial expansion of information and the transition to a deeper level of disclosure than the first stage. In this stage, two individuals move towards asking or understanding each other's likes or pleasures, such as preferences

in food, music, songs, and hobbies. At this stage, people begin to use more personal choice of words or expressions. Communication also becomes more spontaneous as both individuals feel accustomed to each other, and they are more comfortable expressing something that might potentially jeopardize the established relationship. Behaviors such as touching and emotional expressions also increase at this stage. This stage is crucial in determining the path to further relationships or cessation.

3. Affective Exchange Stage

In this stage, there is an increase in more personal information, such as information about each other's personal experiences. So, the two individuals have begun to open up with more personal information about themselves. Willingness to talk about personal issues is also included. In other words, both individuals have begun to dare to pour out their hearts.

This stage is also marked by actions that show differences of opinion on certain matters, leading to mutual criticism. However, it is not yet potentially threatening or damaging to the established relationship. At this stage, there are no barriers to getting closer to each other. However, many people still try to protect themselves by not disclosing overly sensitive personal information.

4. Stable Exchange Stage

The final stage is the core layer called stable exchange. In this stage, Altman and Taylor (West & Turner, 2014) explain that communication has become efficient. The meaning in conversations is clear and unambiguous. It has become very intimate, allowing both individuals to predict each other's actions and responses well. The information discussed has become very deep and intimate, such as values, self-concepts, or deepest emotional feelings. Both individuals have entered the stage of understanding and comprehending each other's feelings. According to Altman and Taylor, our closeness to others can be seen by how far our penetration is into the layers of personality as described above. Allowing others to penetrate the layers of our personality means allowing them to get closer to us. To enter these layers, self-disclosure from both parties is needed.

2.1.3 Five Steps of Social Penetration

The term "5 steps of penetration" does not directly correspond to the Social Penetration Theory as originally proposed by Altman and Taylor, which does not explicitly break the process down into five distinct steps. However, for the sake of clarity and to provide a structured understanding, we can divide the process into five conceptual stages that correspond to the depth of self-disclosure and intimacy in a relationship, as described by the theory:

1. Orientation Stage

- During this initial phase, interactions are superficial and involve exchanging clichés and non-intimate details of one's life.
- Conversations are cautious and characterized by public self-images.

2. Exploratory Affective Exchange Stage

- As individuals become more comfortable, they begin to open up and share opinions on less controversial topics.
- Self-disclosure increases and people start to reveal aspects of their personality.

3. Affective Exchange Stage

- Communication at this stage is more spontaneous and individuals begin to share private and personal information.
- The exchange often involves personal attitudes and opinions, which can lead to emotional connections.

4. Stable Exchange Stage

- At this point, individuals have a deep understanding of each other's personalities, including their fears, motivations, and most private experiences.
- Relationships at this level are characterized by a high degree of openness, honesty, and intimacy.

5. Depenetration

- This is a stage of regression where intimacy decreases, and personal self-disclosure is withdrawn.
- It reflects a breakdown in the relationship, where individuals protect themselves by closing off layers of their personality.

These stages represent a progression from superficial knowledge of a person to intimate understanding, which is not necessarily linear and can be unique to each relationship. The Social Penetration Theory suggests that for intimate relationships to develop, self-disclosure needs to be reciprocal and appropriate in breadth and depth.

2.1.4 Passive and Active Penetration

In the context of the Social Penetration Theory, which is primarily concerned with the development of interpersonal relationships, the terms "passive penetration" and "active penetration" describe different ways in which individuals gather information about each other to deepen their understanding and intimacy.

1. Passive Penetration

Passive penetration refers to the process of learning about another person through observation rather than direct interaction. This could involve watching how they behave in different situations, noting their reactions to certain events, or observing their interactions with others. It's a way of gathering information without directly engaging the person in self-disclosure. People often engage in passive penetration during the earlier stages of relationship development, where direct questioning or seeking deeper information might be seen as too forward or inappropriate.

2. Active Penetration

Active penetration involves direct interaction to gain more information about someone. This includes conversations, asking questions, and shared activities that encourage individuals to reveal more personal layers of themselves. Active penetration is a more deliberate and participatory approach to deepening the relationship, where both parties engage in mutual self-disclosure. This method becomes more prominent as the relationship progresses and as mutual trust and comfort levels increase, allowing for more personal exchanges.

Both passive and active penetration are important in the process of social penetration. Passive penetration can help individuals gather information without

making the other person feel uncomfortable, while active penetration allows for a more direct and potentially deeper exchange of personal information. As relationships develop, active penetration tends to become more significant because it involves intentional self-disclosure, which is crucial for building intimacy.

2.1.5 Level of Penetration

The Social Penetration Theory explains the process of developing deeper intimacy with another person through mutual self-disclosure and vulnerability. "Levels of penetration" refer to the depth and breadth of this process. Here's a closer look at what each level signifies:

1. Superficial Layer

This is the outermost level and involves the sharing of basic information. This layer is all about small talk and the exchange of general information like one's name, occupation, and basic personal details. It's the initial stage of any relationship.

2. Peripheral Layer

The next level involves sharing information that's a bit more personal, such as opinions on light topics, tastes in music, and hobbies. It's information that allows people to start getting a sense of an individual's personality but doesn't involve deep emotional risks.

3. Intermediate Layer

Here, personal beliefs and opinions on moderate topics like politics and religion might be disclosed, and the communication starts to become more personal. People might share their thoughts on significant events that shaped their lives, their hopes, and more detailed aspects of their personal history.

4. Central Layer

This deepest level involves sharing core aspects of one's self, such as deep fears, dreams, lifetime goals, deeply held beliefs and values, and emotional experiences. Disclosure at this level is very intimate and private, requiring a significant degree of trust and vulnerability.

The breadth of penetration refers to the range of areas in which one is willing to open up to another person, while the depth refers to how deeply one penetrates into the core personality and life experiences of another. The Social Penetration Theory suggests that for a relationship to develop intimacy, both the depth and breadth of penetration must increase.

In a given relationship, not all topics will reach the same level of penetration. Some may remain at a superficial level, while others may go deeper, depending on the level of trust, the nature of the relationship, and the individual's comfort with vulnerability. It's also important to note that these levels are not static; they can fluctuate and regress depending on the dynamics of the relationship.

2.1.6 Adaptive and Static

Adaptive refers to the ability or process of adjusting to changes in the environment or specific situations. In a broader context, adaptation refers to the ability of organisms or systems to change or adapt to fit changing environmental conditions.

Static, on the other hand, refers to something that remains unchanged or constant over a period of time. In a more general sense, static describes an inability or unwillingness to change or adapt to changes in the environment or situation. This means that something static tends to maintain its state or characteristics without significant alteration.

2. Friendship

2.2.1 Definition of Friendship

Friendship, according to Wright, can be defined as a relationship between two or more people who depend on and positively influence each other. In this context, Wright highlights two main characteristics of friendship, namely productive nature and positive expression. Friendship is said to be productive when it is able to increase individual potential, create better relationships, and have a positive impact on personal development. Positive expression, on the other hand, creates a comfortable environment for doing positive activities (Septian & Pardi, 2022)

From this explanation, it can be concluded that friendship should not only provide pleasure, but also lead to positive growth and development of individuals or groups.

Friendship becomes a place where individuals can become better individuals. After family, friends become the closest individuals and the most comfortable sharing environment to tell experiences and complaints. Many feel more comfortable talking to friends than family. Therefore, maintaining positive friendship relationships is very important to create positive development in individuals or friendship groups.

2.2.2 Elements of Friendship

Friendship is divided into five elements to see how deep and strong the friendship is. and strong the friendship is. According to Wright friendship is divided into five elements of friendship. This theory will be used by the author use to answer the first problem formulation.

1. Utility

The element of utility in the context of friendship refers to a person's ability to make useful contributions in achieving the needs and desires of their friends. This includes aspects of a good personality and the ability to socialize with others, which in turn can help friends to grow and develop. For example, when an individual has a pleasant and sociable nature, this can open up opportunities for the friend to become better in terms of social interaction. When friends provide support and guidance, it creates an environment that supports personal growth and openness between friends. The element of utility is fundamental in understanding how friendships provide not only emotional support but also practical benefits that enrich the lives of each individual within them. With a relationship of mutual help, friendship becomes a means to empower each other and improve the quality of life together.

2. Affirmation

The element of affirmation in the context of friendship refers to the act of affirming and making friends aware of their potential and abilities. For example, when a friend has a talent for writing but lacks awareness and confidence in his abilities, the task of other friends is to provide affirmations that generate self-confidence. In a friendly relationship, giving appreciation and recognizing a friend's talent and potential is a form of positive support. Through the element of affirmation, friendship becomes a means to foster self-confidence, provide

motivation, and help friends to develop their potential optimally. That way, friendship is not only present as a form of practical support but also as a source of inspiration that spurs the personal growth of each individual in it.

3. Ego support

Ego support in friendship refers to support that focuses on providing encouragement, encouragement, and assistance to friends when facing problems or difficulties. For example, when a friend is experiencing problems with their family, a friend who provides ego support can help by giving advice, being a loyal listener, or providing an objective perspective. In a friendship relationship, ego support creates a safe and comfortable environment where friends can feel supported and accepted without fear or negative judgment. By providing emotional and practical support, it strengthens the attachment between individuals in a friendship, creating a solid foundation to trust each other and face life events together.

4. Stimulation

The stimulation element of friendship involves being introduced to new ideas and experiences that expand your worldview. For example, a friend can open doors to new environments and experiences that we have never experienced, such as getting a friend involved as a teacher in a small school. In this context, stimulation aims to enrich a person's life by introducing them to new things that can stimulate personal growth and development. Friendships that carry an element of stimulation tend to have a positive impact on an individual's development, broadening their horizons and encouraging exploration of different aspects of life.

5. Security

The element of security in the context of friendship involves a commitment not to hurt, pressure, or talk about the badness of friends to others. For example, a friend will commit not to say harmful or demeaning words about their friend to others because they realize that such actions can hurt their friend's feelings. Security in friendship creates an environment where each individual feels safe and comfortable in the relationship. It reflects strong trust and integrity between friends, making friendship a place where individuals can feel protected and valued without fear of betrayal or bad talk behind their backs (Khairunnisa H. & Manugeran, 2021).

2.2.3 Types of Friendship

Not only judged by its elements but friendship can be seen through types, which are divided into three types to distinguish the level of closeness of a person. closeness of a person. According to Wright in (Blieszner et al., 2019)there are 3 types friendship. This theory will be used by the author to answer problem formulation problem formulation two.

1. Reciprocal friendship

Reciprocal friendship describes a close relationship where there is loyalty, selfless sacrifice, affection, and generosity between the individuals involved. The main feature of this type of friendship is that there is equality in giving and receiving support, making the relationship mutually beneficial. In this context, each individual contributes to the relationship by providing emotional support, practical help, or understanding to the friend without expecting anything in return. This equality creates a healthy balance in the friendship, where each party feels valued and has an important role in strengthening the bond. The give-and-take nature of reciprocal friendships illustrates a harmonious balance where individuals complement and enrich each other's lives.

2. Receptive friendships

Receptive friendships create an unbalanced relationship, where one party acts as the beneficiary, while the other party acts as the giver. Although not symmetrical, the nature of this imbalance is considered positive as each individual in the relationship gains something that is considered valuable. In this dynamic, the different needs of the recipient and the giver of affection can be met in a way that enriches both parties. The status difference factor is also considered important in developing this relationship, as it creates a unique dynamic that allows for growth and closeness without inhibiting the development of the relationship. In other words, the friendship of acceptance illustrates that although the relationship may not be balanced in terms of tasks or roles, each individual in the friendship plays an important role that supports the development and sustainability of the bond.

3. Associate friendship

Associate friendship refers to a relationship that exists between coworkers, schoolmates, or playmates without an excessive level of trust. In this context, the relationship is based on interactions that are kind and friendly, but without significant acceptance and giving. Although lacking in intensity, associate friendships still have positive value as they create a pleasant and friendly environment between individuals. These relationships tend to focus more on relaxed social interactions and shared activities without requiring a deep level of involvement or trust. As such, associate friendships show that light and casual social relationships also have their place and benefits in enriching everyday life.