THE ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGES USED IN
SOME OF ONE DIRECTION’S SONGS’ LYRICS

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Abstract
This thesis entitled “The Analysis of Figurative Languages Used in Some of One Direction’s Songs Lyrics”. The figurative languages found in One Direction’s songs are analyzed into two aspects that are the types, and the meanings. In this study, the writer applied qualitative method. The writer selected three songs from three albums of One Direction entitled “Up All Night (2011)”, “Take Me Home (2012)”, and “Midnight Memories (2013)” as a sample of the study. After analyzing the data of this study, the writer found twenty (20) expressions from four types of figurative languages. Three of them are similes, four metaphors, three personifications, and ten hyperbolic expressions. Hyperbolic expression is the most figurative language used in the three of One Direction’s selected songs. In addition, this study also explains the meaning conveyed in the figurative language used in the songs’ lyrics of One Direction.

Key words: Figurative languages, Analysis, Song Lyric, One Direction.
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Kata kunci: Majas, Analisis, Lirik Lagu, One Direction.
I. BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Language is one of the crucial tools of human beings to communicate to one another. Language is a medium of communication within any social contexts and setting. According to Wellek and Werren (1946) language is a system of sounds, words, and pattern used by human to think and feel. It may represent the explicit and implicit feelings and thoughts. Therefore, understanding about language more comprehensively is needed to understand it use in particular social context.

There are many ways people use language to communicate, one of them is using figurative language. Reaske (1966:33) states that, ‘figurative language is a language which employs various figures of speech. It generally departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing persons or objects’. On the other hand, figurative language is a form of language used by people to convey something and fades its literal meaning. The meaning of figurative language cannot directly be found in the statements or sentences like in literal meaning because figurative language has other meaning than what figurative states.

There are so many kinds of literary works which use figurative language, one of them is a song lyric. Song lyric uses many kinds of figurative language to beautify the lyric and makes it more interesting. Yet, in contrast to comprehend a song lyric which use figurative language is not easy without knowledge of figurative language itself. There are two ways to comprehend the meaning of song lyrics using figurative language, they are identification and understanding. The reader or listener has to know what kind of figurative language used in the song lyrics and they also must understand what the meaning of figurative language used. For example, personification gives imagery that animal or other objects are given human quality.

The writer tend to do the study because One Direction is one of the writer favourite singers which made awesome songs and the most popular band nowadays. Many of One Direction songs’ lyrics describe adolescent problems in the most poetic way with beautiful diction. Hence, the listeners really love their songs, because they represented their feelings. In contrast, there are so many One Direction fans out there who do not really understand about figurative language and the meanings or messages reveal in it. Referring to the explanation above, the writer is interested in analyzing the figurative language that used in three of the One Direction’s song lyrics. They are More than this, Over again, and Half a heart. The writer uses these three selected song of One Direction, because they contain more figurative languages than others.
Based on the explanation and the background above, the study attempts to analyze several aspects such as the types of figurative languages found in One Direction’s songs’ lyrics, and the meanings can be inferred from the figurative languages used in One Direction’s songs’ lyrics. This study has several purposes such as to describe the types of figurative language used in the songs’ lyrics of One Direction, and to analyze the meaning conveyed in the figurative language used in the songs’ lyrics of One Direction. In addition there are several significances of this study. It divided into two types, the first one is theoretically. This study is expected to enrich the study of English especially in figurative language to help more understanding the meaning or messages especially in song lyric. The next one practically, this study will be beneficial for those who interested in the analysis of figurative language and those who are interested in the songs of the mentioned singer above.

This study focus on analyzing the song lyrics that are consists of figurative languages in One Direction’s songs. The object of the study is the One Direction’s songs’ lyrics which are selected purposely by defining the song lyrics that are most relevant to the present study. Those are simile, metaphor, personification, and hyperbole.

There are two related study in this research. The first related study is thesis by Maya Rostiana (2010). She conducted a research about “Metaphorical Expression in Anggun’s Song in Album of Snow in Sahara”. The result of this study found that there are three types of metaphor used and the moral messages within the songs. The second related study is thesis by M. Zen Masruri (2011). He conducted a research about “An Analysis of Figurative Language on the Lyrics of Westlife’s Selected Song”. The writer found that the most figurative language which used in lyrics of Westlife’s selected songs is “Hyperbole” that has a great exaggeration used to emphasize a point, and is used for expressive or comic effect. Meanwhile, the researcher will conduct a research that is not really different from the related study, but there are some differences in data, variable, and method. If the related study analyzed about figurative language in Anggun and Westlife songs, the researcher will analyze about the types of figurative language and also the meaning conveyed in One Direction’s song lyrics.

Song is one of many ways people use to communicate, many authors try to deliver messages by using their songs. Song is related to literature because inside the song especially in song lyrics there is an element of literature and poem. The element of literature that consists in song lyric is figurative language. It can be concluded that lyric in song is a part of literature.

The language used in composing a song can influence the message accepted by the listener. The listener can understand the message implied in a song through the lyrics and the music of the song itself. But sometimes the authors do
not deliver the real message easily, they made the lyrics which employ figurative language to beautify and make them more interesting. Murphy (1996:6 in Asmawati: 2010) states that songs can be immensely valuable if the singer or the listener exploit the creatively to bridge the gap between the pleasurable experience of singing and listening and the communicative use of language.

According to Croft (2000:31), figurative language is a symbolic or metaphorical and does not mean to be taken literally. In order to emphasize the meaning and their feeling, people use figurative language and avoid telling something directly. Many people are interested in a literary work which used figurative language after knowing the meaning behind it or reveals in it. The beauty of figurative language also becomes interesting for them to find out what is the meaning of it. In here, the beauty is how the author chooses the best dictions, arrange the words and what figurative language used.

There are four types of figurative languages used in this analysis, as follows:

1) Simile
   A simile is a direct comparison between things which are not particularly similar in their essence (Reaske, 1966:41).

2) Metaphor
   G. Lakoff (1987:388 in Asmawati: 2010) states that a metaphor is the understanding itself of one concept in terms of another. It is a figurative language which makes an implicit, implied or hidden comparison between two things or objects that are poles apart from each other but have some characteristics common between them.

3) Personification
   According to Reaske (1966:39), Personification is the process of assigning human characteristic to nonhuman objects, abstractions or ideas. In addition, personification is a figure of speech in which a thing, an idea or an animal is given human attributes.

4) Hyperbole
   Hyperbole, derived from a Greek word meaning “over-casting” is a figurative language, which involves an exaggeration of ideas for the sake of emphasis.

Lyric is a set of words that make up a song, either by speaking or singing. The word ‘lyric’ comes from the Greek word, lyricos, and it means “singing to the lyre”. Lyric is written words created specifically for music and song. According to Little (1970:174) lyric is part of song and music written in stanza form, which has various emotion described by particular diction as the way to convey the writer intentions. In composing music, song and lyrics, it cannot be separated from language, especially in composing song lyrics, the musician or
musical groups have to find a new discovery about the choice of words. It must be suitable with the music and lyric.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

The method applied in this thesis is qualitative method. It means that the data are not measured using statistic method. It describes the alteration of types of figurative language that are applied in song lyrics and explains what the song writer wants to describe using the figurative language in the songs.

Data are information, evidence gathered through experimentation or studies which can be analyzed. There are two sources of data: Primary data and Secondary data. Primary data are origin document, relics, remains, or direct data which correlate with the object (Wikipedia). The primary data of this study will be taken from the One Direction selected songs. They are More than this from Up All Night (2011), Over again from Take Me Home (2012), and Half a heart from Midnight Memories (2013). Secondary data are data taken from the other resources or results report from other person and supporting the primary data. The writer will get secondary data from some related books, internet sites and through related articles.

After collecting the data, the writer will analyze them by doing the following steps or procedures. From the data collected, the next step in analysis figurative is identification of figurative language it’s self. After that is classification of figurative language. The figurative language found will be classified in terms of type of figurative language simile, metaphor, personification, and hyperbole. Finally, the writer explains the meaning behind the figurative language-finding out the purpose of figurative language used in the lyrics.

III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The writer finds twenty figurative languages after analyzing the three selected songs of One Direction. In the first song More than this, the writer establish three figurative languages. The next song Over again, contain thirteen figurative language. And in the last song Half a heart, there are four figurative languages.

1) Types
   a. More than this
      There are three expressions found in more than this song, as follows:
      Metaphor:
      1. I’m broken, do you hear me?
      Hyperbole:
2. I’m blinded, cause you are everything I see.
3. When he lays you down I might just die inside

In More than this song, the writer found three expressions. One of them classified as metaphor (expression 1) and the other two classified as hyperbolic expressions (expression 2 and 3).

b. Over again

Simile:
4. Said I’d never leave her, cause her hands fit like my t-shirt
5. Hole in the middle of my heart like a polo
6. I can make your tears fall down like the showers that are British

Personification:
7. If I can make all this pain go
8. Then my kiss can mend your broken heart
9. And tell me with your mind, body, and spirit.

Hyperbole:
10. Then my kiss can mend your broken heart
11. Bodies intertwined with her lips
12. And I will give you all my heart, so we can start it all over again
13. Hole in the middle of my heart like a polo
14. I can make your tears fall down like the showers that are British

Metaphor:
15. We can both remove the mask
16. Then my kiss can mend your broken heart

In the song “over again”, the writer found three similes (expression 4, 5 and 6), three personifications (expression 7, 8 and 9), five hyperbolic expressions (expressions 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14) and the last two classified as metaphors (expression 15 and 16).

c. Half a heart

Hyperbole:
17. I’m half a heart without you
18. I miss everything we do, I’m half a heart without you
19. Though I try to get you out of my head, the truth is I got lost without you

Metaphor:
20. I’m half a man at best, with half an arrow in my chest

In Half a heart song, the writer found four expressions. Three of them classified as hyperbolic expression (expressions 17, 18 and 19) and the last one as a metaphor (expression 20).
2) Meanings

a. More than this
   
   (1) “I'm broken, do you hear me?”
   
   The first expression of this song’s lyrics is classified as a metaphor because this expression used to point out the man’s feeling. Broken here means that he feels his body and heart break into a million pieces because the pain is unbearable. He feels really sad and miserable every time he sees the woman with her boyfriend. Because he believes he can loves her more than her boyfriend does.

   (2) “I’m blinded, cause you are everything I see”
   
   This expression is classified as a hyperbolic expression because a human being cannot just see one thing. If he has normal eyes that means he can see every single thing around him. This lyric means that the boy feels that the girl is the most important thing in his life which makes him cannot pay attention to anything else, but her.

   (3) “When he lays you down I might just die inside”
   
   The writer is classifying this expression as a hyperbolic expression because a human being can not die separately inside and outside, it means that the song writer exaggerate the situation to point out what the boy feels. The word die would indicate the level of heartache that the boy feels. It really hurts him when he thinks about what the girl and her boyfriend do.

b. Over again
   
   (4) “Said I'd never leave her, cause her hands fit like my t-shirt”
   
   In the fourth expression writer finds a figurative language called simile. This expression used word like to draws resemblance between the woman hands and the man t-shirt. He feels that they are completing each other and he would never leave the woman. Therefore, he thinks the girl’s hands really fit in his own like his t-shirt which really fit to his body.

   (5) “Hole in the middle of my heart like a polo”
   
   The second simile could be found in the fifth expression. The man feels really sad and miserable when he lost the woman. It hurts a lot because he feels his heart is gone with the woman and there is a hole as big as a polo ball where his heart was. It could also means the man feels empty and depressed because he lost the woman he loves who brighten his day.

   (6) “I can make your tears fall down like the showers that are British”
   
   The last simile in this song lyric can be finds in the sixth expression. The song writer used word like to draws resemblance between tears and a shower. This expression used to emphasize the man capability in order to make the woman crying and make her tears flowing like water from a shower. It means that he believes the woman also has same feeling with him. He could make the
woman feels sad when they are apart, like him. He believes that they still love each other.

(7) “If I can make all this pain go”

The sample of personification can be seen in the seventh expression. Through this lyric, the song writer wants to emphasize the man hopes. He has given the pain human ability to leave. The man wishes is to be able to make all the woman’s pain go away, disappear, vanish, so the woman can be happy. He has to make the woman forget about all of her pain.

(8) “Then my kiss can mend your broken heart”

The eighth expression above is classified as a personification. Here, the man’s kiss has given an ability to act like human being. The kiss becomes a repairman who can mend the woman broken heart. It means that the man wants to make the women forget her pain. He wishes he could heal the woman broken hearted by his kiss.

(9) “And tell me with your mind, body, and spirit”

The last personification in this song’s lyrics can be seen in the ninth expression. Here, the man has given the woman mind, body and spirit an ability to speak like a human being. It means that the man wants the woman to stop pretending and hide her true feeling. He wants her to express her love to him, not only by her words, but also act.

(10) “Then my kiss can mend your broken heart”

Broken heart is a feeling which can not be repair like a thing. Here, the writer found that the man really loves the woman. He wants to make the women forget her pain, he wish he could heal the woman broken hearted by his kiss. It means that he could do anything to make his woman happy.

(11) “Bodies intertwined with her lips”

Human body can not intertwine or twisted together to other people lips like a rope. The song writer used this expression to convey the man thoughts that he would never want to be apart with his woman. He wants her stays in his side all the time, become a couple again, express and share their love together.

(12) “And I will give you all my heart, so we can start it all over again”

This expression means that he could give all his heart to the woman to make her believe him and come back to him. But it is impossible because he can not just rip out his heart and give it to her. The man hopes he can fix their relationship and make the woman believes him, so they could be together again.

(13) “Hole in the middle of my heart like a polo”

Expression thirteenth not only contain a simile, but also a hyperbolic expression. Hole in the middle of my heart means that the man feels empty
and miserable after the woman he loves left him. Its really hurts him which make him feels like he has a hole in the middle of his heart where he put all his love to the woman was.

(14) “I can make your tears fall down like the showers that are British”  
This expression is an exaggeration because a human being cannot produce tears as much as water which flowing from a shower. It means that the man believes the woman still love him as much as he does, and she is as sad and tortured as he does when they are apart.

(15) “We can both remove the mask.”  
Expression fifteenth is classified as a metaphor, because here the man implies his careless act as a mask which hides his true feeling. He believes that the woman also use the same mask and wants her to be more honest to express her feeling, because he does not want to pretend anymore.

(16) “Then my kiss can mend your broken heart”  
Expression (16) “Then my kiss can mend your broken heart” not only contain a personification and hyperbolic expression, but also a metaphor. Here, the man compares the woman’s heart with fragile things which can be easily broken.

c. Half a Heart

(17) “I’m half a heart without you”  
The song writer used this expression to point out the pain that the man feels because of his heart broken. He feels really sad and miserable because the woman he loves left him. When the woman went away from his life, he knows that a half of his heart was disappear with her.

(18) “I miss everything we do, I’m half a heart without you”  
This hyperbolic expression emphasizes the man feeling, that he missed everything they do together. But it is impossible to remember all of the past, because definitely there are some things people forget, even though those happened yesterday. People not only thinking or remember about one thing, because they have to think and do so many important things to live their life. Everything here means that the man would miss every moment they spent together, even their fights or sad moment.

(19) “Though I try to get you out of my head, the truth is I got lost without you”  
In real condition, it is impossible for someone to have other people in his head and makes her as a navigator. It means that he cannot forget her and feels miserable without her. However, the word lost normally associates with place or location. Here, the song writer tells that the man can not do anything without the woman.

(20) “I’m half a man at best, with half an arrow in my chest”
Expression twentieth is classified as a metaphor because here, the man states that his heartache is as painful as having half an arrow in his chest. Through this lyric, the song writer describe about the man’s feeling when the woman he loves left him. Because he loves her so much it hurts.

IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion
The elaboration of findings on figurative languages reveals that there are twenty figurative languages in the One Direction’s three selected songs. Three of them are similes, four metaphors, three personifications, and ten hyperbolic expressions. Hyperbolic expression is the most figurative language used in the three of One Direction’s selected songs. This study analyze figurative languages in terms of types and meanings.

The use of figurative languages in these One Direction’s songs lyrics are to beautify the lyrics and to point out the feelings such as love, regret, pain, and sincerity in more beautiful way. These lyric describe that human being can feels so many emotion through love, not only joy and happiness, but also grief and sadness. From the explanation above the writer concludes that song is very suitable for the English Learner who wants to improve their English skill, because they can find some new vocabularies, classify what types of figurative language used, and understand the meaning, especially those who are interested in the songs of the mentioned singer above.

Suggestions
Based on the research the writer has done, there are some suggestions for future study, as follow:
1. To analyze figurative language in song lyric, the next researcher has to analyze and understand the song lyric first to make the analysis easier.
2. Then, the researcher can choose some songs which are different in types, theme, and messages. He can also specialize in analyzing one type of figurative language to make the research more intense.
3. After all, this study is expected to enrich the study of figurative language to help more understanding the meaning or messages especially in song lyric.
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