

AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE FOUND IN SONG LYRICS OF THE ALBUM “GG BB XX” BY LANY

Danisa Salsabila¹⁾, Ratini Setyowati²⁾
^{1,2}Universitas Duta Bangsa Surakarta
Corresponding author: 190415003@fhhb.udb.ac.id

Submitted : August 5, 2023

Reviewed: February 15, 2024

Accepted : March 12, 2024

ABSTRACT

People will sometimes face problems understanding the song's meaning. One of the reasons is caused by the use of Figurative Language. Therefore, this study analyses about figurative language found in LANY's song lyrics in the "gg bb xx" album. The objectives of this study are to analyses the types and meaning of figurative language, to explain the function of figurative language, and to find out the most dominant of figurative language. The research used a descriptive qualitative method. The research data consisted of 12 song lyrics from LANY the album “gg bb xx”. This research used Perrine theories. The results revealed that 36 types of figurative language were detected in the song lyrics, namely: 5 personification, 3 simile, 6 hyperbole, 7 metaphor, 2 irony, 2 understatement, 3 paradox, 1 apostrophe, 1 metonymy, 1 allegory, and 5 symbols. The data clearly show that metaphor was the most dominant type of figurative language in this result.

Keywords: Analysis, Figurative Language, Song Lyrics, LANY

INTRODUCTION

Songs are a way to express human feelings. Songs are a media that can help listening skills because they are widespread and train our ears to listen (Afriyuninda & Oktaviani, 2021). With the song's melody, it is very easy for us to remember and understand the words conveyed in the song. Now, everyone likes to listen to music or song, from the young to adult, especially English ones. Most of them also like to collect English song albums or CDs. But nowadays, people listen to songs through online music streaming platforms, such as Spotify, Apple Music, JOOX, and many more.

When listening to songs, people have different interpretations to understand the meaning of the songs. It is an easy way to understand the definition in the context of music appreciation. Still, in reality, it takes work for someone to understand it well and even interpret a song. When creating a beautiful song, a songwriter frequently uses figurative language to convey or conceal the actual meaning (Ratna, 2017). Therefore, listeners should be more familiar with figurative language to comprehend the song's literal meaning.

Figurative language is beneficial for creating song lyrics to give more energy to a lyric we use in the song (Panjaitan, 2020). Songwriters often use figurative language to cover or convey the literal meaning differently. Listening to music is an enjoyable activity for everyone, but listeners can't enjoy themselves if they do not understand the figurative language in a song. Song lyrics with hidden meanings will become more beautiful because of the usage of Figurative Language

(Setiawati & Maryani, 2018). Figurative Language is a noticeable departure from what speakers and readers of a language typically understand as the standard meaning of words or the usual order of words to achieve some specific purpose. Figurative language applies to both spoken and written language (Abram, 1999) as cited in (Simamora & Priyono, 2022).

However, sometimes people will face problems understanding the song's meaning. The students of the second grade class of SMA Swasta GKPI Padang Bulan Medan got difficulties to different between metaphors and personifications in identifying figurative language in mariah carey's songs lyrics (Viona BR Sembiring., 2020). One of the issues people have with languages is using Figurative Language. Ordinary people will have difficulty understanding it. It is also unambiguous and leads to misunderstanding, especially for non-native speakers learning English by listening to English songs, Saboe in (Dewi et al. 2020) .

The researcher conducts this research based on the article review. This research has different data sources. Many previous studies used various data sources. There is a data source from speech. The meaning and the types of figurative language on Joe Biden's Victory Speech and it's to make speech more interesting also helps to imagine a word or phrase or guess the meaning (Nainggolan et al., 2021). The types of figurative language and interpreted the contextual meaning of Pire Tana ritual speech and to know about some values and variant meaning (Densiana, 2022).

While from a movie , the types and the meaning of figurative language of cinema's world is to make the speech more attractive and memorable (Sihaloho and Simatupang, 2020). In Aladdin movie explained how the figurative language is applied and it's made the movie sounds more beautiful and nicer to be heard by the viewers. In the Maleficent movie is to attract interest in increasing knowledge while watching the movie (Nehe et al., 2022). Another types and the meaning of figurative language used in seven song by Coldplay is metaphor and repetition (Ramandani, S.K and Rizka Hayat, 2024). The students of the second grade class of SMA Swasta GKPI Padang Bulan Medan got difficulties to different between metaphors and personifications in identifying figurative language in mariah carey's songs lyrics.

The difference this time is that the researcher wants to examine figurative language in LANY's songs because it is western indie songs that are rarely people know about their songs. Other differences between this research are the different object that has yet to be used before. So, in this research, the researcher wants to find the types and the most dominant figurative language in the song lyrics of LANY's Album "gg bb xx".

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher applied a qualitative method in this research. The qualitative method analyzes and comprehends individuals or groups of individuals dealing with social or human challenges (Creswell, 2018). The researcher employed a descriptive qualitative method, in which data is described systematically in order to obtain an accurate and factual result. The descriptive method requires a researcher

to compile text-reference-based data by including the step-by-step process of gathering information (Delaney & Bates, 2018).

This research applied a descriptive qualitative method to study the problem because this research has the purpose of analyzing the types of figurative language found in LANY's album "gg bb xx". This research occurred by formulating a problem, collecting data, categorizing data, and analyzing data.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The researcher classified the data in this chapter based on the types of figurative language. The researcher found several types and the most dominant of figurative language

. The researcher used Perrine (2018) theory to analyze the types and most dominant.

a. Types of Figurative Language

In this part, the researcher found the types of figurative languages from "gg bb xx" album by LANY. To make the data clear, the researcher presents the figurative language results in a table.

Table 1. Data

No	Name of Song	Stanza and Lyrics	Types of Figurative Language
1	Get away	You know the deepest cuts by the coolest bands	Metaphor
2	Get away	You're more Paris, Texas than Paris, France	Metaphor
3	Get away	You wouldn't be caught dead wearing yoga pants	Understatement
4	Up to me	She's got a nice place west of the 405	Symbol
5	Never mind, let's break up	I feel like a stranger inside my own house	Metaphor
6	Never mind, let's break up	Thank you for the ride, this is the end of our road	Allegory
7	Never mind, let's break up	Girl, can you name a time I didn't go and get you everything you want?	Apostrophe
8	Dna	My reputation says that I fall too fast	Personification
9	Dna	Oh, it's just not in my DNA to love you only halfway	Metaphor

10	Dna	Tell you you're beautiful but probably too much	Hyperbole
11	Dna	I can't treat ya like the rest of LA	Metonymy
12	Dna	The rest of LA	Symbol
13	Roll over, baby	a glass of wine	Symbol
14	Live it down	The whole world shuts you out	Personification
15	Live it down	I'm sure it feels, like this wound won't heal	Metaphor
16	Live it down	The shadow that you're living in is all that's real	Metaphor
17	Live it down	You can cry a million tears	Hyperbole
18	Dancing in the kitchen	City lights looking like ice underneath the stars	Simile
19	Dancing in the kitchen	Now we're moving like we're on the moon	Simile
20	Dancing in the kitchen	I could spend a thousand nights right here	Hyperbole
21	Dancing in the kitchen	We could have nothing at all and it'd still feel like nothing's missing	Paradox
22	Dancing in the kitchen	Dancing in the kitchen	Symbol
23	Ex i never had	I only saw you when the sun wasn't up	Irony
24	Somewhere	Engine is running	Personification
25	Somewhere	Rolling like the wind	Simile
26	Somewhere	Back where I'm from, there ain't no silver lining	Metaphor
27	Care less	Blowing all my money, throw it all away	Hyperbole
28	Care less	Burning down my house, I'm a brandnew person	Hyperbole

29	Care less	A little bit less, care a little bit less	Understatement
30	'till I don't	The year that we've got it's already your end	Irony
31	'till I don't	But I'll never say "Forever" 'cause it's too much we don't know	Paradox
32	'till I don't	But I promise that I'll love you (Love), promise that I'll love you 'til I don't	Paradox
33	'till I don't	But I'll never say "Forever"	Symbol
34	One minute left to live	The sky could fall	Personification
35	One minute left to live	The Earth could split	Personification
36	One minute left to live	I can die listen to you laugh	Hyperbole

Based on the table above, the researcher found that there were 36 lyrics included in the type of figurative language based on Perrine's (2018) theory, they are 5 personification, 3 simile, 6 hyperbole, 7 metaphor, 2 irony, 2 understatement, 3 paradox, 1 apostrophe, 1 metonymy, 1 allegory, and 5 symbol.

b. Most Dominant of Figurative Language

To answer the research problem in this research that has been formulated above, the researcher found the types of figurative language and the most dominant type of figurative language used in LANY's songs in the "gg bb xx" album. From the results of the analysis, the researcher found the most dominant figurative language found in LANY's songs in the "gg bb xx" album with the title get away, up to me, never mind, let's break up, dna, roll over, baby, live it down, dancing in the kitchen, ex i never had, somewhere, care less, 'til i don't, one minute left to live according to Perrine (2018) theories. The pie chart can be seen below:

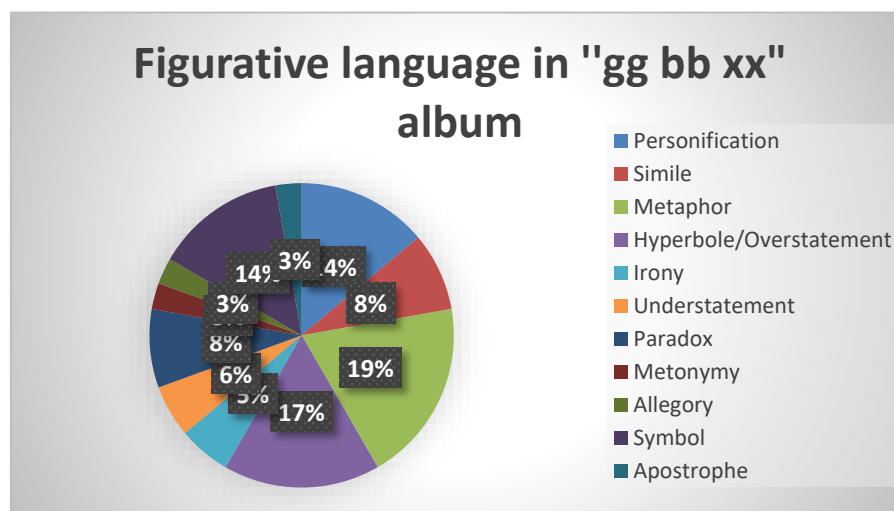


Figure 1. Most Dominant Figurative Language

Based on the pie chart above, there are 100% data include in figurative language, there are 19% data in metaphor, 17% data in hyperbole, 14% data in personification and symbol, 8% data in paradox and simile, 6% data in irony, 5% data in understatement and the last 3% data in apostrophe, metonymy and allegory. The researcher concluded that the dominant type of figurative language used in LANY songs in "gg bb xx" album is metaphor with a total of 7 data or 19%. Metaphor as the most dominant because powerful tools of figurative language that allow artists to convey complex emotions, experiences, and ideas in a more relatable and evocative manner. Metaphors help listeners connect on a deeper level, as they encourage interpretation and personal reflection. They can evoke imagery and emotions that might not be possible with direct language. LANY's use of metaphors in their songs could be a way to create a more profound and impactful listening experience, allowing listeners to find their own meaning and relate the lyrics to their own lives.

From the results of data analysis, the researcher concluded that by using Perrine (2018) theory, the researcher found that the most dominant type of figurative language used in LANY's song lyrics in "gg bb xx" album was metaphor. In finding the data the researcher found types of figurative language namely metaphor, hyperbole, personification, symbol, paradox, simile, irony, understatement, apostrophe, metonymy and allegory.

Based on the findings above, the researcher found several similarities and differences between the result of previous studies and the results of the research conducted by the researcher at this time. The results of previous research with the title "The Analysis of Figurative Language used in the Lyric of Firework by Katy Perry (A study of Semantic) of January 2017 Edition". There are differences and similarities from the research.

The similarity of this research with other researchers are the researcher used descriptive qualitative as a research design and the researchers have the same problem of the research. But in this research also has different with other researchers. The first different, in this research the researcher used song as the

data source, but in the other researcher used movie as the data source. Second, the researcher found 36 types of figurative language in LANY's songs, namely: metaphor, hyperbole, personification, symbol, paradox, simile, irony, understatement, apostrophe, metonymy and allegory. Meanwhile, in the previous research, the researcher found 96 types in maleficent movie, namely maleficent movie script was found simile, irony, understatement, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole, metonymy, and synecdoche.

CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis above found out the researcher concluded that LANY's songs in the "gg bb xx" album consists of 36 sentences that used figurative language. The analysis has two problem of the research. The first is what types of figurative language found in song lyrics in the "gg bb xx". The second is what the most dominant figurative language applied in that song lyrics. The researcher hopes that the results of this research will help to enrich learning and understanding of broad meaning of figurative language.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Mrs. Ratini Setyowati from Universitas Duta Bangsa Surakarta as a lecturer that already giving her best guidance, provided insight and expertise that greatly assisted the research. I would also like to show our gratitude to the best environment of friends that provided such a comfort atmosphere to finish the research properly.

REFERENCES

- Afriyuninda, E., & Oktaviani, L. (2021). *The Use of English Songs to Improve English Students'listening Skills*. Journal of English Language Teaching and Learning, 2(2), 80–85.
- Densiana, M. (2022). *An Analysis of Figurative Language and Contextual Meaning In Pire Tana Ritual Speech At Mapitara Sub-District, Sikka Regency*. Edunipa Journal, 2(2), 68–81.
- Dewi, E. N. F., Hidayat, D. N., & Alek, A. (2020). *Investigating figurative language in "Lose You to Love Me" song lyric*. Loquen: English Studies Journal, 13(1), 6–16.
- Febriyanti, J., Za, M., & Qamariah, H. (2022). *An Analysis of Figurative Language in Aladdin Movie*. Jurnal Ilmiah Mahasiswa Pendidikan, 3(2).
- Nainggolan, F., Siahaan, D. A., Sinurat, B., & Herman, H. (2021). *An analysis of figurative language on Joe Biden's victory speech*. International Journal on Integrated Education, 4(3), 364–375.
- Nehe, A. M., Sinambela, E., & Pasaribu, T. (2022). *An Analysis of Figurative Language in Maleficent Movie*. Jurnal Scientia, 11(02), 65–71.
- Panjaitan, P. S. A. Herman. S. Y. K. (2020). *Figurative Language Analysis at Song Lyrics Of Billie Eilish "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?"*

- Album*. American Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research (AJHSSR), 4(10), 10–20.
- Ramandani, S.K and Rizka Hayat (2024). *The Analysis of Figurative Language Found in Song Lyrics of Coldplay's Album*. National Seminar of Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
- Ratna, A. P. (2017). *An analysis of figurative language found in Katy Perry's song entitled "Firework."* *Lingua Scientia*, 24(2), 45–58.
- Setiawati, W., & Maryani, M. (2018). *An analysis of figurative language in Taylor Swift's song lyrics*. PROJECT (Professional Journal of English Education), 1(3), 261–268.
- Sihaloho, S. M. A., & Simatupang, E. C. M. (2020). *Figurative Language of Cinema World in Joko Widodo Speech*. English Journal Literacy Utama, 4(1), 158–167.
- Simamora, R. M., & Priyono, A. (2022). *Translation Method Analysis on Figurative Language in Novel Crazy Rich Asians Translated into Kaya Tujuh Turunan*. JENTERA: Jurnal Kajian Sastra, 11(2), 341–358.
- Viona BR Sembiring, (2020). *Analysis of Student's Ability in Identifying Figurative Language in Maria Carey's Songs*. Journal BASIS Volume 7 No 1 April. e-ISSN 2406-9809.