FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN CELINE DION'S SELECTED SONG LYRICS

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to categorize various forms of figurative language and look at how it is employed in a few of Celine Dion's song lyrics. The research's data source was the selected Celine Dion song lyrics. In this study, the Knickerbocker and Renninger hypothesis was used. The technique method used in analyzing this study is a descriptive qualitative method, focusing on the numerous types of figurative language and the varied ways in which it is interpreted in literary works. This study has found a conclusion based on the aforementioned objective. 33 data of information were found, including 5 metaphors, 6 personifications, 1 simile, 16 hyperbole, and 5 dead metaphors. In this inquiry, metaphor is most common. Furthermore, figurative language may be perceived in five distinct ways: conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, and reflected meaning.

Keywords: Celine Dion, Figurative language, Song lyrics, Types of Meaning

INTRODUCTION

The community uses both spoken and written language as a way of communication. The ability to interact with others through speech and gesture is another definition of language (Ekoyono 2019: 1; Susanto 2007: 2). Language is frequently used to communicate among individuals who do not share the same first or second language. Language is a human, non-focused way for individuals to express their thoughts, feelings, and wishes using a system of sounds and sound symbols. Language is a vehicle for expressing thoughts and feelings, both explicitly and implicitly. As a means of expressing and exchanging ideas, language is frequently referred to as a thinking medium. (Harmer 2007: 45; Hariyanto 2017: 46).

Understanding linguistics, which is the study of language meaning. Using figurative language involves being aware of the term's common meanings in order to express a specific meaning or impact, according to Abrams & Harpham (2009: 118). One literary style that favors connotation over denotation is figurative language. Simile, personification, hyperbole, metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, paradox, dead metaphor, and allusion are only a few instances of figurative

language. Since song lyrics are composed of songs (poems) that contain expressions of personal feelings, we may also find songs and lyrics, which makes song lyrics one form of literary work. Figurative language is a type of language that should not be understood literally or exclusively literally. It uses words or expressions with meanings that are different from literal readings, according to Defisyani (2016), both in written and spoken language. Figurative language is frequently utilized in literary works, including magazine articles, advertisements, novels, and poetry. According to Josiah (2016: 39), language is a way for individuals to spontaneously and solely via the use of symbols to convey their thoughts, feelings, and wishes with one another in any circumstance. People may learn any phrase in language, even metaphorical language. A social control mechanism for other people, language, and the two major things that humans cannot separate are all functions of lyrics. The author of this study is interested in examining the song's lyrics Celine Dion's.

The Objective Of the Study

The purpose of this research is intended to:

1. To analyze the type of figurative language in Celine Dion's chosen song lyrics

2. To find out meanings found in the lyrics of the song Celine Dion's choice

LITERATURE REVIEW

Semantics

Semantics is the linguistic and philosophical study of how individuals understand words, signs, symbols, and sentence structures, claims Yule (2010: 120). Semantics frequently links to other elements: While pragmatics refers to how humans really use symbols in certain settings, syntax is the process by which basic symbols are transformed into complex ones. Assessments of the semantics definition by experts. Semantics is the study of word, phrase, and sentence meanings. According to Himpun (2022:1), Semantics is a discipline of linguistics that examines the meaning or allusions in language. Besides from semantics, linguistics also includes many other topics, therefore while semantics concentrates on the study of meaning, it may be built upon and related to the other areas or branches of linguistics in terms of meaning. Semantics is a field of linguistics that is currently used to describe logical and philosophical features of English. The word semantics derives from the Greek verb seminal, which means to transmit. As social organization grows more and more dependent on interpersonal connections, it becomes increasingly crucial to comprehend semantics (Saputri 2014: 19).

According to Dancygier and Sweetser (2014: 2), figurative language such as metaphor, synecdoche, litotes, and other devices that can be completely evaluated independently of their figurative meaning might modify the meaning in semantics. At this stage, meaning is founded on the cultural and social usage of language rather than only lexis or lexeme and an entry from a dictionary. In the domain of literature, figurative language is used to create certain effects for readers.

Figurative Language

Figurative language is defined as the use of sentences or words that have meanings other than their literal readings. The author must finish the sentence since it is possible that the reader won't comprehend the term or phrase if it is interpreted literally in accordance with its dictionary definition.

Figurative language is a method of vocally expressing thoughts (Harya 2017: 46).

Figurative language, which deviates from what is said or written and compels the reader to understand the writer's goal, is a type of linguistic embellishment. It is a beauty of language that figurative language may be used for so many different purposes. Because metaphorical language frequently deviates from the language used informally, from literal meanings to describe anything or people, Readers are encouraged to understand the writer's intentions by using varied terminology (Sharndama & Suleiman 2013: 167).

Figurative language is when words are used to convey ideas in a way that deviates from their literal meaning. A writer just states the facts as they are when he utilizes literal language. In contrast, figurative language alters the meaning to emphasize a certain linguistic point. According to Keraf, figurative language is a means of expressing one's thoughts through a unique kind of language that reveals the spirit and personality of the writer (or language user). Sincerity, respect, and attractiveness are the three components of good language (keraf 2009: 113).

Types of Figurative Language

Figurative language is also referred to as metaphorical language or simply metaphor, claim Knickerbocker & Reninger (1985). (Meta = beyond + pherein to carry, i.e., to bring beyond) The Greek word metaphor implies to impart meaning beyond its literal meaning. Ten categories simile, personification, metaphor, exaggeration, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, dead metaphor, and

allusion were used by Knickerbockers & Renninger to categorize figurative language.

Meaning

Meaning is a study of language that deals with how to use written or spoken words to convey an idea or the writer's experience so that the reader may make sense of what he has read or heard for himself. Arvius (2003: 14) determines language meaning is connected to a variety of cultural and environmental contexts, as well as how speakers react psychologically or intellectually to their experiences and how language is tied to human cognition. Where depends on certain semantic and linguistic networks and how they interact with individual reactions. Due to the fact that meaning is a concept or notion that is used to subtly convey information, there are various sorts of meanings when considered in terms of their relationship.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this study, the author will employ descriptive qualitative research. This study makes use of semantic analysis. The selection of Celine Dion's song lyrics served as the basis for this study's figurative language and meanings analysis. Qualitative research is defined as an investigation into the nature of interactions, activities, conditions, or materials (Frankel & Wallen, 2012).

They contend that there are five things that qualitative approaches apart. The researcher and the immediate data source is the environment. Second, rather than using numerical data, qualitative information is obtained through words or visuals. Third, qualitative researchers value both processes and outcomes.

Fourth, qualitative researchers frequently use inductive data analysis. How people understand their lives is a crucial topic for qualitative researchers. While conducting research, a plan is required. The phrase "research design" describes strategies for rationally and successfully integrating the many components of a research project. Making sure that the data we collect enables us to offer a comprehensive answer to the initial question is the aim of the study design.

The Techniques of Data Analysis

The author will examine the figurative language data in the lyrics of the selected Celine Dion song after gathering the data. The following are the stages for data analysis:

1. Differentiating between each figurative language's kinds and meanings.

2. Determining the meaning of each figurative language used in a song's lyrics by analyzing the lyrics.

3. Drawing findings from figurative language analysis.

Data Analysis

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Simile

According to Knickerbocker and Renninger (1985), simile is a straightforward comparison of two related elements that begins with the terms like or as. Comparing concepts with stories about things or people who have traits that the author wants to convey about the concept.

Data 1

She won't love you like I will

I'm the one who'll stay

When she walks away

The italicized sentence *She won't love you like I will* is a figurative metaphor. According to the lyrics, she states that no one should love him/her exactly as much as she wants to compare her to others. To compare things, thereby revealing similarities between them despite their obvious differences. Also, Vita (2010:21) explains that simile compares two different objects that are considered similar or almost similar. Comparison is obvious and a common way to describe one man's or woman's love by comparing it to another. The above metaphorical words can be found in Celine Dion's song "*To Love You More*".

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is used to create a dramatic effect in a figure of speech called hyperbole (Knickerbocker & Renninger, 1985). An overblown claim is part of the hyperbole figure of speech.

Data 2

You helped me while I was weak.

When I couldn't talk, you became my voice.

You served as my eyes while I was blind.

Hyperbole in the metaphorical language is used in the sentence above: "You were my strength when I was weak, You were my voice when I couldn't talk, You were my eyes when I couldn't see." In other words, exaggeration is a way of describing something that causes the listener to see it as larger, smaller, or better. Exaggeration rather than reality constitutes hyperbole. In order to highlight the idea that You can be the person's voice, strength, and eyes while they are experiencing severe anguish, these statements make use of exaggeration. The lyrics convey the speaker's sense of helplessness when the subject is weak, blind, or mute. As a result, the songs use dramatic and exaggerated expressions

on someone to emphasize their argument. The figurative language cited above is used in Celine Dion's song *Because You Loved Me.*

Data 3

 Oh, sweetie,

You made me soar by giving me wings.

I could touch the sky when you touched my hand.

 Because the lyrics are subject-specific, the italicized lines are hyperbolic. By giving him/her wings and touching their palm, you as someone who can lift them into the air. And no man could actually do it. *Because You Loved Me* by Celine Dion features the figurative language discussed above.

Data 4

You said no star was out of reach

You stood by me and I stood tall

I had your love, I had it all.

The song's words, I had your love, I had it all, are hyperbolic because they overstate the impact that love can have on a person's life. The song *Because You Loved Me* by Celine Dion contains the figurative language mentioned above.

Metaphor

According to Knickerbocker & Renninger (1985), a metaphor is a type of figurative language that promotes similar thinking. A claim that something is what it is is false. Similes and metaphors both compare two separate objects, but metaphors omit the terms "like" or "as" from their usage.

Data 18

When all else has been forgotten,

Love remains in our hearts forever.

Minutes move into hours, days into years, and suddenly they are gone.

In the lyrics, there is a metaphor *Minutes move into hours, days into years, and suddenly they are gone.* According to Abrams (2009), a metaphor is a word or statement that, when used literally, means that one kind of object is applied to another that is clearly not similar. Literary works, especially song lyrics, use metaphor to enliven their language. The words attempt to convey how awful losing his girl made him feel. The metaphorical meaning of the phrase is that time can be measured in seconds, minutes, hours, days, and even years. To express how long someone has been waiting for someone else, the phrase uses metaphor. *How Does a Moment Last Forever*, a song by Celine Dion, has the aforementioned verse.

Data 19

God knows that

That I'll be the one

Standing by through good and through trying times.

The information presented here uses metaphoric language. The lyrics that have been emphasized indicate the subject I will be the one to endure both good and bad times. The imagery in the lyrics suggests that even in the most difficult circumstances, people can stick together. Celine Dion's song *I'm Alive* has the aforementioned lyric.

Data 20

Those were lost to us forever

But you were history with the slamming of the door

And I made myself so strong again somehow.

The italicized phrase is designated as a metaphor since the song lyrics clarify that it relates to someone who constantly avoids issues or has a propensity to run away from them. The song lyrics serve as a parable for someone who is careless with their life. *It's All Coming Back to Me Now,* a song

by Celine Dion, contains the aforementioned phrase.

Personification

Personification is an implied comparison in which references to humans are expressed in metaphors. Animals, abstractions, and inanimate objects are given human characteristics in metaphorical language (Knickerbocker & Renninger, 1985).

Data 23

How does a moment last forever?

How can a story never die?

It is love we must hold onto.

Because of how the lyrics represent nonliving objects, they are referred to as personification in figurative language in the italicized statement above. Because a narrative is a nonliving entity in the lyric yet is described as a living creature capable of facing death, the statement "*How can a story never die?*" is a personification. *How Does a Moment Last Forever,* a song by Celine Dion, has the aforementioned verse.

Data 24

I want your touch.

To speak softly in your ear

Words from the beginning of time

The aforementioned lyric is a personification from the song *How Does a Moment Last Forever* by Celine Dion. According to Keraf (2016: 141) personification is a gift of human nature. The author attempts to humanize things that are inherently capable of performing human actions by personifying them. Because words have no age and appear in this lyric to be able to age, the phrase "words that are old as time" is referred to as personification.

Data 25

Made me a woman on clouds above

I couldn't get much higher

My spirit takes flight.

The italicized lyric above is classified as personification in figurative language because it describes a spirit taking flight whereas, in reality, only inanimate objects can fly. The song's words make it sound like spirits can fly, although only inanimate objects can fly. *I'm Alive* by Celine Dion contains the figurative language mentioned above.

Dead Metaphor

According to Knickerbocker & Renninger (1985), dead metaphors are metaphors that formerly had a metaphorical meaning but have now lost it owing to repeated use. A metaphor is considered dead when it has been used so frequently that it no longer has any meaning or creative power.

Data 29

There were nights of endless pleasure.

It's All Coming Back to Me Now by Celine Dion contains the figurative language mentioned above. Because the italicized line emphasizes the frequently discussed topic, it is a Dead Metaphor. People no longer have to consider the phrase "endless pleasure" because it has become so ingrained in the English language. According to the urban dictionary, "endless pleasure" refers to something that never ends or appears to.

Data 30

There were those *empty threats* and *hollow lies.*

The words in italics are referred to as "Dead Metaphor" since they draw attention to the topic that is constantly discussed. Threats that have no value or significance or that cannot be taken or were never intended to be taken, are referred to as "empty threats." Furthermore, the expression "hollow lies"

is another one that frequently refers to nonsense. In this circumstance, "hollow lies" and "empty threats" become terms that are often used in society throughout time. *It's All Coming Back to Me Now* by Celine Dion contains the figurative language mentioned above.

Data 31

It's an *uphill climb*, and I'm feeling sorry. Because they highlight the terms that are commonly used in public discourse, the italicized words are referred to as "Dead Metaphor." 'Uphill climb' refers to a challenging procedure. The song *That's The Way It Is* by Celine Dion contains the figurative language mentioned above.

Research Findings

Based on the data analysis, the author found that the lyrics to the chosen song by Celine Dion fall under five categories of figurative language: simile, exaggeration, metaphor, personification, and dead metaphor. Figurative language is used to make a point or convey a message by using language that differs from the literal meaning of words. Authors and poets employ figurative language to amplify visuals and give words greater impact. Simile, metaphor, and a number of other non-literal linguistic devices may make difficult concepts easy to understand.

Discussion

After gathering and analyzing the facts, the writer produced a talk. The primary subject of discussion will be the writer's research findings. In the chosen Celine Dion songs, the author found examples of simile, hyperbole, metaphor, personification, and dead metaphor, among other types of figurative language. The writer goes on to say that the most prevalent type of figurative language in the song lyrics chosen by Celine Dion is hyperbole. Hyperbole is using exaggeration rather than the truth. Exaggeration is a technique for persuading the reader or listener that something is bigger, smaller, or better. Because you loved me, I'm alive, I Surrender, It's All coming back to me now, My Heart will go on, The power of Love, That's the way it is, and to love you more is just one of Celine Dion's lyrics exaggerated. Copywriters can also exaggerate to evoke strong mental images in their audience. As a result, exaggeration also acts as a kind of linguistic marker. Rather than trying to elaborate on something that might span multiple lines or stanzas, composers may exaggerate to convey the same idea to the audience in one line.

In addition, the author found conceptual, connotative, social, emotional, introspective and collegial meanings in the lyrics of songs chosen by Celine Dion.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of figurative language in Celine Dion's selected song lyrics, it can be concluded that:

1. The lyrics of a few songs by Celine Dion contain five different types of figurative language: simile, hyperbole, metaphor, personification, and dead metaphor. The author discovered one simile, sixteen instances of hyperbole, five instances of metaphor, six instances of personification, and five instances of dead metaphor in 10 songs by Celine Dion. 33 different pieces of information were discovered by the author in Celine Dion's chosen song lyrics. Figurative language is used in this song's lyrics to enhance its impact.

2. The metaphorical language used in some of Celine Dion's song lyrics has been broken down into six separate categories. Here are some examples:

conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, emotional meaning, and reflected meaning. In ten songs by Celine Dion, the author identified just one instance of conceptual meaning, one instance of connotative meaning, one instance of social meaning, one instance of emotive meaning, one instance of reflected meaning, and one instance of collocative meaning. In the lyrics of the selected Celine Dion song, the writer found a total of 6 facts. This song's impact is increased by its meaning-filled lyrics.

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