

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a powerful way for people to share stories, emotions, and ideas that go beyond time and culture. It also teaches readers to appreciate and respect cultural differences, as explained by Eagleton (2008). According to Wellek and Warren (2013), through some literary works like poems, stories, and plays, writers explore common themes such as love, hope, loss, and courage, feelings that all humans can relate to. By reading literary works helps people understand different points of view and life experiences.

In addition, literature allows people to pass down knowledge and wisdom from one generation to the next. Through written words, ideas and traditions are preserved and shared over time. Ancient texts, folk tales, and classic literature continue to inspire and educate new readers, keeping cultures and values alive. Therefore, language in literature keeps history, beliefs, and human experiences connected, making sure they are never forgotten.

Furthermore, language as the main medium of literature can be better understood through the study of semantics. According to Leech (1981), semantics is the study of meaning in language, focusing on how words, phrases, and sentences convey ideas. It plays an important role in literature because words often carry deeper

meanings that reflect a society's beliefs and traditions. Semantics also allows people from different cultures to understand literature meaningfully. For example, the word "home" can mean a house, safety, or comfort. Understanding these meanings helps readers connect emotionally and culturally, making language a bridge that shares stories and values across generations.

While semantics focuses on literal meanings, figurative language explores meanings beyond the literal level. Figurative language helps literature become deeper and more expressive. It helps writers describe emotions, settings, and ideas in a creative way that connects with readers on a deeper level. Leech (1981) stated figurative language is a way of using words to go beyond their literal meanings in order to create special effects or deeper meanings in communication. Abrams and Harpham (2011) stated there are several parts of figurative language including allegory, allusion, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, metonymy, synecdoche, personification, , irony, and paradox. Through figurative language, writers and speakers can convey complex ideas, emotions, and imagery more effectively, making communication richer and more engaging.

Moreover, many songwriters and singers today continue to use figurative language to make their lyrics more impactful and relatable. Artists like Taylor Swift, Adele, and Ed Sheeran frequently use metaphors, similes, or paradox to express emotions in a creative way. Figurative language helps modern music stand out, making songs more poetic and allowing listeners to connect with the deeper meanings behind the lyrics. In this case, Rosé, as an artist, has also done the same thing.

On December 6th, 2024, Rosé released her debut solo studio album *Rosie*. In addition to working with prominent songwriters, she was also involved in writing and producing several tracks. As a member of the globally known girl group Blackpink, Rosé uses this album to express a more personal and distinctive side of herself that fans rarely see in group performances. The songs reflect her experiences with past relationships and what she describes as the “terrible 20s.” According to Leech (1981), meaning in language can be understood through seven types: conceptual, connotative, social, affective, reflective, collocative, and thematic, which reveal both literal and emotional aspects of expression. These concepts are valuable in analyzing figurative language found in song lyrics.

The purpose of this study is to identify the types and meanings of figurative language used in *Rosie* : Rosé’s album. In identifying the types of figurative language, this study will implement a theory proposed by Abrams and Harpham (2011), while in identifying the meaning in figurative language, this study will adopt Leech’s (1981) framework. This study aims to uncover how Rosé conveys her emotions, personal experiences, and reflections through the use of figurative language. Furthermore, it seeks to emphasize the aesthetic quality and emotional resonance conveyed through the song lyrics, which reflect both emotional depth and creativity

1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the explanation of the background of the study, it can be concluded that the problem formulations related to this study topic are as follows:

1. What are the types of figurative language found in *Rosie*: Rosé's album?
2. What are the meanings of figurative language in *Rosie*: Rosé's album?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

According to the problem of the study, it can be concluded that the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To identify the types of figurative language in *Rosie* : Rosé's album
2. To analyze the meaning of figurative language in *Rosie* : Rosé's album

1.4 Limitations of the Study

This study focused on analyzing the types of figurative language found in *Rosie* : Rosé's album. This study used Abrams and Harpham's (2011) framework to identify the types of figurative language in 12 songs on the album. The study applied Leech's (1981) theory to analyze the meaning of figurative language in *Rosie* : Rosé's album. *Rosie* is Rosé's solo studio debut which is also under her new agency "The Black Label" after her depart from her first agency "YG Entertainment". The twelve songs on this album focus on the pop genre which is also accompanied by a touch of R&B, synthpop, and ballads.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significances of the study are divided into two, namely theoretical significance and practical significance. They are as follows:

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

This study was used as a reference for someone who is interested in or studying the topic of figurative language and can also offer valuable insight into the nuances and applications of these expressions of the twelve songs in this album. By examining how figurative language enriches communication. Furthermore, it provides a comprehensive understanding of how these linguistic tools shape meaning, evoke emotions, and enhance storytelling across various mediums.

1.5.2 Practical Significance

This study was helped people who are interested in or learning about figurative language. It provides useful insights into how figurative expressions are used in the 12 songs of this album and how they make communication more meaningful. This study also helps people understand how figurative language creates deeper meaning, brings out emotions, and makes storytelling more engaging. It can be useful for students, researchers, and anyone who wants to explore the beauty of language in different forms of expression

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

In this chapter, the researcher provided a review of several literatures related to this study. Which consists of three related articles and also two thesis related to this study. In this chapter, this study found differences and similarities related to some of the study reviewed and also the study that the author compiled.

2.1 Review of Related Literature

The first study was an article written by Ngailo et al (2022) entitled Figurative Language Analysis in Billie Eilish's Selected Songs. In this study, the varieties of metaphorical language and their significance will be identified and analyzed in the lyrics of a few of Billie Eilish's songs. In this study, two theories were employed. The first is Leech's (1981) theory of meaning, which examines the meaning of figurative language, and the second is Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1974) theory of figurative language. The result found 14% simile that consist of four utterances, 22% metaphor that consist of six utterances, 7% personification that consist of two utterances, 3% metonymy that consist of 1 utterance, 3% synecdoche that consist of one utterance, and 48% hyperbole that consist of thirteen utterances. The next result is types of meaning that consist of 66% of connotative meaning that consist of eighteen utterances, and 33% of effective meaning that consist of nine utterances.

In summary, this study also focuses on finding and analyzing the types and the meaning of figurative language found in song lyrics. This study also adopts Leech's (1981) framework to analyze the meaning of figurative language. However, Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1974) theory applied to analyze the types of figurative language in the first study, meanwhile to find the types of figurative language, this study applies Abrams and Harpham's (2011) theory.

The second study was an article written by Krisnawati et al (2021) entitled Types of Figurative Languages in Miley Cyrus's Songs. The aim of this study is to find out the types of figurative language in the song lyrics of Miley Cyrus's "Breakout" album. In this study the theory of Morner and Rausch (1991, p.83) was used to find out and analyze the types of figurative language. The Calculation of the Types of Figurative Language Used in the Song Lyrics of Miley Cyrus's songs are 83,33% that consist of five hyperbole utterances and 14% that consist of 1 metaphor utterances.

To sum up, this study also looks for different kinds of figurative language in song lyrics. However, the second study used Morner and Rausch's (1991) theory to explore the types of figurative language, while this study used Abrams and Harpham's (2011) theory to identify the varieties of figurative language. This study expands the analysis to include the investigation of meaning kinds in figurative language, in contrast to previous studies that solely detected figurative language.

The third study was an article written by Barung et al (2023) entitled Types of Figurative Language Found in Coldplay Song Lyrics. There were two theories that used in this research such as the first theory proposed by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1974)

entitled *Interpreting Literature* us to find out types of figurative language found in Coldplay song lyrics, and the second theory proposed by Leech (1981) entitled *Semantics: The study of meaning* used to find out the meaning of figurative language found in Coldplay song lyrics. Types of figurative language found in Coldplay song lyrics found are 32,14% that consist nine occurrences of simile, 7,14% that consist two occurrences of metaphor, 3,5% that consist of one occurrence personification, 46,42% that consist thirteen occurrences of hyperbole, 7,14% that consist two occurrences of metonymy, and 3,5% that consist one occurrence of allusion.

To conclude, the types and meanings of figurative language found in song lyrics are also covered in this study. This study also adopts Leech's (1981) framework to analyze the meaning of figurative language. However, Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1974) theory applied to analyze the types of figurative language in the third study, meanwhile to find the types of figurative language, this study applies Abrams and Harpham's (2011) theory.

The fourth study was an undergraduate thesis written by Kharis, English Education Department, Faculty of Education and Teacher Training, Islamic Institute of Darussalam Blokagung Banyuwangi (2021) entitled *The Analysis of Figurative Language in Ed Sheeran Selected Song Lyrics* From the results of data analysis. Perrine's theory (1987) applied, this study concludes that in the song *Thinking Out Loud* there are five types of figurative language, namely: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole and synecdoche. In the song *Perfect*, there are four types of figurative language, namely: metaphor, hyperbole, paradox, and simile. While in the

song Photograph, there are three types of figurative language, namely: personification, metaphor and synecdoche. These findings indicate that the most dominant language style used in the three songs is metaphor.

From the discussion above, finding the many kinds of figurative language in song lyrics is another goal of this study. In the third study, the forms of figurative language were analyzed using Perrine's (1991) theory; in this study, the types of figurative language were identified using Abrams and Harpham's (2011) theory. This study expands the analysis to include the investigation of meaning kinds in figurative language, in contrast to previous studies that purely detected figurative language.

The fifth study was an undergraduate thesis written by Irwan, English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, (2023) entitled An Analysis of Figurative Language in Adele's Selected Popular Songs on Spotify. Perrine's (1993) theory applied in this study which was constructed by Greg Johnson and Thomas R. Arp (Thirteenth Edition). Based on the results of the analysis, there are 30 figurative language data found in Adele's selected popular songs on Spotify. The types of figurative language found included ten metaphors, four personifications, four paradoxes, four repetitions, three hyperboles, two symbols, one simile, one allegory, and one alliteration.

Overall, identifying the various types of figurative language found in song lyrics is another objective of this study. The third study used Perrine's (1993) theory to assess the different varieties of figurative language, while this study uses Abrams and Harpham's (2011) approach to identify the different types of figurative language. This

study expands the analysis to include the investigation of meaning kinds in figurative language, in contrast to previous studies that specifically detected figurative language.

To conclude, the five reviewed studies reveal both similarities and differences when compared to this study. While all of them concentrate on the same problem, namely figurative language, several differences can be found. The first difference concerns the theories applied by each researcher. The second involves the study focus; some studies identified only the types of figurative language, whereas others also analyzed the meanings contained in figurative language. In general, these previous studies offer useful insights and serve as essential references for this study, which focuses on analyzing figurative language and its meanings in *Rosie* : Rosé's album.

2.2 Concepts

In this sub-chapter, It explained the concepts were used in this study, which certainly provided an overview of what was discussed in this study, including figurative language, meaning, songs, and lyrics.

2.2.1 Figurative Language

According to Perrine (1969), figurative language refers to the use of expressions that convey meanings different from their literal interpretation, enhancing the clarity, richness, and emotional impact of language.. It uses comparisons, such as metaphors and similes, to create strong images and evoke feelings. Figurative language helps people understand ideas better and makes writing more engaging and expressive. From the past until now, many artists, for example novelists or songwriters, use

figurative language in their works. In addition, by using figurative language, songwriters create vivid imagery that resonates with listeners, making songs more impactful and memorable. Similarly, Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) emphasize that figurative language provides imaginative pleasure, adds imagery, and enhances the emotional intensity of literary expression. Figurative language makes people more aware of the lyrics in a song and the meaning contained in the lyrics of a song. It makes the lyrics in a song richer in meaning.

2.2.2 Meaning

In this study, the types of meaning also analyzed. Meaning involves understanding language in ways that go beyond the literal definitions of words. It includes not only the direct content of expressions but also their emotional, cultural, and social implications. According to Leech (1981), “meaning is not a simple matter of denotation; it involves a range of connotations and implications.” This perspective highlights the complexity of communication, as context and associations influence how language is interpreted. Similarly, Kreidler (1998) stated that meaning is central to semantics because it reflects how speakers use language to convey thoughts, intentions, and relationships. By analyzing these different aspects of meaning, a deeper understanding can be enhanced of how people express and perceive messages in everyday interactions.

2.2.3 Song Lyrics

According to Levitin (2008), a song is a musical composition that typically consists of lyrics and a melody. It is often structured in verses and a chorus, and it can express a wide range of emotions, tell stories, or convey messages. Songs may be performed by an individual artist or a group and are usually accompanied by musical instruments. They represent one of the most popular forms of artistic expression and appear in various genres such as pop, rock, R&B, and many others. Similarly, Frith (1996) emphasized that songs serve not only as entertainment but also as a means of communication through which people express identity, emotion, and social experience. A song could be a good comforter through the instrumental, melody, and lyrics. A song and its lyrics are inseparable because the lyrics act as the main channel for delivering the song's message. According to Pattison (2009), lyrics are the words of a song that convey its message, emotions, and story. They can express a wide range of feelings, from love and joy to sadness and heartbreak. Often structured in verses and a chorus, lyrics use rhythm and rhyme to create a musical flow. Every songwriter has a unique way of crafting lyrics and a distinctive message to communicate through them. Overall, lyrics are an essential part of music that enhance its emotional impact and meaning. Similarly, Randel (1986) explains that song lyrics combine linguistic and musical elements to produce artistic expression and emotional resonance, making them a vital component of musical communication. Lyrics play a crucial role in connecting with listeners, allowing them to relate to the themes and experiences shared in the song

2.3 Theories

In this sub chapter, the writer will describe the theories that will be used to support the analysis in this study.

2.3.1 Types of Figurative Language

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011) stated there are several parts of figurative language : Abrams and Harpham (2011) stated there are several parts of figurative language including allegory, allusion, simile, metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, synecdoche, personification, irony, and paradox. This study uses Abrams and Harpham's (2011) theory because it offers a clear and well-structured classification of figurative language. The theory helps in identifying and interpreting figurative expressions in song lyrics. It is also suitable for literary analysis since it focuses on meaning and stylistic features of language.

1. Allegory

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), an allegory is a story or description that expresses a deeper or hidden meaning beyond its literal narrative, in which the characters, actions, and settings consistently stand for abstract ideas, moral values, or political and spiritual principles. It functions on two interconnected levels, the literal level, which tells the surface story, and the symbolic level, which conveys a broader commentary about life, society, or human nature. For instance, George Orwell's *Animal Farm* (1945) is an allegory of the Russian Revolution, where the rebellion of farm animals represents the rise of totalitarian power and the distortion of socialist ideals.

2. Allusion

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), an allusion is a type of figurative language that makes an indirect reference to a person, place, event, or literary work, with the assumption that the reader or listener will recognize and understand the importance of the reference. Allusions enhance the meaning of a text by invoking the associations and emotions linked to the original source. For instance, mentioning “Achilles’ heel” in a song or poem implies a critical vulnerability, drawing from Greek mythology. This method intensifies the listener’s involvement and amplifies the thematic depth of the lyrics or literary piece.

3. Simile

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011) a simile is “a comparison is expressed by the specific use of a word or phrase such as like, as, than, similar to, resembles, or seems”, emphasizing the clarity and vividness such comparisons bring to literary expression. Simile is a type of figurative language that makes a direct comparison between two unlike things using the words "like" or "as" to highlight a particular quality or characteristic they share. This literary device enhances imagery and adds depth to writing by creating vivid associations in the reader's mind. For example, saying "her smile was like sunshine" not only conveys the brightness and warmth of her smile but also evokes a sense of joy and positivity, illustrating how similes can enrich language and evoke emotions through relatable comparisons

4. Metaphor

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), a metaphor is “an implied comparison is made between two unlike things that actually have something important in common”. Metaphor is a type of figurative language that makes an implicit comparison between two unlike things, asserting that one thing is another to highlight shared qualities or characteristics without using "like" or "as." This literary device allows for a more profound and imaginative connection between concepts, enriching the text's meaning and emotional resonance. For instance, when Rosé says in on the ground “everything I need is on the ground” means true happiness is found in simplicity and authenticity.

5. Metonymy

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), metonymy is “the substitution of the name of an object closely associated with a word for the word itself”. Metonymy is a type of figurative language in which one word or phrase is used to represent something closely related to it. For example, saying "the White House issued a statement" uses "the White House" to refer not just to the building itself but to the U.S. President and their administration. This substitution allows for a more vivid and concise way to convey information, illustrating how metonymy can enhance language by linking concepts through their associations.

6. Hyperbole

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), hyperbole is “an intentional exaggeration for emphasis or comic effect”. Hyperbole is a type of figurative

language that involves exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally, used for emphasis or dramatic effect. This rhetorical device allows writers and speakers to convey strong emotions or create a vivid impression by overstating a situation or characteristic. For example, Rosé says “I worked my whole life just to get right.” It expresses intensity of ambition. It overstates the time and effort devoted to highlight the speaker’s intense dedication and struggle to reach success.

7. Synecdoche

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), synecdoche is “the substitution of the part for the whole, or the whole for the part”. Synecdoche is a type of figurative language in which a part of something is used to represent the whole, or vice versa, creating a more vivid and impactful expression. For example, when someone refers to a car as "a set of wheels," they are using "wheels" to represent the entire vehicle. This substitution emphasizes a key component of the car while effectively conveying the idea of the vehicle itself, illustrating how synecdoche can enhance language by creating a more relatable and engaging image.

8. Personification

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), personification is “the representation of abstractions, ideas, animals, or inanimate objects as human beings by giving them human qualities”. Personification is a literary device that attributes human qualities, emotions, or actions to non-human entities, animals, or abstract concepts, thereby creating relatable imagery and enhancing the reader's connection to the subject. This technique allows writers to imbue inanimate objects or ideas

with life and personality, making them more vivid and engaging. For example, the lyric “My world’s been hectic, seems electric” from on the ground shows personification by attributing human characteristics of busyness and liveliness to the word “world.” It emotions and dynamic life situation.

9. Irony

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), irony is a type figurative language in which the intended meaning of words is opposite to their literal meaning, often used to convey a sense of humor, sarcasm, or a deeper truth. This rhetorical device creates a contrast between expectation and reality, allowing for a more nuanced expression of ideas. For example, if a fire station burns down, one might remark, "Well, that's just perfect," highlighting the irony of a place dedicated to fighting fires being consumed by one. This use of irony not only emphasizes the unexpectedness of the situation but also invites the audience to reflect on the complexities of life, illustrating how irony can enrich language and provoke thought.

10. Paradox

According to Abrams and Harpham (2011), a paradox refers to a phrase that initially appears strange or impossible but becomes clearer with deeper reflection. For instance, the phrase "Light is the darkest thing in physics" is an example of a paradox. This statement seems perplexing since we typically view light as the antithesis of darkness. However, in the realm of science, light exhibits intricate behaviors, rendering the statement significant once we explore it further.

2.3.2 Types of Meaning

According to Leech (1981), there are several types of meaning that can be understood in language. These different meanings work together to help people share not just basic information but also feelings, attitudes, and social messages. Understanding these types of meaning helps us see how language can be rich and complex, going beyond just the literal words we say.

1. Denotative Meaning

According to Leech (1981), denotative meaning is the literal, dictionary definition of a word, representing its specific and objective meaning without any emotional or cultural associations. Denotative meaning is the literal, dictionary definition of a word, representing its specific and objective meaning without any emotional or cultural associations. For instance, the denotative meaning of the word "tree" refers to a perennial plant with an elongated stem, or trunk, supporting branches and leaves. This definition is straightforward and universally accepted, focusing solely on the physical characteristics of the object itself. By emphasizing denotative meaning, we can communicate clearly and effectively, ensuring that the intended message is understood without the influence of personal feelings or interpretations, which may arise from connotative meanings.

2. Connotative Meaning

According to Leech (1981), connotative meaning refers to the emotional and associative meanings that a word carries beyond its literal definition. This type of meaning can vary based on personal experiences, cultural context, and social

factors. For example, the word "home" has a denotative meaning of a place where one lives, but its connotative meaning often evokes feelings of warmth, safety, and comfort. When people think of "home," they may associate it with family, love, and belonging, which adds depth to the word's significance. By understanding connotative meaning, we can appreciate how language can evoke emotions and create connections, influencing how we perceive and respond to different words and phrases.

3. Social Meaning

According to Leech (1981), social meaning refers to the aspects of meaning that are influenced by the social context in which language is used, including factors such as the speaker's identity, social status, and the relationship between the speaker and the listener. For example, the way someone addresses another person can convey social meaning; using a formal title like "Mr. Smith" indicates respect and a formal relationship, while calling someone by their first name, like "John," suggests familiarity and a more casual relationship. This social meaning helps to establish the dynamics of communication and can signal power, respect, or intimacy between individuals. By recognizing social meaning, we can better understand the nuances of language and how it reflects social interactions and hierarchies.

4. Affective Meaning

According to Leech (1981), affective meaning refers to the emotional response that a word or phrase evokes in the listener or reader, reflecting the

feelings and attitudes associated with the language used. For example, the word "child" may have a positive affective meaning for someone who loves children, evoking feelings of joy and innocence, while for someone who has had negative experiences, it might bring up feelings of frustration or sadness. This emotional layer adds depth to communication, as the same word can elicit different reactions based on individual experiences and emotions. By understanding affective meaning, we can appreciate how language not only conveys information but also influences feelings and emotional connections in conversations.²²

5. Reflective Meaning

According to Leech (1981), reflective meaning occurs when a word has multiple meanings or associations, and one meaning influences the interpretation of another. This often happens in cases of polysemy, where a single word can have different meanings depending on the context. For example, the word "bank" can refer to a financial institution where people keep their money, but it can also mean the side of a river. If someone says, "I went to the bank to fish," the reflective meaning of "bank" as a riverbank might come into play, leading to a different interpretation than if they were discussing finances. This interplay of meanings highlights how context can shape our understanding of language, demonstrating that words can carry layered meanings that affect how we interpret them in various situations.

6. Collocative Meaning

According to Leech (1981), collocative meaning refers to the associations that a word has with other words that frequently occur alongside it, shaping its meaning and usage in specific contexts. For example, the word "strong" often collocates with words like "coffee," "wind," or "argument," creating phrases such as "strong coffee," "strong wind," and "strong argument." These combinations suggest specific qualities: "strong coffee" implies a rich flavor, "strong wind" indicates powerful gusts, and "strong argument" conveys a convincing point. By understanding collocative meaning, we can see how certain words naturally fit together, enhancing our comprehension of language and helping us use words more effectively in communication.

7. Thematic Meaning

According to Leech (1981), thematic meaning refers to the meaning derived from the way information is organized and presented in a sentence or discourse, influencing how the audience interprets the message. This type of meaning emphasizes the importance of structure and focus in communication. For example, in the sentence "The cat chased the mouse," the thematic meaning highlights the cat as the subject and the one performing the action, while the mouse is the object being acted upon. If we change the structure to "The mouse was chased by the cat," the focus shifts to the mouse, altering the emphasis and potentially changing the listener's perception of the situation. By understanding thematic meaning, we can appreciate how the arrangement of words can shape our understanding and

interpretation of a message, guiding the audience's attention to specific elements within the communication.

