

EXPLORATION FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN WESTLIFE'S SONGS

Gisha Pandanwangi¹, Anita Anggraeni²

^{1,2} IKIP Siliwangi

¹ agissha@gmail.com, ² anitaenglish26@ikipsiliwangi.ac.id

Abstract

Figurative language is the ways to show special language that the soul and the writer personality. The language in song lyrics tends to be like the language of poetry. The author is interested in analyzing some of the figurative language contained in a song. Figurative language is often used by a writer, so the creation that has been made becomes more interesting. In this research, the researchers will try to analyze a Westlife songs with the title of "Fragile Heart" and "I do". There are many figurative language that we can find in a songs or novels. They used figurative language to change the true meaning. The purpose of learning about figurative language is to understand the message of a sentence conveyed imaginatively in spoken or written form by the author.

Keywords: Figurative language, Meaning, Lyrics

INTRODUCTION

Figurative language is a part of the literature included in the intrinsic element. Figurative language is a characteristic of the writer in delivering his writings to the public. Some literature use figurative language to make more interesting, as it is used in a song lyric. Figurative language has implied meaning or it can be said that the meaning of the figurative language is based on the context. Figurative language is a language which uses figures of speech or a way of saying one thing and means another. Figurative language is used in imaginative rather than literal sense, such as simile, metaphor, alliteration, and much more.

According to Harmer (2007) as cited by (Hariyanto, 2017) states that language is used widely for communication between people who do not share the same first (or even second) language. It means that language can be a primary necessity in human life. It has a big roles for every people in making good relationship with others.

When people interact one each other, people need to convey their mind. Every phrases and sentence in a language has a meaning. This study aimed to describe the figurative language in Westlife's selected songs that exist in the lyrics. According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) as cited by (Gayatri Manuaba et al., 2019) , figurative language is a language that can describe something or an inanimate object as life. Literature born due to the basic human urge to express himself, showed an interest in the mankind problem, and showed an interest in reality which lasts all the time (Semi, 2012:1) as cited by (Siallagan et al., 2017) .

Figurative is a departure from the ordinary form of expression or the ordinary course of ideas in order to produce a greater effect. It can be seen figurative language or figure of speech is a word or words are used to create an effect and people usually call it as connotative meaning.

Song lyrics have been so far capable of hypnotizing their lovers, who were noticed to be from different ages and nations for the purpose of entertaining, teaching, therapeutic healing, religious enchanting, meditating, motivating patriotism, positioning racial and cultural identity (Monson, 2000) as cited by (Soepriatmadji & Rustipa, 2020) .

Masters of figurative language can change an audience's experience of a word or an idea by comparing it with something else. Figurative language can improve social communication skills (Kalandadze, T., Norbury, C., Nærland, T., & Næss, K. A. B. 2018) as cited by (Ibrahim et al., 2019) . Based on Kennedy (1983: 481) as cited by (Lubis et al., 2019) , figurative language consists of comparative, contradictive, and correlative. Comparative language consists of Personification, Metaphor, and Simile. Contradictive figurative language consists of Hyperbole, litotes, Paradox, and Irony style. Correlative figurative language consists of Metonymy, Synecdoche, Symbol, Allusion, and Ellipsis.

METHOD

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative analysis. The technique used to analyze the songs by performing a first steps, among other, (1) read and listen the songs of Westlife, (2) understand the content of the lyrics, (3) analyze the figurative language that exist in Westlife songs. The analysis showed that the Westlife songs is a song is interesting to study. There were some steps which were used in analyzing the data in this study. First, in order to understand the object of the study, it is very important to read the song lyrics carefully, especially to find the meaning of the figurative language, then classifying the sentence in each song to get the types of figurative language using theory proposed by K.L Knicker bocker & H. Williard Reniger (1963) as cited by (Lusiana & Qomariana, 2017) .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

In this research, the writer would like to take some of the Westlife songs. This study is focused on the following questions :

1. What are the figurative languages used in the songs of Westlife ?
2. What are the meaning used in the songs of Westlife ?

Figurative Language

In this context, firstly a writer read the lyric from video clip on youtube, secondly the analyze the figurative languages include the meaning.

The explanation of figuratives language types in lyrics :

1. Hyperbole

The great hyperbole used to accentuate a point, and is used for sensitive or comic effect. A hyperbole is not to be taken literally.

Fragile Heart

I Do

a. So How can I break this wall around you.

a. Just put your hand in mine forever

This expression about the singer's beat to more close with someone.	It means that the boy ask the girl to take him and live together with him.
---	--

b. But there's a voice from deep inside of you.	b. And don't deny me a lifetime loving you.
--	--

We know that human ears only can listen definitely, but this lyric gives fancy that we are listen a voice from human inside.	It means that he doesn't want to reject by the girl.
--	--

c. That's calling out to make you realize	c. If you ask, will I be true' Do I give all to you'
--	---

It means that a voice from human inside makes someone to be realized and it is only fancy.	It means that the girl wishes will do by the boy and he will give everything to her.
--	--

2. Personification

*One of the most familiar kinds of relationship is **personification**. That is, speaking of something that is not human as if it had human skills and human reactions.*

Fragile Heart	I Do
----------------------	-------------

a. I don't think it could endure	-
---	---

The words “it” is from heart and the word “endure” is an action that doing by the human, so the end is the lyric included in personification.	-
---	---

3. Symbol

A thing (could be an object, person, situation, or action) which is stand for something else more nonfigurative.

Fragile Heart	I Do
----------------------	-------------

a. A fragile heart	a. For so long I have been an island.
---------------------------	--

It is describe about someone which have thick troubles.	It to expression what he feels in waiting time of the girl's answer.
---	--

4. Synecdoche

A figure of speech which is mentions a part of something to recommend the whole.

Fragile Heart	I Do
----------------------	-------------

-	a. Just put your hand in mine forever
---	---------------------------------------

-	It means that not only the hand but also herself and “hand” as expected symbol for the girl.
---	--

5. Para rhyme

Repetition of initial and final in agreement with in the word or parts of different words.

Fragile Heart	I Do
----------------------	-------------

-	a. Tell me can you feel my heart beat'
-	b. Tell me as I kneel down at your feet
-	It is show that whatever she does is interesting and eye-catching activity.

6. Repetition

Looping figure of speech the word - the word for stress.

Fragile Heart	I Do
-	a. Tell me can you feel my heart beat'
-	b. Tell me as I kneel down at your feet
-	It is to confirm that anything her said or do is interesting for him.
-	c. If you ask, if I'll be true
-	It to confirm about everything the girl want he will give to her.

7. Tautology

Figure of speech that describes something using the word - the word the same meaning (synonyms) to support the meaning.

Fragile Heart	I Do
a. let's look at the first verse and line in the lyrics	-
It means that those words are repetition on the similar words (fragile and broken) as stress.	-

8. Paradox

A statement or situation covering deceptively contradictory unsuited elements, but not closer check may be true.

Fragile Heart	I Do
a. See the thirteenth line in lyrics	-
This lyric is talking about heart that was fragile will breakdown anymore when someone will go. Here, not only heart will get worry but also all part of body.	-

Discussion

Based on research results, Figurative language is a way of expressing typically through language that shows the spirit and personality of the author or the user language. The use of figurative language as standard significance has an important rule to express feeling of the composer and singer even listener. It is more narrowly definable as a way of saying one thing and meaning another. Means of classical rhetoric has been used by the Roman Cicero and Suetonius novelist who wears figura in the sense of "shadows, images, allusions, allegories".

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings presented earlier, the author gets the following conclusions: From the discussion it can be concluded that Westlife song lyrics use eight types of figurative language. Through eight figurative languages: 1) Hyperbole (2) Personification (3) Symbol (4) Synecdoche (5) Para Rhyme (6) Repetition (7) Tautology (8) Paradox. From the explanation above can be concluded that in analyze lyrics besides find figuratives language in lyrics, we can also understand the meaning of song that contain figurative language, and message of the song. The figurative languages that often appear in both songs are Hyperbole and Symbol. Hyperbole and Symbol often appear in both songs because Hyperbole uses dramatic words and tends to overdo it. Meanwhile, Symbol is a figurative language which compares things to others such as objects, plants, animals or other symbols. Both figurative languages meet the requirements of the two songs that the writer analyzes.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Alhamdulillahirobbil'alamin, the author say thank you of Almighty Allah, who has given the opportunity, health, and time. The author also thanks for the parents, husband, younger sibling, and friends who never stop giving support so that the author can finish this article.

REFERENCES

- Gayatri Manuaba, I. . I., Sudana, I. G. P., & Tika, I. K. (2019). Figurative Language in Westlife Album "Coast to Coast" and My Chemical Romance Album "Welcome To Black Parade." *Humanis*, 23, 7. <https://doi.org/10.24843/jh.2019.v23.i01.p02>
- Hariyanto. (2017). The Analysis of Figurative Language Used in the Lyric of Firework by Katy Perry (A Study of Semantic). *English Education: Jurnal Tadris Bahasa Inggris*, 10(1), 46–60.
- Ibrahim, I., Akib, M., & Hasyim, R. (2019). The analysis of figurative language in "Endless Love" song lyric. *Lisan: Jurnal Bahasa Dan Linguistik*, 8(2), 119–130.
- Lubis, S. E., Tetap, D., Tinggi, S., Asing, B., & Medan, I. (2019). An analysis of figurative language in phil collin s' selected song lyrics syahrul efendi lubis dosen tetap sekolah tinggi bahasa asing itmi medan. *Jurnal Ilmiah Simantek*, 3(1).
- Lusiana, P. N., & Qomariana, Y. (2017). *Figurative Language Used in Taylor Swift 's Songs in the Album 1989*. 21, 166–171. <https://sci-hub.si/10.0000/ojs.unud.ac.id/sastra/35914>
- Siallagan, S. R., Manurung, S., & Sinaga, J. B. (2017). Analysis of Figurative Language and Imagery in Taylor Swift's Songs. *ANGLO-SAXON: Jurnal Ilmiah Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris*, 8(1), 55. <https://doi.org/10.33373/anglo.v8i1.984>
- Soepriatmadji, L., & Rustipa, K. (2020). Some negative contents portrayed in English song lyrics. *EduLite: Journal of English Education, Literature and Culture*, 5(1), 148. <https://doi.org/10.30659/e.5.1.148-158>

