CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Humans use language as a means of communication, making it the most crucial aspect of existence and the only means of interaction with other people. The use of systematic, integrating words that are represented through gesture, writing, or voice is the primary method by which people communicate with each other. Furthermore, language can be used in media of communication within any social context and can express someone's feelings or emotions and transmit information, ideas, and thoughts. It will either be written or spoken. While written language uses written text as a part of reality, spoken language uses spoken words as its primary method of communication, typically followed by tone and body language. As far as we know that language is a part of literature.

The primary human expressions in literature include thought, feeling, notions, and descriptions that can appear enthralling. It also uses language as a medium for media communication. The language we use in our daily lives is different from that used in literature. According to Reiss (1992:70), literature expresses phenomena related to human life and its surroundings. Literature is one of the ways that culture expresses the thoughts and ideas of the human race. Typically, literature can be found in songs, plays, novels, and poems. The song lyrics themselves are works of literary art. It is occasionally written to convey the writer's thoughts and feelings, and it typically employs a figure of speech.

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According to Kennedy (1987:492), figurative language is the language that makes use of figures of speech. Some works of literature employ figurative language to stimulate readers' imaginations and present concepts in fresh, vivid, and inventive ways. The lyrics of songs often use figurative language. Literature examples include songs. People occasionally listen to music not listening carefully to the lyrics because they enjoy the vocalist or the song's sound better. The lyrics of songs that use figurative language can be difficult for listeners to understand when they try to concentrate on them. Understanding a lyric's meaning helps one to realize the songwriter's intended meaning. Since practically everyone enjoys listening to music, the writer is drawn to this phenomenon and is curious to examine the figurative language in songs. The information came from songs, in particular, the song lyrics by Robbie Williams. The songs are meaningful and enjoyable to hear and there are so many figurative languages that could be analyzed. The song's lyrics take on the values of love, friendship, motivation for human life, seduction, and youthful inspiration, which draws the writer to analyze them. Robbie Williams is famous enough for The Voice UK's 2011 show. Although he has been awarded four times as the best artist in Britain. One of the songs is called "Feel", which has been streamed or heard over 317,7 Million times.

Based on the description above, learning figurative language used in the song lyrics by Robbie Williams is interesting to study. Likewise, a variety of figurative languages are discovered, and their significance in Robbie Williams' song lyrics is studied.

1.2 Problems of the Study

In accordance with the explanation above, the problems of the study are as follows:

1. What types of figurative language are used in Robbie Williams' lyrics?

2. What are the meanings of the figurative language in Robbie Williams' song lyrics?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

By doing this analysis, the objectives are related to the problems formulated below:

1. To explore the types of figurative language in Robbie Williams' song lyrics.

2. To explain the meaning of figurative language in Robbie Williams' song lyrics.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

This research analyzed the types and meanings of figurative language in Robbie Williams' song lyrics. There are eight 8 song lyrics used as the data source such as "Candy", "Feel", "Angel", "She's The One", "Come Undone", "Better Man", "Eternity", and "Love My Life". The theories used to solve the problems of figurative language are the theory by Kennedy (1987:492) and the theory by Leech (1974:10-27) used to analyze the meaning of figurative language in the song lyrics.

## 1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to have the following significance:

1.5.1 Practical Significance

Practically, the study helps English learners in their study of the language and can provide information to both English learners and other readers about the meaning of figurative language in English. Therefore, they can use these figurative languages in communication or in their creative writing project.

1.5.2 Theoretical Significance

The findings of this study should be a valuable resource for anyone interested in studying English literature and figurative language and can be a reference for those studying and researching about figurative language in English.
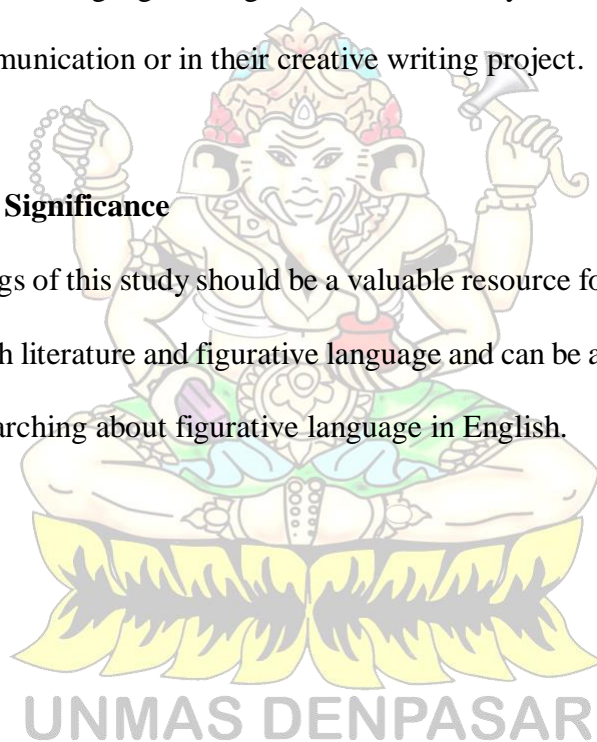
CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

2.1 Review of Related Literature

To find out how other students have investigated the same subject and theory at work, a literature study is necessary. For this research, five articles were reviewed.

The first writing is taken from an article written by Milana & Ardi (2020) entitled *An Analysis of Figurative Language in the song lyrics by Saif Adam*. She used the theory proposed by Perrine (1983). This research used descriptive qualitative method as the technique for the data analysis. There were 13 songs of *Saif Adam* used. The aim of this research is to identify the different kinds of figurative language that Saif Adam uses in his song lyrics and to analyze the most popular ones. In this research, types of figurative language found were hyperbole, irony, metaphor, personification, simile, litotes, metonymy, and paradox. Furthermore, hyperbole is the most dominant type of figurative language in *Saif Adam's* selected songs. Nevertheless, her study could be used as a reference for improving knowledge in conducting this study. Although using the same subject, there were some contrasts between her study and this one. First, the theory for analyzing the types of figurative languages was different since the theory of Perrine (1983) was used in her study, while this study used the theory proposed by Kennedy (1987). Second, her analysis identifies the kind of figurative language and dominant types of figurative language from (13) songs of *Saif Adam's* used and in this

research the writer analyzed the types and meanings of figurative language from eight (8) song lyrics by *Robbie Williams.*

The second writing is an article entitled "*An Analysis of Figurative Language In Taylor Swift's Song Lyrics"* by Setiawati and Maryani (2018). This article analyzed the figurative language used in *Taylor Swift's* song lyrics. Conflict, broken hearts, and extreme deceit are the main themes of the song. Her research topic is to identify types of figurative language and explain its context in the lyrics of *Taylor Swift's* songs. The research design was content analysis. It is intended to investigate those two research problems in relation to figurative language. This student used a descriptive qualitative method and used the theory of figurative language proposed by Kenedy (1983: 481). She comes to the conclusion that two song lyrics use six different types of figurative language, with hyperbole being the most common. Despite using the same subject, there were some discrepancies between her study and this one. First, the study focuses on the types of figurative language used in Taylor Swift's Song lyrics and the most dominant figurative language in Taylor Swift's Song lyrics. This study examined different figurative language styles and their contextual significance in Taylor Swift's song lyrics. Second, the theory for analyzing the types of figurative languages was different from the theory of Moleong (2010), while this study used the theory proposed by Kennedy (1987) and support the theory by Leech (1974). Last, the song analyzed had religious value, while in this study the song lyrics had a romantic love story.

The third writing is taken from the thesis written by Cindy (2019) entitled "*The Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Three of Lady Gaga's Songs from a*

Star is Born Album". She comes to the conclusion that two song lyrics use six different types of figurative language, with hyperbole being the most common. Despite using the same subject, there were some discrepancies between her study and this one. First, the study focuses on the types of figurative language used in Lady Gaga's song lyrics and the most dominant figurative language in Lady Gaga's song lyrics. This study examined different figurative language styles and their contextual significance in Lady Gaga's song lyrics. It could be very useful as a reference for this study. It had the same analysis, especially the type of figurative language and the meaning of the song lyrics. In spite of taking the same topic, there were some differences between her and this study. First, she used the theory from Kennedy, Peter, Hayati & Hadiwardoyo, Tjahjono and Masruri, while this study used the theory from Kennedy and supported by Leech. Second, she analyzes the type and meaning of figurative language in three of Lady Gaga's songs, whereas the author of this study examined eight song lyrics from Robbie William's song, where there are several terms that emphasize the meanings of figurative language.

The fourth writing is taken from the thesis written by Arifah (2016) entitled *Figurative Language Analysis in Five John Legend's Song*. The writer analysis five song from John Legend and use the theory by Rahmayanti as cited in Donald (1999) and she used descriptive qualitative as analysis method. Additionally, this thesis discussed the many forms of metaphorical language and their significance in five songs by John Legend. The research revealed sixteen different types of figurative language in five song lyrics, with hyperbole being the most prevalent due to the sheer number of words that exaggerate their meanings. It might be very helpful as

a source for this study. The same study was done on it, focusing on the sort of figurative language and the lyrics' significance. In spite of taking the same topic, there were some differences between her and this study. First, she used the theory by Rahmayanti as cited in Donald, while this study used the theory from Kennedy and supported by Leech. She also examines the type of figurative language and its significance in five songs by John Legend, whereas the author of this study examined the forms and significances of figurative language in eight song lyrics by Robbie Williams.

Fifth, the writer analysis article by Palguna (2021) entitled *"The Analysis of Figurative Language on Passenger Song Lyric in Runaway Album"*. The objectives of this research are to identify the figurative language employed in the lyrics of the song Firework and to analyze the context in which it is utilized. The reader will likely find the study's findings beneficial in understanding what figurative language is and the several types there exist. He used a descriptive qualitative research design for his study.

2.2 Concepts

Concepts are explanations of something that relates to the research topic. Based on this point of research, the explanations are about:

2.2.1 Figurative Language

In order to obtain a deeper understanding, a language known as a figurative uses words that are not defined according to their usual meaning. A phrase of

speech is a technique for stating anything that differs from the word's literal meaning (Kennedy, 1987:492). A figure of speech is used in figurative language to convey meaning other than what a word actually signifies. Figurative language is mostly used to beautify and express feeling in literary works such as drama scripts, novels, song lyrics and poems. This is effective for singers because it can make their language more beautiful to listen to.

2.2.2 Song Lyrics

A song is a musical composition with lyrics that are sung, according to Hornby (1995:1113). When a song is played, its music and lyrics are intended to evoke the appropriate sensation or emotion in response to a specific subject. Because song and music are one, they cannot be separated. The word "lyric" comes from the lyrics' original language, which was Greek poetry set to be sung to a lyre. The lyrics are an essential component of a song since they can enhance its beauty.

2.3 Theories

Theoretical framework explains the theories needed to support this research analysis. The theories used in this study are Leech's theory of meaning (1974:9). and Kennedy's theory of figurative language (Kennedy, 1987:492).

2.3.1 Figurative Language

Figurative language is used in figurative expression. A figure of speech known as "personification" transforms an object, an animal, or an abstract concept

(such as reality or nature) into a human. Figures of speech are said to appear whenever a speaker or writer changes the normal connotations of a word for the sake of novelty or emphasis. (Kennedy, 1987:492). According to Kennedy (1987:492), figurative language is divided into several types: personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, paradox, metonymy, synecdoche, understatement, apostrophe and pun.

2.3.1.1 Personification

According to Kennedy (1987:492), Personification is a figure of speech in which a thing, an animal, or an idea that is abstract (like truth or nature) is changed into a person. Personification is the process of giving non-living things, animals, or ideas human traits. For example, *the sky was full of dancing stars*. The statement's implication is that the sky that night is beautiful because it is full of stars.

2.3.1.2 Metaphor

Metaphor is a type of analogy that contrasts two items in a clear and concise manner. According to Kennedy (1987:492), a metaphor is a suggestion that a thing is something that it is not in a literal sense. It does not use connective words such as *like* or *as*. For example, *she has a heart of stone*. *Heart of stone* describes a woman who is intolerant of other people's viewpoints and has a heart that is as hard as stone.

2.3.1.3 Simile

A simile is a comparison of two objects that is denoted by a connective, most commonly like, as, than, or a verb like resembles, according to Kennedy (1979:492). A simile is generally a category of figurative language used to describe the similarities between two objects (in shape, colour, characteristics, etc.). For example, *Her face is like a moonlight.* Because both the face and the moonlight share the quality of being clear, pure, and easily observable, the writer contrasts them.

2.3.1.4 Hyperbole

Kennedy (1987:492) affirmed that Hyperbole is the use of exaggerated statements to emphasize a point. It might be absurd or amusing. To add color and dimension to a character, hyperbole may be applied to fiction. For example, *we could be the greatest thing that the world has ever seen.* The meaning is there is no other singer who can be more than them and there is no singer who can be their rival.

2.3.1.5 Paradox

In figurative language, a paradox is when one object is actual and another is true. It might be used to indicate everything that is intriguing due to its veracity. Evident self-contradiction or purposeful inconsistency are examples of paradox. a claim or circumstance that on the surface seems contradictory or incompatible but

is actually accurate (Kennedy, 1987:492). A paradox is a statement that, at first sight, appears to be at opposition with common sense or to be self-contradictory. For example, *I feel sad in the middle of a wedding party happiness.* In order to explain why he is not joyful at the wedding party, the author compares sadness with happiness in the statement. While in the wedding party, the majority of individuals are joyful.

2.3.1.6 Metonymy

A linguistic device known as metonymy uses a characteristic or name of something associated with a person's name or that is readily pronounced to describe another object that is closely related to it. Metonymy, according to Kennedy (1987:502), is the term for elements that are substituted for others that are closely related to them. The usage of a phrase that is connected to a real idea that is metaphorical in character and assigned to an animal is known as metonymy The usage of a phrase that is connected to a real idea that is metaphorical in character and assigned to an animal is known as metonymy. For example, *students in our school like to read St. Francesco. Francesco* in the sentence refers to the book that he has made.

2.3.1.7 Synecdoche

Synecdoche is when something is used to symbolize something else entirely or vice versa (Kennedy, 1987:492). According to the description given above, a synecdoche is a type of language in which a portion is used in place of the entire

sentence. For example, *"all eyes on me"* means everyone is staring at her as they consider the meaning of sentences. When referring to a component of the whole, the word eyes is utilized.

2.3.1.8 Understatement

Understatement is using fewer words than necessary, either in what is said or simply in the manner in which it is said. According to Kennedy (1987:492), understatement is the opposite of hyperbole, implying more than is said. For example, *"It isn't too serious, I have a tiny tumor on my brain*." This passage from Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye is an illustration of an understatement.

2.3.1.9 Apostrophe

Apostrophes are used to address missing people or non-human objects as if they were alive, present, and able to respond to what is being said. Kennedy (1987:501) says that using an apostrophe is a means to refer to something or someone who is invisible or who is not often discussed. For example, *oh, Christmas tree, how lovely your branches*. The statement above is an apostrophe because the Christmas tree is not a living person.

2.3.1.10 Pun

Kennedy (1987:504) identifies a pun as a term with a similar or the same sound but a radically different meaning. Puns can, at their worst, be simply trivial things, but at their finest, they can sharply point out unexpected but true contrasts.

For example, "*Atheism is a non-prophet institution*". The word "prophet" is put in place of its homophone "profit", altering the common phrase "non-profit institution".

2.3.2 Theory of Meaning

The word's definition is complex, says Leech (1974:9), and includes things like concepts, quality, relationships, individual feelings, and associations. Connotative meaning, conceptual frameworks as meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning, colocate meaning, and thematic meaning are the seven categories into which the meaning of words is grouped.

1.3.2.1 Conceptual Meaning

Semantic, or the study of meaning, is connected to conceptual meaning. In this classification, logical or conceptual significance must be prioritized (also called denotative or cognitive). This is generally considered to be the basis of verbal communication. According to Leech (1974:10), the goal of denotative meaning is to give an abstract symbol configuration for any interpretation of a sentence, then to indicate potential interpretations as possibilities. This is a basic propositional meaning, that conforms to the main dictionary definition.

2.3.2.2 Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning, which goes beyond a word's purely conceptual meaning, is the communication value a word has as a result of what it refers to

(Leech 1974:14). There is an unavoidable crossover between the conceptual and connotative meanings. The "reference" and the "conceptual meaning" merge when contrasting qualities of the conceptual meaning start to apply to the "real world" referent. According to Leech, however, other characteristics expected from the referent can vary depending on the individual as well as several other factors like age or society (1974:12).

2.3.2.3 Social Meaning

Social meaning is the statement that a piece of language conveys about the current social context. It is closely related to the social groups that are part of the situation. There are classifications of socio-stylistic variation that vary such as dialect, region, status etc. An utterance's social meaning is influenced by the context in which it is used. This has to do with the social implications of language use (Leech, 1974:15).

2.3.2.4 Affective Meaning

Associated with the speaker's own feelings or perspectives is affective meaning. Similar to social meaning, the affective meaning is only tangentially tied to conceptual representation. According to Leech (1974:16), the conceptual or connotative meaning of words is frequently utilized to openly express affective meaning.

2.3.2.5 Reflected Meaning

As stated by Leech, reflected meaning is according to its definition, this phenomenon occurs when words have multiple conceptual meanings and happens when our responses to one meaning of a term are affected by another (1974:19). In addition, he pointed out that although both titles allude to the third member of the Holy Trinity, there are certain semantic distinctions between the two expressions in the cases of The Comforter and The Holy Ghost. As a result, Leech describes The Comforter as "warm and comforting," in contrast to his opinion of The Holy Ghost, which is "awesome." (1974:19). He concludes by pointing out that in similar situations, words can likewise exert suggest power with a small value of associational strength (1974:19).

2.3.2.6 Collocative Meaning

A word's collocational definition is its consistency with other words. Collocate meaning consists of the associations a word derived from the meaning of words which tend to occur in its environment." (Leech 1974:20). He provided the examples of the adjectives *beautiful* and *handsome* and the nouns that typically appear in their vicinity to clarify his meaning.

2.3.2.7 Thematic Meaning

Based on the theory by Leech (1974:22), the way a speaker or writer organizes the message in terms of order, focus, and emphasis determines the theme.

There are several examples of these even, such as examples where active and passive sentence construction is confronted. Nevertheless, in essence, Leech stated that the thematic meaning is "a matter of choice between alternative grammatical constructions", as in the sentence *A man is here to see you.* and *There is a man here to see you.* Leech (1974:22). Additionally, when dealing with this form of meaning, emphasis through the substitution of one part with another or stress and intonation can also be extremely important (1974:20-24).