FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN *SELENA GOMEZ'S* SONG LYRICS: A SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

BAHASA KIASAN YANG DIGUNAKAN DALAM LIRIK LAGU SELENA GOMEZ: ANALISIS SEMANTIK

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Abstract

It was the goal of this study to figure out what kinds of figurative language Selena Gomez's song lyrics contain and to found out the interpretation in those songs. There wer six songs of Selena Gomez chosen to be the source of data, namely: Lose you to love me, Vulnerable, Wolves, Let me get me, People you know, Back to you. To collect the data, browsing the website Genius.com, searched the scripts of the song lyrics and copying and printing the song lyrics as data. Qualitative research was used in this study. Document or content analysis is a common application for this technique. Analyzing the data included various steps such as classifying it, describing it, tabulating it, and drawing conclusions from it. As a technique for verifying the validity of the data, the researchers in this study used data triangulation. Overall, Selena Gomez's song lyrics had 44 figurative language analysis data points. There were 3 (7%) data of simile, 20 (45%) data of metaphor, 2 (5%) data of personification, 2 (5%) data of metonymy, 3 (7%) data of symbol, 2 (5%) data of paradox, 11 (25%) data of hyperbole and 1(1%) data of irony. Through this research, the researcher would like to suggest people to analyze figurative language in the song, because figurative language is an interesting subject to study and analyze. In each types of figurative language are having other meaning. That is why the researcher thinks it is important for English

student who want to know more about meaning especially about figurative language.

Keyword: *Figurative language, lyrics, semantics, song.*

Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui jenis bahasa kiasan apa yang terkandung dalam lirik lagu Selena Gomez dan untuk mengetahui interpretasi dalam lagu-lagu tersebut. Ada enam lagu Selena Gomez yang dipilih menjadi sumber data, yaitu: Kalah kau untuk mencintaiku, Rentan, Serigala, Biarkan aku mendapatkanku, Orang yang kau kenal, Kembali padamu. Untuk mengumpulkan data, browsing website Genius.com, mencari script lirik lagu dan menyalin dan mencetak lirik lagu sebagai data. Penelitian kualitatif digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Analisis dokumen atau konten adalah aplikasi umum untuk teknik ini. Menganalisis data mencakup berbagai langkah seperti mengklasifikasikannya, mendeskripsikannya, mentabulasinya, dan menarik kesimpulan darinya. Sebagai teknik untuk memverifikasi keabsahan data, peneliti dalam penelitian ini menggunakan triangulasi data. Secara keseluruhan, lirik lagu Selena Gomez memiliki 44 poin data analisis bahasa kiasan. Ada 3 (7%) data simile, 20 (45%) data metafora, 2 (5%) data personifikasi, 2 (5%) data metonymy, 3 (7%) data simbol, 2 (5 %) data paradoks, 11 (25%) data hiperbola dan 1(1%) data ironi. Melalui penelitian ini, peneliti ingin menyarankan masyarakat untuk menganalisis bahasa kiasan dalam lagu, karena bahasa kiasan merupakan subjek yang menarik untuk dipelajari dan dianalisis. Dalam setiap jenis bahasa kiasan memiliki makna lain. Oleh karena itu peneliti menganggap penting bagi mahasiswa bahasa Inggris yang ingin mengetahui lebih banyak tentang makna khususnya tentang bahasa kiasan.

Kata kunci: *Bahasa Kiasan, lirik, semantik, lagu*

Introduction

Language is a communication system that relies on verbal or nonverbal codes to convey information. According to Herman (2018:33), language is a sound symbol system with arbitration characters for members of social groups to cooperate, communicate and recognize them. Language is very important to our lives because people use language to communicate and interact with others. According to Kurniawan (2014: 91), the main tool of comunication is language. Language is a traditional spoken or written symbol system that people use to communicate with each other.

English is a globally recognized language that is spoken in a large number of countries. In the opinion of Sinaga, Herman, and Pasaribu (2020:51), the

significance of English can be seen in all facets of life, such as job requirements. Language proficiency, both oral and written, is one of the prerequisites. Then, there are many educational books written in English, so it can be said that this is very important in our lives.

English as communication has always been an important part of human life. Communication is an activity in which two or more people exchange messages or information, with an emphasis on messages that have some sort of meaning. Meaning is the message conveyed by words, sentences and symbols in context. The study of meaning is called Semantics. Semantics can handle meaning at the level of words, phrases, sentences or larger units of discourse. According to Thao and Herman (2021), semantics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on understanding the meaning of words and phrases. Semantics is also the study of how general meanings or the meanings of words in works are related to each other (Nainggolan et al, 2021). Meaning also can found in the literature work. One of the part of semantics that related to meaning is Figurative language.

Figurative language is a branch of linguistics that shows meanings that don't actually happen (imaginative language) such as similes, metaphors, alliteration, and many more. Figurative language is used to convey the heart's desire in an indirect or subtle way to others as well as to beautify the lyrics in a song. According to Nuriadi (2016:162), the language or expression used to describe or clarify a speaker's intention, idea, or message is referred to as figurative (Manurung et al, 2020). Figurative language refers to the use of comparisons to describe something. Because figurative language implies a new meaning for the word, it can't be used in every conversation; it's dependent on the context and the interlocutor's own background. Struggling readers may have a hard time grasping the concept of figurative language, but it's something that all readers should be able to do. In order to pique the interest of readers and effectively communicate concepts and imagination, writers use figurative language. People lose their ability to interpret figurative language if they are unaware of it (Lumbantobing et al, 2021). Metaphorical language is frequently used in literary works like newspaper articles, advertisements, novels, poems, and so on. Song lyrics, particularly in English, can also contain it.

A song may use figurative language as well. It has been suggested that song is one of the ways that humans communicate and cooperate, according to Pakpahan et al (2020). (Thao and Herman, 2021). For as long as we can remember, music has been an amusing companion for humans. Song is a kind of art with music and words that can expresses many aspects of life, and we can find lyric that make the song beautify and more interested to hearing. Creating a

song lyric is difficult and not an easy job. There are many words written using Imagination and figurative language sense to create lyrics song that make whoever listen to it, feel interested in it.

Most people enjoy a song simply because of the singer or the quality of the music, but this isn't always the case. According to Shen (2009), songs are understandable, pleasurable, authentic, and full of language that we need in everyday life. Shen (2009) Learning English is a lot more fun when you do it while relaxing, and this is especially true for English language learning. In some cases, listeners who concentrate on the lyrics have trouble deciphering the meaning of the lyrics. Figure of speech is a literary device used by Panjaitan et al (2020), who claim that figurative language is one of the literary aspects. In order to enhance something's beauty or emotional impact, this is an expression mode used (Siburian et al, 2020). Two connotative meanings are implied by the use of figurative language. It is concerned with the meaning of a new word, as most words have multiple meanings in this context. Figure of speech was also used to convey a metaphorical meaning. People will always use one or the other of these to express themselves. However, because the figurative meaning highlights the language's beauty, some writers, poets, and motivational speakers prefer to use it whenever possible to convey their thoughts and feelings.

Finding out the meaning of the lyrics in song is important because we will know what the meaning and purpose the writer talk about. Especially when the lyric used figurative language. Listiyaningsih (2017) as cited in Siahaan et al (2021) also stated that one of the ways to improve listening skills is to listen to songs English. As a result of hearing an English language song on repeat, one's ears become accustomed to hearing it and will have an easier time picking up on the meaning of the narrator's speech in listening class. It's critical to understand the meaning of the lyrics if you want the listener to get the message. Figures of speech don't say what they mean, but they force the listener to understand what they mean. Take the song 'Wolves' by Selena Gomez as an example:

> E.g.: *In your eyes, there's a heavy blue*
> *One to love and one to lose*
> *Sweet divine, a heavy truth*
> *Water or wine, don't make me choose* (metaphor)

This sentence included into metaphora. The researcher found the meaning of Water and wine can also depict "a hard choice to be made". Human need water to live, but the taste of wine is irresistible. The condition of "you are forced to choose the only drink you can drink for the rest of your life" can emphasize the metaphor better. It's a hard choice because if you choose water, you will not be able to taste the wine again, and if you choose wine, your life expectancy obviously shorter.

Some researchers have conducted studies on song figurative language analysis in the past. One of them was An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Zayn Malik and Zha Via Ward's Lyric to A Whole New World by Siti Nursolihat (2020). Her research focused on the figurative languages used in the song's lyrics, such as "A Whole New World," and how they relate to the overall context. The descriptive qualitative approach is being used in this study. It turned out that this song uses a variety of figurative languages, including alliteration, metaphor, personification, simile, and hyperbole, according to the findings of the study. In addition, metaphor is the most prevalent figure of speech in the song.

For example :(Metaphor)
A whole new world
A new fantastic point of view
it's crystal clear
through an endless diamond sky

Figurative language was discovered by the researcher from an example and it is a metaphor. To begin, the outside of the castle is compared to the new world in the first sentence. The truth is that the universe has not changed. the princess has never seen it before, as she is confined to the castle during her entire life. There is an old world to her in the castle and a new one beyond its walls. "A whole new world," says the second sentence, echoing the previous line. Here we are comparing the outside of the castle, which only the princess knows, with a newly discovered point of view, which makes the castle appear even more magnificent to the princess. The third line compares Aladin's clear view of the world from the carpet to the crystal's clarity. To put it another way, it's trying to convey the idea that the world is crystal clear and stunningly beautiful. There is a direct comparison between a star and a diamond because both are bright and sparkling, as we all know. It means the sky is ablaze with millions of sparkling stars. On the whole, the song's message is to turn a new page in life, keep loving simply, and dare to face all of life's challenges because at every corner is a surprise waiting for you. It is from the soundtrack of the film Aladdin.

Listening to music is enjoyable, but that enjoyment is tempered if the person doing the listening does not understand the song's figurative language. the listeners, who are less adept at deciphering the figurative language, find difficult to understand. Because of how many figurative languages there are in Selena Gomez's "RARE" album and because the songs are meaningful and enjoyable to hear, the researcher is interested in studying them in Selena Gomez's "RARE" album. There are thirteen tracks on this album. It's a singer/actress/producer named Selena Marie Gomez who was born on the 22nd

of July, 1992, in the United States. Originally from the Lone Star State, Gomez got her start in the entertainment industry as a cast member of the children's show Barney & Friends. It's his third studio album, and it's titled Rare. It was a decade's first female artist's number-one album. As a result, the researcher was motivated to use semantic analysis to uncover the Figurative Language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics.

Research Methods

The research method explains the researcher's data analysis methodology. To conduct effective research, the researcher must use the appropriate methodology. This study employs a descriptive qualitative methodology. To perform a descriptive analysis, you must describe exactly what happened when a procedure related to a method was followed. There are no detailed arithmetic calculations or statistics applied in the descriptive qualitative approach, according to Moleong (2011:11). The researchers employed a qualitative research approach in this study. Methods that solely rely on existing facts or phenomenaindeed, empirically live on the speakers so that data is producedor recorded according to Simbolon et al (2021) are known as qualitative methods (Herman, Sinurat and Sitio, 2019).

To name a few, qualitative research consists of a variety of approaches such as basic interpretive studies, case studies, document or content analyses and ethnographies. To get data from the lyrics of Selena Gomez's songs, this research is designed as a document or content analysis based on the types of qualitative research methods used. Using content analysis, researchers examine recorded audio and video to gain insight into human behavior. Public records, textbooks, letters, films, tapes, diaries, themes, reports, and other documents are examples of possible sources for the information. Because it describes and analyzes song lyrics data, the study is classified as document or content analysis. Last but not least, qualitative research should be used to find out more about, analyze, and present the research data in a more in-depth way.

Data Source

The subject of the investigation is Selena Gomez's new album 'RARE' 2020 song lyrics. Figurative Language in the SongLyrics is the subject of the investigation. The researcher then went through the album, picking out and analyzing specific songs to see what kinds of figurative language were used in them. Arikunto (2010:129) claims that the study's source data was a place from

which data could be gleaned. To put it another way, it means the data source is a document of some sort.

For Ary et al. (2010), "documents" includes a wide range of written and visual materials, including what other authors may refer to as "artifacts" (Purba and Herman, 2021). Analyzing documents can be done on written or text-based artifacts (such as textbooks and novels) or on non-written records (such as meeting minutes and e-mail messages) with or without written records (photographs, audiotapes, videotapes, computer images, websites, musical performances, televised political speeches, YouTube videos, virtual world settings, etc.). The following six tracks will be examined:

1. Lose you to Love me
2. Vulnerable
3. Wolves
4. Let me get me
5. People you know
6. Back to you

There are numerous figurative languages in Selena Gomez's song "RARE" album that the researcher is interested in analyzing, and the songs are both meaningful and enjoyable to listen to. This is why the researcher chose Selena Gomez's album RARE.

Technique of Data Collection

Hutabarat et al. (2020) cite Sugiyono (2012) as saying that data collection techniques in research strategies are important because the research's primary goal is to gather data. Listening to the song and reading the lyrics were two more steps in the data collection process. After that, the author made some notes to help build the analysis using the information gleaned from the experiment. The researcher took care of all of those steps.

Steps in data collection:

1. Browsing the Genius website (https://genius.com/)
2. Searching the scripts of the song lyrics
3. Copying and printing the song lyrics as data

Technique of Data Analysis

According to Sugiono (2012) in Hutabarat et al (2020), qualitative research is process of finding data from the notes or documentation. So, after

getting and collecting data, then the researcher can analyzing the data. Steps in analyzing the data:

1. Transcribing the lyrics of Selena Gomez's song from Genius.com
2. Selecting the lyrics of Selena Gomez's song that used figurative language
3. Classifying the kinds of figurative language used in Selena Gomez's songs lyrics based on Perrine Theories
4. Describing the meaning of each phrase it contain of Figurative language used in Selena Gomez's song lyrics.
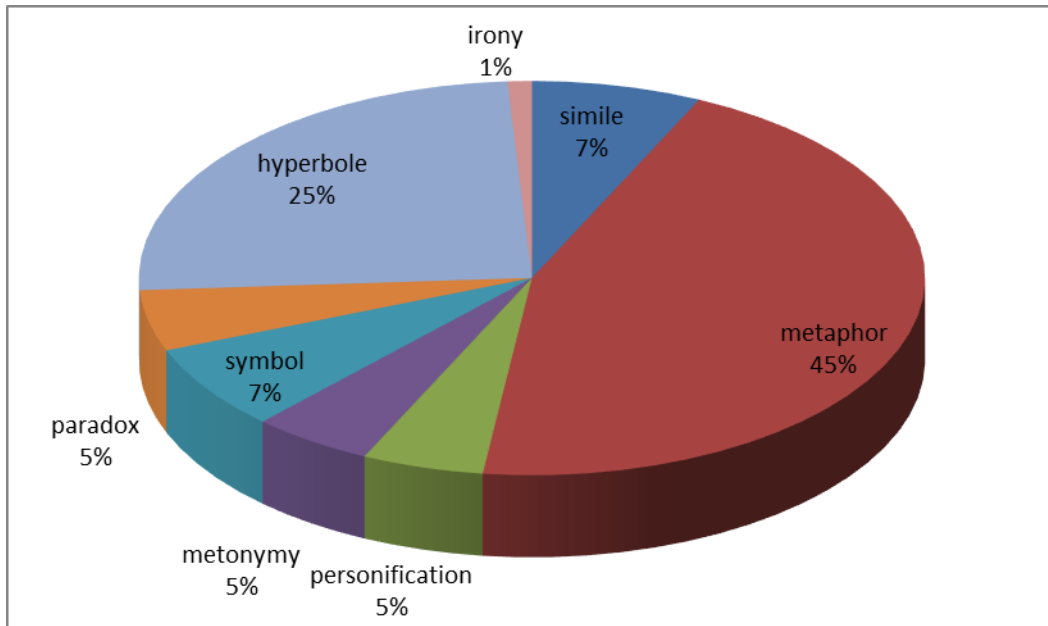5. Drawing Conclusion.

Results and Discussion

Results

After analyzes the figurative language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics, the researcher found that there are eight types of figurative language Selena Gomez's song lyrics they are simile, metaphor, personification, metonymy, symbol, paradox, hyperbole, irony.

Table 1. Types of figurative language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics

No	Types of figurative language	frequency	Percentage (%)
1	Simile	3	7%
2	Metaphor	20	45%
3	Personification	2	5%
4	Metonymy	2	5%
5	Symbol	3	7%
6	Paradox	2	5%
7	Hyperbole	11	25%
8	Irony	1	1%
	Total	**44**	**100%**

Chart 1. Figurative language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics

The image above depicted the various kinds of figurative language used by Selena Gomez in her song lyrics. Eight types of figurative language were discovered by the researcher: metaphor, personification, metonymy and symbolism. Three out of 44 similes were located in the lyrics, as shown in the table above. There are a total of 20 metaphors in the song. In the lyrics, there are two instances of personification. The song's lyrics contain 2 metonymies. The song's lyrics contain three distinct symbols. The lyrics contain two paradoxes. The song's lyrics contain 11 instances of hyperbole and 1 instance of irony..

Discussion

The researcher discovered types and meanings of figurative language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics after analyzing the data. The data based on Sugiono (2012:224) is analyzed using four different procedures: Transcribing the lyrics, selecting the figurative language song lyrics, classifying the types of figurative language song lyrics based on Perrine Theories (2018), describing the meaning of each phrase that contains Figurative language song lyrics, coding the data and drawing conclusions are all necessary steps in this process. Song lyrics by Selena Gomez are a focus of this investigation. The findings can be seen in the sample data, which is considered to be a sample of figurative language. According to the findings, eight out of a possible twelve types of figurative language were discovered.

Singer Selena Gomez's lyrics were examined by the researcher. The researcher looked at six different lyrics from songs to see which ones were most popular. It was found that there are 8 different types of figurative language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics, including: 3% (7%) of simile; 20% (45%) of metaphor; 5% (2%) of personification; 5% (2%) of metonymy; 3% (7%) of symbol; 2% (5%) of paradox; and 11% (1%%) of hyperbole.

The researcher discovered several differences between this study and previous studies based on the findings. However, Mutiara (2016) did a study called The Analysis Figurative Language Meaning of the Jakarta Post-a-Paper, which was different from the previous ones. The study's goal is to discover the predominant figurative language and situations used in the Jakarta Post's headlines. The study conducted by Mutiara is qualitative in nature. Metonymy, synecdoche, and personification are all types of figurative language discovered by Mutiara, but synecdoche is the most prevalent. This study differs from Mutiara's in that it is attempting to answer a different question. Mutiara is on the lookout for different types of figurative language and which one is the most prevalent. To find out what kinds of figurative language are being used, the researcher is conducting this study. To find out more about figurative language, Mutiara looked at metonymy, synechdoche and personification. The results showed that synechdoche was the most prevalent. Simile, metaphora, personification, metonymy, symbol, paradox, hyperbole, and irony are among the 8 types of figurative language discovered by the researcher during this study. The researcher also discovered a large number of lyrics with symbolic meaning.

Conclusion

The following conclusion can be reached after analyzing the data::

1. Selena Gomez's song lyrics use eight different types of figurative language, including the following: In metaphor, there are 20 (45%) data, in simile, there are 3 (7%) data, in personification there are 5 (5%), in metonymy there are 2 (5%), in symbol there are 3 (7%) data, in paradox there are 2 (5%), in hyperbole there are 11 (25%) data, and in irony there are 1 (1%).
2. According to the findings of the data analysis, the researcher has found the figurative language meaning in Selena Gomez's song lyrics. It means that in every song lyrics have kinds of figurative meaning.

Therefore, the researcher hopes this research is significant to enrich and understanding about figurative language to give some information and contribution to semantics study. It can be used as a reference to any related of semantics studies research particularly in terms of figurative language, especially in the terms about figurative language as found in Selena Gomez's song lyrics. From this research, to enrich learning and understanding about figurative language, the researcher hopes the findings of this research can give contribution. The researcher it will enrich the research field because it enables us to understand the meaning of figurative language extensively. It is expected this research is useful for the lecturer and the students of the University HKBP Nommensen, especially at Faculty of Teacher Training and Education. It is expected to be able to give additional information to the researcher about figurative language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics. This research is also expected to give information for others who are interested read this research.

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