AN ANALYSIS OF METAPHORS AND THEIR MEANING IN LADY WISTHLEDOWN'S UTTERANCES IN MOVIE SERIES *BRIDGERTON*

Ummi Shafira Ramadian[1], Diana Chitra Hasan[2]
English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Bung Hatta University

Email: ummisr.mra@gmail.com, diana.hasan@bunghatta.ac.id

ABSTRACT

Metaphor becomes a way to understand the basic function of a term through another term, where there are some similarities or correlations between the two terms. Nowadays, figurative language including metaphor has been used in dialogue, narrative text even in movie dialogue. This is interesting because most of that movie's dialogues have been more sparkling by the use of metaphor. The goal of this study is to examine Lady Whistledown's metaphorical expression in the *Bridgerton* film series and explain the metaphor's meaning. This is a qualitative study in which the data and findings are presented in a methodical manner. The data in this study was analyzed using Beekman and Callow's metaphor theory. Full Metaphor and Abbreviated Metaphor were the types of metaphors discovered by the author. The results of this study showed there are 1 Full Metaphor, 7 Abbreviated Metaphor type 1, 9 Abbreviated Metaphor type 2, 12 Abbreviated Metaphor type 3, and 3 Abbreviated Metaphor type 4. The meaning of each metaphor was interpreted through the existing context.
Keywords: *metaphor, full metaphor, abbreviated metaphor, meaning, Bridgerton*

INTRODUCTION

Figurative language deviates significantly from what language users understand as the usual meaning of words, or the standard arrangement of words, in order to produce a specific meaning or effect [1]. Figurative language was supposed to be one facet of what gives a text-in particular, a poetic text-special aesthetic value [2]. Figurative language uses figures of speech to become more effective, persuasive, and imaginative. Figure of speech such as metaphors, similes, hyperbole, personification, alliteration are outside the literal meanings of the words to give the reader new insights.

One of the figurative languages is metaphor. Metaphor becomes a way to understand the basic function of a term through another term, where there are some similarities or correlations between the two terms [3]. Nowadays, figurative language including metaphor has been used in dialogue, narrative text even in movie dialogue. This is interesting because most of that movie's dialogues have been more sparkling by the use of metaphor. Metaphors could be found in many kinds of movie genre, romantics, science fiction, detective, horror, comedy, thriller, drama, adventure even in a mystery movie. Also,

metaphor becomes the lucky charm to attract the audience.

Definitely, there are many kinds of movies and they have interesting things to be the object of research. The writer is interested to take the metaphor research on the British-Regency era's movie which is the movie series of *Bridgerton*. *Bridgerton* is an American period drama series based on Julia Quinn's novels set in the competitive world of Regency Period London's ton during the season of debutantes. The story is set in Regency-era London in 1813, and it revolves around the noble Bridgerton family. Lady Whistledown, the nameless and ever-scandalous newsletter columnist, narrates each episode.

By today's standards, *Bridgerton* contains some words and phrases that are out of date. As a period piece, the exhibition represents not only the regency era's culture and fashion but also its language. Though the majority of what the characters say is intelligible, there are a few terms and phrases (metaphors) that may be confusing. For people to grasp an utterance, it must first have a meaning. "Meaning is what a language expresses about the world we live in or any possible or imaginary world" [4]. Context is also needed when an utterance is being interpreted. Context refers to the speaker's and listener's shared

assumptions of knowledge[5]. Situational context, background knowledge context, and cotextual contexts were the three categories of context he identified. It is interesting to examine how the figurative language, in this case, metaphors used in the previous century by the character in this movie, is presented in the year of 2020. Due to the more than 100 year gap between the setting of the movie and the time when it is shown in the cinema, the metaphorical expression used may be difficult for today's viewers. That is why this study of the metaphors used in the movie is important to reveal the dynamic of metaphorical expression over a long time period.

Several studies have been conducted on metaphor as a research topic. First, there is a study done by analyzed metaphors used by the main characters in the film "Moana" [6]. The research focused on identifying different types of metaphors and analyzing the significance of metaphors in the film. The research also looks at metaphor's emotional impact. The descriptive qualitative method was used in this study. In order to analyze the data, the researcher employs Lakoff and Johnson's metaphor conceptual theory [3]. Aside from that, the researcher analyzes the emotions obtained in the data using Kovecse's theory [7]. Angry, fear, happiness, sadness, love, lust, shame, pride, and surprise emotions are among them. The difference between this study and the prior one is in the study's objectives. In the previous study, the researcher analyzed metaphor meaning and emotion using Lakoff and Johnson's theory, however in this study, The researcher wishes to look into the meaning of metaphors using Beekman and Callow's approach [3], [8]. The second study examines the types and communicative functions of the Sumbawanese metaphor, but the communicative functions are not examined in this study [9]. As a result, the theory used in this work differs from earlier research. Another study about metaphor analyzed how metaphor translated by the translator from English to the Indonesian Language [10]. The study found there are differences between the original language of metaphors to target language because there are cultural differences, but in the end, it can reach the equivalence so it does not lose the meaning. Not only that, but she also found a translation of metaphors does not achieve this equivalence. The theory she used in her research is also by Beekman and Callow [8]. But the goals of the study are different from this study. The purpose of this research is to determine the types and meaning of metaphors in Lady Whistledown's utterances in movie series *Bridgerton*.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
This is a qualitative study that employs descriptive methods. The qualitative method is a scientific observation method used to collect non-numerical data. This method refers to the meaning, concept definition, metaphor, symbol, and description of something [11]. The source of the data is movie series *Bridgerton* while the data are metaphor-containing utterances from Lady Whistledown in the movie. The writer conducted the research by noting then examining and underlining utterances that containing the metaphorical expression. Lastly, the writer will be classifying the data based on the types of metaphor proposed by Beekman and Callow and determining the meaning of each metaphor expressed by the character based on the context [8],[5]. The writer will also show in what minute or time that the data are shown by using the subtitle that will be captured in the picture.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
Using *Bridgerton* as a source of data for the study, the researcher discovered 32 data of metaphors used in Lady Whistledown's utterances throughout 8 episode in this movie series which are in accordance with the theory of metaphor that proposed by Beekman and Callow [8]. The types of metaphors that were found are Full Metaphor and Abbreviated Metaphor. Abbreviated Metaphor then subdivided into 4 types; Type 1, Type 2, Type 3, and the last type, Type 4 . Full metaphor is a metaphor, when it is in the form of a full comparison, compares two items and gives the point of similarity. Sometimes metaphor being showed in literature is not in full comparison, but in abbreviated comparison, because one or two items of the comparison left being implicit. From that, the abbreviate metaphor is differentiated into four types: Type 1 wherein the metaphor only topic and image are stated while the point of similarity is not. Type 2 when the topic is not being stated explicitly, left the image and point of similarity explicitly stated. When it is only the image is being stated in a metaphor, it is included in Type 3. And the last type, Type 4 is when the point of similarity and part of the image are implicit [8]. Below is the table of the classification of metaphors that occurs in the utterances of Lady Whistledown.

Table 1. Types of Metaphors

No	Types of Metaphors		Total Data
1	Full Metaphor		1
2		Type 1	7
		Type 2	9
	Abbreviated Metaphor	Type 3	12
		Type 4	3
	Total		**32**

Table 1 shows that abbreviated metaphor type 3 which is the most frequently used has 12 data, 9 data of abbreviated metaphor type 2, 7 data of abbreviated metaphor type 1, abbreviated metaphor type 4 has 3 data, and the last is full metaphor with only 1 data. The table below represents the data classification for all types of metaphors used.

Table 2. Data Representing Each Type of Metaphor

Types of Metaphors		Data
Full Metaphor		And the drawing room at *Bridgerton* House currently appears to be emptier than the muddled head of her dearest King George.
Abbreviated Metaphor	Type 1	a scribbling woman is the most canine
	Type 2	an even rarer jewel of only the most remarkable brilliance, fire, and luster has been unearthed.
	Type 3	show you her teeth.
	Type 4	It stirs the passions

After the data is classified into types, then the meaning of each data is analyzed using context theory [5]. Here is an example of finding and interpreting meaning that could be seen.

Data
And the drawing room at Bridgerton House currently appears to be emptier than the muddled head of her dearest King George.
From episode 1 (00.28.37)

We see from the data above that there is a topic: **the drawing room** is compared with the image: **the muddled head**. Both the topic and the image showed the similarity between them with the point of similarity appears to be emptier. After the components being identified, the researcher classified the metaphor *the drawing room at Bridgerton House currently appears to be emptier than the muddled head of her dearest King George* based on Beekman and Callow's theory as a full metaphor. Because we can see two components are being compared with explicit point of similarity. In this data, **the drawing room** is the topic and **the muddled head** is the image. The topic and the image is compared with **appears to be empty.**

To find the meaning, first the writer looks at the context. For the context, Miss Bridgerton, a debutante who gets the praise of the queen was predicted to get many visits from the "callers" (who a debutante hopes to see at her home the morning after a ball; preferably numerous, bearing gifts, compliments, and flowers) but turns out there are just a few visit Bridgerton's drawing room. King George who happened to have muddled head at least still having more contents in his head. Here, the context used is the situational context, because Lady Whistledown uses the situation at Bridgerton's house in her utterance. The meaning that can be inferred from here is the callers are not interested in proposing to Miss Daphne Bridgerton.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the findings and discussions from this study, Lady Whistledown seems like to used metaphor in her utterances. This is proven by the discovery of various types of metaphors as many as 32 data. The context determines the meaning that can be derived from each piece of data. Within this study, the researcher revealed two statements of metaphor; those are types and meaning. For the next researchers that have the same interest in this field of study, the researcher may use another genre of movie. Such as action, science, epic, horror, and others. But, it is better if the next researcher used another object such as speech, picture, and advertisement. Then the next researcher may analyze metaphor not only in terms of verbal but also in visual. Lastly, the researcher hopes that the next researcher may use another theory to develop metaphor that will be analyzed in the study. Therefore the next researcher can understand further and deeper about metaphor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to Allah SWT. For his blessing and for giving me the strength and patience to see it through. My thesis supervisors, Diana Chitra Hasan, M.Hum, M.Ed., Ph.D., and my examiners, Dr. Elfiondri, M.Hum. and Temmy Thamrin, M.Hum., Ph.D., deserve my heartfelt gratitude. I am grateful for everything they have provided for me.

All of my lecturers, in particular, who have taught, inspired, and always motivated me to be a better person than I was. All of the knowledge they shared with me and others should be beneficial to myself and those around me. I'm incredibly grateful for everything, especially for my parents, who have always been my biggest supporters and motivation to keep fighting.

REFERENCES

[1] Abrams, M. H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. (7th ed.). New York: Cornell University. 1999.

[2] Dancygier, B. & Eve, S. *Figurative language.* New York: Cambridge University Press. 2014..

[3] Lakoff, G., & Johnson, M. Metaphors we live by. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 1980.

[4] Yusticia, A. P. *Majas Simili Dalam Naskah Film Twilight Series: Twilight Dan Newmoon Karya Melissa Rosenberg: Kajian Semantik Pragmatik* (Doctoral dissertation, Universitas Widyatama). 2012

[5] Cutting, Joan. Pragmatics and Discourse: A Resource Book for Students (Routledge English Language Introductions). Routledge; 2 edition (2008-01-27) (January 1, 1656). 2008.

[6] Chairunnisa, Chairunnisa. *An analysis of metaphor used by main characters in Moana movie: Semantics approach*. Undergraduate thesis, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim. 2017.

[7] Kovecses, Zoltan. *Metaphors*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.1993

[8] Beekman, John, and John Callow.Translating the Word of God. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan. 1974.

[9] Kusmayadi, Didik. *The Analysis of Metaphor Used by Goa Village Community West Sumbawa.* S1 thesis, Universitas Mataram. 2018.

[10] Hasan, Diana Chitra. *Penerjemahan Metafora Bahasa Inggris ke Bahasa Indonesia*. Padang: Bung Hatta University Press. 2008.

[11] Creswell, John W. *Research design : qualitative & quantitative approaches.* Thousand Oaks, Calif. :Sage Publications. 1994.