FIGURATIVE LANGUAGES FOUND IN SELECTED SONGS OF FROZEN MOVIE

Ni Putu Selly Kusmirayanti,¹* Ida Bagus Gde Nova Winarta,² Ni Wayan Suastini³
Mahasaraswati Denpasar University
¹ sellykusmira7@gmail.com, ² gusdnova@gmail.com, ³ wayaneni28@yahoo.com
*corresponding author

Abstract

This study entitled “Figurative Languages Found in Selected Song of Frozen Movie”. In general, figurative language is a type of language that departs from the language used traditionally and literally. This study aims to spot and describe the inner meaning of figurative language found within the Frozen Movie Original soundtrack. This research used a descriptive qualitative method to describe the types found and the meanings contained in the lyrics of the Frozen song. This article used theory from Perrine (1969) to explain the types of figurative language, and theory from Leech (1981) which describes the meaning contained in song lyrics. From the research conducted, 11 data were used, and of the 11 types found, 4 types contained in the song lyrics can be identified, including Personification with 3 data, Apostrophe with 3 data, Overstatement with 3 data, and simile with 2 data. This article aims to provide lessons to the public in order to analyze the lyrics of the songs we listen to so that we understand what the songs mean.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Frozen Soundtrack, Meaning.
Introduction

Language has an important role so that humans can communicate with each other. Communication is one of the processes that occur in the world, both face-to-face and through social media. Broadly speaking, communication can be interpreted as a tool for exchanging information, cooperating with other people, making buying and selling transactions, and carrying out many other activities that use language. Figurative language can also be a noticeable deviation from what the user of a language understands because of the quality of the meanings of the words, or the standard order of the words, and being aware of some special meaning or effect.

Language has a variety of figurative languages, some examples of which are metaphors, parables, antithesis, hyperbole, and paradox. In general, figurative language is a type of language that departs from the language used traditionally and literally. Furthermore, Griffiths argues that semantics is the study that give a knowledge of meaning encoded in the vocabulary of a language and in its patterns to construct more complex meanings, as far as sentence meaning.

According to Arifah (2016), basically figurative language is one of the semantic components. Figurative language is broadly defined as any way of claiming something other than the ordinary way and it is more narrowly defined as a way of claiming one thing and interpreting another.

Actually, many people outside do not really understand figurative language, how to classify the types and explain the
denotative meaning of each figurative meaning. The benefit obtained in this study is to enrich the reader’s knowledge in understanding figurative language, especially the figurative language used in the soundtrack of frozen film. Each song has many messages and it is necessary to analyze the meaning and to understand the song. From this phenomenon the writer is interested in doing a figurative study of the language used in the Frozen song entitled: “FIGURATIVE LANGUAGES FOUND IN FROZEN MOVIE SELECTED SONGS”.

This study based on several studies conducted by previous researchers. The first thesis entitled Figurative Language in Selected Brian Mcknight’s Song by Maftuhah (2018). Compared to the previous study, the similarity with the recent study was using Figurative language as a topic. Meanwhile the difference with this study is the data which previous studies obtained hyperbole as the most data, whereas in this study, the most data obtained was Apostrophe. The second thesis is entitled An Analysis of Figurative Language in Maher Zain Selected Song by Masruri (2018). The similarities with the previous study and the recent study are both of them use the same topic, which is figurative language. The difference from previous study and the recent study is the data produced in the previous research, showing that repetition is the most data, whereas in the current study, the most data obtained was Apostrophe. The last one, a study from the journal entitled A Study On Figurative Language Covering Simile, Metaphor, Personification And Symbol In Poem by Metha Raisa et al., (2017). The similarities between the journal
and the recent studies were both using figurative language as topics. The difference between the previous study and the recent study is that the author used method like giving quizzes to work out the sort of figurative language.

The reason I chose this topic is because most people outside still do not understand about figurative language, besides that this song is also very much in demand by Disney fans, especially Frozen, because this song is very easy to listen to and easy to understand.

**Method**

The This method help the writer to analyze the song lyrics in several stages. The writer used a qualitative descriptive method because the topic is an analysis that must describe every meaning behind the song’s lyrics. The use of this method helps the writer to describe the meaning behind the lyrics of the song. The author also uses the theory of meaning according to Leech (1981) in analyzing. The data that used were song lyrics from frozen films that the writer took from the Genius.com site. The writer used this site because this site does not only display song lyrics but complete data from the songwriter or creator. Beside the theory from Leech, the writer also used the theory from Perrine (1969) to determine the type of figurative language contained in the song lyrics. Perrine has several sorts of figurative language in his book entitled Poetry: Sound and Sense (1969) including Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Apostrophe, Metonymy, Allegory, Symbol, Paradox, Overstatement, Understatement, and Irony.
Discussion

After This section discusses the types of figurative language found in selected songs from the film Frozen and the meanings contained in the lyrics of these songs. Some of the songs used in this research are Let It Go, Show Yourself, All Is Found, and For the First Time In Forever.

Table 1. Types of Figurative Languages Found In Selected Songs of Frozen Movie

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Types of figurative language</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Simile</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Personification</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Apostrophe</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Overstatement</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the analysis carried out, the writer found several types of figurative language found in several parts of the song lyrics. According to Perrine 1969 page 73, figure of speech or figurative language is defined more narrowly as how to claim one thing and interpret another. From 11 types of figurative language based on Perrine’s theory, the writer found 4 types of figurative language from the analyzed song lyrics, those are simile, personification, apostrophe and overstatement. The author obtained 11 data, where some types have same data which is Personification with 3 data, Apostrophe with 3 data, Overstatement with 3 data. The author also analyzed the meaning behind the song’s lyrics by describing it as follows:
1. Simile

Simile may be a figurative language that compares two various things in a stimulating thanks to make sentences clearer. It uses conjunctions or comparatives. The commonly used conjunctions are “like”, “as”, “then”, “similar to” et al. Here are some lyrics from the first soundtrack in Frozen which used simile.

Data 1:

And one thought crystallizes like an icy blast.

(Source: Let It Go)

And one thought crystallized like an ice blast. The lyrics of the song above are categorized into similes because they are like thoughts to ice explosions. This song tells about Elsa who is running into the forest to avoid the Arendelle people who already know about Elsa’s strength. Arendelle is the name of a city that still has a kingdom in its governmental structure. In this piece of lyrics, Elsa has a lot of thoughts in her brain. There were so many thoughts that she had to think about. Elsa felt that it would explode like an ice blast. It is known that when Elsa sang this song, Elsa escaped to the ice mountains which is quite far from the city of Arendelle and also quite far from the kingdom of Arendelle. Elsa went to the ice mountains, and built a castle made of ice with the magic she has. Elsa’s goal is to stay away from Arendelle apart from being exposed to her big secret, Elsa wants the calm to think about, and find a way out so that everything can return to normal, and be fine.
Data 2:

*I can sense you there like a friend I’ve always known.*

(Source: Show Yourself)

Usually, when we have a close friend, we will know or feel the slightest thing. Like Elsa in the lyrics of this song, who can feel the presence of that mysterious voice, as if they have known them for a very long time. Mysterious voice can only be heard by Elsa. The mysterious voice always came as if he wanted to invite Elsa to play and look for him, because Elsa was very curious why only she could hear the voice and who was the figure behind it. At the time this song was sung, Elsa was very close to Ahtohallan. Ahtohallan is a river that is said to know all the secrets of living things on earth, even knowing where Elsa’s power came from. That is why, Elsa is looking for the source of the mysterious voice that keeps calling her because Elsa must know the truth of the past that has not been revealed and the origin of the power possessed by Elsa. As if he knew Elsa wanted to come to visit, Ahtohallan gave a signal by being a mysterious voice who always accompanied Elsa, and directed Elsa to come to him, namely Ahtohallan himself.

2. Personification

Personification could also be a figurative language which compares inanimate objects or something which cannot move looks like animate. Furthermore, it can behave like a human.

Data 3:

*The cold never bothered me anyway.*

(Source: Let It Go)
The lyric above is included in personification, because disturbing is a trait that humans can do. But cold is not a trait that can be like humans, but only temperature. In these lyrics, Elsa is in the castle that she built with her strength, namely ice, which is away from the settlement to calm her mind. The cold couldn’t bother Elsa anymore because Elsa was used to the cold, and moreover she had the power of ice from birth. No wonder Elsa won’t feel cold anymore, because she is used to it.

Data 4:

_There’s a river full of memory._

(Source: All Is Found)

This lyric is included in the personification, because the only ones who can have memory are humans, while rivers have no memory. In the Frozen II movie, it is said that there is a river that has memories of the past who came to the river. The river is called Ahtohallan. This song was first sung by Queen Iduna, the mother of Queen Elsa and Anna when they wanted to put their two daughters to sleep when they were little. Queen Iduna said that this is the same song, which was sung by her grandmother Queen Elsa and Anna when Queen Iduna was a child.

Data 5:

_My soul is spiralling._

(Source: Let It Go)

This lyric is included in the personification, because spinning is something that can be done by humans, while the soul is not a human being, but the soul is in man that can animate the man himself. The soul is not an object or something that can
perform human-like activities, for example rotating. At the time this song was sung, Elsa was building a castle on the top of the mountain, where she lived for a while away from the settlement.

3. Apostrophe

Perrine (1992: 65) said that apostrophe which consists in addressing someone absent or dead or something nonhuman as if that person or thing were present and alive and may reply to what is being said.

Data 6:

*Are you the one I’ve been looking for all of my life.*

(Source : Show Yourself)

“Are you the only one I have been looking for all my life”. This piece of lyrics belongs to the apostrophe type because the word “you” is not referred to here as a human, but is just a fantasy of Elsa. As known in Frozen II, at the time Elsa sang this song, Elsa was on her way to a place, where in that place, the true truth would be revealed. Past truths that have not been revealed, such as where the power of Queen Elsa came from, and what is the relationship between the kingdom of Arendelle and the Northuldra nation, why the Northuldra Nation can live in the enchanted forest now, the magic forest is being shrouded in a thick fog, so that the sun cannot penetrate.

Data 7:

*Come to me now, open your door, don’t make me wait, one moment more.*

(Source : Show Yourself)
This lyric belongs to the apostrophe type because Elsa sings for a mysterious voice and hopes that the mysterious voice can respond to it by coming to her, and open the door so that Elsa can enter into the place she is going to. Elsa hopes that the mysterious voice doesn’t keep her waiting. However in reality, that mysterious voice was not created by humans, but a voice from the bottom of Queen Elsa’s heart, which led her to Ahtohallan, a place where the truth about the past resides in it.

Data 8:
*Show yourself, I’m dying to meet you.*

(Source : Show Yourself)

This piece of lyrics belongs to the apostrophe type, because Queen Elsa is eager to meet the mysterious voice that she has often heard and has become a friend. Queen Elsa hopes that this voice comes from a human, but the truth is, that voice is not from a human. Arriving at Ahtohallan, Queen Elsa met a light that appeared on the ice wall that covered the river there. The river that was in Ahtohallan froze, and Queen Elsa was confused, until there was a small light that led her to enter the river. Once inside, Queen Elsa confirmed the position of the collapsed ice pillar so that she could continue her journey along Ahtohallan assisted by the mysterious voice and also the light on the wall.

4. Overstatement

Overstatement, or hyperbole, is just exaggeration, but exaggeration within the service of truth. It’s not an equivalent to a fish story. Consistent with Perrine (1969) Overstatement, or hyperbole, is just exaggeration, but exaggeration within the
service of truth.

Data 9:

_I’ve never fell so certain all of my life_

(Source : Show Yourself)

These lyrics belong to hyperbole, because no matter how sure someone is with the choice they make, there will definitely be a little doubt that will flash through their hearts. The lyrics of this song are said to be hyperbole because it says if Elsa has strong faith without a doubt which is too much. If watching all the events in Frozen 2, Elsa had doubts buried in her heart, but with such strong intentions, she was finally able to muster up her beliefs even though in the end Anna saved her when she was frozen at the bottom of the river.

Data 10:

_My power flurries through the air into the ground_

(Source : Let It Go)

This lyric can be said as hyperbole because a human being has no power, but here Elsa has strength and is said to be excessive because her power can flow from air to ground, which is too impossible for someone to have. However for Elsa it is an exception because the power that Elsa has can indeed flow from the air to the ground in the movie.

**Conclusion**

After analyzing three songs from Frozen, the writer concluded that there are 11 types of figurative language according to Perrine (1969). The results of this study indicated
that some of the lyrics belong to the figurative language type, which is dominated by Personification (27.2%), Apostrophe (27.2%), Overstatement (27.2%), and Simile (18.1%). With this article, the researchers hope that this article can be useful for other researchers, especially in the Figurative Language section as a reference for further research. Researchers also hope that with this article, many people will be wiser in judging a song and can understand the meaning behind the song.

References


Raisa, M. (2017). *A Study On Figurative Language Covering Simile, Metaphor, Personification And Symbol In Poem.* Pontianak, Indonesia: English Education Study Program Languages And Arts Education Department Teacher Training And Education Faculty Tanjungpura University.

Rizqal Maftuhah, E. (2018). *Figurative Language In Selected Brian Mcknight’s Songs (Semantic Analysis).* Makasar, Indonesia: English Department Faculty Of Cultural And Sciences Hasanuddin University Makassar.