

THE BRITISH MUSICIAN'S SELECTED SONGS (A FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE ANALYSIS)

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Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengklasifikasikan bahasa kiasan menggunakan teori Leech dalam lagu-lagu pilihan musisi Inggris. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Penulis mengambil empat lagu, yaitu My Guitar Soft Weeps oleh The Beatles, Slide Away oleh Oasis, Suck It and See oleh Arctic Monkeys dan Robbers oleh The 1975. Dari hasil penelitian, penulis menemukan 5 jenis bahasa kiasan, yaitu 5 hiperbola, 5 metafora, 2 personifikasi, dan 2 simile. Selanjutnya, penulis menemukan bahwa ketujuh jenis makna terkandung dalam lagu-lagu pilihan musisi Inggris, yaitu 4 makna konseptual, 6 makna konotatif, 3 makna kolokatif, 1 makna sosial, 6 makna afektif, 4 makna reflektif dan 1 makna tematik.

Kata kunci: Bahasa Kiasan, Arti, Inggris

Abstract

The objective of the study is to classify the figurative language using Leech's theory in British musician's selected songs. This study used descriptive qualitative method. The writers take four songs, they are My Guitar Gently Weeps by The Beatles, Slide Away by Oasis, Suck It and See by Arctic Monkeys and Robbers by The 1975. From the results of the study, the writer found 5 types of figurative language, they are 5 hyperbole, 5 metaphor, 2 personification and 2 simile. Further, The writer found that all the 7 types of meaning are contained in British musician's selected songs, they are 4 conceptual meaning, 6 connotative meaning, 3 collocative meaning, 1 social meaning, 6 affective meaning, 4 reflective meaning and 1 thematic meaning.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Meaning, British.

INTRODUCTION

Language is a human belonging that is used to talk every different across the world. People use language of their day-by-day existence to deliver the messages to others whom they speak to. Muhajir, Anuar, Mohd Bin Abdul Rahman (2013) states that referential, emotive, conative, phatic, metalingual, and poetic are the six features of language. Every characteristic has its very own characteristics. Such as, poetic characteristic that is best challenge with inside the messages. Thus,

poetic characteristic isn't always simply approximately poetry, however additionally approximately different fields. One of them is song. Song is one in every of literary works. It has elements, specifically song and lyric. Lyric is a sort of sung poems. It is one of the maximum herbals of arts, being primarily based totally on one of the maximum essential of human schools of imitations which has capabilities as amusement and additionally as greater particular intention in telling a story 2 (Williams, 1951 in Milton., 1961). To be sure, music is highbrow and religious amusement giving a sense of entertainment and pleasure for audiences. As we know that, with semantic we can understand the actual meaning in a song. When listening a song, generally people not concentrate on the lyric that used in a song. sometimes people similar to the song because of the singer or even the music is good. And sometimes once people attempt to focus on the lyric, they will find some difficulties in understanding the meaning of the song lyrics. Especially, when the lyric used figurative language. Knowing the meaning of a lyric is very important because we will understand the meaning and purpose in the song.

Basically, figurative language is part of the semantic. Figurative language is the use of words in creative way to offer readers imagination of interpretation meaning in context than literal language. There are many styles of figurative language which may be very exciting to learning. There are many varieties of figurative meaning. Leech in Dewi (2010:2; stated in Saputri, 2014) has labeled figurative that means into seven types. They are: personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, litotes and metonymy. According to (Dancygier and Sweetser 2014) "Figurative language was thought of as being one aspect of what gives a text-in particular, a poetic text-special esthetic value". Figurative language can be said to express something in another way to refer to a thing by giving the implied meaning. It is often used in literary works to demonstrate the author's creativity and the beauty of language. Moreover, it is also one of the ways to interpret the hidden meaning of literary works. Based on Wren and Martin in (Sari, 2016), "Figurative or speech is a departure from the ordinary form of expression or the ordinary course of ideas in order to produce a greater effect". It can be seen figurative language or figure of speech is a word or words are used to create an effect and people usually call it as connotative meaning. Keraf (1998) divided figurative language into two classifications, namely rhetoric and analogy. The first classification covers illiteracy, assonances, anastrophe, apophasis, apostrophe, asyndeton, polycyndenton, chiasmus, ellipsis, euphemism, litotes, paradox, hyperbole and oxymoron. Meanwhile the later covers simile, metaphor, allegory, personification, allusion, metonymy, irony and synecdoche.

The writer interested in analyzing figurative language of British musician's selected songs because sometimes people listen to the song without knowing the meaning of the song. in this study the data will be taken from song, in particular, British musician's songs. The writer chooses songs by British musician because British song has a completely huge sort of subject matters that may be defined literally. Importantly, songs are good sized globally and clean to technique across the world. The have an impact on of track makes it an interesting source to observe withinside the lyric content, language use, style, and the idea. However, the song lyrics have wonderful words and the poetic aspect. The reader should know all about language variation that utilized in song lyric. So, the reader will understand the meaning of the song after they notice the meaning of the lyric. Therefore, one of the ways to know the true meaning that contained in figurative language is using semantic analysis. The data were taken from four songs of British musician. There are My Guitar Gently Weeps by The Beatles, Slide Away by Oasis, Suck It and See by Arctic Monkeys and Robbers by The 1975. "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" is a song written by George Harrison, first recorded by The Beatles in 1968 for their self-titled double album (also known as The White

Album). The song features Eric Clapton's lead guitar, although he was not officially credited on the album. But unlike some other songs, this one is more of a whiny, extremely personal lament. However, if the song is placed in a larger context, it can be seen as a response to some major political events such as the assassination of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy in the United States and the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Warsaw Pact who pointed out that, despite their message and their irresistible tendency, love had not yet conquered everything.

"Slide Away" was partly inspired by Noel Gallagher's stormy relationship with then-girlfriend Louise Jones. Noel lived with her for 6 years, leaving the family home in 1989 to move in with her. They had a tumultuous relationship and broke up several times, only to get back together each time. "Suck It And See" is the title track from the fourth album by British alternative rock band Arctic Monkeys. It was the first time the band had recorded a song with the same name as the album. Alex Turner, the vocalist of the band started writing this song around the time he was recording the soundtrack for the 2011 feature film *Submarine*. He told a British music, film and culture website and Brand, NME: "It just sort of came to me that melody and chorus, it's quite Beach 24 Boys-y which is something I've been listening to a lot recently, and always have. We decided to make it the title track quite near the end." "Robbers" is a song by British rock band The 1975, released as the sixth single from their self-titled debut album on 26 May 2014. The song's concept, about illegal robbery, was inspired by the 1993 film *True Romance*. This is a love song about a toxic relationship. They are too focused on each other to notice the destruction they are causing each other. She has doubts, but they keep postponing the inevitable end of the relationship. The title "Robbers" refers to how lovers robbing happiness and possibilities in this world apart from each other. They can't go on and fall in love because they're so caught up in their toxic relationship.

There are several studies previously conducted by some researchers that are relevant to this study. The first researcher is belonged to a journal article of figurative language written by Deni Arnita Hulu, Elia Nova Br. Sembiring and Natalia Widya Pasca Tarigan (2021) from Universitas Prima Indonesia. The title is "An Anlysis of Figurative Language in Ariana Grande's Album 'Thank U, Next'". The aim of the study is to determine the most dominant type of figurative language and then to identify the themes of the twelve songs in the song lyrics of Ariana Grande's 'Thank U Next' album. The study used descriptive qualitative research. The researchers found that the most dominant type of figurative language is a metaphor. The second researcher is Ema Rizqal Maftuhah (2018) from English Department in Hasanuddin University Makassar. The title is "Figurative Language in Selected Brian Mcknight's Songs". Her study aimed to identify and describe the meaning of figurativelanguage in Brian McKnight's songs and disclose the dominant types of figurative language that used in those songs. This study used descriptive qualitative method. The data were obtained from Brian McKnight's songs that contained in Brian McKnight album. From the analysis, the writer found that figurative language that used in Brian McKnight's songs very deserve. It can be 6 concluded that figurative language that most used in Brian McKnight's songs is hyperbole.

Hence, this study focused on figurative language that used in the songs. Based on the background above, the writers are interested in analyzing the figurative language contained in it. This research would like to find out the types of figurative language in British musician's selected songs. In short, the researcher can conclude that the topic and data analysis methods of this study are different from some of the above studies.

METHOD

The writers applied qualitative method to analyze figurative language that found in British musician's selected songs. The data was taken from four British musician's songs. The songs are My Guitar Gently Weeps by The Beatles, Slide Away by Oasis, Suck It and See by Arctic Monkeys and Robbers by The 1975. In data collection, the method used is library search, as this method is effective to be implemented according to a specified research time by selecting theories from relevant text, journals and books that support figurative language analysis. The writers were also using the theory of Leech to support the analysis. In this study, writers collected the data by using the following procedure. The writer observed the songs by listening and reading the lyrics of the songs from four British musician. The writer listened the songs and note-taking the lyrics in order to understand the lyrics. This was helpful in the step of get the data of the kinds of figurative language that used in the British musician's song. The writer marked the seven types of figurative language. In this section, the writers find the result of the statement of the problem. In addition, the writers used scientific writing through the use of Mendeley-based instruction for this study.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

After the writer have to analyze what kinds of figurative language used in British musician's songs, the result from the analysis will be explained below.

Types of Figurative Language

Based on many experts, there are many types of figurative language. In this study, the writer only discusses figurative language based on Leech's theory. Leech (1981, p. 11) classifies figurative language into seven types. Figurative language related to this study would be explained and used in the analysis of the results. The following will be explained of the classification of the kinds of figurative language contained in the songs.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is the expression of exaggeration used by a writer described as better or worse, or bigger or smaller than is actually the case is called hyperbole. This is a deliberate exaggeration that should not be taken literally. It used as a means of emphasizing the truthfulness of the statement.

Tabel 1. Hyperbole in British Musician's Selected Songs

No.	Hyperbole	Title	Stanza
1.	<i>"I look at you all see the love there that's sleeping"</i>	While my Guitar Gently Weeps – The Beatles	1 st
2.	<i>"Slide in baby together we'll fly"</i>	Slide Away – Oasis	3 rd
3.	<i>"We'll find a way of chasing the sun"</i>	Slide Away – Oasis	4 th
4.	<i>"Let me be the one who shines with you"</i>	Slide Away – Oasis	4 th
5.	<i>"Your kiss it could put creases in the rain"</i>	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	1 st
6.	<i>"And if you never eat, you'll never grow"</i>	Robbers – The 1975	3 rd

Based on the table above, there are 6 data which contained hyperbole in four songs of British Musician. Further, the hyperboles are contained in each lyric will be explained below as follows.

a. *I look at you all see the love there that's sleeping*

From the sentence above, the types of figurative language found is hyperbole since the author describe expression of exaggeration. It is exaggerated because it is impossible for human to see love, especially when its sleeping. In fact, human can not see the love but human can feel it because it is an emotion or a feeling.

b. *Slide in baby together we'll fly*

Together we'll fly is an example of hyperbole since the author used excessive language. The sentence tells those people can fly. In fact, it can not possibly be true. Basically, people will never fly because they are not physically designed to fly.

c. *We'll find a way of chasing the sun*

From the sentence above, the sentence "chasing the sun" are shown the use of hyperbole. The sun can not be chased by human without plane or boat. The purpose of this sentence means is the man who is falls head over heels in love with someone who wants to let go everything else and run away with her.

d. *Let me be the one who shines with you*

The sentences above states something exaggerated and do not correspond to reality. "Shine" here does not mean to be bright by reflection of light but it explains a man who wants someone whose future he has dreamed of together, but the girl does not seem to care.

e. *Your kiss it could put creases in the rain*

From the sentence above, figurative language can be found is the style of Hyperbole. Is it clear that the sentence above is included in Hyperbole because this sentence expresses an augmented expression. Basically, rain tends to fall in solid stream but the author believes that her "kiss" can easily break that stream. The sentence means that her kiss is like an umbrella.

f. *And if you never eat, you'll never grow*

This is an example of hyperbole since the author describe the sentence exaggeratedly. The sentence despicts "eat" does not describe the literal definition of the word. "Eat" here means trying something new, such as a relationship she is not sure about.

Metaphor

Metaphor is a type of figurative meaning which is an implicit comparison in which two unlike objects are compared by identifying or replacing one with the other.

Tabel 2. Metaphor in British Musician's Selected Songs

No.	Metaphor	Title	Stanza
1.	<i>"How to unfold your love"</i>	While my Guitar Gently Weeps – The Beatles	2 nd
2.	<i>"And those other girls are just postmix lemonade"</i>	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	1 st
3.	<i>"That's not a skirt girl, that's a sawn off shotgun"</i>	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	3 rd
4.	<i>"She had a face straight out a magazine"</i>	Robbers – The 1975	1 st

5.	<i>“Now if you never shoot, you’ll never know”</i>	Robbers – The 1975	3 rd
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Based on the table above, there are 5 data which contained metaphor in four songs of British Musician. Further, the metaphores are contained in each lyrics will be explained below as follows.

a. *How to unfold your love*

The metaphor in this sentence is a phrase “to unfold your love”. Since love is forgotten, people no longer know what it is. In this sentence, the word “unfold” does not describe the literal definition of the word. It means to opening up and starting to give and receive love. As they unfold, they let go of doubt and anger. They begin to view life in a more meaningfully.

b. *And those other girls are just postmix lemonade*

The sentence above is an example of Metaphor because it is implicitly comparing two different objects. Here is the comparison is between “girls” and “postmix lemonade”. It aims to describe the “girls” who are not as interesting or unique as the one in question, which is why he refers to them as ordinary “post-mix lemonade”.

c. *That’s not a skirt girl, that’s a sawn off shotgun*

Based on the sentence above, the writer found phrase of metaphor. In this sentence, “skirt” does not describe the literal meaning of the word itself. The author sees a skrit worn by the girl as deadly as a gun. Hence, the sentence “that’s not a skirt girl, that’s a sawn-off shotgun” means, someone wants the girl to lovr him as much as he loves her, even though he knows it will not do him any good.

d. *She had a face straight out a magazine*

“She had a face straight out a magazine” is a metaphor because the author was explicitly comparing two different objects. The sentence means she was absolutely beautiful in every way, she might as well have been a model.

e. *Now if you never shoot, you’ll never know*

This sentence is an example of metaphor. “If you never shoot, you’ll never know” is a metaphor that often used to illustrate that love is war. The struggles in the relationship (and their relationship is potrayed as a war) are seen as battles in which his partner, who is his opponent in the war, is encouraged to shoot him.

Metonymy

Metonymy is a figurative sense in which the name of an object or idea is replaced by that of another closely associated with it.

Tabel 3. Metonymy in British Musician’s Selected Songs

No.	Metonymy	Title	Stanza
1.	<i>“Blue moon girls from once upon a shangri-la”</i>	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	5 th
2.	<i>“Jigsaw women with horror movie shoes”</i>	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	4 th

Based on the table above, there are 2 data which contained metonymy in four songs of British Musician. Further, the metaphores are contained in each lyrics will be explained below as follows.

a. *Blue moon girls from once upon a shangri-la*

From the sentence above, figurative language can be found is Metonymy. Since the sentence use the name of an object or idea, it is replaced with another of another that is closely related to. Basically, “shangri-la” is a fictional montain valley described in 1993 novel Lost Horizon as being a lush and harmonious place, however fictional a place it may be. Thus, the sentence “blue moon girls from once upon a shangri-la” refers to the comparison between 'Shangri-la' and how the girl makes him feel.

b. *Jigsaw women with horror movie shoes*

“Jigsaw women with horror movie shoes” is an example of Metonymy because the word “Jigsaw” represented to another thing. Basically, Jigsaw is a fictional serial killer in the Saw movie. In this case, “jigsaw women” represented as bad women.

Simile

Simile expresses a direct comparison between things, which have one or more points in common and are recognizable by the use of the word ‘such as’ and ‘like’.

Tabel 4. Simile in British Musician’s Selected Songs

No.	Simile	Title	Stanza
1.	“Your love is like a studded leather headlock”	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	1 st
2.	“You’re rarer than a can of dandelion and burdock”	Suck It and See – Arctic Monkeys	1 st

Based on the table above, there are 2 data which contained simile in four songs of British Musician. Further, the metaphores are contained in each lyrics will be explained below as follows.

a. *Your love is like a studded leather headlock*

This sentence is one of an examples of a simile because the author used of the word “like” to compare “love” and “studded leather headlock”. The author used word “studded leather headlock” to described a painful and forceful grip. In addition, it is an image of the person’s love that is both painful and controlling.

b. *You’re rarer than a can of dandelion and burdock*

The figurative language found in the sentence above is simile. It needs to know that simile does not alway use ‘like’ and ‘as’ as conjunction, it also uses ‘than’, ‘similar to’, ‘reasambles’ or ‘seem’. This, the sentence uses conjunction ‘than’ to compare “you” and “dandelion and burdock”. Dandelion and Burdock is a traditional British deink made from Dandelion root and other ingredients. Since it is only made by a small company, it is rarely seen. In this case, author represents the rarity of the drink is projected onto the description of the woman in the man’s eyes. So, that is what makes her special.

Personification

Personification imparts human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas.

Tabel 5. Simile in British Musician's Selected Songs

No.	Simile	Title	Stanza
1.	" <i>While my guitar gently weeps</i> "	While my Guitar Gently Weeps – The Beatles	1 st
2.	" <i>Hold me down all the world's asleep</i> "	Slide Away – Oasis	2 nd

Based on the table above, there are 2 data which contained personification in four songs of British Musician. Further, the metaphores are contained in each lyric will be explained below as follows.

a. *While my guitar gently weeps*

The sentence above is the type of personification, since it uses human features for inanimate objects. The word "weeps" is used to describe an action performed by living objects or people. However, the word "weeps" indicated that the situation is becoming increasingly desperate. In fact, a musical instrument generally used to bring love and happiness into the world.

b. *Hold me down all the world's asleep*

The personification in this sentence is a phrase "all the world's asleep". The world is the earthly state of human existence. In this sentence, the world is like a living being that can sleep. It is clear that sentence above is included in personification because the world is not alive and inanimate like any other living thing.

CONCLUSION

This research analyzed four songs of British musician's selected songs. The songs are My Guitar Gently Weeps by The Beatles, Slide Away by Oasis, Suck It and See by Arctic Monkeys and Robbers by The 1975. This study aimed to classify the types of figurative language that used in the songs. After analyzed 4 songs from each selected British musician, there are 5 types of figurative languages that found. The types of figurative languages are: hyperbole, metaphor, personification and simile. The total is 16 data used figurative language. These are 5 hyperbole, 5 metaphor, 2 metonymy, 2 personification and 2 simile.

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