THE ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE LYRICS RICHARD MARX SONGS

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ABSTRACT

This study discusses the analysis of figurative language in Richard Marx's song lyrics. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method. This study uses Perrine's (1974) theory [1]. The purpose of this study is to identify the types of figurative language contained in Richard Marx's song lyrics and to find out the meaning of the figurative language used in Richard Marx. The researcher found that there were 50 figurative languages from 8 songs analyzed in Richard Marx's song, namely 10 similes, 19 metaphors, 6 personifications, 2 metonyms, 1 symbolism, 1 paradox, 10 hyperboles, and 1 irony. The writer also finds that there are many connotative meanings used in every song lyric which contains figurative language from Richard Marx.

Keywords: Types of Figurative Language, Connotative Meaning

INTRODUCTION

The series of several combinations of words used will usually form a song consisting of several stanzas that will form the lyrics. Song lyrics are one of the determining factors in the success of a song. In the lyrics of the song, there are many meanings that can be interpreted, for example, connotative meaning. Connotative meaning refers to the use of a word to suggest a different association than its literal meaning, According to Griffith (2006) semantics is the study of the meaning of words and the meaning of sentences, abstracted from the context of use used [2].

(Abrams, 1999) stated figurative language is a striking deviation from what language users understand as the standard meaning of words, or the standard sequence of words, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect [3].

Many studies on figurative language have been carried out by several researchers, one of which is Sharndama, E. C., & Suleiman, J. B. (2013) entitled Analysis of figurative language in two traditional songs of burial of the Kilba tribe in Adamawa State [4]. The results of their study reveal that figurative languages such as metaphors, similes, images, symbolism, rhetorical questions, among others, abound in Kilba's traditional funeral song.

This study is entitled "The Analysis of Figurative Language in the Lyrics of Richard Marx Songs". This study will examine the types of figurative language and the meanings used in the types of figurative language found in eight songs from different albums.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study used a qualitative descriptive method in analyzing the data in this study. According to (Fraenkel, Wallen, & Hyun, 2012) qualitative research is defined as a research study that investigates the quality of relationships, activities, situations, or materials [5].

The subjects in this study were eight selected Richard Marx songs and the collection and coding technique in this study was to collect data sources taken from the internet and observe the lyrics of the songs.

After observing the lyrics, the research classifies the types of figurative language and explains the meaning of the figurative language used, and makes a percentage table to see which figurative language is used the most and which figurative language is used least.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis shows the figurative language and meaning used in each of Richard Marx's song lyrics.

Simile
Data
And time may rob us like a thief
(Richard Marx-Love Goes On)

From this context, the researchers found simile figurative language and used connotative meaning.

Metaphor
Data 1
A light at the end of all my darkness
(Richard Marx-Love Goes On)

This lyric used metaphor. These lyrics used connotative meaning.
Data 2
Drowning in the silence

The lyrics used the metaphor of figurative language. This lyric uses connotative meaning that is associated with peace and enjoyment.

Personification
Data
This feeling won't die

In this song lyric, the researchers found figurative language and used a connotative meaning to make somebody happy.

Metonymy
Data
In my own little world

In this lyric, there is a figurative language of metonymy and uses the connotative meaning.

Symbolism
Data
No more purple skies

In this lyric, the songwriter uses symbolism and the lyrics use connotative meanings, hopeless.

Paradox
Data
That I'm not in this world alone.

The lyrics used paradoxical figurative language. The lyrics used connotative meanings.

Hyperbole
Data
And I'm ready to fly
Over the sun

This lyric found a figurative language that uses hyperbole. The lyric uses a connotative meaning.

Irony
Data
Do I have to hit my knees and beg for something more
Maybe this is not the love I've waited for

In this lyric, there is irony figurative language, and use of connotative meaning.

Tabel 1.1
Classification of the total data found from types of figurative language.

NO	Types of Figurative Language	Frequency	Percentage
1	Simile	10	20%
2	Metaphor	19	38%
3	Personification	6	12%
4	Metonymy	2	4%
5	Symbolism	1	2%
6	Paradox	1	2%
7	Hyperbole	10	20%
8	Irony	1	2%
Total		50	100%

From table 1.1, it can be seen that there were similes 20%, metaphor 38%, personification 12%, metonymy 4%, symbolism 2%, paradox 2%, hyperbole 20%, and irony 2%. And the amount of data found in 8 Richard Marx songs that were examined contained 50 figurative language data. The researchers also found there were very many connotative meanings used in every song lyrics from Richard Marx.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The researcher found that there were 50 figurative language data. They include 10 similes, 19 metaphors, 6 personifications, 2 metonyms, 1 symbolism, 1 paradox, 10 hyperboles, and 1 irony. The most widely used figurative language is a metaphor, 19 data. The second is simile and hyperbole. And the least used figurative language is symbolism, paradox, and irony. Besides that, this research is focused on analyzing the types and meanings of figurative language in selected Richard Marx song lyrics. Readers or other researchers who are interested in doing this kind of research should have a better understanding of figurative language and

how to interpret the meaning of the figurative language used.

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