

## CHAPTER V

### FINDINGS

This chapter is about the discussion and analysis of the *American Panda* novel, where all of the results of the analysis will be discussed. In this part, this study discussed the result which used DiYanni's theory of characterization and Said's theory of orientalism in finding the characterization of Mei as the main character and the reflection of orientalism through Mei's characterization. The data will be analyzed using six ways to know the characterization which consists of a narrative summary with judgment, a narrative description with implied or explicit judgment, surface details of dress and physical appearance, character's action, character's speech, and character's consciousness. Then the data will be lined with four types of orientalism power which consist of cultural power, moral power, intellectual power, and political power.

The analytical power of orientalism in this discussion was answer the problem formulations in the previous chapter. This study focus on the main character of the novel named Mei Liu, who is a smart girl. This study found some of Mei's characterization and its relation to four types of power in orientalism. The result of this analysis will be explained in one explanation. It is taken because the result of this analysis hand in hand each other. This study found four of Mei's characterization that is *coward*, *disobedience*, *insecure*, and *intelligence*. Those characterizations are known through four of six ways based on DiYanni's theory which are character's speech, character's consciousness, surface details of dress and physical appearance, and narrative summary with judgment. Furthermore, for the relation of Mei's characterization with four types of power in orientalism, this

study found three types of power in orientalism. The three types that found are *cultural power*, *intellectual power*, and *moral power*. The analysis of this study will be explained as follows.

#### A. Cultural Power

The relationship between West and East is a relation of domination and power. In Orientalism, Said divided the power of the West towards the East into four types. Four types of power in orientalism are cultural power, intellectual power, moral power, and political power. Each power has the domination of West. In cultural power, the West dominated the East through the canonization of desire. In the West's opinion, the East cannot show them, so the West helps to show the East within certain boundaries. West culture almost becomes the identity of East culture. In *American Panda* novel, this study found 10 data that portrayed cultural power through Mei's characterization. From 10 data, there are four characterizations of Mei which is portrayed cultural power. Those characterizations will be explained in below.

##### 1. Coward

The data that showed the **coward characterization** from Mei are datum number 4, 5, and 8. Those data have been analyzed based on DiYanni's theory to know the characterization of character. The coward characterization is founded on the analysis of narration with explicit judgment and character consciousness (what they think and feel).

#### Datum 4

*Beaver Lover leaned in again. "BB-8," she repeated, as if that was all I needed. When she saw my blank stare, her wide eyes mirrored mine. "Star Wars? Have you never seen Star Wars? How is that . . . ? But you're at*

*MIT. . . .” She shook her head as if she finally heard what she was saying. “Sorry. I mean, that’s totally fine. I was just a little surprised.” I forced my gaze to meet the rest of theirs as I explained, “I don’t watch many movies.” Only a few, snuck in during the rare moments my parents were out of the house. I went for the most scandalous ones I could find on TV. American Pie. Grease. Tiny acts of rebellion, done mostly to try to prevent incidents like these. (American Panda, p.22)*

Datum 4 shows the narration and dialogue of Mei and her friends at MIT School. They talk about Star Wars which is one of the popular movies in America. In data above shows Mei does not know about this movie. Then, her friends feel surprised about this one. The sentence *“sorry, i mean, that’s totally fine. I was just a little surprised”* from Mei’s friend show how to confuse her friend that there is a person who does not know about Star Wars movie. This thing becomes weird because this movie is very popular in many nations.

Mei’s explanation in the sentence *““I don’t watch many movies.” Only a few, snuck in during the rare moments my parents were out of the house. I went for the most scandalous ones I could find on TV. American Pie. Grease. Tiny acts of rebellion, done mostly to try to prevent incidents like these”* confirms that she rarely watches the movie except when her parents are out of the house. This narration proves that Mei has a coward characterization. Mei is scared to do something that her parents did not allow. Mei is scared of her parents' rule because in Chinese culture children must obey their parents.

Therefore, it can conclude that datum 4 describe Mei’s characterization that is a coward. It can be seen from narration with explicit judgment based on DiYanni’s theory. The coward characterization is seen in the narration of the novel from Mei who does not know about Star Wars movies, the reason why she

does not know about the movie, and the explanation that she is watching the movie on TV if her parents were out of the house.

Furthermore, datum 4 portrayed the cultural power through Mei's characterization. Mei who loves the American movie portrayed that American culture had influenced her. Although she was watching the movie as quietly it counts as an interesting Hollywood movie. This phenomenon portrayed the cultural power of orientalism. Indirectly, Mei who was on the quest to find out about American movies was a form of orientalism. This is called West superior in orientalism where there is a power relation between West and East.

The influence of the West through Mei's characterization also portrayed that West culture success spread their culture through American film. It proves that the achievement of production and demand of American film as one of form West superior. In fact, in this novel, Mei is influenced by American culture. it can conclude that datum 4 portrayed the cultural power of orientalism

#### **Datum 5**

*I had to sneak dance in from then on, just like so many other things. Non-Chinese food. Romance books. Even now, away from home, I felt the need to hide. Because I couldn't escape them. They were always with me, overhead, scolding me and trying to steer me onto the one right track for my life. (American Panda, p.27-28)*

From the datum above it can see that Mei always feels inhibited by her parents. It is because her parents always teach her about Chinese culture even though they live in America and again filial piety is a duty that must to do as a child. Mei cannot escape from them, even after a stay in a campus boarding house. Mei always feels that she has a responsibility as a child to her parents to do all that her parents want whereas she does not want.

The sentence *“I had to sneak dance in from then on, just like so many other things. Non-Chinese food. Romance books”* expresses that Mei likes the things out of Chinese culture. She hides many secrets behind her parents. Mei hides her secret because she is scared of her parents. Her parents always keep the Chinese tradition in their life. Then, the sentence *“because I couldn’t escape them”* shows how scared she is of her parents. She always feels surrounded by her parents even though she is in MIT School, separate from her parents.

Therefore, it proves that datum 5 describes the **coward characterization** of Mei. It takes from the way to know of characterization that is **character’s consciousness (what they think and feel)** based on the theory characterization of DiYanni. In the data above the author describe the characterization of Mei through and feel from the narration that she hides many things and she feels that she is always controlled by her parents.

Then, the datum 5 also portrayed **the cultural power** in orientalism through Mei’s characterization. In the sentence *“I had to sneak dance in from then on, just like so many other things. Non-Chinese food. Romance book”* expressed that Mei does something that she loves as quietly. It is because of her parents did not allow Mei to do things that do not relate to Chinese culture. Furthermore, her interest in Western food and romance books portrayed that Mei who lived in America was influenced by American culture.

This thing also portrayed the form of the West’s superior. It also proves the achievement that West success proves that all the people know about western food. This is also caused by the effect of cultural globalization that brings advantages to the West, especially American popularity. One of them can see

through Mei who loves western food which proves Mei also imitates the American lifestyle. It can be concluded that data 5 portrays the cultural power of orientalism through Mei's characterization.

### **Datum 8**

*"Well, I guess we should let you study," my mother said.  
I laughed. "You guys drove all the way here. Let's go get dinner together."  
"Are you sure you don't have homework to do?" my father asked.  
"I'm all caught up."  
He nodded, and off we drove to Chow Chow, no discussion needed to decide our destination. I forced myself to ignore my craving for pizza.  
(American Panda, p.41)*

Datum 8 shows that Mei's family always eats and drinks in Chow Chow restaurant which is the one and only Chinese restaurant in town. The sentence "***no discussion needed to decide our destination***" describe that they always go there as a destination to eat. In forwarding sentence "***I forced myself to ignore my craving for pizza***" shows that Mei has another appetite which is Western food.

Nonetheless, Mei does not say it because she is scared of her parents. Since Mei child, her parents teach that what they say must be followed because it is a form of filial piety. Therefore, Mei never discusses and has the chance to give her opinion. It makes Mei scared to say her suggestions about other food that wants to eat or say about what she loves.

It can be concluded that datum 8 also describe Mei's characterization that is a **coward**. It is seen from the way to know the characterization that is **character's consciousness (what they think and feel)** based on the theory characterization of DiYanni. The coward characterization expressed by the explanation from Mei thinks and feels that they definitely go to a Chinese restaurant and she feels that she must to ignore her craving to eat Pizza.

Furthermore, datum 8 also shows the **cultural power** of orientalism through Mei's characterization. The sentence *"He nodded, and off we drove to Chow Chow, no discussion needed to decide our destination"* expressed that Mei's family always comes to Chow Chow restaurant because this is one of Thailand restaurants in Boston. They always eat Thailand food, and never eat American food. Meanwhile, Mei who lived in grew up in American society likes American food. It proves that American culture (West) influences Mei. America dominated the immigrants like Mei's family. Mei is a person who every day has contact with American society influenced by American culture. It is proven by the sentence *"I forced myself to ignore my craving for pizza"*. This sentence also expressed her interest in West food.

The interest Mei in West food shows the influence of West domination. West dominated the East in several ways and one of them was through food. It also expressed that the West's successes spread the discourse that the West is a role model for another world in every sector. They also successes legitimize modernization, progress, and culture. This West superiority is portrayed through Mei's characterization of her interest in West food.

## 2. Disobedience

### Datum 1

*The stench of the restaurant's specialty walloped my senses as soon as I entered. Even with seventeen years of practice, I didn't have a fighting chance against a dish named stinky tofu. I gagged. My mother sniffed and smiled. "Smells like home." Mmm. Who doesn't love the scent of athlete's foot with lunch? I held a fist to my face, desperately inhaling the pomegranate scent of my hand sanitizer. (American Panda, p.1)*

Datum 1 shows that Mei cannot eat a dish named stinky tofu which is Chinese food because of its smell. Then, the sentence *"even with seventeen years*

*of practice*” express that Mei is trying to eat the dish but she cannot. Then, the sentence *“I gagged”* expressed how disliked she is about the food. This is the form of rebellion from Mei. According to Chang et al (2001, p.45), stinky tofu is a popular fermented food in Taiwan and South China that is made by open-type natural fermentation. Tofu is a popular food in the East. Therefore, many people like this food. Although her parents really like the dish named stinky tofu and always eat this, Mei does not like this. Indirectly, Mei who had an appetite for western food feel not suitable for the dish even though Mei tries it for seventeen years. This is proof that Mei does not follow her parents' culture. In this part, Mei is seen mocking the dish from Taiwan. Whereas her mom very much like the dish but Mei on the contrary very does not like it. the obedience Mei is seen by her judge about stinky tofu that is weird and traditional.

From this data, it can conclude that data 1 describes the characterization of Mei that is **disobedience**. It takes from the way to know characterization that is **character’s consciousness (what they think and feel)** based on the theory of DiYanni. The disobedient characterization shows from the narration that Mei feels gagged because of the smell of the dish and on the contrary her mom very much like the dish.

Then, the datum 1 also shows the Food selection between American food and Chinese food is one form of orientalism portrayed through Mei’s characterization. The sentence in data 1 *“Even with seventeen years of practice, I didn’t have a fighting chance against a dish named stinky tofu. I gagged”* shows that Mei did not like the original food from Chinese. Supposedly, as the East people Mei can more appreciate East food as one of the heritages from the



ancestor, much less China is known as the country whose have been driven to the grave.

Furthermore, this thing is called the cultural power in orientalism. Cultural power gives the new view that people who have the lifestyle as same as Western people are considered high-class people. Mei as a person who had been influenced by western culture felt western food was a better fit for her. Then, in the sentence above Mei also expressed that stinky tofu is a traditional food even though she was practiced for seventeen years. It is like saying that non-western food is not modern. It can conclude that datum 1 portrayed the **cultural power** of orientalism through Mei's characterization.

#### **Datum 9**

*She spoke in Mandarin. "Mei Mei, you need to learn obedience. Just look at your father, the epitome of xiàoshùn—always putting me first, never asking questions. He was obedient to Yéye until the end—no, past the end. After Yéye's death, your father paid the proper respect, refraining from cutting the hair on his head and face for a hundred days." **That wasn't noble. Just sad. The only way my father knew how to express himself to Yéye was through an archaic tradition done after death.*** (American Panda, p.98-99)

Datum 9 shows that Mei does not agree with her grandmother. The data shows the dialogue between Mei and her grandmother. Mei listens to the grandmother's story about what Mei's father does when her grandfather died. The sentence "**that wasn't noble**" expressed Mei does not agree with her grandmother's suggestion about obedience form. She thinks that there are so many ways to express sorrow except refraining from cutting hair for one hundred days. Then, what her father acts is not a form of obedience. It is just because of the tradition that children must be obedient to their parents. The sentence "**that wasn't noble**" also expressed that Mei tries to explain the form of her snuck. She

expresses that something which her family does is no sense just because of the tradition.

The characterization of Mei that shows in datum 9 is **disobedience**. It can be seen from what they think about her father. Furthermore, the sentence “*an archaic tradition*” explains that she does not respect her culture too. She suggests her family did not follow all of their cultures which was out of date. It can conclude that from datum 9, the characterization of Mei which found is disobedience. It is taken from **character consciousness (what they think and feel)** based on the theory characterization of DiYanni. Disobedient characterization shows from Mei's feel in a monologue that she does not agree with what her grandmother said about the form of obedience and she also thinks that her parents' culture is outdated.

Furthermore, datum 9 also portrayed cultural power in orientalism through characterization Mei's character. The sentence “*That wasn't noble. Just sad. .The only way my father knew how to express himself to Yéye was through an archaic tradition done after death.*” expressed that Mei doesn't agree with what her father does to express sorrow. For her, what her father does is sad just because of the tradition that they are keeping. Mei felt that cutting hair for hundred days is a silly thing. Despite there are many ways to express sorrow.

Furthermore, in the sentence “*archaic tradition*” Mei expressed that the Chinese culture that her family kept is traditional and outdated. This characterization of Mei had been influenced by American culture. It affects her mindset that makes her open-minded. The sentence “*archaic tradition*” also expressed that East culture was traditional and it's different from West culture. It

can conclude that Mei's characterization portrayed the **cultural power** of orientalism in datum 9.

### Datum 13

*I squeezed my eyes shut so I wouldn't have to see his sneer as I spoke. "I'm in college. I may be young, but it's only because you pushed me and pushed me, making me skip a grade without asking what I wanted. I'm seventeen only when it suits you."*

*"Have you no respect?" my mother whispered, aghast. "Haven't we taught you better than this? You're Chinese. Act like it."*

*"I'm Chinese-American. America has culture too. Why can't I identify with that also? What if I identify with it more?" (American Panda p.195)*

Datum 13 shows the dialogue between Mei and her parents. In the data above Mei tries to give her opinion to her parents. In the sentence *"I'm in college. I may be young, but it's only because you pushed me and pushed me, making me skip a grade without asking what I wanted"* shows her opinion about what her parents do toward her. Mei expresses that she is tired because of her parents' rules. She expressed that she feel stressed all this time but she cannot say it before. She always obeys her parents' rules but her parent does not ask about what she wants. At the moment, Mei expresses her snuck to her parents that she cannot follow all their rules more.

Furthermore, in the sentence *"have you no respect?" my mother whispered aghast. "Haven't we taught you better than this?"* shows that all this time Mei is an obedience child. The sentences also expressed that her mom feel shocked to hear what Mei said. Before this debate, Mei never opposes her parents. Therefore, it can conclude that datum 13 shows the characterization of Mei that is **disobedience**. It is taken from the way to know characterization that is from **character's speech (what they say)** based on the theory characterization of

DiYanni. Disobedience characterization is seen in Mei's dialogue when she gives her feelings about all of her parents do is not good for her.

From datum13, it can see that Mei has an open-minded mindset. She tries to give an understanding of her parents about two cultures and how it is hard for her to face two cultures while American culture is everywhere. The dialogue above also describes how Mei's mother remembers that they are from Chinese, and did not must answer the parent's advice.

In American culture, everyone has the right to give their opinion even between child and parents. Mei who has a mindset American felt that she has a right to give her opinion and what she wants. It can relate that orientalism, especially in cultural power explains that the West becomes the role model or modernizes for the East. West legitimize them as more modern than the East and the East mostly received it. Accordingly, it can be formulated that Mei's characterization portrayed the cultural power in datum 13.

#### **Datum 14**

*I closed my eyes briefly to collect myself. "I can't ignore what I want anymore. I can't do whatever job you pick, marry whoever you choose, or cut my own brother out because of an outdated tradition I don't agree with. That's not who I am."*(American Panda, p.196)

Datum 14 shows the dialogue about Mei who says about her feelings that she does not like if her parents control all of her life. The sentence "*I can't ignore what I want anymore*" expressed that Mei felt that she cannot constantly be following her parents' rules. What her parents want is not her willingness. School at MIT, marrying Eugene as a man that her mom chooses, or does not have a relationship with Xing as Mei's brother are not Mei's hopes. Then, the sentence

*“because of an outdated tradition I don’t agree with”* expressed that Mei does not agree with the tradition that her family follows.

Furthermore, the sentence *“That’s not who I am”* clearly explains that what she’s been doing is not what she wants. She cannot be herself if to go through all the old rules. It can conclude that data 10 expressed the characterization of Mei that is **disobedience**. It takes from the way to know characterization that is **character’s speech (what they say)** based on theory characterization of DiYanni.

Then, in this datum Mei’s characterization also portrayed the cultural power of orientalism. From datum 14, it can see that Mei did not agree with the Chinese culture that her parents kept. She cannot live under her parents’ plan. She felt that her parents’ culture is outdated and did not suit her life in America. It is expressed in the sentence *“I can’t ignore what I want anymore. I can’t do whatever job you pick, marry whoever you choose, or cut my own brother out because of an outdated tradition I don’t agree with. That’s not who I am.”* From this sentence, Mei also expressed that Chinese culture is an outdated tradition that is not suitable for her.

In orientalism, Mei’s characterization expressed **cultural power**, where American culture becomes dominant and Chinese culture becomes dominated. It is also related to West superior. West superior portrays through Mei’s characterization. As the people born and grew up in America, Mei had been influenced by American culture. As a result, Mei’s characterization portrayed the cultural power in datum 14. It is proven from Mei who felt that Chinese culture is not suitable for her.

### 3. Insecure

#### **Datum 2**

*I pasted on a well-rehearsed smile but couldn't keep said nose from scrunching. I like my nose just fine, thank you very much, **but years of "compliments" about its large size had made me insecure.***

*Mrs. Pan misinterpreted my embarrassment for confusion and explained, **"It's a Chinese superstition—having a big nose means you will have lots of money."** **"Yes, because people will pay me to see my clown nose"**. (American Panda, p.2)*

In datum 2, the characterization of Mei's character can be seen from her physical appearance. It is based on the theory of DiYanni about the way to know the characterization. One way is from surface details of dress and physical appearance. The sentence of data above explains the size of Mei's nose made her insecure because sometimes Mei got the bullying by others. Even Mrs. Pan said in the sentence *"it's a Chinese superstition- having a big nose means you will have lots of money"* which indirectly said Mei's large nose is a problem for her. Furthermore, the sentence *"but years of "compliments" about its large size had made me insecure"* clearly explains that she is insecure. It can be concluded that datum 2 describes Mei's characterization which is **insecure** that is seen from the **surface details of her dress and physical appearance.**

Datum 2 portrays the type of orientalism that is **cultural power** based on the theory of Edward Said. It is seen in the sentence *"but years of compliments about its large size made me insecure"* which portrays that a big nose of Mei becomes a thing that cannot accept in American society. This thing also proves that America or the West was successful to spread the concept that something which is good is controlled by the West. Then, the sentence of Mrs. Pan who said *"It's a Chinese superstition-having a big nose means you will have lots of*

*money*” expressed that the Chinese myth is not reliable in America. It also describes that the West view the East as traditional because they believe in the myth. Mei as the people who have a physical appearance like East people felt dominated because American society was not accepting it.

The cultural power of orientalism portrayed through Mei characterization is from her distrust of Chinese Myth from the sentence **“Yes, because people will pay me to see my clown nose”**. This sentence expressed that having a big nose is not a form of luck but more of an embarrassing thing. This is verified by Mei who was ridiculed for her big nose. It can see that the standard of beauty is based on West culture which has sharp nose. Then, it is also proving that East culture still attend the standard of beauty which is created by West. Mei as the people who live in America but has a physical appearance like East people considered as weird people because does not has looks like West people.

#### 4. Intelligence

##### **Datum 16**

***“I clapped my hands to signal the start of class and switched on Beyoncé.  
I took my place at the front of the studio and eased into our warm-up routine, starting with isolations. As my head turned right-center-left-center, I glanced at the students in my peripheral vision. I couldn’t make out their features but knew each of them by the way they moved.”***  
(American Panda p. 310)

In datum 16, it seems that Mei is giving the instruction to the dancer in the class. The sentence **“I clapped my hands to signal the start of class and switched on Beyoncé.”** data shows Mei uses the Beyoncé song in a class of dancing. This sentence shows that Mei has good knowledge of music. This sentence also shows that Mei is a dance instructor. Her skill in dance makes her become a dance

instructor. It is prove that Mei is smart with her skill in dancing. Therefore data 16 shows the characterization of Mei which is **intelligence**. This characterization seems from **a narrative summary with judgment**. It seems from the narration that shows Mei is teaching dance in class.

Datum number 16 shows that Mei uses the Beyoncé song when she teaches the dance. Mei's taste in the western selection of songs proves that there is a western influence on her. The use of Beyoncé's song is an example of cultural power in orientalism. Mei as Mei who lives in America and hangs out with Americans has been influenced by West culture. This is a form of cultural globalization. West influenced the East in many ways such as movies, food, sport, fashion, music, literature, and so on.

The portrayal of **cultural power** through Mei shows in the sentence *"I clapped my hands to signal the start of class and switched on Beyoncé. I took my place at the front of the studio and eased into our warm-up routine, starting with isolations"*. This sentence proves that Mei loves West music. Music is one the pop-culture product from West. Through the music, West can influence the people to get the interesting with West culture. Many of people loves Hollywood music. Nowadays, genre of Hollywood music familiar in many countries. In the novel, Mei use the song of Beyoncé. Beyoncé is one of the popular singers in America. She has good carrier in music and got so many of awardees for her song. Her album success sell in five million copies. It is prove that America has good achievement in music and many of people in the world know about that. Therefore datum16 prove that Mei's characterization portrays the cultural power of the West toward the East.



## B. Intellectual Power

The second power type of orientalism in *American Panda* novel is intellectual power. West educated the East through linguistics and other knowledge. In orientalism, there is an absolute difference between the West which is rational, and the advancing East which is stupid and retarded. This study found four data that show the intellectual power of Mei characterization in *American Panda* novels. The data that show intellectual power are data numbers 6, 7, 11, and 12. In this analysis, there are two characterizations of Mei which is showed the intellectual power that is insecure characterization and intelligence characterization. Those data will be explained below as follows.

### 1. Insecure

#### Datum 12

*“Oh! Uh, don’t worry about it. I’m used to it ...people not understanding. My parents sent me to school without knowing English and with pork floss sandwiches for lunch. My classmates thought they looked like pubes!” I forced a sad little ha-ha.* (American Panda p.152)

Datum 12 shows that Mei is answering her friends’ questions. Mei said that the people are used to not understanding her. The sentence *“I’m used to it ...people not understanding.. My classmates thought they looked like pubes.”* shows that Mei gets a bad response from her surroundings. It makes Mei insecure because of getting a bad response from her circle. Then the sentence *“My parents sent me to school without knowing English and with pork floss sandwiches for lunch.”* proves that Mei has different habits from American people. It confirms in the sentence *“My classmates thought they looked like pubes!”* that Mei’s friends in America suggest that Mei is weird. Therefore, it can conclude that datum 12 shows the characterization of Mei. The characterization that showed in datum 12

is **insecure**. It is seen from what Mei said. The characterization is seen through the **characters' speech (what they say)**. This characterization showed in Mei's explanation that she used to face people who do not understand her.

In addition, datum 12 shows also portray the moral power of orientalism. In the datum shows that Mei gets a bad response from her friends in America. In the sentence *"I'm used to it ...people not understanding. My parents sent me to school without knowing English and with pork floss sandwiches for lunch"* this shows that Mei get a bad response because she did not English and she bring the pack of lunch. It proves the difference between Mei from the American people. This is portrayed the West's power towards the East which is intellectual. It is seen from she did not about English. As a person from an immigrant family, Mei when grew up in Chinese culture did not teach about American culture. English as the international language has an important influence. It is prove that the West is more excellent than the East because their language is known by all people in the world. Therefore, datum 12 portrays the intellectual power of orientalism through Mei's characterization.

## 2. Intelligence

### Datum 6

*"Her face lit up. She had wanted to attend some of the parents events during orientation week, but my father couldn't get off work and I knew she had held back because **she was insecure about her English and rarely talked to strangers in the foreign tongue** (the exception being when she thought I was kidnapped, apparently)." (American Panda p.36)*

Datum 6 shows Mei's monologue about her parents. In data above shows that her parents cannot speak English fluently and rarely use it. This makes them never go to events in school Mei which invited students' parents. It is shown in

the sentence “*she was insecure about her English and rarely talked to strangers in foreign tongue*”. This data describes Mei as a smart woman. She knows that her parents cannot speak English fluently which makes them seldom meet with American people. Her parents do not tell her this as directly, but Mei can guess it. This data prove that Mei is a smart woman. She can observe how her parents act. She can know the situations that her parents have faced. As an immigrant, Mei understands that her parents have difficulty to learn about English and they always use the Chinese language to communicate in the house. Therefore, it can conclude that datum 6 shows Mei as a smart woman. It is taken from **the narrative summary with explicit judgment** based on DiYanni’s theory of characterization. As a result, datum 6 shows Mei’s characterization that is **intelligence**.

This datum shows that the use of the English language in communication has an important part in there. It is shows in sentence “*she was insecure about her English and rarely talked to strangers in foreign tongue*”. The ability to speak in English is a knowledge taken from school. Mei’s mother cannot speak English fluently while Mei who is in school and speaks English in her school shows that the knowledge of the West is more competent than the East. West has an important part in the knowledge side. It shows the West influence the East through knowledge. It calls intellectual power in orientalism. Mei’s mother who does not fluent to speak English also shows that she as the immigrant have a weakness in communication while they live in there. It is shows that as the East people, Mei’s mother less of knowledge which is in the context about language. English as the West language have superiority to other language. Therefore, it can

be formulated that Mei's characterization portrayed the **intellectual power in** datum 6.

### **Datum 7**

*"My mother took a step closer, but I reached out and gently pulled her back by the elbow. "Be careful," I whispered. "The vapor coming off is so cold it could burn you. Don't touch the table either." Her eyes crinkled, pride dancing with curiosity in the h of her crow's feet. My heart soared into my throat, making my breath hitch. "Did you learn that in your classes?" she whispered to me*

*I managed a nod even though I wasn't sure where I'd learned it. High school? 5.111? Deductive reasoning? I didn't care. I just stared at my mom's face." (American Panda p.37)*

Datum 7 shows the dialogue between Mei and her mom. They are watching the process of making ice cream from liquid nitrogen. In the data above seems Mei explains to her mom. Mei's explanation above shows that Mei is smart. The sentence *"The vapor coming off is so cold it could burn you. Don't touch the table either."* shows that Mei has good knowledge, especially in science. Then, the sentence from Mei's mother *"Did you learn that in your classes?" she whispered to me."* confirm that Mei is a smart person. Her mother feels amazed that Mei has known about the process and also the effect of liquid nitrogen. Therefore, it can conclude that Mei also has intelligence characterization. It is seen from **character speech (what they say)**. The data is taken from Mei's explanation about liquid nitrogen. As a result, data number 7 shows the characterization of Mei which is **intelligence**.

The power of orientalism that is portrayed in the data above is **intellectual power**. The ability of Mei in give the explanation to her mother about science and the fact that Mei is in MIT School shows that the West is superior to the East. Orientalism explains that intellectual power shows the difference between East

and West. West describes as rational, superior, humane, and advanced while East describe as foolish, behind, and low. The sentence *“Did you learn that in your classes?” she whispered to me.*” shows that Mei who learns the effect of liquid nitrogen in her classes as a college student at MIT has good knowledge of science. This is the form of intellectual power because the West's successes influence the East through knowledge. The datum also shows that education in the West is more excellent rather than East. It can be summarized that datum 7 shows the intellectual power through Mei’s characterization.

### **Datum 11**

*My mother would never understand the concept of grading on a curve and that the 72 was really a B+. But still, a B+ wasn't good enough, even with MIT's pass/fail grading for first-semester freshmen.* (American Panda p.149)

The data above shows the monologue of Mei who give an explanation about her mother. it is seen in the sentence *“My mother would never understand the concept of grading on a curve”* Mei said that her mother does not understand the concept of assessment in America. This concept of assessment has been applied in Mei school, MIT. Her mom does not understand this concept of grading because it is different from grading in her era. Then if her score of Mei does not reach a hundred points, her mom will consider Mei has a low score.

The datum above demonstrably that Mei has wide knowledge. Mei gives an explanation about the concept of grading in a curve as well in the sentence *“grading on a curve and that the 72 was really a B+.”* Therefore, it can be concluded that datum 11 shows intelligence characterization of Mei. It can be seen from her thoughts. Her knowledge of the concept of grading shows that she is a

smart girl. This is taken from **character consciousness (what they think and feel)**.

Datum 11 shows an explanation from Mei about her mother who does not understand the concept of grading in the curve. This concept of grading is used in Mei school. Her mother considers her score of B+ is low. The mother of Mei who did not understand the curve assessment shows that East people have insufficient knowledge. Meanwhile, Mei who defines the concept of grading as well and she is also at MIT shows that she has good knowledge. The sentence *“My mother would never understand the concept of grading on a curve”* shows that Mei indirectly degrades her mother who does not have good knowledge. Her mother does not understand this assessment because it is different from the assessment in the East which uses a number assessment. The intelligence of Mei also shows that education and knowledge in the West are competent. Therefore, it can be concluded that datum portrays the **intellectual power** through the characterization of Mei.

### C. Moral Power

The last power of orientalism that is founded in this study is moral power. East is always associated with bad things such as guile, wildness, brutality, and others. This study found two data that show moral power that is datum number 10 and 15. In moral power, this study found two characterizations of Mei's character which are portrayed as the moral power that is insecure characterization and intelligence characterization. Those data will be explained below as follows.

#### 1. Insecure

##### **Datum 10**

*“Why do you see your parents so often? It's, like, every week. You know that's not normal, right?”*

*Nothing about me was normal. Maybe if she were around more, she'd have figured that out already. I wasn't even seeing my parents today, but she didn't get to know that.* (American Panda, p.101)

In datum 10, Mei felt that she was not normal because of her parents who often visited her on her boarding house campus. It makes her friend ask about it. Then, Mei felt that's all about her did not normal, she always felt that she less than other people who did not act like her family. Despite the many other immigrants in America, when they lived there, they lived as American people, and it is not happening in Mei and her family. It makes her insecure too.

The characterization of Mei in datum 10 can be seen from **character consciousness (what they think and feel)**. It is the one way to know about characterization based on the theory characterization of DiYanni. The sentence *"nothing about me was normal"* expressed Mei's characterization which felt insecure because she differs from others who are considered normal people. It is describe Mei's think and feelings after her friend told her that her parents often see Mei as not normal. As a result, the datum 10 shows the **insecure** characterization of Mei character.

The question in the sentence *"Why do you see your parents so often? It's, like, every week. You know that's not normal, right?"* from Mei's friend shows that this habit of Mei seems weird to American society. It is because of habit in America, the parents allow their children to have experience by themselves. It is totally different from what Mei's parents did to her. They always attended Mei every week in the MIT boarding house.

Furthermore, the sentence *"nothing about me was normal"* expressed that Mei does not consider herself a normal person in American society. It is because

of what her parents did to her although she does not want to treat like that. Her dislike of her parents' habit and considering this as not a normal thing relates to the moral power of orientalism. The West determines what is normal and abnormal for the East. East habits which not add up to the West are considered abnormal. West control the character and habit of the East in order to same with them. West which is superior to the East has the power to become the leader of the East.

In *American Panda* novel, Mei as the main character shows the form of the moral power of the West towards the East. It is seen from the response of her friends about Mei's mother who often attends Mei in the campus boarding house. Then, it is confirmed by Mei who says that nothing about her is normal. Therefore, it can conclude that data 10 portrays the **moral power** through Mei's characterization.

## 2. Intelligence

### **Datum 15**

*I talked slower, wanting my words to sink in. "Mǎmá, ask yourself what you want. Bǎbá's way isn't the only option. You could have a say, and you should. You should get to decide your own opinions, your own actions."* (American Panda p.261)

Datum 15 shows the dialogue between Mei and her mother. In data above seen that Mei gives her suggestion to her mother. In Mei's opinion, her mother must say what her feelings to Baba, her father. Mei said that her mother also has a role too. The sentence "Mama, ask yourself what you want. ***Bǎbá's way isn't the only option. You could have a say, and you should.***" shows that Mei is an open-minded person. She suggests that any person has a right to give an opinion and her



mom too. Then the sentence “*You should get to decide your own opinions, your actions.*” also add evidence that Mei is an open-minded person.

Therefore, it can conclude that datum 15 shows the characterization of Mei. The characterization in datum 15 is **intelligence**. This characterization is seen through the **character’s speech (what they say)**. It can be seen from her suggestion that her mom has a right to say opinion and has a role too as same as her father. Mei’s explanation proves that she has a smart thought.

Datum 15 shows that Mei assumed that everyone has the same opportunity to give their opinion. In the data above, Mei said that her mother must speak up about her feeling to her father. Mei assumed her mother must decide her opinion and her father is not the only option that must follow. In this aspect, it can be seen that Mei’s characterization shows the suggestion of self-freedom. It is one of West's morals. Indirectly, this data shows that East people have abnormal habit because Mei’s mother can not give her opinion and always follow her husband's rules. Mei assumed that it must change. She assumed that what her mother does is wrong. Like American people who have freedom, Mei wants her mother to have too. Mei who has open-minded like the American people shows the moral power of the West. It is proved that the West success the East through morals. Freedom is one of the West's morals. Therefore, it can be summarized that datum 15 portrays the **moral power** through Mei’s characterization.