

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Language is the most important aspect for of human life to communicate with other people. The aims of the language is to get some information from the other person by interaction. The people can share their opinion, experience, ideas and emotions by language. Language could be either in the written, spoken form or even gesture, but inside of the language contains the meaning. Language may represent explicit and implicit feeling and thought of human. Every written and spoken form of language may consist of speech sounds, words, phrases, clauses, which may be configure into larger form. According to Kreidler (1998:5), language is complex and subtle capable of expressing whatever its speakers need to express and capable of changing to meet the changing needs of the speakers. Therefore, the language which can build the imagination of the listener, usually it called figurative language.

Figurative language is a language that uses words or expression with a meaning is different from the literal interpretation. According to Peter (2002: 12), figurative language is a language which has figurative meaning incorporates the speakers desire to touch the emotions to cause shock and persuade into action. From the definition above can conclude that figurative language serve to deliver thoughts, feelings, and perception that is cannot express in literal meaning.

The figurative language not only found in the novel and poem, but it also can found in the song lyrics. Song lyrics not only to entertain the listener, but it also has some meanings that deliver to the listener in implicitly.

A song is composition of the human voice which includes with musical instrument. Song lyrics usually created into stanza, and every stanza usually have figurative language that have some messages that wants deliver to the listener. The people can figure out their feelings and experience or something happened in their life by song. Song writer actually create the song based on their experience or the other experience that have been seen and felt in every day life. Song writer can deliver some messages of song lyrics implicitly and explicitly. There are many people who feel sad, boring, uneasy, and worried to do something fun, they like to listen to music or sing a song because music can illustrate feeling, emotion, and imagination. Thus, when someone listen to the music, they can feel like enjoy, relax, and happy. Therefore, listeners will not only be able to enjoy the melody of the song but they will also gain more knowledge by interpreting the point of view on things in the world revealed through song lyrics.

In this research, the writer analyzes figurative language found in Coldplay selected song lyrics. Coldplay are a British rock from London United Kingdom. This band was formed in 1996 In London United Kingdom until today. Coldplay write the songs beautifully with many figurative languages and Coldplay has many of Albums, but in this research the writer analyze fourteen selected songs lyric are randomly from the different Album as a data of the research the songs are:

*Yellow, Scientist, Fix You, Paradise, Sky Full of Stars, Viva La Vida, Hurts Like Heaven, Don't Panic, We Never Change, Everglow, Talk, Spies, High Speed, and Trouble.*

The purpose of discussing figurative language in song lyrics is to know the composer efforts to attract the readers or attention through the use of figurative language which carries the intended meaning in explicitly and implicitly expressed used in Coldplay selected song lyrics.

## **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the background above there are two problems of the study presented as follows:

1. What types of figurative language are used in Coldplay selected song lyrics?
2. What are the meaning of figurative language used in Coldplay selected song lyrics?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems of the study above, this study aims to answer the questions research as follows:

1. To find out types of figurative language used in Coldplay selected song lyrics.
2. To find out the meaning of figurative language used in Coldplay selected song lyrics.

## **1.4 Limitation of the Study**

This research focused on an analysis types of figurative language which found in the Coldplay selected song lyrics based on the theory proposed by Knickerbocker

and Reninger (1974:283). And also this study is limited to the analysis of the meaning of figurative language found in Coldplay selected song lyrics based on the theory of Leech (1981:9-19).

## **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The writer hopes this research can give contribution in every aspects of human life. It can be as a source to increase the knowledge of the listeners and writer especially in the field of figurative language. The significance of this research divided into two parts as follows:

### **1.5.1 Theoretical Significance**

This research is expected can give contribution enlarging the knowledge of the readers about figurative language, the meaning, or the messages used in Coldplay selected song lyrics. This study also can be used as a reference for the next researcher who interested to analysis about figurative language especially in song lyrics.

### **1.5.2 Practical Significance**

Practical significance of this research is expected can increase the knowledge of the writer about figurative language and its meaning that used in Coldplay selected song lyrics. And also this study can increase the knowledge of the writer in choosing the words in right meaning in communicating in the public.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW RELATED OF LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

#### 2.1 Review of Related Literature

A literature review is an account of what has been published on a topic by accredited scholars and researches. Literature review in this research will be divided into two types they are thesis review and the journal review. Two related thesis and one article that were reviewed in this subchapter. Here, three of them give some contributions to this study.

The first thesis was written by Dewi (2019), entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Language Found in the Song Lyrics Made in the A.M Album by One Direction”. In her study has two aims are to find out types of figurative language used in the made in the A.M Album by One Direction and to find out the meaning found in the made in the A.M Album by One Direction. In her study used observation method to collect the data and used qualitative method to analysis the data. The data source of her study was taken from A.M Album by One Direction. In her study used theory of Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367) to find out types of figurative language and the theory of meaning by Leech (1981). The types of figurative language that she found in her study were 3 of simile, 4 of metaphor, 10 of personification, 22 hyperbole, 1 synecdoche, 2 of irony, 2 of metonymy and 1 of allusion. The dominant types of figurative language in her study is hyperbole. The similarities between her study and this study are both study analyze figurative language as the subject and also song lyrics as the object. The theories that used to find out types of figurative language and meaning are also the same. The differences

is from the data source. This study was taken the data source from the Coldplay selected song lyrics and her data source was taken from A.M album by One Direction.

The second thesis was written by Harung (2019) entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in the Song Lyrics by Katty Perry’s in Album Entitled Witness”. Her study has two aims namely to identify the types of figurative language used in Katty Perry’s song lyrics and also to find out the meaning types of figurative language found in song lyrics by Katty Perry’s album entitled Witness. Her study used qualitative method to analyze the data. The data source of her study was taken from Katty Perry’s song lyrics. Her study used the theory of Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963:367) to find out types of figurative language, and also the theory of meaning by Leech (1981-9- 23). The total types of figurative language that found in her study were 9 of personification, 7 of simile, 6 of hyperbole, 5 of metaphor, 1 of synecdoche, 1 of paradox, and 1 of metonymy. The dominant types of figurative language used in Katty Perry’s song lyric is personification. The similarities between her study and this study are both study analyze figurative language as the subject and also song lyrics as the object. The theories that used to find out types of figurative language and meaning are also the same. The differences is from the data source. This study will be taken the data source from the Coldplay selected song lyrics and her data source was taken from Katty Perry’s song lyrics.

The third review was taken from an article written by Milana and Ardy (2020), entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Language in the Song’s Lyrics by Saif

Adam". Their study has two aims are to identify types of figurative language used in song lyrics by Saif Adam and the dominant types of figurative language found in the song's lyrics of Saif Adam. In their study used the method descriptive qualitative method to analysis the data. The data source of their study was taken from the Saif Adam song lyrics. Their study used theory of Perrine (1983). The total of type figurative language used in Saif Adam`s song`s lyrics such as hyperbole, irony, metaphor, personification, simile, litotes, metonymy and paradox. The data were collected by reading the lyrics of Saif Adam`s songs. There were 14 of hyperbole, 3 of irony, 20 of metaphor, 11 of personification 10 of simile, 5 of litotes, 10 of metonymy, and 7 of paradox. The most dominant type of figurative language is metaphor. The similarities between their study and this study are both study analysis of figurative language as the subject and also song lyrics as the object. The theories that used is different and also the different from the data source. This study was taken the data source from the Coldplay selected song lyrics and their data source was taken from Saif Adam`s song lyrics.

## **2.2 Concepts**

This part will explain the descriptions of the concepts are figurative language, lyrics and song lyrics. The definition of them presented as follows:

### **2.2.1 Figurative Language**

According to Perrine (1982:6), figurative language is used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novel, poems, etc. The effectiveness of figurative language in four

main reasons, (Perrine, 1982:6) first, figurative language affords readers imaginative pleasure of literary works. Second it is a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, making the abstract concrete, making literary works more sensuous. The third figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statement and conveying attitudes a long information. And the last it is a way of saying much in brief compass. She divides figurative language into seven types, namely metaphor, simile, personification, metonymy, paradox, overstatement, understatement, irony and illusion.

### **2.2.2 Song Lyrics**

According to Hornby (2000:802), he stated that the lyrics is expressing a persons or lyrics are a set of words that make up a song, usually consisting of verses and course, personal feeling and thought, connected with singing and written for a lyric's poem is the word of a song. Language song really is not much different from the language of poetry it is a short lyric poem that expresses emotion. Song lyrics are poetry that sung. From of emotive expressions is realized in sound and words. Language in the song lyrics has rules that are elements of poems emotive through sounds and words. In addition to obtaining a particular impression as poetry, language lyrics are concise and packed. This due to the lyrics of the songs has undergone a process of compaction of meaning and creativity diction of election poet.

### 2.2.3 Coldplay

Coldplay are a British rock band formed in London United Kingdom in 1996. They consist of vocalist and pianist Chris Martin, guitarist Jonny Buckland, bassist Guy Berryman, drummer Will Champion and creative director Phil Harvey. They met at University College London and began playing music together from 1996 to 1998, first calling themselves Pectorals and then Starfish.

## 2.3 Theories

In this part explains the theories that will be used by the writer to answer the problems of the study. There are two theories that are used by the writer to analyze the data in this research. The first theory is "Interpreting Literature" that was proposed by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974:283) to find out types of figurative language found in the Coldplay selected song lyrics. The second theory proposed by Leech (1981:9-19) that was written in his book "The Study of Meaning" to find out the meaning of figurative language used in Coldplay selected song lyrics.

### 2.3.1 Figurative Language

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 283), figurative language is sometimes called metaphorical language, or simply metaphor because its Greek ancestor "Metaphereien" means to carry meaning beyond its literal meaning (meta = beyond + pherein = to bring i.e. to bring beyond). Knickerbocker & Reninger (1974: 283) proposed ten types of figurative language namely *simile*, *metaphor*, *personification*, *synecdoche*, *metonymy*, *hyperbole*, *irony*, *paradox*, *dead metaphor*, and *allusion*. The definition of those of them as follows:

### 2.3.1.1 Simile

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 283), simile is figure of speech involving comparison, it draws resemblance with the help of the words “like” or “as”.

Example: “My love is like a red rose” (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:283).

It is called simile because the word “like” in the sentence above as comparing two different things expressed such as word “love” and word “red rose”. The fact, there is no relation between two words above because word “love” is as part of human feeling but the word “red rose” is as part of flower but the sentence above show the similarity between “my love” and “red rose”. In this sentence, the writer wants to tell the reader that love is as beautiful as a red rose.

### 2.3.1.2 Metaphor

Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 283) stated that metaphor is a figure of speech which concisely compares two things. It is considered implied comparison without using words “ like” or “ as”.

Example: “Life’s but a walking shadow”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:283)

The expression above instead of saying “life is like a walking shadow”. Metaphor and simile have close relation because comparing the different things, but the differences is simile using words “as and like” to compare two differences things but metaphor compares the thing implicitly.

### 2.3.1.3 Personification

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 283), personification is giving human characteristic to an object, animal, or an abstract idea. Personification implied comparison between an non human thing and a human being. Example: “These honors comes, a pilgrim gray”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:283)

In the sentence above shows the use of personification because the word “comes” is only for human being however the word “honor” is not human being. In this case, the writer wants to give a special sense to bring inanimate things to life, so that their actions are understood in a better way because it easier to relate to something that human traits.

### 2.3.1.4 Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a figure using the part of the whole, (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974: 283).

Example: “Fifty winters (years) passed him by”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:283).

The word “winters” used a part for the whole sentence and in this sentence mean fifty years passed him. Synecdoche is a figure of speech in which use a part of something to stand for the whole things. Synecdoche is a great literary device, especially for poets who strive to express a great deal in a single image.

### 2.3.1.5 Metonymy

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 283), Metonymy is describing one thing by using the term for another thing closely associated with it.

Example: “The crown” is used “for the king” (Knickerbocker & Reninger, 1974:283).

This sentence show that the metonymy is represented by ‘crown’ and ‘king’ in the words. Actually, this word is having close relationship for the empire, because the empire has a king and crown as a symbol of government.

### **2.3.1.6 Hyperbole**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 284), hyperbole is figure of an exaggeration used for special effect. The hyperbole is perhaps one of most widely recognized forms of figurative language and one of that permeates everyday life the advertising and entertainment industries.

Example: “Go and catch falling star”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:284)

It is impossible to “catch a falling star”. This sentence is hyperbole because in the example above is describes the illogical thing since no one is able to catch the falling star. As we know, the word “star” in the sentence above is kind of a fixed point in the sky which has the bigger size. Literally, it is impossible to be done, but this figurative language means that someone has high expectation even though impossible to be done and also giving a message in order that we can go and catch our dream and wish in this life.

### **2.3.1.7 Irony**

Irony is statement of which the real meaning is completely opposed to its professed, or surface meaning. (Knickerbocker & Reninger, 1974:284).

Example: “The Czar is the voice of God and shall live forever”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:284)

The czar is normal human being the voices came out from the mouth is generally not different from the human. The meaning of sentence above is an songwriter individual. The czar only a normal human being not the voice of the God and cannot live forever. The word shall live forever is opposed the real meaning that we cannot live forever.

### **2.3.1.8 Paradox**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger, (1974: 284), Pradox is statement whose surface obvious meaning seems to be illogical, even absurd, but which make good sense upon closer examination.

Example: “Light is the darkest thing in physics”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974: 284).

In the sentence above the words “light” and “physics” is the part of sense similar to human having a legs and hands for making a good sense.

### **2.3.1.9 Dead metaphor**

Dead metaphor is a metaphor which has lost its figurative meaning through endless use. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974: 284).

Example: “The back of the chair” :” The face of the clock”. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1974:284).

It is called dead metaphor because its give more stress to the chair. In the sentence “the black of the chair” shows the specific part of the chair which become the central part of the topic. And also in the sentence “the face of the clock” shows specific part of the clock with becomes the central part of the topic.

### 2.3.1.10 Allusion

Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974: 284) states that allusions is a reference to some well known place, even or person. Not comparision in the exact sense, but a figure in the sense that implies more than its narrow meaning.

For example: “No I am prince Hamlet, not was meant to be“. (Knickerbocker and Reninger 1974: 284).

The sentence above implied that is no one to be a prince and the “prince Hamlet” itself in honest way acknowledgement that is not a prince himself.

### 2.3.2 Theory of Meaning

According to Leech (1981:9) Asserted that semantic (as the study of meaning) is central to the study of communication and as communication becomes more and more a crucial factor in social organization, the need to understand it becomes more and more pressing. Leech (1981: 9). Proposed seven types of meaning namely: *conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning* and *also thematic meaning*. The definition those of them as follows:

#### 2.3.2.1 Conceptual Meaning

According Leech (1981: 10). State that conceptual meaning also called denotative meaning is widely assumed to be central factor in linguistic communication. Conceptual meaning refers to the logical sense of the utterance and is recognizable as a basic component of grammatical competence. It is alternatively described as the cognitive or denotative meaning. this is the basic or universal

meaning and can be represented at the lexical level, as well as that of the clause or simple sentence. For example: the word “woman” as conceptual meaning, it can define as HUMAN + FEMALE+ ADULT, and in additional conceptual meaning helps people to distinguish one meaning from another (1981:11).

### **2.3.2.2 Connotative Meaning**

Leech (1981:12) Connotative meaning is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to over and above its purely conceptual meaning. It is the meaning that goes beyond from literal meaning which something more than dictionary meaning. The contrastive features becomes attributes of the referent, including not only physical characteristic, but also psychological and social properties, typical rather than invariable. Connotations vary age to age and society to society. Thus purely conceptual content of “woman” define as (+HUMAN+ FEMALE+ ADULT) but in connotative meaning, there is multitude of additional, non criterial properties that we have learnt to expect a referent of a woman to posses. In additional, Leech explain that connotative meaning is very according to culture, historical, period, and experience of the individual. (1981:13)

1. Physical characteristics such as biped and having a womb.
2. Psychological and social properties such as gregarious subject to maternal instinct.
3. Many extend to features which are merely typical rather than invariable concomitants a womanhood such as capable of speech, experienced in cookery, skirt and dress wearing.

### **2.3.2.3 Social Meaning**

According to Leech (1981:14), social meaning is the piece of language conveys about the social circumstances of its use. The decoding of a text is dependent of our knowledge of stylistics and other variations of language. We recognize some words or pronunciation as being dialectical i.e as telling us something about the regional or social origin of the speaker. Social meaning is related to the situations in which utterance is used. It is concerned with the social circumstances of the use of the linguistic expression. For example, in the same way, some stylistic usage let us know something of the social relationship between the speaker and hearer. The example is “I haven’t got a knife” has the form and meaning of assertion and yet in social reality (if said to the waiter in a restaurant) it can readily take on the force of a request such as “Please bring me a knife”. From this example, we can conclude that small steps to the consideration of how language reflects personal feelings of the speakers including his attitude to the listener, or his attitude to something he is talking about.

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### **2.3.2.4 Affective Meaning**

According to Leech (1981:15), affective meaning is largely a parasitic category in the sense that to express our emotions rely upon the mediation of other categories of meaning conceptual, connotative, and stylistic. Emotional expression through style comes about for instance when we adopt an impolite tone to express displeasure, or when we adopt a casual tone to express friendliness. The example the word of “Aha! and Yippe!” Those words have a function to express emotion.

When we use these, we communicate feeling and attitudes without the mediation of any other kind of semantic function. (Leech, 1981:15).

### **2.3.2.5 Reflected Meaning**

According to Leech (1981:16), reflected meaning is the meaning which arises in cases of multiple meaning when one sense of a word forms part of our response to another sense. Therefore, the people often have difficulty in using a word with particular sense. Leech says that in the church service, The Comforter and The Holy Ghost refer to the third Trinity. They are religious words, but unconsciously there is response to their non-religious meaning too. Thus the Comforter sounds warm and comforting while the Ghost sounds awesome or even dreadful. One sense of the word seems to rub off on another especially through relative frequency and familiarity (A ghost is more frequent and familiar in no religious sense). (Leech, 1981:16).

### **2.3.2.6 Collocative Meaning**

According to Leech (1981:17), collocative meaning consists of the associations a word acquires on account of the meanings of the words which tend to occur in its environment. For example, “pretty” and “handsome” share common ground in the meaning good-looking. However, they slightly differ from each other because of collocation. The word pretty collocates with girls, women, gardens, flowers, etc. Besides that, the word handsome collocates with boys, men, etc. So pretty woman and handsome man, while different kinds of attractiveness hence “handsome woman” may mean attractive but in a mannish. (Leech, 1981:17).

### 2.3.2.7 Thematic Meaning

According to Leech (1981:19), thematic meaning is the meaning that is communicated by the way in which the speaker or writer organize the message, in terms of ordering, focus, and emphasis.

1. Mrs. Bessie Smith donated the first prize
2. The first prize was donated by Mrs. Bessie Smith

The active sentence answers an implicit question “what did Mrs. Bessie Smith donate?” while the passive sentence answers the implicit questions “who donated the first prize?” in other words, sentence (1) in contrast to sentence (2) suggest the we know whom Mrs. Bessie Smith. It refers to what is communicated by the way in which a speaker or a writer organizes the messages in terms of ordering focus and emphasis. Thus active is different from passive though its conceptual meaning is the same. Various part of the sentence also can be used as subject, object, or complement to show prominence. It is done through focus, theme (topic) or emotive emphasis. Thematic meaning helps us to understand the message and its implications properly.