

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is the most important part of living life in this world. Language is a tool used by humans to interact, communicate, and getting information from other people. English has become the most popular language in the world, so now English has become an international language. English has penetrated all sectors such as economy, technology, education, political activities, sciences, arts and so on. Language is used to express someone's feelings, emotions or expressing their own ideas, thoughts, and imaginations, which can be verbally or non-verbally. Language in non-verbally category can be found in the novel, poem, advertisement, newspaper, and magazine. Whereas language is in the category of verbally is often found in the song, daily conversation, and public speaking. Basically, language is an utterance in spoken language and writing is a means to preserve it.

In this modern era, there are many ways to communicate and express thoughts to others, so they can be understood. One of them is through song. The song can be interpreted as part of the

music combined with the words sung as a means of conveying the songwriter's personal feelings, thoughts and experiences. The song is built by a complete unit consisting of two elements, namely music and lyrics. Music is a sound arrangement produced by a device or object so as to produce a sound that is deliberately created to accompany or express human thoughts, ideas, opinions, and others. Lyrics can be classified as part of discourse, because they consist of words or sentences that have different grammatical function¹. Now almost everyone likes songs, especially English songs. Not only young people but adults love it. The people love to listen to songs for various reasons: such as to entertain themselves, to pour out and express their emotions, relieve their stress, even someone feels inspired by the song and also improve English mastery from an English song.

Furthermore, Songs are part of literary works is combined with musical instruments and words with meaningful from the song writer. In practice, everyone has their interpretation in understanding the meaning of the lyrics conveyed by the song writer in the song. Listening to music is a fun activity. When people listen to music they may not focus on the lyrics or the

¹ P. Nana Lusiana & Yana Qomariana, "Figurative Language Used in Taylor Swift's Songs in the Album 1989", *Jurnal Humanis Fakultas Ilmu Budaya Unud*, Vol. XXI, No. 1 (Nopember, 2017), 166.

meaning, especially on the figurative language and other expressions hidden in the verses of the existing lyrics, but they listen to music only because they like the tunes, the rhythm, the music or they just love the singer. Knowing the meaning of a writing or the speech is important, the researcher examined the figurative language used and the contextual meaning in the lyrics of the song A Whole New World.

Figurative language is a language used to express the meaning of words indirectly. Figurative language is a language consisting of words, phrases, or sentences that are different from the literal meaning so that the actual meaning is difficult for the listener to understand. In line with this, Lusiana and Qomariana tell in their study that the literal meaning is not the same or even opposite to the actual meaning, so that the actual meaning has a deeper meaning about the meaning conveyed². In written and oral literary works, the author usually inserts the meaning being discussed by comparing, equating something, and exaggerating the nature of an object in the use of figurative language. This is the functions of figurative language itself, as the results of research conducted by Zaimardiansyah et al explained that in the song lyrics

² P. Nana Lusiana & Yana Qomariana, "Figurative Language Used in Taylor Swift's Songs in the Album 1989", 166.

studied there are two functions of figurative language where the poetic function reflects more on the lyrics of the song³.

Figurative language is very easy to find in poetry, stories, novels, articles, advertisements, and songs. Usually, in songs, there is figurative language hidden behind a word to beautify the lyrics or to deepen the meaning intended by the song writer. When the process of listening to songs is good and focused, the listener can easily understand and catch the meaning of the lyric, and vice versa. Therefore, to understand the meaning of the lyrics, the listeners must use their imagination to imagine the song writers' meaning and they must have semantic skills. Semantics is a branch of linguistics that deals with the meaning of words and sentences. The listener must have semantic skills in listening to songs because the lyrics in the song do not always have the meaning clearly in line with the dictionary but must be examined to make them fit the context conveyed.

One of the music is a song that consists of the words that are sung and serve as a medium for conveying the thoughts, feelings, and expression of the song writers. One of the other two things of music is the soundtrack. A soundtrack is a song specially

³ Azhari Zaimardiansyah, Hendra Heriansyah, and Nurul Inayah, "Investigating Figurative Language Used in Katy Perry's Song Lyrics", *Research in English and Education (READ)*, Vol. IV, No. 1, (February, 2019), 30.

created as a background sound that appears at the beginning or end of the story of a movie and usually reflects the plot of the movie so that the song can become the hallmark of the movie. A very popular example is the Aladdin soundtrack entitled “A Whole New World” which was released in 1992. This song was composed by Sir Timothy Miles Bindon Rice and was first sung by Brad Kanga and Lea Salonga. This song was recently sung by Zayn Malik feat Zhavia Ward with a remake version in line with the release of the movie version of Aladdin produced by Disney in 2019. This song is so popular that many people around the world hear it, even singers who cover it in various languages. Besides that, apart from a pleasant musical arrangement, the writer uses some figurative language in an unusual way.

Based on the statement above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the contextual meaning and types of figurative language found in the song A Whole New World as the focus of the research. Not a few people who listen to songs do not know the figurative language and its types so that they only listen, and do not understand the meaning contained in a song. Basically, song writers create their songs to convey their experiences, emotions, and messages to listeners. From this research, the writer hopes that listeners and readers know and understand figurative language and

its types found in songs and other literary works so that they can interpret the actual meanings. The researcher was conducted research entitled An Analysis of Figurative Language in the Song of “A Whole New World” By Tim Rice.

B. Focus of the Study

The researcher focuses on analyzing the types of figurative language contained in the song of "A Whole New World" By Tim Rice. In addition, the researcher also focuses on analyzing the meaning of each figurative language and the contextual meaning of the lyrics from "A Whole New World" song. The researcher limit this research in investigating words, phrases, and sentences found in the lyrics of song "A Whole New World" By Tim Rice.

C. The Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the formulation of the research question is stated as follow:

1. What types of figurative language are found in the song of “A Whole New World” By Tim Rice?
2. What are the contextual meaning of the figurative language used in the song of “A Whole New World” By Tim Rice?

D. The objective of the Study

From the background of the study above, the researcher has objective of the study. The objectives of the study in this research is:

1. To identify the types of figurative language used in the song of “A Whole New World” By Tim Rice
2. To analyze and describe the contextual meaning of the figurative language used in the song of “A Whole New World” By Tim Rice

E. Significant of the Study

This research has the significance as stated in the following:

1. Theoretically, this research can help learners to analyze more deeply about figurative language and get to know semantic studies more narrowly.
2. Practically, the researcher expect that listeners of songs or works conveyed in other verbal ways can know and understand that it contains figurative language. Moreover, this study takes a song from an animated film which we know is fictitious, which means that the entire story is made to bring the audience to play with their imagination so that figurative language needs to be inserted.

3. For the researchers, it is hoped that this research will be useful as a reference in encouraging and developing further studies especially about figurative language.

F. Previous Study

In this study, the researcher using several previous studies that are related to this research. It can be found in the following statements:

1. *Figurative Language Used in Taylor Swift's Songs in the Album 1989*

The first review related to this study, and the title is *Figurative Language Used in Taylor Swift's Songs in the Album 1989* by Putu Nana, L & Yana Qomariana. This research focuses on identifying figurative language contained in Taylor Swift's 1989 album and analyzing the figurative meanings and lexical meanings used in it. Qualitative descriptive method is used by researchers in analyzing data. They use Kenickerbocker & Reninger's theory in analyzing figurative meaning, while to analyze lexical meaning using Chaer's theory. According to the researchers, they found eight types of figurative language from the five selected songs. Another finding is that the figurative meaning and the lexical

meaning are opposite to each other. Where the figurative meaning has a meaning that is far deeper than the lexical meaning⁴.

2. *Investigating Figurative Language Used In Katy Perry's Song Lyrics*

The second previous study is study aims to find out the function of figurative language in Katy Perry's Song Lyrics, which has been researched by Azhari Zaimardiansyah et al. In their research with the title *Investigating Figurative Language Used In Katy Perry's Song Lyrics*. The researchers used descriptive qualitative method to answer the formulation of the problem. In the study, they have analyzed and investigated about the types of figurative language by Abrams and Harpham's theory. They found several types of figurative languages that is used in the song lyric, there are simile, metaphor, hyperbole, alliteration etc. which repetition and simile are more often used in the lyrics of the song. Meanwhile, other results indicate that there are two functions of figurative language, namely conative and poetic, where the poetic function is more dominant in this song⁵.

⁴ P. Nana Lusiana & Yana Qomariana, "Figurative Language Used in Taylor Swift's Songs in the Album 1989", 166.

⁵ Azhari Zaimardiansyah, Hendra Heriansyah, and Nurul Inayah, "Investigating Figurative Language Used in Katy Perry's Song Lyrics", 16.

3. *Language Methapor Song Collection in Ratu Si Kumbang*

The third previous study is aims to find out the types of figurative language and explains the meaning contained in the set of *Ratu Si Kumbang* songs that has been done by Rahmi Noviade et al. In obtaining data, they used documentation and literature techniques as well as qualitative analysis techniques used to process data. The results obtained from a collection of 53 songs of *Ratu Si Kumbang*, which contain types of figurative language such as metaphor, hyperbole, simile, allegory, parable, personification, epithet, synecdoche, metonymy, antonomasia, hypoplasia and satire. Other results of the figurative meanings that vary widely are 102, including depicting heartbreak, life difficulties, insinuation and an expression of love for a mother⁶.

By looking at these studies, the researcher took this research because the researcher had seen the figurative language contained in the song *A Whole New World*. This research has similarity with above researches that is examining figurative language in foreign language songs. However it has a difference from previous studies, which is the object of research.

⁶ Rahmi Noviade, Hasnah Faizah, and Nursal Hakim, "Language Methapor Song Collection in Ratu Si Kumbang", (Paper, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education University of Riau, Riau, 2016), p. 2.

G. Organization of the Study

The researcher will arrange three chapters and each chapter consist some points to explain the chapter.

Chapter I is Introduction. Which contains: background of the study, focus of the study, the research question, the objective of the study, significant of the study, previous study, and organization of the study.

Chapter II is Literature Review. This chapter contains the theories of figurative language from some experts who have conducted the research related to this research.

Chapter III is Research Methodology. This chapter consist of the methodology of the research, unit of analysis, research analysis, collecting the data and technique of analyzing the data.

Chapter IV is Findings and Discussions. This chapter presents the results of data analysis and discussions of the types of figurative language and contextual meanings found in the lyrics of the song A Whole New World.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion. This chapter presents the conclusions of the overall content of the research and suggestions given by the researcher to the readers.

