# CHAPTER I

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a system of sounds that combines with various rules that expresses meaning which can be captured by people who speak and hear the language. Language used as a medium to convey information, ideas, concepts or feeling which comes to the heart, using combination of words, in the aim so human being can communicate with each other and able to exchange knowledge, beliefs, opinions, wishes, threats, commands, feeling and many more. Nowadays, people communicate with each other not only with people around but also with people worldwide. For example, we work in an international company and want to build good interaction among people. In that case, we should provide ourselves with the ability to speak English as an international language. English as an international language is used not only in spoken but also in written form. English is used in many fields, such as commerce, government, economics, education, social culture, sports, entertainment, etc.

In the education field, it is important for students to learn and understand the language. The students do not only understand the form of language, but also the meaning behind the language itself. In literature, semantics talks specifically about language and the meaning, it is closely related to the ability of human being to think logically and to understand a meaning (Bagha, 2011). However, in communicating and understanding meaning, people should also realize that there are so many figurative languages used.

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Figurative language is employment of words in an exceedingly very way that deviates from the quality order and getting to convey a sophisticated meaning, colorful writing, clarity, or suggestive comparison. According to John Arthos (in Mezo, Richard E. 1999) figurative languages are words or expressions which functioned as ornament in language to make the language appeal novelty. It beautifies words, phrases or sentences so they become interesting and alive in the imagination of the hearer. Figurative language generally not only beautifies language but also say less or more of what it wants to convey, say different from what it wants to say, or even say the opposites of it. That is why figurative language should not be accepted literally, but understanding figuratively to get the meaning. Figurative language comes in various types, some of them are simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, metonymy.

Figurative language commonly used in literature works such as poetry, drama, prose, novel, speech and also in the song lyrics. To make a lyric, a songwriter should have the ability to work creatively on words so they could sound interesting while trying to send the meaning to the listener. According to Eka Rosita (2019), song lyric is one form of literature works which has the interesting elements such as poetry. Song lyric expresses personal feelings and thought through the combined result of the art of language and the art of sound (music). People can really enjoy the music if they know the meaning in the song. So, there are so many song lyrics that are deep and meaningful and in the very meaning they inspired a discussion. The album *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* used as the data source for this study. This album could be said to be very unique because it was containing

a lot of figurative language. It makes the songs not only catchy to the ear of listener, but also beautifies the lyrics and the meaning.

**1.2    Problem of Study**

Based on the tittle of this thesis, the problems of the study proposed as follows:

1. What are the types of figurative language found in Passenger song lyrics in *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* album?

2. What are the meanings of figurative languages used in in Passenger song lyrics in *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* album?

**1.3    Objective of Study**

Based on the tittle of this thesis, the objectives of the study aimed as follows:

1. To identify the types of figurative language found in Passenger song lyrics in *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* album?

2. To Analyze and describe the meaning of figurative language found in Passenger song lyrics in *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* album?

**1.4    Limitation of the Study**

Based on the background of the thesis, this study was focused to analyses the types and the meaning of figurative language found in Passenger song lyrics in *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* (2021) album. This study applied Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) theory to analyze each type of figurative language. Meanwhile to analyze the meaning of figurative language found in

Passenger song lyrics in *Songs For The Drunk And The Broken Hearted* (2021) album were use the theory proposed by Leech (1981

## 1.5 Significances of the Study

There are two significances this thesis expected to give, as follows;

### 1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

This thesis would contribute to enrich the research and studies in linguistics field especially in semantics and figurative language, and later can be a reference and input for further research in the related field.

### 1.5.2 Practical Significance

This thesis would give more understanding about language and figurative language to the society. How they are used to enrich and beautify song lyrics, especially give a better understanding about the use of figurative language in the song lyrics of Passenger's *"Song for the Drunk and Broken Hearted"* album.
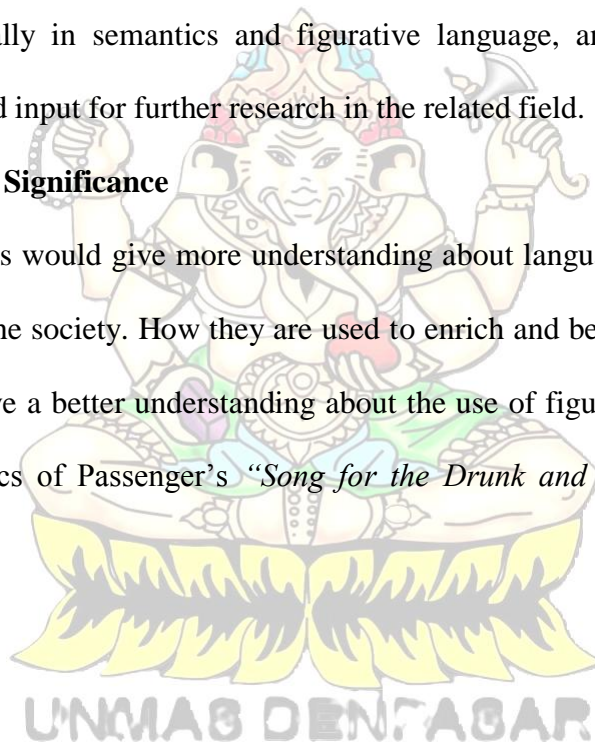
# CHAPTER II

# REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS AND THEORIES

This chapter showed and discussed related literatures along with the concept and the theoretical framework. These several related literatures aimed to provide the comparison among them with the current study in the similarities or the differences.

## 2.1 Review of Related Literature

In the research of figurative language, there are various of previous studies which is can be used as references. Therefore, this research also took some of those studies to look on and reviewed below. This is to compare what aspects are used and what the results are, with what would be found in this research.

The first reference is a thesis entitled *Figurative language in Selected Shawn Mendes Album Song lyrics* by Safira (2020). This thesis is aimed to identify the types of figurative languages around in selected Shawn Mendes song lyrics and to analyse the meaning of figurative languages used in those song lyrics. This thesis used the theory of figurative language proposed by Reaske (1996) and the theory by Leech (2009) is used to analyses the meaning. For the method this thesis used qualitative method for the research. This thesis then found five types of figurative languages which are metaphor, hyperbole, simile, personification, and repetition.

The similarity of the thesis above with this thesis is both of these thesis analyzed the types of figurative languages, the meaning and using the same method which is qualitative method. However, though the theory of meaning used the same theory proposed by Leech, they are using different theories of figurative language

and found different results. The thesis above used the theory of meaning by Reaske (1996) and found five types of figurative language, meanwhile this thesis on the other hand used the theory proposed by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974) and found six types of figurative languages.

The second reference is an article entitled *Analysis of Figurative Language in "Easy On Me" Song Lyics* wrote by Swarniti (2022). This article aimed to classify and analyze the figurative languages in the lyrics of Adele's song Easy On Me. The writer of this article used mixed theories from various experts in analyzed the data, some of them are from Miller and Greenberg (1981), Potter (1967) and Perrine (1965) this article than concluded, there are comparative figurative language, contradictive figurative language and correlative figurative language. For comparative figurative language found personification, for contradictive figurative language found hyperbole, litotes and paradox, and for correlative figurative language found allusion, ellipsis, metonymy, symbol and synecdoche. The method used is qualitative method.

The similarity of the article above and this thesis is the purpose of the research which is to analyze the figurative language used, and also the method used which is qualitative method. Meanwhile, the theory used is different. The article above used mixed theories for each type of figurative languages used, and this thesis used only one main theory of figurative language from Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974). Moreover the results of each research also different. The article above found nine types of figurative language, meanwhile this thesis only found six types.

The last reference is also an article proposed by Krisna Permana P. and Rajeg (2018) with the tittle *Figurative Language in The Song Lyrics of passenger's Album "All the Little Lights"*. This article aimed to analyze types of figurative language used in the *All the Little Lights* album and the kinds of meaning. To do the analysis the researchers used the theory of figurative language from Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) and also theory of meaning from Leech (1974). The method used is qualitative method. In the result, this article found nine figurative types used in the song lyrics. They are allusion, simile, metaphor, irony, personification, hyperbole, dead metaphor, metonymy and paradox. And for the meaning, used four types of meaning which are connotative meaning, conceptual meaning, affective meaning and collocative meaning.

The similarities of the article above and this thesis can be seen clearly from the purpose of the research and also the theories used. Both of these research aimed to find out what type of figurative language used and what are the meaning. Moreover, both of them used the same theories of figurative language from Knickerbocker and Reninger, theory of meaning by Leech and used qualitative method. However, even both of the study used the same theories, the result is different. The article above found nine figurative types and four types of meaning. Meanwhile this thesis only found six types of figurative language and one type of meaning which is connotative meaning.

## 1.2 Concept

In this part the study showed several concepts based on the topic of this thesis, as follows:

### 2.2.1 Figurative Language

According to Knickerbocker and Renninger (1974:237) figurative language is sometimes called metaphorical language, or simply metaphor, because its Greek ancestor metaphereien means to carry meaning beyond its literal. Regardless of the kind of figure speech which observed, its basic function is always to carry meaning from the literal to the figurative level.

### 2.2.1 Song

Song is a single work of music and aimed to be sung by human voice using sound and silence technic. It also can be described as works in singing to musical instrument accompaniment. It is one of the familiar literatures for the listeners, that loved by many people. It comes in many kinds or genre such as rock, pop, jazz, classic and many more. Listening to a song is an enjoyable activity everyone loves to feel comfort emotionally. The words of a song are called the lyrics.

### 2.2.2 Lyric

Lyric expresses direct personal feeling of the singer (Oxford Dictionary, 2008). It is the simplest form of poetry to express mood or feelings. Hornby (1974:822) said that song lyrics are short poem in a number verses set of music to be sung. Usually, the songwriters beautify the language used for lyrics by using figurative language to attract the interest of listeners.

## 2.3 Theories

In scientific work, the study should take certain theory in order to analyse the data to achieve the result which can be scientifically accepted. There are some theories used which connecting to the topic and giving the definition about figurative language. In this part, there will be the main theories of this research. The main theory of figurative language taken from Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974) will be used to find out and analyse the types of figurative language in the song lyrics of Passenger *"Song for the Drunk and Broken Hearted"* album. Furthermore, the theory of meaning taken from Leech (1974:10) will be used to explain the meaning of each figurative language used in that song lyrics.

### 2.3.1 Figurative Language

Figurative language is word or phrase expression that used to convey meaning in a different way from the literal. Figurative language often found in literary works such as newspaper articles, novels, poems, advertisements, short story, song lyrics, and many more. Although it is rarely used in daily conversation, without realizing people also use figurative language in everyday speech through writing or conversations. Common expressions that came across as figurative speech such as *falling in love, climbing the leader of success* and *hitting a sales target* which all are metaphor (Habibi, 2016: 11).

Theoretically, according to Jay (2003: 313) figurative language refers to languages that are used to describe or compare two different things to make it clear and interesting. Figurative language cannot be translated or interpreted literally. Moreover, it is also not easy to understand the meaning of figurative language for it can be ambiguous for them who do not understand figurative languages. Grice in

Jay (2003: 314) stated that listeners, as well as readers, should pay extra cognitive works to understand the meaning of what being said through figurative language.

Figurative language requires people's imagination to be able to figure out what the intended meaning of the author. When the author used literal language, he or she simply stated the fact of what is being said as they are. But figurative language uses exaggerations or alterations to create particular effect to the readers. Kennedy (1983:479) explained that figurative language as words or group of words that exaggerate or alter the usual meaning into figure of speech to create freshness or emphasis the meaning.

## 2.3.2 Types of Figurative Language

Figurative language is the expressions of saying something in a different way to make it unique and should not be taken literally. The figure of speech does not only convoy the true meaning but require the imagination and understanding from the reader or the listener to clearly understand what it refers to (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:237). According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283) kinds of figurative language are simile, metaphor, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, hyperbole, irony, dead metaphor, Allison, and paradox.

## a. Simile

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283) simile is a figure of speech that used to state a comparison between two things, introduced by *like* or *as.* Simile compares things that are essentially unlike or different to suggest likeness. For example, *"My love is like a red red rose"* compared the writer's love with a red rose which are two different things. The writer declared that his love is beautiful and intense just like a red red rose.

**b. Metaphor**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283) metaphor is an implied comparison of two different things with an expression without using *like* or *as*. In metaphor, the figurative term substituted the literal. For example, instead of saying *"life is like a walking shadow"*, metaphor will say *"life's but a walking shadow"*.

**c. Pesonification**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283) personification is the type of figurative that giving human characteristics to animal, objects or an abstract idea to make them sounds alive. For example, *"my little horse must think it queer to stop without a farmhouse near"*. This sentence is giving a human attribute *to think* to an animal *horse* as if the horse could think such as human.

**d. Synecdoche**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283), synecdoche is a figure of speech where a part is using to represent the whole or vice versa. For example, "fifty winters passed him by". This sentence using a part to describe the whole, where the writer used *winters* to represent *the whole years* have passed.

**e. Metonymy**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283) metonymy is a figurative meaning that describes one thing by using term for other object closely related to it and associated with. For example, *"We will swear loyalty to the crown"*. *The crown* in the sentence is used to represent *the king*. The use of word crown is because it identically related with king or queen or royal person, stand for their power or position.

**f. Hyperbole**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:284), hyperbole is a figure of speech that uses to exaggerated expressions used for special effect. Figuratively is one of most used figurative language that used to emphasize the meaning. For example, *"go and catch a falling star"*. This is categorized as hyperbole for exaggerated the fact about star.

**g. Irony**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:284), irony is a figure of speech that contains statements that the real meaning is completely opposed to its professed, or opposed with the surfaced meaning. For example, *"I have a very good news. You all got B on your test!"*. This is considered as irony for saying the opposite. The teacher did the irony because all the class got B, not A on the test.

**h. Paradox**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:284), paradox is a statement whose surface, obvious meaning seems to be illogical, even absurd, but which makes good sense upon closer examination. For example, *"the normal is the rarest thing in the world"*.

**i. Dead Metaphor**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:284), dead metaphor is a metaphor that has its figurative language meaning but has lost it figurative sense through endless use. For example, *body of an essay* or *the back of the chair* or *the face of a clock*.

**j. Allusion**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:284), allusion is a reference to some well-known place, event, or person. Not a comparison in the exact sense, but a figures in the sense that it implies more than its narrow meaning. For example, *"No, I am not Prince Hamlet, nor was meant to be".*

## 2.3.2. Theory of Meaning

Language is a crucial tool that humans need to communicate with each other. Every language used in communication indicates a certain meaning. What the speakers, writers or singer-song writer wants to communicate depends on how the meaning of the language used can be accepted and understood by the listener or the reader. Meaning itself plays an important role in communication that indicates how god the communication is conducted.

Meaning can be understood by some types of meaning. Many linguists have classified from each different point of view based on the reason. According to Leech (1974) there are seven types of meaning which are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning and collocative meaning.

## a. Conceptual Meaning

Conceptual meaning is logical, cognitive or denotative content of meaning. It is an inextricable and essential part of what language is, such that one can scarcely define language without referring to it. For example the meaning of the word *woman* could be specified as *human, not male* and *adult* (Leech, 1974: 10).

## b. Connotative meaning

Connotative meaning is communicative value and the expression that the referred meaning is above its pure conceptual content. And it includes not only

physical characteristic, but also social properties and psychological, for instance: the word *red* has the connotation of *brave* (Leech, 1974: 14).

**c. Stylistic or Social meaning**

Stylistic meaning is meaning of language (or word) that conveys the social circumstances where it is used. The stylistic meaning can be 'decoded' through the recognition of different dimensions and levels of usage within the same language. The language is connected with the situation in which it is uttered, for examples the word *horse, steed* and *nag.* They have the same conceptual meaning but they convey different social circumstances of their use where horse used in general, steed for poetic purpose, and nag is a slang word (Leech, 1974: 16).

**d. Affective meaning**

Affective meaning is meaning that expresses writers' or spekers' personal feelings or attitude. This is also often conveyed explicitly by the conceptual or connotative content of words used. In this type of meaning, tone of voice is important to create the impressions towards the reader or the hearer. The example can be found in these following sentence; *you're a vicious tyrant and a villainous reprobate, and I hate you for it!* That would addressed different feeling with, *I'm terribly sorry to interrupt, but I wonder of you would be so kind as to lower your voices a little* (Leech, 1974: 18).

**e. Reflected meaning**

Reflected meaning is the meaning that appear from the multiple conceptual meaning case, when one sense of a word forming another sense into the part of our response. For example, the term *The Comforter* in church service could reflect the

warm and comforting meaning to the hearer. Or the replacement of the word *cock* into *rooster* is due to the taboo influence of the former word (Leech, 1974: 19).

**f. Collocative meaning**

Collocative meaning consists of the association of a word acquires on account of the meanings of words which tend to occur in its environment. For example, the words pretty and handsome have common ground in the meaning of good-looking (Leech, 1974: 20).

**g. Thematic meaning**

Thematic meaning is the meaning that being communicated by how the speakers or writers organize the message in terms of ordering, focus and emphasis. This is mainly depending on the choice between alternative grammatical construction, such as active or passive sentence and lexical means, or the stressed word and intonation that highlight the information (Leech, 1974: 22).