

AN ANALYSIS OF HYPERBOLIC EXPRESSIONS FOUND IN DIFFERENT SONG LYRICS

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ABSTRACT

Songs become one of the effective ways to express feelings and deliver the message. But sometimes there are many of song lyrics which are hard to understand by listeners, it is because the lyrics contain hyperbolic expressions and the meanings are hidden inside. This research was analysis of hyperbolic expressions found in different song lyrics. The aims of this research are to finds out the forms of hyperbolic expressions used in song lyrics and analyzed the meanings that can be inferred from hyperbolic expressions used in song lyrics. This research used the qualitative method in collecting and analyzing data. The results of this research showed that there are 47 hyperbolic expressions found in the songs. From the seven forms of hyperbole, the researcher only found five forms in this research. There are 16 data of single word hyperbole, 11 of phrasal hyperbole, 5 of clausal hyperbole, 14 of numerical hyperbole, and 1 repetition.

Keywords : *hyperbole, hyperbolic expressions, song lyrics, meaning.*

INTRODUCTION

Communication is very important thing that we have to do in our life. Language is one of the tools of communication that we have. We need a language to talk with other people so that we are able to convey the message or information and there is no miscommunication between speaker and hearer. In communication, people share their thoughts, feelings, ideas in many ways, one of them is through song.

We can see that a lot of people love to listen to the songs and write the songs to share and tell their feelings. One part of the song is the lyrics. Lyrics are every word that builds the song and have special meanings. Many songwriters tell many things in the lyrics by using figurative language that sometimes has hidden meaning inside them. Figurative language refers to where the speaker uses this expression to imply something different from what they literally say [1]. In figurative language, words and sentences which are used do not have the meaning as their literal meaning.

So when we listen to a song, we do not only listen to the melody and rhythm but also find the meaning of the lyrics that are shared by the writer and the singer. We have to find out the meaning and the message that the writer and singer want to

express to us. But sometimes there are many song lyrics that are hard to understand by listeners, it is because the lyrics contain figurative language and the meanings are hidden inside. The intended meaning of figurative language differs from the literal meanings of the words and sentences employed [2]. So, we can conclude that figurative language implies a meaning that goes beyond the actual meaning and this figurative language cannot be interpreted literally.

There are many types of figurative language, one of them is hyperbole. Hyperbole is an expression that exceeds the literal expression and contains more semantic attributes of expression something [3]. The meaning of a sentence which contains hyperbole can not be interpreted by the literal meaning. There are 7 forms of hyperbole namely single word hyperbole, phrasal hyperbole, clausal hyperbole, numerical hyperbole, the role of superlative, comparison, and repetition [3].

The researcher discovered some studies that deal with hyperbolic expressions. The first previous studies examines about the forms of hyperbolic expressions, the meanings and the function of hyperbole in Bruno Mars' songs. To answer the problem, the researcher used the descriptive qualitative method. The result shows there are 28

hyperbolic expressions and classified them in several forms. The research also described about the meanings and the functions of hyperbolic expressions used in Bruno Mars' song lyrics [4].

The second related study discusses about the types of figurative language which used in Maher Zain's songs and the most dominant figurative language in Maher Zain's songs. In this research, the writer used qualitative method to analyze the data. The result shows 11 types of figurative language that are used in Maher Zain's songs and the most dominant figurative language which used in the songs is hyperbole [5].

METHODS

In this research, the researcher used qualitative method. Qualitative methods depend on text and image data, have particular steps in analyzing the data, and use different designs [6]. In collecting data, it started with download songs and lyrics from the internet. After that, the researcher took a note by underlining the lyrics and make a code of the data. Then, the data is classified and analyzed the data based on the related theory. In this research, the data was obtained about 28 songs that use English in the lyrics with different singers and genres. The researcher observed the lyrics that contain hyperbolic expressions to collect the data which are needed. The sources of data were taken from the internet.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this research, the researcher found 47 data of hyperbolic expression that used in different song lyrics. From the seven types of hyperbole, the researcher only found five forms of hyperbolic expressions in this research as follow, single word hyperbole, phrasal hyperbole, clausal hyperbole, numerical hyperbole, and last repetition. The data of forms of hyperbole can be classified in the table below :

Tabel 1. Forms of Hyperbole

No	Forms of Hyperbole	Total Data
1	Single Word Hyperbole	16
2	Phrasal Hyperbole	11
3	Clausal Hyperbole	5

4	Numerical Hyperbole	14
5	Repetition	1

The table below represented the data classification for forms of hyperbole used.

Tabel 2. Data representing forms of Hyperbole

No	Forms of Hyperbole	Lyrics
1	Single Word Hyperbole	<i>And you're <u>everything</u> I need</i>
2	Phrasal Hyperbole	<i>I'd climb <u>every mountain</u> And swim <u>every ocean</u></i>
3	Clausal Hyperbole	<i>I can hear your <u>whisper</u> <u>even though we're miles</u> <u>away</u></i>
4	Numerical Hyperbole	<i>I've waited <u>a hundred</u> <u>years</u> But I'd wait <u>a million</u> <u>more</u> for you</i>
5	Repetition	<i>I <u>really really really</u> <u>really really really</u> like you</i>

Here are two examples of findings and the analysis of this research that could be seen as follows.

Data 1

*I'd climb every mountain
And swim every ocean*

(Title of the song : You are the Reason – Calum Scott)

The form that used in the lyrics is phrasal hyperbole. If we read the lyrics above, it is clearly a hyperbolic expression. As a human, no one can climb every mountain and swim in every ocean in the world. It is beyond the ability of a human to do that. But these sentences are used in the song's lyrics that can make the song more beautiful and the listeners are mesmerized with the songs. The composer and the singer use this sentence to show that how much he loves someone so he will climb every mountain and swim every ocean just to be

with his lover. The intended meaning is describes how deep his love for someone is.

Data 2

I've waited a hundred years

But I'd wait a million more for you

(Title of the song : Turning Page – Sleeping At Last)

The lyrics above are contain hyperbolic expressions. The lyrics clearly show the form numerical hyperbole because there are contain the words 'hundred and million'. The hyperbolic expression appears because the composer makes an exaggeration meaning by using the words "a hundred years" and "a million" in the song. In general, humans only can live under 100 years and some can live more than 100 years but the percentage is very small. So how can humans wait a million more years while they can only live less than 100 years. It can be said that the meaning of the lyrics is as long as the composer lives. The intended meaning is the author wants to show that how much he loves someone so he can wait for someone for all his life.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

After analyzing and discussing the lyrics in different songs, the researcher can conclude that there are many of figure of speech especially hyperbole found in this research. The meaning that can be inferred from each data is based on the context and the theme of the songs. Every song lyrics context causes the interpretation of the expression to become increasingly exaggerated, indicating that those expressions are included in exaggeration. Using of hyperbole in song lyrics can make the song more interesting and beautiful. Besides that, the composer using hyperbole in song lyrics also wants to show the depth emotions and make an exaggerate of something that impossible to happen. The researcher hopes that this research will provide many benefits for readers and for further researchers who are interested in discussing figurative language, especially hyperbole. For further researchers to be able to examine hyperbolic expressions, especially in song lyrics using theories from other experts. Next, hopefully the next researcher can make research on hyperbolic expressions in different objects and

analyze other aspects contained in the song besides hyperbolic expressions.

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