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Figurative Language Found In The Songs Lyrics

By Michael Learn To Rocks

(Semantic Analysis)

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan mengidentifikasi dan menjelaskan makna bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lagu Michael Learn To Rock, serta mengungkap jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling banyak digunakan dalam lagu tersebut.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode analisis kualitatif deskriptif. Data penelitian diambil dari beberapa lagu Michael Learn To Rock yaitu Take me to you heart dan That's why you go away dengan menggunakan teori figurative language Perrine, penulis melakukan observasi dengan mengamati lirik lagu dari Michael Learn To Rock dan mengambil kalimat-kalimat yang mengandung bahasa kiasan.

Dari hasil analisis, penulis menemukan bahwa bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lagu Michael Learn To Rock sangat beragam. Terdapat 17 data yang telah ditemukan, 1 data simile, 7 data metaphor, 1 data personifikasi, 1 data synbol, 3 data synekdoke, 2 data allegory, 1 data understatement dan 1 data paradox. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa bahasa kiasan yang paling sering digunakan dalam lagu Michael Learn To Rock adalah bahasa kiasan metafora

Kata kunci : bahasa kiasan, metode descriptive qualitative dan theory

Perrine's

ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify and explain the meaning of figurative language used in songs Michael Learn To Rock, as well as revealing the most common types of figurative language used in the song.

This research uses descriptive qualitative analysis method. The research data were taken from several Michael Learn To Rock songs, namely that's why you go away and take me to you heart using Perrine's figurative language theory, the

author made observing the song lyrics Michael Learn To Rock and taking sentences containing figurative language used in the song Michael Learn To Rock is very diverse. There are 17 data that have been found, 2 simile data , 7 metaphor data , 1 personification data , 3 synecdoche data , 1 symbolism data, 2 allegory data, 1 paradox data and 1 understatement data. It can be concluded that the most frequently used figure of speech in Michael Learn To Rock's song is metaphor.

Keyword : figurative language , descriptive qualitative method and Perrine's theory

A. INTRODUCTION

Language is communication tool for everyone in life because with language humans can communicate, interact and get information. Language also has a function to express one's feelings, ideas and imagination. Language can be found in two forms, namely the form of spoken language and the form of written language. The form of spoken language is a form of language whose pronunciation is carried out directly accompanied by tone and body language. While the form of written language is a form of language that uses written text. Forms of written language can be found in the mass media and print media. So that human cannot be separated from language as an interaction tool.

Linguistics is the study of language analyzes language form, language meaning and content in language. Semantics is a form of language that studies the meaning of each language. According to Griffith (2006) semantics is the study of word meaning and sentence meaning, abstracted away from contexts of use. For meaning : knowledge encoded in the vocabulary of the language and in its patterns for building more elaborate meaning, up to the level of sentence meaning

In general, figurative language is one part of semantics. Figurative language is broadly defined as a way of conveying something in another way and means something else. There are many writers who use figurative language to produce images in the minds of readers and

express thoughts in creative, lively and imaginative ways. They are several types of figurative language such as methapor, simile, personification, symbol, hyperbole, irony, belittling etc.

Figurative language can also usually be found in each song. Song is one form of literary work in the form of music which contains elements such as lyrics and music. When someone listens to a song sometimes they don't focus on the lyrics because they have some difficulty understanding the meaning of the song lyrics, it is very important so that the message conveyed by the songwriter can be understood by the listener.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher identify several problems including the following :

1. Difficulty in identifying the types of figurative language contained in song lyrics.
2. Difficulty interpreting lyrics if the song lyrics use figurative language.

3. Difficulty interpreting the meaning of figurative language in each song.
4. In problem 1,2,3 it is a confusion for every reader and listener to understand the meaning of figurative language in the song.

Therefore, the researcher is interested in analyzing the figurative language in the song. The author chose the song from Michael Learn To Rock (MLTR) because the lyric of the song are poetic, meaningful and pleasant to listen to so the researcher tries to collaborate the figurative language of each Michael Learn To Rock song using a semantic analysis approach.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter deals with research methods applied in this study. Mainly this chapter describes the research methodology including the research design, source of data and data, research instrument, data collecting procedure, and data analysis.

Research Design

The method applied in this study will be descriptive qualitative method for implementation this study because this study is intended to describe the types of figurative language and the semantic analysis used in found songs by Michael Learn To Rock in the form of description. Qualitative method is applied as research procedures that result descriptive data containing spoken and written words from the people and behaviors of people which can be observed in the research (Moleong, 2010, p. 4). In this study, descriptive method is chosen because all of the data examined in this study would be described, classified and analyzed descriptively. Moreover, qualitative approach will be used to analyze the data containing the figurative languages used in the found songs by Michael Learn To Rock.

This research conducted descriptively by the aims to describe the phenomenon of figurative language used in the data examined involving words, phrases and/or

sentences instead of numbers. In analyzing the data this words, phrases and/or sentences instead of numbers. In analyzing the data that contains the words, pictures, and not numbers (Moleong, 2010, p. 11). Moreover, this study is belongs to library research in gaining the data to support the analysis which is done by obtaining some of the data from journals, internet and other written sources (Moleong, 2010 in Apriono, 2017, p. 9). Based on the explanations mentioned, it is definitely clear that this study is conducted by implementing descriptive qualitative method and also in the type of library research.

Source of Data And Data

The data in this study can be divided into two types, namely primary data and secondary data:

1. The primary data is the original data obtained through first-hand research and specifically collected by the researcher to find answers to the research questions. So in this study the writer chooses a several songs from Michael Learn To Rock as a primary data.

2. The secondary data is information that is already available somewhere, whether it is in journals, books, articles or on the internet. So, secondary data in this study are data taken from books, journals, articles related to figurative language.

Research Instrumen

Researchers performed five steps to collect data. These steps are as below:

1. Researchers searched the Internet for two Michael Learn To Rock songs.
2. The researcher listened to the song while reading the lyrics continuously
3. Researcher translated the song into Indonesian to make it easier to find out the meaning of the selected song.
4. The researcher made a checklist and classified the lyrics based on the figurative language used.
5. The researcher analyzes the meaning of the song and provides an explanation of why certain lyrics are included in certain types of figurative language.

Data Collecting Procedure

The method of collecting data is one aspect that plays an important role in determine the success or failure of a study. The researcher used library research to collect data, and information. The researcher tried to find the data from other sources such as; book, journals, thesis and other writings related to the topic of this study. The writer also used internet to support this study.

In this research, the researcher used three methods to collect the data, as follows:

1. Observation was an important part of this study as it was used to collect a significant number of the data for this research. In this method, the researcher observed the song by using music player and listened to the song entirely to know the lyrics.
2. Note-taking Note-taking was also an important part of this study. Note- taking was used in this study for two main reasons, as follows:
 - a. Note-taking helped the researcher to concentrate.

When the researcher listened to the song, note-taking was done in order to understand the lyrics.

b. Note-taking helped the researcher to maintain a permanent record of what the researcher read or listened. This was useful in the step of analyzing the data.

3. Transcribing The writer observed the song and did transcribing to get the song lyric. In this step, the researcher made transcription of the lyrics

Data Analysis

The researcher analyzed the data by using the descriptive qualitative method.

The researcher some steps to analyze the data as follows:

1. The researcher classified the collected data into several categories of figurative language based on Perrine's theory.

2. The researcher tabulated the sentences containing figurative language. The table divided was into five columns, i.e., number, figurative language, title of the song, stanza and the lyric.

3. The researcher explained the meaning of the lyrics that contained figurative language by using semantic approach.

4. The researcher determined the dominant types of figurative language in the songs selected.

5. The researcher drew conclusion based on data analysis

C. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

Table Types of figurative language found in the song lyric “That’s why you go away”

No	Lyric	Types of figurative language
1	Love is one big illusion as you try to forget	Simile
2	You're the one who said it all, now you're the one to make it stop	Metaphor
3	But I'm not the man your heart is missing That's why you go away, I know it	Metaphor
4	But there is something left in my head	Metaphor
5	The feeling so strong will last for so long	Metaphor
6	I'm sitting here right all alone in the middle of nowhere	Paradox
7	You were never satisfied, no matter how I try	Allegory
8	Baby, won't you tell me why there is sadness in your eyes?	Synecdoke
9	There ain't so much to say now between us	Understatement

Table types of figurative language found in the song lyric “Take me to your heart”

No	Lyric	Types of figurative language
1	Tell me where do I find someone like you girl	Simile
2	Show me what love is, be my guiding star	Metaphor
3	Looking at a crowded street Listening to my own heart beat	Metaphor
4	All I need is someone who makes me wanna sing	Metaphor
5	Be my guiding star	Personification
6	Take me to your heart, take me to your soul	Synecdoke
7	Give me your hand and hold me	Synecdoke
8	Trying to forget but I won't let go	Allegory
9	Standing on a mountain high Looking at the moon through a clear blue sky	Symbolism

Discussion

Meaning of figurative language found in the song Michael Learn To Rock

a. Simile

Simile is a type of figurative language that uses the word likens or uses the word compare which is marked by word like or as. The lyrics of songs that use similes on the song Michael Learn To Rock include :

1. *Love is one big illusion as you try to forget*

The lyrics of the song are contained in the song that's why you go away. The sentence above is an example of a simile because in the lyrics of the song there is the word as. Simile basically compares one thing which another comparative words such as like, like and etc. In the lyrics of the song *love is one big illusion as you try to forget* it describes that love is a big illusion that is strong when trying to forget it. The word illusion above is something that is only limited wishful thinking, where a man's love for the woman he loves is only to the mind which in the end is only

buried and becomes an illusion in the man's mind.

2. *Tell me where do I find someone like you girl*

The lyrics of the song tell me where do I find someone like you girl are in the song take me to you heart. The sentence above is an example of a simile because the author uses word like. Someone said in the lyrics of the song describing the figure of a girl who is wanted by a man where there is no one like girl who is being sought like that.

b. Metaphor

Metaphor is a type of figurative language that uses word that have no real meaning but are described in literal terms. Here are some figurative language metaphors in the song Michael Learn To Rock :

1. *You're the one who said it all, now you're the one to make it stop*

The lyrics of the song *you're the one who said it all, now you're the one to make it stop* are in the song That's why you go away. The lyrics of the song in the sentence above implied the meaning of destruction. The word destruction

in the lyrics describes how a woman initially loves a man. Basically it is the woman is trying to make the man fall in love but as their relationship progresses in the end it is also the woman who end relationship and arbitrarily leaves the man.

2. *But I'm not the man your heart is missing, That's why you go away, I know it.*

The lyrics of the song above have meaning but I'm no the man you miss that's why you left, I thought. In this sentences the phrase "You Miss" is an example of metaphor. Basically it must be understood that metaphor does not always function as a predicate but sometimes it can function as a subject, object and so on. Thus, a metaphor can stand alone as a word. The word "you miss" is one of the things I an expression that describes feeling for someone. But in the lyrics of the song it turns out that the man is not lucky in the sense that woman he loves actually never miss him and even leaves him.

3. *But there is something left in my head*

The lyrics of the song above have meaning but there is an impression on my mind. In this sentences the phrase "imprints on my mind" that is one of the figurative language of metaphor. Basically it must be known that metaphor is a figurative language whose figurative terms are used implicitly where the delivery of meaning is not direct so that in explaining the meaning in literal terms. The sentence imprinted on my mind has a meaning or message that all the beautiful memories and love stories with the woman he loves are still stored.

4. *The feeling so strong will last for so long*

The song lyrics above describes how a person's loyalty to survive because his feelings are so strong. The explanation of meaning is one of the metaphorical depictions that the message contained in the song lyrics is not directly expressed. The lyrics of the feelings so strong will last for so long are not directly conveyed

that the man will serve for the feelings he has persistence means loyalty.

5. *be my guiding star*

The song lyrics in the sentence above have the meaning of being my guiding star. In the sentence above, it is an example of a metaphor because the figurative term is replaced or identified with a literal term. The meaning implied in the lyrics of the song is that there is a figure of someone who is expected to be a guiding star. However the word star cannot be described as a figure a someone who can be a guide because star only one of the solar system.

6. *Looking at a crowded street listening to my own heart beat*

The lyrics of the song above have a meaning of seeing a busy street listening to my own heartbeat. The meaning of metaphorical figurative language in the song lyrics is the emptiness or loneliness of someone who can only hope that someone will accompany him. The phrase "emptiness or solitude "in that

sense conveys an implied term. Emptiness or solitude is described as a person without friend, friends and even someone very special. The metaphor does not only compare two things that have different meanings and also have function as a word or phrase.

7. *All I need is someone who makes me wanna sing*

The lyrics of the song above mean what I need is someone who makes me want to sing. Someone said above is an example of a metaphor because basically metaphorical figurative language sometimes has a function as a subject, object and so on. Thus, the metaphor can be interpreted in a word. Someone said in the lyrics is to describe the writer's hope to be able to get back the lost love so that with the presence of figure who is expected to make him sing.

c. **Synecdoche**

Synecdoche is a figurative language that says parts of something to present the whole or use the whole to present parts. In the song Michael Learn To Rock, there are several

figurative language of synecdoche as follows :

1. *Take me to you heart, take me to you soul give me your hand and hold me*

The lyrics of the song above means take me to you heart, take me to you soul, reach out your hand and hold me close. In the lyrics of the song above it is an example of a synecdoche in which a figurative language that mentions part of something to signify the whole. You heart and you hands are one part of the organs body where the heart and hands represent all of the organs of the body.

2. *Baby, won't you tell me why there is sadness in your eyes?*

The lyrics of the song above have the meaning of love, won't you tell me why your eyes radiate sadness? synecdoche figurative language has a figurative meaning that mentions part of something to represent the whole to represent a part. In the lyrics above the word eyes are part of one of the organs of the body.

d. Personification

Personification is a figurative language that like humans nature to objects or creatures outside of humans. That is to make it look as if inanimate objects have animate or living properties. The figurative language of personification in the song Michael Learn To Rock includes :

1. *be guiding star*

The lyrics of the song be my guiding star have the meaning of being my guiding star. The figurative meaning of personification in the lyrics is as if the star is considered a human figure who can be my guide. Seven though the guide who has do it is a human being, not a star because the star itself is only one of the objects in the song.

e. Paradox

The types of paradox figurative language describe contradictions and facts. The types of paradox figurative language found in the song Michael Learn To Rock include :

1. *I'm sitting here right all alone in the middle of nowhere*

The song line above means I am alone here far from the crowd, at the meaning of the lyrics of the song above is the paradox figurative language that is about facts. The word facts in the lyrics of the song that is I reflect on myself. The author describes in the lyrics of the song the soul is really lonely, empty and empty. The explanation of the meaning of lonely. Empty and empty describes a person who is right that there is no one friend, not even a loved one to be with him, accompany him and joke.

f. Allegory

Figurative language allegory is a figurative language that expresses not literally but through figures of speech or images. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) allegory is a story that is used as a symbol (like or figuratively) of real human life to educate (especially morals) or explain something (ideas, ideals, or values of life such as policy, loyalty, and honesty).³ In the song Michael Learn To Rock the types of allegorical figurative language include :

1. *You were never satisfied, no matter how I try.*

The lyrics of the song above are in the song That's why you go away. The meaning of the lyrics of the song is "you are never satisfied, no matter how much I try. The figurative language explanation of allegory in the song lyrics is that it describes a man who continues to struggle to become what his loved one expects him to be but is never appreciated no matter how hard he struggles". But there is no meaning in the view of the woman he loves. The lyrics of the song you never satisfied no matter how I try have the meaning of struggle and sacrifice the expression of the meaning of allegorical figurative language implicitly.

2. *Trying to forget but I won't let go*

The lyrics of the song trying to forget but I won't let go are found in the lyrics of the song take me to your heart. The meaning of the lyrics of the song is trying to forget but I won't let it go. The figurative meaning of allegory in the song

lyrics is not wanting to lose a loved one. Allegorical figurative language has a meaning that states without being literal but figuratively or depictively. The description in the song lyrics above is describing a man who does not want to be separated from someone who is he loves.

g. Understatement

The types of figurative language that makes less meaning. In the song Michael Learn To Rock the figurative language of understatement includes :

1. *There ain't so much to say now between us*

The lyrics of the song *There ain't so much to say now between us* are found in the song that's why you go away means that now we don't need talk much. Explanation of the figurative language meaning of the understatement in the author's song lyrics describes how the relationship between men

and women no longer communicates with other, there is no need for many things to be discussed between each other or there is a estrangement in a relationship that cannot be maintained. The figurative is to give up on the current situation so that the description of the understatement figurative language has less explanation of meaning (in the sense that the meaning of is not suitable to be expressed).

h. Symbolism

Figurative language that uses an object, action, person, place that can represent a symbolic meaning. In the song Michael Learn To Rock, the figurative language of symbolism includes :

1. *Standing on a mountain high looking at the moon through a clear blue sky.*

The figurative meaning of symbolism in song lyrics is using the word place or object.

D. CONCLUSION

The researcher makes conclusion based on the data and discussion that have been explained in previous chapters. The conclusion that can be drawn from this research are as follows :

1. The researcher found eight figurative languages used in the song Michael Learn To Rock including simile, metaphor, paradox, personification, synecdoche, allegory, understatement and symbolism.
2. In the song Michael Learn To Rock the author gets 17 total data from figurative language. There are also details on the number of each type of figurative language, namely 2 simile data, 7 metaphor data, 1 personification data, 3 synecdoche data, 1 symbolism data, 2 allegory data, 1 paradox data and 1 undestatement data.
3. The dominant figurative language in Michael Learn To Rock's song is metaphor. The use of figurative language metaphor in the song Michael Learn To Rock has a purpose in conveying the meaning or message contained in the song

is not necessarily described directly so that when someone listens to the song it creates curiosity to find out the meaning and meaning of the song.

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