CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

Everybody knows that language is the important thing in our life. Language is the method of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structural and conventional way. According to Finegan (2003: 6) who said, "Language is often viewed as a vehicle of thought, a system of expression that mediates the transfer of thought from one person to another". It means that we use language to express our thoughts and feelings. Thus, language can be use as a tool of conveying the meaning.

In the way of conveying the meaning, sometimes people who can be a speaker or writer use two ways; directly and indirectly. When they convey what they mean directly, as a reader or listener we can get what they mean, and when it happens indirectly, a reader or listener must seek to know the conveyed meaning by the speaker or writer. Nowadays, people can use any media to convey what they feel, think, and so on. For examples, a singer can use song lyrics to write what he feels, an author makes a novel to reflect some parts of his life and a screenwriter makes a screenplay for a movie that we can watch everywhere using our television or gadget. From those media, sometimes we also found words or phrases or sentences contain figurative languages which cannot be interpreted directly. For everyone who wants to

understand music, novel, movie and others requires the knowledge of figurative languages. Even though not every single one of them uses figurative languages, the researcher believes most of them use it. As an example for each, music from Adele mostly include figurative languages for the lyric, novel from Jane Austen also uses it. Movie nowadays uses lots of figurative languages without us knowing it and sometimes people lost because they could not absorb the real meaning behind those figurative languages and ended up being blah and skip it. Before education is an important as now, people rarely uses figurative languages in everyday life. But now everything changes, even commercials use figurative languages too. Just in case not everyone study or understand figurative languages, therefore the researcher chooses to use it for this research to upgrade the commonly skipped information because they could not understand the meaning.

To entertaining themselves, people currently read the novel only without grasping any figurative languages in it, therefore the researcher takes novel as media to figure out figurative languages. According to Dancygier and Sweettse (2014:5), obviously one of the necessary abilities for reading novel is the ability to interpret figurative language. Every use of figurative language involves a risk of misinterpretation, though the risk is well worth taking. For the reason who can translate the figure, the dividends are immense. Fortunately all people have imagination to some degree, and imagination can be cultivated by practicing one's ability to interpret figure of speech can be increased. The way to avoid misunderstanding when reading or capturing the meaning in every written or spoken by using semantics approach.

Semantics is one of the linguistics branch which study of the meaning of words and phrases in language. According to Leech (1981: 9) semantics is central of the study and representation of the meaning of language expressions, the study of human mind thought processes, cognition, and conceptualization and the relationships of meaning among them. As addition of that theory, Griffiths (2006: 15) states that semantics is study of word meaning and sentence meaning, abstracted away from contexts of use, is a descriptive subject. It is an attempt to describe and understand the nature of the knowledge about meaning in their language that people have from knowing the language. Leech in his book (1981: 9) classified the semantic theory into seven types of meanings; one of them is connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is the meaning come in association with something else. Definition of connotative meaning based on Leech (1981: 12) is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual content. It will be clear if we are talking about connotation, in fact we are also talking about the real word experience. I

In this research, the researcher uses *Persuasion* novel to analyze be analyzed. The researcher chose this novel due to this novel is written by Jane Austen who one of the famous authors in this word. The novel has a woman as the main character. It is also a love story and while the researcher reading this novel, the researcher found some difficult word or implicit meaning from the word, phrase or sentence from this novel. The researcher is also interested in finding out what are the types of figurative language that found in Persuasion novel. Thus, the researcher decides to conduct a research on the topic entitled "An Analysis of

Figurative Language in "Persuasion" Novel by Jane Austen; A Semantic Approach".

1.2. Identification of the Problem

The identification of the problem is provided to give some clarification about the problem which will be analyzed by researcher. From the background of the problem, the researcher identified the problem into several problems, they are what are the types of figurative languages that can be found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen, how is composition scale of figurative languages found in the novel, what are the messages conveyed in this novel, what are the reason of the author to use figurative language in this novel and how is connotative meaning of figurative language analyzed by using semantic approach.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

After the researcher identified the problem, the researcher limits the identification of the problem into some points to make researcher more focus on this research. Limitation of the problem in this research are to find out the types of figurative language can be found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen, the composition scale of figurative languages found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen..

1.4. Formulation of the Research

Referring to the background of the research, the researcher would like to limit the study into three points to focus the research, formulation of this research are:

1. What are the types of figurative languages found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen?

2. How is composition scale of figurative languages found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen?

1.5. Objective of the Research

Every research may have some objectives. On this research the researcher also has objectives and the objectives of this research focused on:

1. To find out what are the types of figurative languages found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen and distinguish them.

2. To figure it out the composition scale of figurative languages found in *Persuasion* novel by Jane Austen.

1.6. Significant of the Research

The researcher believes that this research has benefits. The researcher makes two groups of the benefits into theoretically and practically. In theoretically, this research is conducted to provide new information related to figurative languages as seen in *Persuasion* novel. By conduct this research,

researcher hopes it can be used as an additional reference for the reader and to support another research.

In practically, this research was made to fulfill the final thesis as English Department Student. In addition, the researcher expects the readers know and understand about figurative languages as reflected in the *Persuasion* novel and take lessons from it.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

1. **Language** : A vehicle of the thought, a system of expression that mediates the transfer of thought from one person to another (Finegan, 2003: 6).

2. **Semantic** : Central of the study and representation of the meaning of language expressions, the study of human mind thought processes, cognition, and conceptualization and the relationships of meaning among them (Leech, 1981: 9).

3. **Figurative Language** : Language using figures of speech; or in other words, language cannot be taken literally or should not be taken literally only (Hutasoit, 2016: 38).