

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE NIKI ZEFANYA EVERY SUMMERTIME SONG

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ABSTRACT

The problem of the research is what kinds of figurative language are found in Niki Zefanya's song, title Every Summertime. The objective of the research is to find out the kinds of figurative language in Niki Zefanya's song, title Every Summertime. This research used qualitative methods. By doing this research, the researcher used Perrine's theory about various of figurative language as the basic in analysing the data. The source of the data is Every Summertime song lyric by Niki Zefanya. The data of this research is figurative sentence which contained in the song lyrics by Niki Zefanya. After being analysed, the researcher found allegory has 1 data, hyperbole is 2 data, personification is 1 data, synecdoche is 1 data, metaphor is 1 data, and metonymy is 1 data. The total of the data is 7 data.

Keywords: *Figurative Language, various of figurative language, qualitative method, song lyrics*

1. Introduction

Language is important for our everyday life to communicate each other and also language is as vehicle for the expression or exchange of thoughts, concepts, knowledge, and information as well as the fixing and transmission of experience and knowledge. It is based on cognitive processes, subject to societal factors and subject to historical change and development (Hadumod Bussmann (1966) in Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics). Language as the system of human communication by means of a structured arrangement of sound (or their written representation) not form larger units, e.g., morphemes, words, sentences (Jack et al. (1985) in Longman Dictionary of Applied Linguistics). Everyone has the ability to learn a language. They learn a language by absorbing the language knowledge in their environment (Kreidler, 2013; p.3).

In everyday life, there is language learning that we can use called figurative language. Figurative language is a style of language used to beautify a work that is usually written or pronounced differently from the meaning commonly used. Hidayat and Supriyanto (Yono&mulyani, 2017) state that the use of figurative language in a literary work can add more value and more attractive as well as pleasant to enjoy. In addition, figurative language serves human goals, whether they are everyday communicative goals in a speech environment, genre-specific goals in a genre of communication, or artistic and creative goals in poetry and fiction (Dancygier & Sweerser, 2014).

This article is based on song lyrics from Niki Zefanya's Song "Every Summertime". In daily life human beings need to communicate to each other by language to express our ideas, thoughts, feelings, and experiences. And by language we are able to make a conversation to each other, but sometimes even though we used language we find some difficulties to understand each other.

Both in speaking and writing we can use Figurative Language to make our communication more unique and aesthetic, moreover it can give visible description in human being's mind. Figurative language is a permeating phenomenon in daily or every day human communication. It includes a wide range of expressions on utterance type, such as idioms, metaphors, jokes, irony, sarcasm, hyperbole, indirect request, and stereotyped expressions such as cliches.

This research analysed the use of figurative language in Niki Zefanya's song title Every Summertime. Nicole Zefanya who is also known as Niki Zefanya is an Indonesian musician, songwriter and record producer. Her label is a record label from the United States, namely 88rising. She started her career in 2014 until now and has released four albums entitled Zephyr (2018), Wanna take this down (2019), Moonchild (2020), and Shang-Chi and the Legend of Ten Rings (2021). The Moonchild (2020) has won awards as The Best Asian Album of the Year by NME Magazine in 2020. Then, she is also the first Female Indonesian Artist who has reached 1.25 billion streaming of NIKI's songs on Spotify on February 6th, 2022.

The researcher chose figurative language in Niki Zefanya's song title Every Summer as the topic of this research because studying about figurative language is related to semantic and pragmatic studies which can be useful for understanding more deeply the language meaning of a song lyric. This research is analysed based on Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound & Sense 13th Edition by Greg Johnson and Thomas R. ARP (2016) because Perrine's Literature 13th Edition is a book that contains an updated figurative language theory which was just released in 2016.

The object of this research is the song by Niki Zefanya with the title Every Summertime. The researcher chose these songs as a research object because these songs are the order of the most popular streamed songs from Niki Zefanya on Spotify. Therefore, the researcher hopes that the study of the figurative language in Niki Zefanya's songs can provide a new perspective and broaden knowledge about this topic in song lyrics.

Furthermore, figurative language research is not a newly model of research. Among the research, there are Listiani, Henry (2015) An Analysis of Figurative Language Found on the Song Lyric by Taylor Swift's "Speak Now" Album, another thesis, IAIN Salatiga. This research concerns with the descriptive analysis of figurative language in The Song Lyric by Taylor Swift's "Speak Now" Album. The aim of the research is to find out the types of figurative languages that is used in The Song Lyric by Taylor Swift's "Speak Now" Album. The researcher uses a descriptive qualitative method to classify and analyse the sentences. After investigating the sentence in the song lyric, the researcher found several findings of figurative language on it. There are seven kinds of figurative languages that is used in the song lyric, they are simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, synecdoche, symbol and oxymoron. The last is the dominant of figurative languages that used is hyperbole.

Afterwards, there is Fitria, Tira Nur (2018) Figurative Language Used in One Direction's Album Entitled Up All Night. STIE AAS Surakarta. The aims of this research are to know the types of figurative language and to know the most dominant figurative language used in lyrics One Direction's album song entitled Up All Night. The research is qualitative descriptive to describe the analysis factually, accurately and systematically. The data in this research include the phrases or the sentences which are found in lyric album song entitled Up All Night by One Direction. Based on research finding, there are some figurative languages in One Direction's album Up All Night. There are 13 songs in this album, they are: 1) Everything About You, 2) Gotta Be You, 3) I Want, 4) I Wish, 5) More Than This, 6) One Thing, 7) Same Mistakes, 8) Save You Tonight, 9) Stole My Heart, 10) Taken, 11) Tell Me a Lie, 12) Up All Night and 13) What Makes You Beautiful. Based on the result of this research, it is found six types of figurative language in One Direction's album entitled Up All Night, that were repetition, parallelism, personification, metaphor, simile, and hyperbole. The most dominant type of figurative language used is repetition in 50 lyrics both anaphora and epiphora.

And then, there is AZIZ, ABDUL (2011) A STUDY OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN JAMES BLUNT'S SONG LYRICS IN "BACK TO BEDLAM ALBUM". Other thesis, University of Muhammadiyah Malang This research focused on figurative languages used in James Blunt song in a Back to Bedlam album which released in 2003. There were three statements of the problems. Those were: 1) What kinds of figurative language are used in James Blunt's song lyrics? 2) What are the meanings of those figurative languages used in James Blunt's song lyrics?, 3) What is the most dominant figurative language found in James Blunt's song lyric?. This research used descriptive qualitative because there is no treatment as an experimental research and just attempted to present the information concerning with the study on figurative language and meaning at "James Blunt" song's lyrics. Moreover, expressive approach employed because the thesis researcher attempts to investigate the expression of the writer's feeling and emotion to analyse the figurative language. Based on the data analysis it is found figurative languages which used in James Blunt song lyrics are symbol, personification, hyperbole and metaphor. The symbols in High song represent beautiful girl and the age. Personifications in High song explain how much the song writer love his girl, and in "Goodbye My lover" explain how deep the girl influence the song writer's life. Hyperbole in "High" song express how hard his effort to be with the girl, in "Goodbye My Lover" song express the song writer so infatuated with his girl. Metaphor used in "You're Beautiful" tells how interested the song writer's life and how pure his love. The most dominant figurative language used in James Blunt song is personification.

The similarities between that previous research and this research are the researchers' study and find out the figurative language which contain in song lyrics, and some differences between this research and that research are song which will be analysed. In this research, the researcher analysis figurative language in Niki Zefanya's song, title Every Summertime.

The result in this research is that the researcher will focus on finding out figurative language in song Every Summertime using Perrine's theory. Problem of the research is what kinds of figurative language are found in Niki Zefanya's song, title Every Summertime and the objective of the research is to find out the kinds of figurative language in Niki Zefanya's song, title Every Summertime.

The significance of the research is we can know the figurative language which is contained in the song lyric which we listen in our daily life or activity. And also, we can learn what is the figurative language and kinds of figurative language.

2. METHODS

This subchapter contains a method that the researcher used to carry out the research. In this research, the researcher used qualitative method. Siyoto & Sodik (2015) in Hardani, et al., (2020) mentioned that in a research or study that using qualitative methods, the main instrument is the researcher himself. Therefore, if a researcher uses qualitative methods, the researcher must have knowledge related to certain theories to help him solve problems in research. This is in accordance with this research where the researcher examines and analyses a figurative language problem in song lyrics using Perrine's Literature theory written by Johnson & ARP (2016).

The source of the data of this research is *Genius.com*. *Genius* is an American digital media company founded in 2009 by Tom Lehman, Ilan Zechory, and Mahbod Moghadam. On this site, the users can annotate and interpret song lyrics, news, sources, poems and documents. Therefore, this site provides a variety of international song lyrics that are generally accessible. The researcher used this site as a source of the data because the data used by the researcher are in the form of song lyrics which have a variety of figurative language. In this research, the researcher used the lyrics of *Every Summertime Niki Zefanya's* songs.

The first step before the researcher analyses data is the researcher will collect the data. The steps in collecting data; the first the researcher listen Niki Zefanya's song. Second, the researcher listened Niki Zefanya's song in other to get the chosen song which contained the figurative language. Third, the researcher reads the lyrics to understand and figure out the figurative language in this song lyrics. Fourth, the researcher identified figurative language which used in this song lyrics by underlining lyrics.

And the next step after collecting the data is the researcher analysed the data. The steps in analysing the data; first the researcher classified the data which have found into kinds of figurative language. The researcher found out 1 Allegory, 2 Hyperbole, 1 Personification, 1 Metonymy, 1 Synecdoche, 1 Metaphor. So, the total of the data that the researcher found is 7 data.

No.	Figurative Language	Data
1.	Allegory	1
2	Hyperbole	2
3.	Personification	1
4.	Synecdoche	1
5.	Metaphor	1
6.	Metonymy	1
Total		7 data

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In analysing the data, the researcher used Perrine's theory about kinds of figurative language as the basic. Perrine (1992) divided types of figurative language, such as:

Simile

Simile means of comparing things that are essentially unlike. In simile, the comparison is expressed by the use of some words or phrases, such as like, as, than, similar to, resembles, or seems (Perrine, 1992, p.61)

Examples:

They were as brave as lion.

They fought like cats and dogs.

The first example is the word “brave” and “lion”, it expresses that lion is a strong and brave animal and as we know lion is a king of jungle. For the second example, the word “cats and dogs”, this is comparison two things between cats and dogs that have different character. The conclusion from those sentences is using “like” and “as” which show that type of figurative language is Simile.

Personification

Personification is giving the attributes of human being to an animal, an object, or a concept (Perrine 1992, p.64). Personification is a figurative that gives object, animal, idea or abstraction with human character of sensibility. One of the most familiar kinds of comparison is personification that is speaking something which is not human as human abilities. Personification is representing a thing, quality, or ideas as a person.

Examples:

My flowers were begging for water.

Time flies when you are having fun.

The first sentence is begging for water. We know that flowers cannot beg because it is not alive, it means that the flowers need water. The second sentence, the word “flies” means that the time goes so fast when you are having fun. So, personification describes the inanimate object as if they are alive.

Irony

According to Perrine (1992), “Verbal irony is saying the opposite of what one means. In a simple form, verbal irony means the opposite of what is being said” (p.104). irony has a meaning that extends beyond its use merely as a figure of speech, Irony, on the other hand, is a literary device or that may be used in the service of sarcasm or ridicule or may not.

Example:

You are genius to tell her that you lie.

This crowded place is empty, I cannot hear people talking.

The meaning of the first sentence is silly or stupid, it should not tell her if you are lying. The second sentence means the place is crowded but when you walk, it feels empty. Those statements above are contrast between what happens and what has been expected to happen.

Hyperbole

Overstatement or hyperbole is simply exaggeration but exaggeration in the service of truth (Perrine, 1992, p.101). overstatement may be used with a variety of effects. It may be humorous or grave, fanciful or restrained, convincing or unconvincing.

Examples:

That boy is as tall as the house.

I have read this novel a hundred times.

The first sentence contained exaggeration or overstatement, because the speaker did not mean say that boy is as tall as the house, it is impossible that human being as tall as the house. And for the second sentence is the same as the first sentence, it contained overstatement or exaggeration, if human being can really read novel a hundred times, our eyes will be ill. So, both statements above are expression of overstatement and exaggeration.

So, these are the results of figurative language which contained in song lyrics Niki Zefanya’s song *Every Summertime*.

Data Findings

The researcher found 6 figurative languages which found in song lyrics “*Every Summertime*”, Niki Zefanya’s song. The first figurative language is allegory, second is hyperbole, third is personification, and fourth figurative language is synecdoche, fifth is metaphor, and the last figurative

language is metonymy. Each of them has different data, they are, allegory has 1 data, hyperbole is 2 data, personification is 1 data, synecdoche is 1 data, metaphor is 1 data, and metonymy is 1 data. The total of the data which the researcher found is 7 data. It is shown in the table below:

No.	Figurative Language	Data
1.	Allegory	1
2	Hyperbole	2
3.	Personification	1
4.	Synecdoche	1
5.	Metaphor	1
6.	Metonymy	1
Total		7 data

After finding 7 data, the researcher classified the data which has been contained based on Perrine's theory chosen by the researcher as follows:

No.	Data	Figurative Language
<i>Every Summertime</i>		
1	Outer Richmond in a taxicab	Allegory
2	You were sweatin' bullets on the way to my Dad's	Hyperbole
3	And I swear the magnolias flashed a smile (Flashed a smile)	Personification
4	Baby, I'd give up anything to travel inside your mind	Hyperbole
5	Twenty-five, man we're missing church	Metonymy
6	We're strolling down the boulevard, and	Synecdoche
7	Every day is summertime	Metaphor

Data no. 1

Outer Richmond in a taxicab, it expresses narrative or description that has a second meaning beneath the surface that include the places and happenings that have concealed or symbolic meaning in the shape of narrative. The conclusion from the lyric there is word "taxi" which show that type of figurative language is allegory.

Data no. 2

You were sweatin' bullets on the way to my Dad's, it expresses or described as an overstatement and states something excessively but exaggeration context is only in terms of truth. The data above is hyperbole because it does not make sense if it is interpreted literally. The conclusion from the lyric there is word "bullets" which show that type of figurative language is hyperbole.

Data no. 3

And I swear the magnolias flashed a smile (Flashed a smile), it expresses giving the attributes of a human being to an animal, an object, or a concept had a similar opinion about the definition of personification. It resembles the attribution of lifelike or human attributes to inanimate objects or idea. The conclusion from the lyric above there is word "flashed smile" which shows that type of figurative language is personification.

Data no. 4

Baby, I'd give up anything to travel inside your mind, it expresses or described as an overstatement and states something excessively, but exaggeration context is only in terms of truth. The data above is hyperbole because it does not make sense if it is interpreted literally. The conclusion from the lyric there is word "travel inside your mind" which show that type of figurative language is hyperbole.

Data no.5

Twenty-five, man we're missing church, it expresses is something that closely related for the thing actually meant. Metonymy is including to the change of name, the use of one word for another, and the use of the ideas through terms that involve associations. The conclusion from the lyric there is word "we're missing church" which show that type of figurative language is metonymy.

Data no.6

We're strolling down the boulevard, and. It expresses that replace some significant detail or experience quality to experience quality to experience itself. And it resembles and focuses on using parts to represent a whole. The conclusion from the lyric there is word "we're strolling down the boulevard" which show that type of figurative language is synecdoche.

Data no. 7

Every day is summertime. It expresses compare two things that are not essentially the same. The comparison is created when a figurative term is substituted for or identified with the literal term. The conclusion from the lyric there is word "Every day is summertime" which show that type of figurative language is metaphor.

4. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

The researcher can conclude that in song Niki Zefanya's with the title Every Summertime, the researcher found six kinds of figurative language. Six figurative languages which found in song lyrics "*Every Summertime*", Niki Zefanya's song. The first figurative language is allegory, second is hyperbole, third is personification, and fourth figurative language is synecdoche, fifth is metaphor, and the last figurative language is metonymy. Each of them has different data, they are, allegory has 1 data, hyperbole is 2 data, personification is 1 data, synecdoche is 1 data, metaphor is 1 data, and metonymy is 1 data. The total of the data is 7 data.

Suggestion

Derived from the conclusion above, the researcher expects and hopes this research can be useful for everyone and anyone who would like to know or do a research based on figurative language in song lyrics. Because by this research, the researcher knows the types of figurative languages which contained in song lyrics and also by this research the researcher knows many figurative languages which also contained in song lyrics, and we can know and more understand about the meaning and the message which is delivered by the song writer. For the following research, the researcher suggests finding more figurative languages in various song lyrics. Therefore, there will be many kinds of figurative languages which can be studied.

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