

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Language is the most fundamental part in our life. It allows people to communicate with each other in daily life. As its fundamental, all people will need to be mastering the language to communicate, to interact and to get information from each other. Language also become the spesific matter for linguists, students, journalists, lecturer or teacher who most of their time writing and producing writing result such as paperwork, book, journal, paper or song. Language is a symbol system through which humans interact (Kreidler, 2002). Language is used to express what is in our minds through the spoken and written forms of language as well as through gestures, actions, etc. (Bagha, 2011). One of the linguistics branches is semantic which study about the meaning in language. Semantic is study of the word and sentence meaning, abstracted away from the contexts of use (Griffiths, 2006). Semantics has developed and become important study.

Basically, Figurative language is one of the parts of semantic. Figurative language is a set of literary devices used to create a special effect or feeling by making some types of interesting comparison. Figurative language helps the reader to get a clearer picture of what's happening, or they can be used to simply entertain the reader. Rozakis (1995) stated that figurative language is saying one thing in terms of another. It means that figurative language is an expression used

by the author indirectly by using the comparison. It cannot be interpreted literary because



the comparison in figurative language has meaning. Furthermore, Abraham (1999: 96) stated that figurative language is used as the indicator or utterance of word with purpose to gain special meaning of words. It means the words with figurative language cannot be understood and interpreted in literal form. Wibawa (2020) stated to make the sentences sound lovely, figurative language is frequently used by individuals in their everyday conversation, poem or song.

In this time, people can speak and also express their feeling through song. Nowadays, there are many people loves music or song, especially English song. A lot of song could express our feelings, such as song with the theme of love, passion, happiness, sadness, and many more, Hakim (2018). According to Murphy (2019) “Music is a part of song, consists of intro, verse, pre-chorus, bridge, break, and outro”. Music also as a reflection of the sending work of art using the medium of sound. For some people music as an entertainment and can make the soul to relax, enjoy for activities. By listening to the song, we will feel good and happy. There are many types of music, such as pop, rock, religious music, and jazz.

Therefore, this study is focused in analyzing song lyrics by using Adele’s selected love and life theme songs because the song lyrics has many figurative language and meaning inside of the song. Adele’s song is really beautiful to listen, and very interesting use the song lyrics as the data, because Adele’s song is one of the most popular albums in the world especially on pop music. According to the explanations, this study analyzed the figurative languages and the meaning found in Adele’s selected song lyrics.

## 1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problems of this study can be stated as follow:

1. What are the types of figurative language found in Adele's Selected Song Lyrics?
2. What are meaning of figurative language used in Adel's Selected Song Lyrics?

## 1.3 Objectives of The Study

There were some objectives of this study to be analyzed and described related to the figurative language meaning found in Adele's Selected Song Lyrics, such as:

1. To find out the types of figurative language in *Adele's Selected Song Lyrics*
2. To analyze the meaning of figurative language used in *Adele's Selected Song Lyrics*

## 1.4 Limitation of the Study

Based on the background of the problem stated above, the researcher specifies about analysis of figurative language in Adele's song lyrics. It would be explained about the types of figurative language and also the meaning of

figurative language used in Adele's Selected Song Lyrics. The limitation here is used to make the result of the study become more specific.

## **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Based on the purposes of the study, the result of this study expected to give a contribution to all people who want to know about the meaning in song lyrics. Therefore, the result of this study gives an explanation about types of figurative language.

### **1.5.1 Theoretical Significance**

The result of this research used as one of the references and information for further researchers related with the field and also be able to improve the researcher's ability comprehend this study and understand about the song and the meaning of the song.

### **1.5.2 Practical Significance**

The practical significance of this research used to improve and make the researcher and the readers know and understand the way of doing analysis of linguistic especially about figurative language and more understand about the types and meaning of figurative language in song lyrics itself.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

In this chapter the researcher presented and explains some points related to the figurative language analysis. It consist of review of related literature, concept and theoretical framework, while it devided into subchapters. There are three previous study papers used as review of related literature. The next subchapters are concepts about figurative language, song lyric, and Adele's biography that related to this study. Theoretical frameworks explain the theories which used to analyzing the data.

#### **2.1 Review of Related Literature**

There are some relevant studies which had been done by the previous researchers and related to the topics of this study which discussed about the figurative language and meaning which found in the literary work. In this study, there are three related researches with the previous studies used as the guidance in this study. Each of the previous finding has relationship with this study in terms of the theory used. The details are explaining as below:

The first article was written by Pambudi (2016) entitled "Figurative Language Used in Robert Frost's Poems". This research focused on finding out the types of figurative language used in Robert Frost's Poems, and analyzed the implied meaning used in Robert Frost's Poems. This study used the theory purposed by Leech (1974) to answer the research problems about the types of

implied meaning in Robert Frost poems and theory proposed by Perrine (1970) to answer the research problems about the types of figurative language used in Robert Frost's poems. Regarding with the method of collecting the data, the researcher applied documentation by study deeply on the poems by Robert Frost. This study used descriptive qualitative method because the data was analyzed and then described the finding to answer the research question.

Similarly, both of the studies are focused in analyzing the figurative language of sentences using the theory proposed by Leech in 1974. Therefore, the differences are the previous study focuses in analyzing a poem, however this study focuses in analyzing song lyrics. This study also does deeper analysis through meaning of the figurative language found in the song lyrics.

Second article was written by Harya (2016), the title of this study is "An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Coelho's Novel entitled "Alchemist". This research focused on analyzing the types of figurative language found in novel entitled "Alchemist", and the contextual meaning of figurative language in novel entitled "Alchemist". This study used the theory proposed by Leech (1981) to answer the research problems about classified the types of figurative language and identifying the contextual meaning of the figurative language. The method used in collecting the data related to the subject of this research is documentation method because the researcher collected the data from novel. The data collection used the following steps: read the novel and then selected the data that used the types of figurative language. The finding of this study shows there are 70

sentences that used figurative language and only discuss 4 types of figurative language found in the novel entitled “Alchemist” written by Paulo Coelho.

The similarity between the previous study and this study are focus in analyzing the types of figurative language and meaning. However, the previous study is analyzing a novel, meanwhile this study is analyzing song lyrics. The previous study also focuses in analyzing the contextual meaning, meanwhile this study does not only focus in analyzing the contextual meaning. Furthermore, it focuses in analyzing the conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning.

The last is a thesis written by Faruk (2017), entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in The Great Gatsby Movie”. This research focused on analyze two research problems, they are: to find out the types of figurative language used in The Great Gatsby movie, and to analyze the functions of figurative language used in The Great Gatsby movie. This study used theory purposed by Kennedy’s and Perrine (1963) to answer the research problems about the analyze of figurative language. The data source of this research was the movie of Great Gatsby by Bucknan. There were several ways to collect the data of data sources on this study, they are: research instruments were like personal computer to download some sources of the research and data collection techniques as follows: the researcher downloaded a movie, then downloaded the scripts of the movie and underlined a word. In this study used descriptive qualitative method, because the researcher analyzed the data based on types of figurative language in

that movie. For the finding on this study use the informal method because the researcher describe the figurative language into the paragraph.

Similarly, both of the studies are analyzing the types of figurative language found in the sentences. Meanwhile, the differences are the previous study is analyzing a movie and finds out the function of figurative language found, this study is analyzing song lyrics and finds out the meaning of figurative language found.

## **2.2 Concepts**

There are three main concepts that applied in this study, such as:

### **2.2.1 Figurative Language**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), figurative language is sometimes called metaphorical language or simply metaphor (meaning literally to transfer). They also state that the word metaphor comes from the Greek ancestor metaphore which means carrying meaning beyond its literal meaning (meta = beyond + pherein = to bring – i.e., bring beyond). Figurative language is when you use a word or phrase that does not have its normal everyday, literal meaning. Of note, figurative language will often feature a figure of speech, which is an expression that includes words that are not used in their literal sense.

### **2.2.2 Song Lyrics**

Song lyrics are a set of words that make up a song, usually consisting of verses and choruses. The meaning of lyrics can either be explicit or implicit.

Some lyrics are abstract, almost unintelligible, and in such cases, their explication emphasizes form, articulation, meter, and symmetry of expression. A lyric is a paper written by someone who has imagination in composing beautiful words that have deep meaning. Lyrics and music combined would be a wonderful song and pleasing to the ear. The writer of lyrics is a lyricist or lyricist. According to Hornby (2000: 802), stated that “the lyrics is expressing a person’s personal feeling and thoughts, connected with singing and written for a lyric poem is the words of a song”.

### 2.2.3 Adele

Adele Laurie Blue Adkins is a British singer-songwriter who has sold millions of albums worldwide and won a total of 15 Grammys as well as an Oscar. Adele Laurie Blue Adkins was born on May 5, 1988 in Tottenham, London. She is an English singer-songwriter. She was the first female artist to simultaneously have two albums in the top five of the Billboard 200. 21 album by Adele is the longest-running number one album by a female solo artist in the history of the UK and US Album Charts.

## 2.3 Theories

This research aims to find out and analyze the meaning of each types of figurative language in the song lyrics. There are two theories used in conducting this research.

The first theory that refers to the types of figurative language. The types of figurative language theory will be taken from Knickerbocker and Reninger book

entitled *Interpreting Literature* (1963) is used to find out and classify the types of figurative language found in Adele's Selected Song Lyrics. The second theory refers to the study of meaning. This study is used to describe and analyze the meaning of each figurative language found in the song lyrics. The theory of meaning that is used was found in the book entitled *Semantics: The Study of Meaning* by Leech (1974).

### 2.3.1 Figurative Language

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367) state that figurative language is sometimes called metaphorical language or simply metaphor (meaning literary to transfer). The experts also state that the word metaphor comes from the Greek ancestor *metaphere* which means carrying meaning (*Meta=beyond+pherein=to bring i.e, to bring beyond*). This theory is used to classify the types of figurative languages that are divided into ten types, such as, simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, irony, paradox, dead metaphor, allusion, metonymy, and synecdoche.

#### 1. Simile

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Simile is a stated of comparison between two things whether between human and human, human and things, or concrete and abstract things. Simile is introduced by the words "like" or "as" in a statement or sentence. For example, *this world is like a rollercoaster*.

The simile occurs in the word “like” because it compares “this world” with “rollercoaster”. It shows the similarity between “this world” and “rollercoaster” even though they are totally different things. The writer wants to describe the world as the same as rollercoaster. Rollercoaster implied the ups and downs. So do this world.

## 2. Metaphor

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Metaphor is an implicit comparison between two unlike things that actually have something in common. Furthermore, metaphor is different from simile. Metaphor doesn't use the word “like” or “as”. It does not say that A is like B, but states that A is B (McCrimmon, 1984: 283). For example, *life's but a walking show*.

From the example above, the writer tries to compare two things between “life” and “a walking show”. Instead of saying life is like a walking show, the writer prefers saying that without the word “like” or “as”.

## 3. Personification

Personification is a figure of speech which is almost the same as metaphor. It compares two things however between human and non-human being. According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Personification gives human characteristic to objects, animals, or an abstract idea. For example, *Sinta was awake by the sun hitting her face.* .

From the example above, “the sun” is given qualities of human able to hit one's face. Certainly, the sun does not hit Adam's face literally but rather the sun

emits rays of light and falls on her face. There is a sensation of heat after being hit. Thus, the shines on the face eventually makes the person feel the heat. Thus, it appropriate to state that the sun is hitting the face.

#### 4. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is known as an over statement. According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Hyperbole is a figure of speech which employs an exaggeration used is special effect not to mislead the reader, moreover, to emphasize a point. For example, *go and catch the falling star*.

From the example above, it is called as figure of hyperbole because the sentence “go and catch the falling star” is impossible thing to do. No one can catch the star and the star cannot fall. Therefore, this sentence is an over statement.

#### 5. Metonymy

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Metonymy is a figure of speech which describe one thing by using the term for another thing closely associated with it. Simply, metonymy is a figure of speech that uses a concept closely related to the thing actually meant. The substitution makes the analogy more vivid and meaningful. For example, *“the crown” is used for “the King”*.

From the example above, metonymy is represented by the words “the crown” and “the King”. Actually, those words have close relationship. The crown is identical with the King, a person who leads a kingdom or empire.

## 6. Synecdoche

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Synecdoche is a figure of speech that shows the use of a part for the whole. It substitutes some significant details or aspects of an experience for the experience itself. Simply, synecdoche is a figure of speech which mentions a part of something to suggest the whole. For example, *fifty winters passed him by*.

From the example above, the word “winter” is categorized as a part of one year which represents the whole year. The writer tries to substitute the whole year to the word “winter”. So, this sentence means *fifty years passed him by*.

## 7. Irony

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Irony is a statement in which its literal meaning is completely opposed to its professed or surface meaning. Simply, it is a figure of speech when the use of expression is the opposite of the thought in the speaker’s mind, which meaning is contradicted to the literal definition. For example, *the Czar is the voices of God and shall live forever*.

From the example above, it is categorized as a figure of Irony because the words “voices of God” and “shall live forever” are very opposed the real meaning. “The Czar” is just a human. “The voice” is literally coming from mouth which is

not separate from human in general. “Shall live forever” is opposed to the real meaning because no one can live forever through blessing of the voice of the Czar. So, the sentence means that The Czar is an authoritarian individual and like other human is going to die, though.

### 8. **Dead Metaphor**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Dead Metaphor is a figure of speech which has lost its figurative sense through endless use. For example, *the face of the clock*.

The example above is called as dead metaphor because it gives more stress to the thing which talks about. It shows the specific part of the clock which becomes the central part of the topic.

### 9. **Paradox**

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Paradox is a statement when the surface or obvious meaning seems to illogical and absurd but through closer examination, it could make a good sense. Simply, it is a statement that contains apparently opposing, but when we do closer inspection, it may be true and turn out to make sense. For example, *light is the darkest thing in physics*.

From the example above, the words “like”, “darkest”, and “physic” are paradox because it is part of sense similar to human being having legs and hands for making good sense.

## 10. Allusion

According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367), Allusion is a reference to some well-known place, event, or person. Not a comparison in the exact sense, but the figure in the sense that it implies more than its narrow meaning. For example, *no! I am not Prince Hamlet, nor was meant to be.*

The example above is called as allusion because this example gives reference that no one to be prince and the person who always called Prince Hamlet in a honest way acknowledge that himself is not a prince.

### 2.3.2 Theory of Meaning

According to Leech (1974: 10) the meaning of words is complex, in which they have such components such as an idea, a quality, a relationship, personal feeling, and association. There are meaning of words are classified into seven types such as conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning.

#### 2.3.2.1 Conceptual Meaning

Conceptual Meaning (sometimes called ‘dennotative’ or ‘cognitive’ meaning) is widely assumed to be the central factor in linguistic communication.

Leech (1974: 13) state that the aim of the dennotative meaning is to provide, for any given interpretation of a sentence, configuration of abstract symbols, which shows exactly what we need to know if we are to distinguish that meaning from all other possible sentence meaning in the languages. For example, a part of the conceptual meaning of “needle” may be “thin”, “sharp” or “instrument”. The organization of conceptual meaning is based on two structural principles, contrastiveness and the principle of structure. The conceptual meanings can be studied typically in terms of contrastive features, so that the meaning of word woman could be specified as +human, -male, +adult, as distinct from, say, boy, which could be ‘defined’ +human, +male, -adult.

#### **2.3.2.2 Connotative Meaning**

Connotative Meaning is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to over and above its purely conceptual contents (Leech 1974: 14-15). Talking about connotative meaning is in fact talking about the real world experiences one associates with an expression when one uses or hears it. Connotative meaning was peripheral when compared with the conceptual meaning. It was also relatively unstable as it varies according to culture, historical periods and experience of the individual. Connotative meaning was indeterminate and open ended. It was because this depends upon the knowledge and beliefs of the speakers and may belong to any characteristics of the referent, real or imaginary as identifies by the speaker. Leech says that connotative meaning is not specific to languages, however it is shared with other communicative system, such as that in music and visual art, for example:

The word “women” can mean in conceptual ways pass through three characteristic + HUMAN, - MALE, + ADULT then that three characteristic must give a right word in uses. In the different explanation or in the “real world”, can be atributing from that reference (which is the reference by the words). However also found as much as characteristic which one not entered in those criteria which already we know also can be the reference by the words “women”. The reference not only including physical characteristic (have two legs have a womb”), but also in mental and social characteristic have friend’ have motherly instinct”) (Leech, 1974: 16).

### **2.3.2.3 Social Meaning**

The meaning conveyed by the piece of language about the social context to use is called the social meaning (Leech, 1974: 14). The decoding of a text is dependent on our knowledge of stylistics and other variations of language. Social meaning is related to the situations in which an utterance is used. For example: “I ain’t done nothing”, the line tells us about the speaker and that is the speaker is probably a black American, underprivileged and uneducated”. Stylistic variation representative the social variation. This is because styles show the geographical region social called the speaker. Style helps us to know about the period, field and status of the context situation.

### **2.3.2.4 Affective Meaning**

Affective meaning is more directly a reflection of the speaker’s personal attitude or feeling towards the listener or the target of the utterance. Such feelings or attitudes are usually negative or insincere in nature. They are normally

expressed through such forms of language use as insults, flattery, hyperbole, or sarcasm (Leech, 1974: 20). It is what is conveyed about the personal feelings or attitude towards the listener. For example: 1) I'm terribly sorry to interrupt, but I wonder if you would be so kind as to lower your voices a little. 2) Will you belt up. Factors such as intonation and voice-timbre – what we often refer to as 'tone of voice' – are also important here. The impression of politeness in (1) can be reversed by a tone of biting sarcasm; sentence (2) can be turned into a playful remark between intimates if delivered with the intonation of a mild request.

#### **2.3.2.5 Reflected Meaning**

Reflected meaning and collocative meaning involve interconnection at the lexical level of language, it is a rise when a word has more than one conceptual meaning or multiple conceptual meaning (Leech, 1974: 16). Reflected meaning is also found in taboo words. For example, are term like erection, intercourse, ejaculation. The word 'intercourse' immediately remind us of its association with sex. The sexual association of the driven away its innocent sense 'communication'. The taboo sense almost dies out. In some cases, the speaker avoids the taboo words and uses another alternative word in order to avoid the unwanted reflected meaning. For example, the word 'cock' is replaced by the speaker, 'rooster' is another word that is used by the speaker to indicate the general meaning of the word and avoid the taboo sense. These words have non-sexual meaning too.

#### **2.3.2.6 Collocative Meaning**

Collocative meaning is the meaning which a word acquires in the company of certain words. Collocative meaning refers to associations of a word because of its usual or habitual co-occurrence with certain types of words. For example: 'pretty' and 'handsome' indicate 'good looking'. The word 'pretty' collocates with – girls, woman, village, gardens, flowers, etc. On the other hand, the word 'handsome' collocates with – 'boys' men, etc. So 'pretty woman' and 'handsome man'. Not all differences in potential co-occurrence to be explained as collocative meaning, some may due to stylistic differences, other to conceptual difference (Leech, 1974: 22-23).

### **2.3.2.7 Thematic Meaning**

Thematic meaning is communicated by the way in which a speaker or writer organizes the message, in terms of ordering, focus, and emphasis. Thus active is different from passive though its conceptual meaning is the same. The ways we order our message also convey what is important and what not (Leech, 1974: 25-26). For example: 1) Mrs. Bessie Smith donated the first prize, 2) The first prize was donated by Mrs. Bessie Smith. Of these two sentences above have a different communicative value, where is the sentence show the different context, the first sentence "what did Mrs. Smith donated?" the active sentence give answered about disguised, but in the second sentence "who donated the first prize?" but the real condition which is the same with the sentence, we think is impossible to find the situation where is the sentence, the first sentence is a accurate report, meanwhile the second sentence is not accurate report. In contrast

to the first prize was donated by Mr. Smith, suggest that we know Mr. Smith but only that someone donated the first prize.

