

The Main Character's Hierarchy of Needs in *Itaewon Class*

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the hierarchy of needs as outlined in Abraham Maslow's theories, within the context of the Korean Drama *Itaewon Class* (2020). This research is motivated by the depiction of human needs through the drama's characters. Specifically, it seeks to detail the process by which the main characters, Park Saeroyi and Jo Yiseo, fulfill their hierarchy of needs in *Itaewon Class*. The research employs a descriptive qualitative method to investigate these dynamics. The central research question explores how the hierarchy of needs is portrayed by the main characters in *Itaewon Class*, utilizing Abraham Maslow's motivational theory. The analysis and discussion of the research findings lead to the following conclusions: The hierarchy of needs for the two main characters encompasses (1) physiological needs, (2) safety and security needs, (3) belonging and love needs, (4) self-esteem needs, and (5) the need for self-actualization or realization. Among these five levels of needs, both main characters have successfully achieved self-actualization.

Keywords: Hierarchy of Needs, Abraham Maslow, *Itaewon Class*

1. INTRODUCTION

According to Wahyudin Kamal Noor (2019) a writer creates literary works by incorporating his ideas about how people live in society into the text. Because literature and psychology play complementary roles in life, the two can be related. Drama, according to Kosasih (2012: 132), is a type of literary work that tries to portray life by expressing tension and emotion through action and dialogue.

In the performing arts domain, the drama series *Itaewon Class* has made a name for itself as a work that presents strong characters and a deep storyline. Park Saeroy, as the protagonist who embarks on a journey with the main motivation of revenge, opens up the opportunity to dig deeper into how basic needs and security influence his character development. On the other hand, Jo Yiseo, with her great

ambition and determination to achieve business success, represents a high aspect of self-achievement in Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

One way to comprehend people as unique beings who may realize their ambitions, attain success, and achieve achievements as shown in the story characters in a literary work is through Abraham Maslow's humanistic psychology. Abraham Maslow's personality theory, which emphasizes the hierarchy of needs and motivation, is one of the theories of humanistic psychology (Hikma, 2015: 4). Abraham Maslow proposed the multidimensional needs theory known as the hierarchy of needs. (2014): 331 (Feist and Feist).

In the dramatic story *Itaewon Class*, the researcher analyzes the journey of these characters through these levels of needs. This research investigates changes in the hierarchies of these characters' needs as the storyline develops in *Itaewon Class* and will discuss how these changes reflect their character growth and transformation as individuals. The aim of this research is to describe the hierarchy of needs depicted in the main characters in the Korean *Drama Itaewon Class* using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter discusses several hypotheses, definitions, and earlier studies that are connected to the current research. Related hypotheses that are connected to a study of Park Saeroy and Jo Yiseo's central characters' needs hierarchy. The Korean drama *Itaewon Class* served as the research's data source.

2.1 Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow frequently refers to these demands as basic needs, and he defines the levels of needs as a hierarchy or ladder. Physical requirements, the need for security, the need for a sense of community and affection, the need for respect, and the desire for self-actualization are the five levels of basic needs. Maslow postulated that after people meet their basic requirements, they will move on to meet their next level of demands.

The person can revert to the prior level of needs if their basic needs are not met at the highest level. According to Maslow, two forces—deficiency motivation and growth motivation—are responsible for the satisfying of these distinct needs. The goal of deficit motivation is to solve the issue of human tension brought on by numerous current deficits. Growth motivation, on the other hand, is founded on the ability of every human being to advance and develop. Each and every human being is born with this ability.

A. Physiological Needs

The highest priority requirements are physiological ones since if they are not met now, they won't be met in the future and won't be able to motivate behavior (Ozguner, 2014: 208). Physiological demands, or the need to preserve one's bodily well-being, are everyone's most fundamental need. These necessities include the requirement for clothing, food, shelter, and oxygen (as

well as food and drink). The potential to satisfy all demands above physiological needs is greatest and they are the most fundamental. Human beings will always be driven to eat, not to make friends or receive praise. All other wants will be ignored or suppressed until humans' physiological requirements are met.

B. Safety Needs

Basic security requirements are a long-term internal survival effort. These requirements include the need for stability, security, protection, and order as well as the absence of fear and anxiety (Minderop, 2016:283).

C. Belonging and Love Needs

By joining a group or association, accepting ideals and characteristics, or using uniforms designed to give you a sense of belonging, you can satisfy your desire for love and belonging.

D. Esteem Needs

Maslow categorized the needs for appreciation into two categories, namely: 1) Strength, mastery, competence, achievement, self-confidence, independence, and freedom are requirements for having respect for oneself. 2) Gain respect from others Respect for others comes in the forms of status needs, praise from others, dominance, celebrity, importance, acceptance, and appreciation (Minderop, 2016:284).

E. Self-Actualization Needs

Self-actualization, or the urge to validate and exhibit oneself to others, is the last level of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. At this point, a person maximizes the development of all of his potential. Self-actualization demands are those that never entail balance and always involve the pursuit of potential. This need, according to Maslow, is the want to develop into the best version of oneself possible—that is, to become anything one is capable of. Maslow initially believed that if the need for esteem was satisfied, the demand for self-actualization would follow immediately. He did, however, come to the realization that many young people in the 1960s had sufficient fulfillment of their lower wants, such as self-esteem and reputation, but they had not yet attained self-actualization.

2.2 Characterizations

Characterization, or characterization in the English language, refers to acting and character portrayal. According to Minderop (2005:2), method characterization is a technique for illustrating characters that are present in a work of fiction when studying literary works. More According to Minderop (2005:3), the method characterization is not just restricted to direct method (telling) and indirect method (showing). However, there are more techniques that can be employed, such as a study of point of view characterisation, a research of the flow of consciousness, and a review of language style.

According to Minderop's assertions above, there are five different approaches to character development: telling, showing, angle of point of view, stream of consciousness, and language style.

2.3 Previous Study

This literature review was conducted to find research results previously relevant to the Korean Drama *Itaewon Class* and the hierarchy of needs theory from Abraham Maslow. The first, Zulhana's (2021) has analyzed about An Analysis on Hierarchy Of Human Needs Of The Main Character In Charlotte's Web by E.B White. This research used qualitative descriptive method. The result of this study is finding to the hierarchy of human needs for the main character, Wilbur, in E.B. White's "Charlotte's Web".

The second, Rosyid Alan Aziz Hakim's (2022) has analyzed about Hierarchy of Needs on Main Character in C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*. This research seeks to understand how Peter addresses his hierarchy of needs in C.S. Lewis' work. The writer employs a literary criticism method and uses Maslow's (1987) theory of motivation to guide the analysis.

The Third, Ulfi Fatharani (2023) has analyzed the relevance of life struggles in the Korean drama *Itaewon Class* with Tafsir Al-Misbah (Study of Qs. Asysyarah Verses 5-6). The research delves into the parallelism between life struggles in the Korean drama "*Itaewon Class*" and the interpretations from the Qur'an ash-Syarah verses 5-6, as presented in the al-Misbah interpretation.

There hasn't been any research that analyzes or talks about the main characters, according to the earlier studies mentioned above. Furthermore, nobody has yet talked about the *Itaewon Class* major characters' motivations for satisfying the hierarchy of demands. The hierarchy of requirements of the main character in *Itaewon Class* was the focus of this investigation.

3. METHODS

Qualitative descriptive methods were used in this research. This research uses the Korean drama *Itaewon Class* as a data source. The data is in the form of conversations, activities and images that contain the fulfillment of a hierarchy of needs. Researchers only took 2 main players to analyze in data analysis. Data was collected using documentation, namely the drama *Itaewon Class*. The Korean drama *Itaewon Class* was taken from *Telegram, Web and YouTube*.


The steps taken in collecting data are by watching the drama *Itaewon Class* on Telegram, then taking screenshots of scenes or conversations that contain the motivation to fulfill the hierarchy of needs shown by the main characters in the drama *Itaewon Class* on the YouTube application, and understanding the dialogues in the drama *Itaewon Class*.


The data analysis technique for this research is the analysis of episodes of the series were analyzed to highlight the depiction of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

Content was categorized based on these needs to understand character narratives and motivations. The storytelling structure played a crucial role in introducing the deeper emotional and symbolic layers associated with the motivational needs of the main characters in the drama. The steps taken in analyzed the data by placing screenshots of scenes, conversations of the main characters which contain the fulfillment of the hierarchy of needs in the table, then coding the selected scenes, then Classifying coded scenes based on Maslow's 5 Hierarchy of Needs, and the last is drawing the conclusion.

4. RESULTS


A. *Physiological Needs*


DATA 1	
SCENE	 <p>Picture A.1 EP 2/38.16-38.50</p>
DESCRIPTION	Park Saeroy was taking a deep breath after leaving the prison. He meets physiological needs in episode 2, at 38.16-38.50 minutes
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Kim Hee-hon: The weather today is fresh. Saeroy, no one came to pick you up?</i></p> <p><i>Park Saeroy: Yes</i></p> <p><i>Kim Hee-hon: Come in and I'll drop you off</i></p> <p><i>Park Saeroy: It's okay. I want to walk</i></p> <p><i>Kim Hee-hon: Really? OK, get some fresh air. Call me if you need help</i></p>

DATA 2	
SCENE	 <p>Picture A.2 EP 4/54.22-56.35</p>
DESCRIPTION	Jo Yi-seo is rearranging her belongings in her new apartment and she is helped by her good friend Jang Geun-soo. She was fulfilled her Phsiological needs in episode 4, in 54.22-56.35 minutes.
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Lifter: We've checked everything</i></p> <p><i>Jo yiseo: Okay, the box is over there</i></p> <p><i>Carrier: Because it's finished, we have permission to say</i></p>


	<p>goodbye, Mrs. Yiseo <i>Jo yiseo: Ok, thank you</i> <i>Jang Geunsoo: Don't you think I should be paid for this?</i> <i>Jo yiseo: This (throws the drink bottle at Jang geun soo)</i> <i>Jang Geun Soo: Why did you suddenly move?</i> <i>Jo yiseo: I was caught not studying and working at Danbam</i> <i>Jang Geunsoo: What? so you were kicked out?</i></p>
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B. Safety Needs


DATA 1	
SCENE	 <p style="text-align: center;">Picture B.1 EP.3/46.33-48.12</p>
DESCRIPTION	In eps 3, at 46.33-48.12 minutes, Park Sae-Roy as a boss at his shop tries to provide safety in his restaurant. in that scene he has fulfilled his safety needs.
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Kim Sung-hyun: Hey part-time worker!! give us some more soju, don't you hear? give us soju!</i> <i>Choi Seng-kwon: OK, we'll give it right away, here we go! (Choi Seung-kwon's hand was blocked by Park Sae-roy when he was about to put the soju bottle on the guest table)</i> <i>Park Sae-roy: Choi Seung-kwon, is your name a part-time worker? you guys just ring the bell instead of speaking impolitely.</i> <i>Jang Geun-soo: We're sorry he drank too much</i> <i>Park Sae-roy: Then enjoy! are you hurt?</i> <i>Choi Seng-kwon: No problem for me</i> <i>Kim Sung-hyun: Stop, part time worker! so you don't like being called a part-time worker? Then what should I call a part time worker like you?</i> <i>Jang Geun-soo: Sit down. you drink too much</i> <i>Kim Sung-hyun: Let me go. Can't you see they are not polite to guests? hey your boss taught you like that?</i> <i>Park Sae-roy: Wait here. (said Sae-roy prevented Choi Seung-kwon from confronting Kim Sung-hyun) I haven't taught it like that. I'm the owner of this shop. My employees can do that to rude people.</i></p>


DATA 2	
SCENE	 <p style="text-align: center;">Picture B.2 EP.3/06.39 - 07.16</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>This shows the scene when Jang Geun-soo was recording the conversation between Jo Yi-seo and Bok-hui's mother. Jo Yi-seo fulfills the safety needs in episode 3, in 06.39 - 07.16 minutes. Jo yi-seo was talking to Bok-hui's mother, before that she asked Jang Geun-soo to record her conversation with Bok-hui's mother.</p>
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Bok-hui's mother: Who is Jo Yi-se! Who is Jo Yi Seo! Jo Yi-seo? is that you?</i> <i>Jo Yi Seo: Yes</i> <i>Bok-hui's mom: Did you upload this?</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: Yes, that's me</i> <i>(Bok hui's mother slaps Jo Yi-seo's cheek)</i> <i>Bok-hui's mother: You don't know who I am? How dare you slander my daughter!</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: Jang Geun-soo, did you record it?</i> <i>Jang Geun-soo: yes (while holding the cellphone that they jo yiseo when they were slapped by Bok-hui's mother)</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: I posted facts not slander.</i></p>

C. Belonging and Love Needs

DATA 1	
SCENE	 <p style="text-align: center;">Picture C.1 EP.6/07.11-11.49.</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>Park Saeroy and the danbam team celebrates Ma Hyun-yi's success in improving her cooking taste. This is read belonging needs of Park Saeroy in episode 6 in minutes 07.11-11.49.</p>
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Park sae-roy: My goal is to make danbam a franchise. I didn't think it would be easy--it could be difficult--of course it's very difficult alone. But, there you guys, we can. You can do it</i></p>

	<p><i>Choi Seung-kwon: He's right when he says he can. It sure can happen</i> <i>Ma Hyun-yi: Well, franchises or whatever, anything can happen. Then five times, No I will work 10 times harder.</i> <i>Jang Geun-soo: Then, should we trust him</i> <i>Everyone: we can!</i></p>
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DATA 2	
SCENE	 <p>Picture C.2 EP.4/23.02-23.30</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>Jo Yiseo is spending New Year's Eve with some friends. This scene is read belonging needs fulfilled by Jo yi-seo in episode 4, at minute 23.02-23.30</p>
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Jo Yi-seo and friends: Happy New Year!</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: I'm 20 years old now, I got accepted in all the universities that I applied to. I turned 20 on January, I feel so bored. The reason I was hang out with these idiots is because chief prosecutor's daughter and th eother one is daughter of a textile company owner.</i> <i>I connect with people when they have what I want.</i></p>


DATA 3	
SCENE	 <p>Picture C.3 EP.16/17.27-19.27</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>In this picture, Park Sae-roy is hugging Jo yiseo, he just realized that he really loves Jo yiseo. This scene read love requires fulfillment by Park Sae-roy in episode 16, in 17.27-19.27 minutes.</p>
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Park Sae-roy: I remember that time, when we were running in Itaewon</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: Why are you suddenly talking about that?</i> <i>Park Sae-roy: Because I miss you so much. You've always tried so hard for me all these years you always get hurt.</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: What is this? are you really okay?</i></p>

	<p><i>Park Sae-Royal: Why is it like this? my mind and heart are filled with you. maybe this is what you feel too. this makes me nervous.</i></p> <p><i>Jo Yi-seo: Boss</i></p> <p><i>Park Sae-roy: I love you..I love you Yiseo. I really love you</i></p>
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D. Esteem Needs


DATA 1	
SCENE	 <p>Picture D.1 EP.12/17.49 -19.45</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>In eps 12, at 17.49 -19.45 minutes, Park Sae Roy is facing the Danbam prospective branch owners who are raging because JM Holding is withdrawing its Investment in Danbam This scene is read esteem needs fulfilled by Park Saeroy.</p>
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Park Saeroy: Stop it!</i></p> <p><i>Investor: You have the nerve to shout</i></p> <p><i>Park Saeroy: What did I do wrong?</i></p> <p><i>Investor 2: Come on. All investments have been withdrawn.</i></p> <p><i>Park Sae Roy: Is that wrong? Is your business going bankrupt? How dare you abuse my employees!</i></p> <p><i>Investor 3: We used violence? why did we sign up for this franchise? We believe here will be successful and collect our money, To open a danbam branch</i></p> <p><i>Park Sae Roy: What do you believe? JM Holdings investment? Did you guys sign the contract because of the uncertain news? What are our values? Not like that! You all signed a contract after coming here, after tasting our food, the taste of the food wins against other stalls. You came for that feeling. So, what's changed? did the taste of our food change? If you feel this is not right then don't make trouble and just break the contract.</i></p> <p><i>Investor 4: Then all the investors have withdrawn their investment. What are you doing with us without investment? Do you have enough money?</i></p> <p><i>Park Sae Roy: Enough. The basis of doing business is mutual trust and we will not let your trust and money go to waste. Whether there is investment or not, all existing</i></p>


	<i>plans will continue to run.</i>
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DATA 2	
SCENE	 <p style="text-align: center;">Picture D.2 EP.5/06.12-10.00</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>Jo yiseo is showing the right way when serving dishes to customers, she shows her skills in working in the food business. in this scene read the esteem needs of Jo yi seo in episode 5, in 06.12-10.00 minutes.</p>
CONVERSATION	<p><i>Jo Yi-seo: Uncle scary face, can you bring your snacks?</i> <i>Choi Seung-kwon: What?</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: Let me tell you why you need me</i> <i>Choi Seung-kwon: Snacks are ready</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: Stop, there's a mistake here. You know what that is?</i> <i>Park Sae Roy: His face?</i> <i>Choi Seung-kwon: Seriously saeroy</i> <i>Jo Yi-seo: Not that, but those hands of yours, these dirty hands that we don't know what they were used for before. You can't drag your finger in a bowl like that. The first basic rule when serving food to guests. Hold the outside like this.</i> <i>let's see, what's special here?</i> <i>Park Saeroy: All menus are made with sincerity but nothing special</i> <i>Jo Yiseo: It's so messy, I don't know what food should I order. This shop has no concept at all the lights are too bright. How can a shop use a lamp like this?. Bring me popular food in menu.</i> <i>Look at this, doesn't look good does it?</i> <i>Nothing special and doesn't look pretty. I wouldn't eat here even though my house is close. Who comes to Itaewon to eat this? Why does it taste like this, I want to gargle with soju. Think carefully, i'm like zhuge liang, i'm merlin and rayleig`h, i'm the one who need in your way uninvited i came to this place by myself.</i> <i>I've done a good job, she's just a 20 years old girl, if you still feel like you don't need me that's fine, I also don't want to work with a fool people like that. How come you still don't need me?</i> <i>Park Sae-roy: Ok, you can help me.</i></p>

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E. Self-Actualization Needs

DATA 1	
SCENE	 <p style="text-align: center;">Picture E.1 EP.16/57.22 - 59.28</p>
DESCRIPTION	Park saeroy has achieved his goal of crushing beards in an elegant way. This is self-actualization needs of Park Saeroy in episode 16 in min 57.22 - 59.28
CONVERSATION	<i>Park Saeroy: Hello, I'm IC representative, Park Saeroyi. Jangga is a representation of the food business in our country. Even though Jangga's name has become bad because of the various cases that have occurred, it's just an individual fault. Jangga still a good restaurant. The important thing when doing business is people and trust. I focus on people over money. Compared to profit I will focus on trust. Together with all of us, we will rise and be victorious again.</i>

DATA 2	
SCENE	 <p style="text-align: center;">Picture E.2 EP.13/36.01-36.19.</p>
DESCRIPTION	Jo yiseo is giving Park Sae-roy a daily schedule of activities. In that scene is read self-actualization Jo-yiseo in episode 13, minute 36.01-36.19.
CONVERSATION	<i>Park Saeroy: What is this? Jo Yi-seo: There will be a meeting with the maparam director in 30 minutes. I think there's going to be an argument you could read this first. Then you will have dinner with the president of Hotel Gojoseon in 2 hours. Here's your schedule tomorrow. Park Sae Roy: Alright</i>

5. DISCUSSION

The data analysis that has been obtained from the findings about Hierarchy of needs that depicted in the main character in the drama *Itaewon Class* based on Abraham Maslow Theory, the result of the analysis, there are:

A. Physiological Needs

In Picture A.1 showing the fulfillment of the need for breathing oxygen by the main character Park Saeroy, this data is found in Episode 2. Park Saeroy finds out that his father has died because he was hit and run by Jang Geun Won. Park Saeroy couldn't stand his emotions and vented his anger by beating Jang Geun Won until black and blue. Jang Geun Won is his classmate and heir to the large Jangga Company. Dealing with arbitrarily rich people, Park Saeroy was finally tyrannized and went to prison for 2 years. In this scene he is finally free and can breathe free air. He succeeded in fulfilling basic needs, namely physiological needs

In Picture A.2 it shows the basic needs that Jo Yiseo has achieved, namely fulfilling a comfortable place to live, can be found in episode 4. After Jo yiseo's mother found out that Jo yiseo did not go to college and chose to work at Park Saeroy's shop. Jo yiseo's mother was very disappointed with her daughter's decision. Then her mother threw Jo yiseo out of her house. Jo yiseo moved to a new apartment. In this scene she manages to fulfill her basic needs for a place to live.

B. Safety Needs

In Picture B.1, it is the fulfillment of the need for a sense of security from danger and riots that is done by Park Sae Roy by protecting his employees from drunken customers by reprimanding them directly. The data is in episode 3. Park Saeroy's danbam shop finally has visitors after days of never getting any customers. When it turned out that the visitor was drinking too much, the visitor actually caused trouble by saying rude things to Choi Seung-kwon, a Danbam employee. As a leader and owner of the shop, Park Saeroy reprimanded the customer and protected his employees. He successfully met the security needs of the scene.

In Picture B.2, Jo Yiseo fulfills the need for physical self-security and reputation by recording her conversation with Bok Hui's mother before something Jo Yiseo doesn't want to happen. The data is in episode 3. Jo yiseo has viralized the incident when Bok Hui (her classmate) bullied another student. The video has gone viral and reached Bok Hui's mother. Bok Hui's mother, who didn't accept that her image had become bad because of the video, immediately looked for Jo yiseo and hit Jo yiseo in the face. Jo yiseo, who was ready to protect herself, asked Jang Geun Soo to record her conversation with Mrs. Bok Hui with the camera on her cellphone. Jo yiseo succeeded in fulfilling the security needs in this scene.

C. Belonging and Love Needs

In Picture C.1, it shows the need to establish a good relationship between the boss and his employees which was carried out by Park Saeroy to

his employees. The data in episode 4. In this scene, Park Saeroy invites all of Oh Soo Ah's employees and friends to eat together to celebrate Ma Hyun-yi's improving cooking skills. In this scene, Park Saeroy succeeds in fulfilling the need for belonging.

In Picture C.2, it shows the need to belong to socialize by Jo Yiseo with some of her friends on New Year's Eve. The data is in episode 4. In this scene, Jo Yiseo is finally 20 years old. In South Korea, those aged 20 years can get an identity card and can enter restaurants that serve alcohol. Then Jo yiseo took advantage of this by drinking with her friends. Jo yiseo succeeded in fulfilling the need for belonging.

In Picture C.3, it shows the fulfillment of the love needs that was carried out by Park Sae Roy at the end of episode 16. He confessed his love to Jo Yiseo. In this scene, Park Saeroy saves Jo yiseo from being kidnapped and held captive by Jang Geun Won. Park Saeroy began to realize his feelings for Jo yiseo that he didn't want to lose Jo yiseo. Meanwhile, Jo Yiseo has liked Park Saeroy since they first met. Both main characters succeed in fulfilling their need for love.

D. Esteem Needs

In Picture D.1, shows Park Sae Roy's ability to deal with problems very well. He was able to handle people who complained to him about investment uncertainty by providing the fact that the value of his restaurant was better than the confusing news. He managed to maintain his dignity as a shop owner by treating the investors well. Park Sae Roy managed to fulfill the need for self-esteem in that scene.

In Picture D.2, it shows the fulfillment of the need for competence and reputation that Jo yiseo has by showing her ability as a food blogger to Danbam's boss, Park Saeroy. Jo yiseo, who likes Park Saeroy, wants to work for Park Saeroy and make Danbam Tavern even more advanced. To be able to work with Park Saeroy he showed the skills she had. He succeeded in fulfilling the need for self-esteem in this scene.

E. Self-Actualization Needs

In Picture E.1, it shows the self-actualization achieved by Park Sae Roy by taking over the bankruptcy of Jangga Company. The data is in episode 16. 10 years ago, Park Saeroy was tyrannized by the owner of the Jangga Company. The heir to the Jangga Company ran into his father and hid the truth of the incident. Then Park Saeroy was also slandered by the owner of the company. With patience, tenacity, fortitude, discipline and kindness by humanizing people, Park Saeroy succeeded in building the Danbam shop to be very advanced and succeeded in acquiring the Jangga Company. In this scene, Park Saeroy succeeded in fulfilling the need for self-actualization.

In Picture E.2, it shows the fulfillment of self-actualization needs carried out by Jo yiseo. Jo Yiseo, who went on to become Danbam Manager, has now become the Finance Director at Park Saeroy's IC Company. The data is in episode 13. Jo yiseo succeeded in bringing Danbam to become a developed company, thanks to her tireless efforts to accompany Park Saeroy,

promote the shop and make many good decisions for Park Saeroy. In this scene Jo yiseo succeeded in fulfilling her self-actualization needs.

6. CONCLUSION

The author discovered 11 scenes that had a hierarchy of requirements based on the five hierarchies of needs she examines in each episode's 16 scenes. There are two scenarios that deal with *physiological needs*, two with *safety needs*, three with *belonging and love needs*, two with *self-esteem requirements*, and two with *self-actualization wants*. The researcher will break down the key characters in the drama *Itaewon Class* who have met the hierarchy of needs into numerous data points using the 11 data that were discovered. The information below was discovered by researchers:

The first hierarchy is the physiological needs that exist in the drama *Itaewon Class* in the form of the need for a place to live and to breathe oxygen. Park Saeroy is able to fulfill these basic needs, one of which is the need to breathe oxygen. Meanwhile, the main character Jo Yiseo fulfills her basic needs, namely the need for a place to live, by buying a new apartment. Both reach a basic needs hierarchy at the beginning of the episode.

Personal safety from threats and dangers is the second hierarchy of needs in terms of safety. The requirement to safeguard the store and its staff from disruptive consumers is one of the safety needs that Park Saeroy has met. While this is going on, Jo Yiseo's character is able to satisfy her security demands by recording herself when she first meets Mrs. Bok Hui.

The need for a belonging and love expressed via friendship and affection makes up the third hierarchy. Park Saeroy satisfied his need for belonging by inviting all of his coworkers and friends to dinner. Jo yiseo's participation in her friends' New Year's party satisfies her craving for belonging. At the end of the episode, Park Saeroy fulfills his need for love and tenderness, but he also comes to terms with the fact that he truly loves Jo yiseo and is terrified of losing her. Similar to Jo yiseo, Park Saeroy had already captured Jo yiseo's attention when they first met.

The drama *Itaewon Class* addresses the fourth hierarchy, or the desire for self-esteem, as well as the need for respect and acknowledgment. By handling the difficulties that he faced skillfully, Park Saeroy's demand for self-esteem has been met. The branch owners received assurances from him that the investment that was canceled was not worth the self-esteem of their store. When Jo yiseo applied for a position at Park Saeroy's shop, she demonstrated to Park Saeroy her expertise in the culinary industry, which satisfied her need for attention.

The need for self-actualization, which includes expressing oneself to others and realizing all of one's potential, is the fifth highest need in the hierarchy. At the conclusion of the drama episode *Itaewon Class*, Park Saeroy acquired the Jangga Company to become his company, gaining self-actualization. He was able to persuade everyone that despite being an ex-convict, he was still capable of building a prosperous firm. Jo Yiseo, meanwhile, managed to advance her career from manager to the most

crucial position in Park Saeroy's business. In addition, he served as Park Saeroy's confidant. Jo yiseo was successful in maximizing her potential.

Thus, it can be said that the need is already present. The demands that are present in accordance with Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory are satisfied by these two key components. The process of meeting needs is described in these two figures' lives in a way that is consistent with Maslow's theory that doing so is a hierarchical process. The two main characters are able to go through life and satisfy all levels of the hierarchy of requirements.

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