

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The study of the meaning of words and the meaning of sentences as retrieved from their context of use is known as semantics (Griffith, 2006). Griffith (2006) added that semantics is the study of a "toolset" for meaning information inherent in a language's lexicon and patterns to construct progressively more sophisticated meanings, all the way up to sentence meaning. As one of the numerous meanings in semantics, figurative language is studied.

Figurative language is a language that is not designed to be interpreted literally. Arp (2011) stated that figurative language uses expressions that go beyond their literal interpretation. Strauss and Corbin (1998) also defined figurative language as a language that reveals striking similarities between items we have never previously associated with or creates imaginative connections between thoughts and emotions. Figurative language is an unusual way of explaining things, and it is defined as saying one thing to represent another. Figurative language comes in a variety of forms, including simile, personification, metaphor, irony, hyperbole, etc. In daily conversation, sometimes people use figurative language, which has a different meaning from the actual meaning, to express their feelings or ideas. Figurative language also serves as a bridge that connects abstract emotions to concrete images, making our communication more vivid and expressive. In academic research, the study of figurative language provides profound insights into

the linguistic choices and semantic strategies used by authors to convey complex messages. People often put other meanings into their sentences, and that becomes the art of language itself. The phenomenon is that without figurative language, language would sound flat and monotonous, which is why the art of language itself is so important in making it sound beautiful and interesting. Literary works often use figurative language, and songs are one of those literary works.

According to Molieono (2003) Song has the meaning of a variety of rhythmic sounds that combines music and lyrics. Figurative language is important in a song because it is useful for adding explicit, dramatic messages and enhancing the beauty of a song. Today, many musicians use figurative language to subtly express meaning in their song lyrics. The words in a series that make up a song are lyrics. According to Luxemburg (1989), a definition of lyrics or song lyrics can be viewed as poetry and vice versa, such that understanding of poetic texts is sufficient for forms of literature and expressions of commercials, proverbs, phrases, prayers, and song lyrics.

This research focused on how figurative language is used in song lyrics, and it's important to show English language learners that understanding a language is not just about knowing grammar, but also by understanding semantic and stylistic aspects to avoid misunderstandings in interpreting messages, especially in Coldrain selected songs. This data was chosen because this band is one of the best metalcore bands from Japan, and also, the band's songs have many figurative languages.

1.2 Problem of The Study

According to the study's background mentioned above, the following two study issues would be discussed:

1. What are types of figurative language used in *Coldrain* selected song lyrics?
2. What is the meaning of figurative language contains in *Coldrain* selected song lyrics?

1.3 Objective of The Study

The objective of this study will be focus on two objectives. The objects that will be obtained are as follows:

1. To analyze the types of figurative language used in *Coldrain* selected song lyrics
2. To describe the meaning of figurative language contained in *Coldrain* selected song lyrics

1.4 Limitation of The Study

This study focused on analyzing the types of figurative language in *Coldrain's* selected song using the theories proposed by Abrams (1999), and also focuses on analyzing the meanings of the figurative language in *Coldrain's* selected song using theories proposed by Leech (1981).

1.5 Significance of The Study

This study attempts to boost readers' understanding, particularly with song lyrics comprehension. This study's significance can be divided into both categories as follows:

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, the purpose of the study is to theoretically enhance literary studies, particularly the study of figurative language. Furthermore, it is anticipated that this work would be useful for future scholars who are interested in performing studies to develop an analysis of figurative language.

1.5.2 Practical Significance

Practically, this study is meant to help readers understand the figures of speech used in the song lyrics more clearly. The author also hopes that the reader will be able to understand the figurative language used in *Coldrain's* song and that, when they listen to it, they understand the significance of them, will be beneficial in advancing their knowledge.

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CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

This chapter is divided into three subchapters. They were reviews of related literature, concepts, and theories. The first subchapter was a review of related literature. It discussed some papers that were linked to it. There were two theses and three articles taken from the internet. The second subchapter was the concept. Those concepts were the concepts related to the topic that was relevant to be used in this study. Those concepts were the concept of the song and the concept of lyrics. Theories made up the last subchapter which the theory of figurative language and meaning was discussed.

2.1 Review of Related literature

The first thesis written by Safira, N. A (2020), entitled *Figurative Language in Selected Shawn Mendes Album Song Lyrics*. There are two problems with Safira's thesis. The first is what kinds of figurative language were employed in the song lyrics from Shawn Mendes' album. The second is how the lyrics to songs from Shawn Mendes' album used figurative language to convey their meaning. The study's objective is to determine the kinds of figurative language employed in Shawn Mendes' album song lyrics and how those lyrics interpret figurative language. The writer uses Reaske's (1996:27) theory of figurative language as well as Knickerbocker and Reningger's (1963) theory of figurative language. The descriptive qualitative method was employed in this study. Words and sentences were used to describe the data. This song has five different types of figure language:

metaphor, hyperbole, personification, simile, and repetition. The data source distinguishes Safira's thesis from this study. Safira's thesis analyzed the types of figurative language found in selected Shawn Mendes album song lyrics and the meaning of figurative language in selected Shawn Mendes album song lyrics. This study will analyze the types of figurative language used in *Coldrain's* chosen song and the meanings of the figurative language in *Coldrain's* chosen song. The analysis of Figurative language is comparable to that of this thesis and this study.

The second thesis is written by Dewi (2020) entitled *Figurative Language in Maher Zain's Song Lyrics*. Dewi's goal is to identify the many kinds of metaphorical language used in Maher Zain's songs and to highlight the ones that are used the most frequently. The writer employed Charles Dillon Perrine's theory, which was supported by M.H Abrams, Gorys Keraf, and Reaske's theory. The qualitative description method was used to analyse the data. The writer discovered eight varieties of figurative language after researching Maher Zain's selected song lyrics, including Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Synecdoche, Paradox, Hyperbole, Understatement, and Irony. The difference between her thesis and this study is the data source and the problem in this study only focuses to find the types of figurative language in Maher Zain's songs and disclose the most dominant types of figurative language in Maher Zain's songs. This study used *Coldrain's* selected songs as the data source and focused on analyzing two findings, which were the types of figurative language in *Coldrain's* selected songs. Regarding the similarities, both the thesis and this study analyzed figurative language.

The first article is written by Aditya, N. T, & Puspani, I. A. M. (2017), entitled *The Analysis of Figurative Language in Linkin Park's Song Lyrics*. There are two study questions in their article: the first is what types of figurative language are used, and the second is what types of meaning are represented in Linkin Park's song lyrics. The purpose of this study is to discover what types of figurative language are used and to discover what kinds of meanings Linkin Park's song lyrics express. The writer employed Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1963:367) theory of figurative language and Leech's (1974:10) theory of meaning. The writer employed both qualitative and quantitative methods. There are five sorts of figurative language in Linkin Park songs: paradox, personification, metaphor, hyperbole, and simile. The difference between their article and this study is in the theory used. Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1963:367) theory of Figurative Language is used by Aditya, N. T., and Puspani, I. A. M. Meanwhile, Abrams (1999) theory Figurative language is applied in this study. For the similarities, both their article and this investigation used Leech's theory of meaning and songs as a data source.

The second article is written by Setiawati, W., & Maryani. (2018), entitled *Analysis of Figurative Language in Taylor Swift's song lyrics*. There are two research questions in their article, the first talking about the varieties of figurative language and the second about describing the contextual significance of the figurative language employed in Taylor's lyrics. The theory from Kennedy (1983: 481) is used in this article. This article employed the descriptive qualitative method.

The writers discovered six varieties of Figurative Language: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, paradox, irony, and personification. The distinction between this article and this study is that the second question in this article examines how to define the contextual meaning of figurative language, but the second writer question in this study is about the meanings of figurative language. For the similarities, both this article and this study use songs as data sources to analyze the Figurative language in the songs.

The third article is written by Swarniti, N. W. (2022), entitled *Analysis of Figurative Language in “Easy On Me” Song Lyrics*. The aim of this article is to categorize and analyze the lyric of Adele's song Easy On Me using figurative language. This article used Miller and Greenberg's theory (1981). This aerticle used descriptive qualitative method. personification, hyperbole, litoses, paradox, allusion, ellipsis, metonymy, and symbol were identified as figurative language in Easy on Me song lyrics by the writer. The data source and the theory used for analyzing Figurative Language differ between this article and this study. The parallels between the article and this study are that both use songs as the data source and descriptive qualitative as the method of study.

2.2 Concept

The concept provides explanations for the terms used in the title as well as terminology that are important to the issues and are regularly used in research. Song lyrics and figurative language are two ideas that are used to support this study.

2.2.1 Figurative Language

According to Peter (2002) figurative language is a style of expression that combines many figurative meanings and conveys the speaker's intention to elicit feelings of surprise and action. Figurative language is used to express meanings other than that of the speaker's literal words. Figurative language is challenging to understand because it relies on the reader's imagination to decipher the true meaning of a word or phrase or the context of the word or phrase. It comes in a variety of forms, including simile, metaphor, hyperbole, idiom, personification and symbol.

2.2.2 Song

A song, in Hornby's interpretation (2000), is a brief piece of music with accompanying lyrics that you sing along to. Sometimes, the lyrics to a song describe the writer's own personal encounters with topics like love, life, misery, and happiness. A song is a combination of a musical instrument and written words that are expressed through singing, much like poetry or a short tale.

2.2.3 Song Lyrics

According to Richard (2002), A song is a brief musical composition for the human voice that includes lyrics or other text. Songs have certain tones, rhythms, tempos, and styles as they communicate their lyrics. Sometimes it uses a style of language that is different from that of formal or scientific writing and has an explicit or implicit purpose. When the music and lyrics of a song are combined, a song is

created. A lyric is written by someone with the creative ability to create magic words with particular meaning.

2.3 Theories

The theories are particularly important for this study's analysis of the data sources since they were used to analyze the data, provide explanations, and choose the data. This study classified figurative language using the theory of Abrams (1999). This study also employs the theory of meaning developed by Leech (1981). Meaning is categorized into seven types in this theory: conceptual, connotative, emotive, social, reflected, collocative, and thematic meaning.

2.3.1 Type of Figurative Language

There are several types of figurative language, According to Abrams (1999) it divides into sixteen kinds of figurative language. there are simile, synecdoche, metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, personification, paradox, sarcasm, allegory, allusion, antithesis, apostrophe, ephitet, euphesim, symbol, and irony.

2.3.1.1 Simile.

Simile is a direct comparison between two things that have very different meanings. Abrams (1999) described simile as a figurative language that uses terms like "like" or "as" to compare two dissimilar objects. Example:

- “She’s as sweet as honey”.

In this case, the writer is comparing the sweetness of the person to the sweetness of honey.

2.3.1.2 Synecdoche

Synecdoche language is a language that expresses a part of a whole or expresses a whole for a part. According to Abrams (1999) synecdoche (Greek for "taking together"), a part of something is used to signify the whole, or (more rarely) the whole is used to signify a part. Example: Brazil won the match.

2.3.1.3 Methapor

According to Abrams (1999:97), A metaphor is a literary tool and a rhetorical flourish that uses uncommon vocabulary as contrasted to everyday speech. When used literally, a phrase or word that, without comparison, conveys the application of one kind of thing to another kind of item. When a word or phrase is used metaphorically, it is not used to convey the true meaning of the word or phrase; rather, it is used to define something directly by utilizing analogies and word removal. As an example of the metaphor:

- "Argument is a war"

It is an example of a metaphor, where one thing (argument) is being compared to another thing (war) without using "like" or "as". In this metaphor, the intensity, aggression, and opposition of a war are being compared to the intensity, aggression, and opposition of an argument.

2.3.1.4 Metonymy

Abrams (1999) stated that in metonymy (Greek for "a change of name") the literal term for one thing is applied to another with which it has become closely

associated because of a recurrent relationship in common experience. The name of a place, for instance, can be metonymically used about the people who live or work in it. Example: Alex was washing his Kawasaki.

2.3.1.5 Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a sort of metaphorical language that exaggerates how something should be stated Abrams (1999). In everyday discourse, hyperbole is occasionally employed to make the dialogue more informal or to inject some lighthearted humor. example:

“The Sun is too hot, I think I’m going to melt”

In the literal meaning, it’s too hard for humans to melt by only got sunshine but the real meaning is the sun is too hot that makes the person sweat a lot and it looks like melted ice cream.

2.3.1.6 Personification

Personification can be defined as the comparison of a non-living thing's characteristics to those of a living object. It can also be defined as the non-living object appearing to have engaged in a living object's actions. According to Abrams (1999) personification is the process of giving an object human traits or emotions. Example:

“The moon smiled at me”

In the literal meaning, it's impossible for a non-living thing done a human activity but the real meaning is the moon is given the human quality of smiling, which is not something that an inanimate object can do.

2.3.1.7 Paradox

Paradox is a statement that seems on its face to be logically contradictory or absurd, yet turns out to be interpretable in a way that makes good sense (Abrams, 1999:201). Example: You have to be cruel to be kind.

2.3.1.8 Sarcasm

Sarcasm in common parlance is sometimes used as an equivalent for all forms of irony, but it is far more useful to restrict it only to the crude and taunting use of apparent praise for dispraise (Abrams, 1999:136). Example: "I'm delighted that I get to be here for the next few hours" (When something is uninteresting)

2.3.1.9 Allegory

An allegory is a narrative, whether in prose or verse, in which the agents and actions, and sometimes the setting as well, are contrived by the author to make coherent sense on the literal or primary level of significance and at the same time to signify a second, correlated order of significance. (Abram 1999:5). Example: Animal Farm by George Orwell.

2.3.1.10 Allusion

Allusion is a passing reference, without explicit identification, to a literary or historical person, place, or event, or to another literary work or passage (Abrams, 1999:9). Example: We got a new Einstein in school today.

2.3.1.11 Antithesis

Antithesis is a contrast or opposition in the meanings of contiguous phrases or clauses that manifest parallelism-that is, a similar word-order and structure-in their syntax. Antithesis, which literally means “opposite,” is the two opposite ideas that are put together in a sentence to achieve a contrasting effect (Abrams, 1999:11).

Example: Better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven.

2.3.1.12 Apostrophe

An apostrophe is a direct and explicit address either to an absent person or to an abstract or nonhuman entity. Often the effect is of high formality, or else of a sudden emotional impetus. (Abrams, 1999:271). Example: Car, please get me to work today.

2.3.1.13 Epithet

An epithet is a phrase or adjective which is used to express a quality or characteristic which can be attributed, rightly or wrongly, to a person or thing. Epithet denotes an adjective or adjectival phrase used to define a distinctive quality of a person or thing (Abrams, 1999:82). Example: Daddy Longlegs.

2.3.1.14 Euphemism

An inoffensive expression is used in place of a blunt one that is felt to be disagreeable or embarrassing. Euphemisms are used frequently with reference to such subjects as religion, death and sex (Abrams, 1999:83). Example: He has passed away.

2.3.1.15 Symbol

The term "symbol" is applied only to a word or phrase that signifies an object or event which in its turn signifies something, or has a range of reference, beyond itself. (Abrams 1999:311). In the broadest sense, a symbol is anything which signifies something. Example: She is my rock.

2.3.1.16 Irony

Irony is the use of words to convey a meaning that is opposite of what is actually said. In most of the modern critical uses of the term 'irony' there remains the root sense of dissembling or hiding what is actually the case; not, however, in order to deceive, but to achieve special rhetorical or artistic effects (Abrams, 1999:135). Example: "Thank you Officer, now that you have my license I can't drive".

2.3.2 Theory of meaning

The second theory is employed to examine the significance of data meaning. Leech (1981) defines seven types of meanings:

2.3.2.1 Conceptual Meaning

Conceptual meaning is essential to linguistic communication (Leech, 1981:9). It is also referred to as rational, cognitive, or denotative conceptual meaning, and it determines the meaning of the word as written in its whole. The conceptual definitions of "man" and "woman," respectively, are human, male, and adult, as well as human, female, and adult for "woman." The conceptual meaning and the dictionary definition are identical.

2.3.2.2 Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning is the additional communication importance of a statement that goes beyond its purely intellectual meaning (Leech 1981:12). As the definition demonstrates, there is always some conceptual meaning that is shared by connotative meaning. Hence, When the contrastive components of conceptual meaning are turned into "real world" referent characteristics, the "reference" and the components of conceptual meaning are united. However, Leech asserts that other characteristics anticipated of the referent can depend on the individual as well as a number of other variables, like age or society (1981:12). In this context, it is simple to compare the link between language (conceptual) and the "actual world" to that between conceptual and connotative meaning (connotative).

The connotative meaning might therefore be thought of as an undefined and unstable category when compared to conceptual meaning.

2.3.2.3 Social Meaning

The social meaning of language is what it tells about the social context in which it is utilized (Leech 1981:13). The understanding of style and other linguistic nuances affects how we comprehend a document. It conveys the social importance of language use. For instance, some dialectic words make the speaker's class and geographic context clear. Similar to this, certain stylistic choices shed light on the speaker's social connections and suggest that the speaker is most likely an underprivileged black American.

2.3.2.4 Affective Meaning

Leech (1981) defines "affective" as what is conveyed through language as an expression of the speaker's thoughts and emotions (attitudes toward those who listen and attitudes about what he says). With the connotative meaning of the words chosen, affective meaning is frequently conceptually transmitted. "You're a tyrant and a wicked reprobate, and I loathe you for it," for instance. The speaker addresses a condescending attitude toward his listener, as can be observed in the sample. Affective meaning is what we call this. A speaker's or writer's feelings and attitudes are conveyed through their affective meaning.

2.3.2.5 Reflected Meaning

Leech (1981) states that reflected meaning is defined as "the meaning that arises when a word has several conceptual meanings, and each element of the word is a constituent of our response to a distinct sense." In other words, certain individuals frequently have difficulty using words that have precise meanings. Taboo words are also considered to reflect their meaning. Use the term "intercourse" as an example. The word has two conceptual meanings; the first is that of connection or communication, and the second is that of a taboo phrase associated with sexual behavior. Humans also try to avoid using words with unintended connotations.

2.3.2.6 Collocative Meaning

Leech (1981) stated the connections made by a word as a result of the meanings of words that are often used in its surroundings are known as collocative

meaning. Both "beautiful" and "handsome" refer to individuals who fit the description of "good-looking." For instance, the definition of "handsome" is the same as that of "good-looking," hence a man who matches that criterion is deemed to be handsome. Despite the fact that the two words represent different types of attractiveness, the ranger may still fit because they are collectively related.

2.3.2.7 Thematic Meaning

Leech (1981:19) stated thematic meaning as what is conveyed by the structure, concentration, and accent of a speaker's or writer's message. In other words, the speaker's use of word choice affects the message that is conveyed. For example:

1. *Taka win the game*
2. *The game was won by Taka*

The first sentence tells who win the game, while the second sentence tells what Taka won. As a result of the example shifting the word order can alters the meaning.

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