

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

The ability for humans to engage in interpersonal communication is an essential requirement inherent to their nature as social beings. Fajrin & Parmawati (2021) stated that language allows people to connect with each other and express their thoughts and feelings. In essence, language serves as a bridge that connects people, allowing them to share their thoughts, emotions, and experiences, thereby enriching relationships, fostering understanding, and building vibrant communities. Language can be skillfully organized using aesthetically pleasing and compelling vocabulary.

Griffiths (2006) stated semantic is the study of word meaning and sentence meaning, abstracted away from contexts of use, is a descriptive subject. Literal and nonliteral language are concepts in semantics. While non-literal language implies that there is another meaning from the words that differs from what is spoken, literal language means exactly what it says or contains the genuine meaning of the words. In various situations, language can be implemented in literal and non-literal ways based on the use of its language. Perrine (1969) defines figurative language as a linguistic construct characterized by the use of non-literal expressions to convey meaning.

Figurative language is a non-literal language that is crucial to use in conveying ideas in literary works. The aesthetic appeal of language is enhanced through the utilization of figurative language. The creation of figurative language involves the utilization of words to provide artistic value. Figurative language is present in both oral and written forms of speech. By engaging in the act of listening or reading figurative language, individuals have the opportunity to improve their ability to create a vision.

Considering this information, individuals who engage with the material, whether through reading or listening, will likely experience a stage of visualization, actively engaging in the process of perceiving bodily sensations and emotions. Figurative language is important to learn about because it has a role in society that needs to be understood to avoid misunderstandings and wrong meanings. Through the examination of figurative language, individuals can get a comprehensive understanding of the intended connotations conveyed by figurative terms, thus avoiding misinterpretations. In certain instances, the utilization of figurative language can facilitate the understanding of the intended message for both listeners and readers. According to Perrine (1969), there are a total of twelve kinds within the realm of figurative language. The kind categories encompassed within this set are metaphor, simile, personification, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, overstatement/hyperbole, understatement, synecdoche and irony. Thus, the utilization of metaphorical language can vary among various categories.

In addition to encompassing different kinds, figurative language provides a distinct array of reasons for its utilization. The effectiveness of direct statements in

conveying one's intended meaning is sometimes overshadowed by the use of figurative language. According to the same expert's theory as figurative language types, there are four key explanations for figurative language effectiveness. First, it affords us imaginative pleasure. Second, it as a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, making the abstract concrete, and making poetry more sensuous. The third, figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statements and of conveying attitudes along with information. And the last, it is a means of concentration, a way of saying much in brief compass. For instance, figurative language was found in the song lyrics *To the Bone* by Pamungkas. This song was popular on social media TikTok and Instagram. These lyrics below are as example of what the writer will be analyzed:

Have I ever told you, **I want you to the bone.** (0.25 – 0.31)

According to Perrine (1969) overstatement or hyperbole is an intentional exaggeration used to create emphasis or effect, and it is not meant to be taken literally. This literary device can amplify emotions, make a point more forcefully, or add a dramatic touch to the expression. Here, the phrase “to the bone” is overstatement or hyperbole, emphasizing the extreme extent of the speaker's desire. It suggests that the longing is so profound it feels like it reaches down to their very core. The word “to the bone” shall be used for the human body. But in figurative word that has the meaning of “very deeply”. In this song Pamungkas wants to convey how deep the feeling to someone.

Likewise, poetry as a literary work. Colston L (2015) explained that poetry is considered as one of the most literature forms that uses figurative language for the

purpose of enticing the readers' imagination to the writing in order to interpret the aimed meaning of the piece. Poetry is a literary form that uses specially chosen language, rhythm, and sometimes complex patterns to convey emotional and conceptual experiences to readers. In contrast to prose, poetry often has a more aesthetically organized structure, with more careful word choice and emphasis on rhythm, sound, or pattern. The main purpose of poetry is to evoke feelings, trigger reflection, and inspire the reader's imagination. With its various forms and styles, poetry is a powerful platform for expressing thoughts, feelings and human experiences.

ST Coleridge was an English Romantic poet known for his works that influenced the development of literature in the 19th century. He has published 15 works of poetry. One of his most famous works is *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* published in 1798 in a collection of poems together with William Wordsworth known as "Lyrical Ballads." The poem tells the story of an old sailor who experiences extraordinary adventures at sea and his experience changed his life. "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" consists of a total of seven parts called "parts" or "cantos." The total number of stanzas in each part varies, but in total there are about 143 stanzas. This poem consists of 12 ballad form with natural and mystical themes, and filled with strong natural imagery and deep symbolism, narrative elements with distinctive rhythm and rhyme, creating an interesting and deep reading experience. The researcher limited this research by selecting three parts that describe figurative language which can be analyzed in depth to understand the

meaning and message contained in this poem, because in these three parts, there is a lot of deep use of figurative language and rich of figurative languages used.

To illustrate, the poetry entitled *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by ST Coleridge (1834) is aimed to be analyzed by determining the kinds of figurative language used in it along with the meaning retrieved through the contextual interpretation. This study especially focuses on figurative language used in poetry as one of the forms of literature. The figurative language is identified from the line of the poem in the following,

“He holds him with his **glittering eye-**
The wedding-Guest stood still”

(Coleridge, part 1, stanza 4, line 13-14).

From the lines above, two kinds of figurative language are identified. The first one is metaphor which is used in line 13, “He holds him with his glittering eye”. The phrase “glittering eye” is considered as metaphor as it does not refer to an actual condition of eyes and glitters but rather used as description of visual image where an individual looking at something with such anticipating eyes. According to Perrine (1969) metaphor is used when the speaker or writer describes particular senses such as sight or sound by describing its impressions into words. This related to the use of metaphor in line 13 which further portrayed the visual of what is being referred to.

And listens **like a three years’ child:**
The Mariner hath his will”

(Coleridge, part 1, stanza 4, line 15-16).

Moreover, line 15 shows another use of figurative language with the type of simile, “And listens like a three years child”. The phrase “Like a three years child”

does not refer to an actual three-year-old child but rather describing how intently the guests listen to what is about to be announced. Simile is characterized with the words that identify comparison. Based on Perrine's theory (1969), simile is similar with metaphor with the explicit indication of comparison as the difference. This refers to the use of 'like' in the line which compares the guests with a three-year-old that associated with being attentive and eager to listen. The simile has the function to characterize or describe an individual or things to their closest impressions.

There are various studies of figurative language as a reference for the first research. First, researched by Sihaloho and Simatupang (2020) and the researchers is intended to analyse and describe the figure of speech in Joko Widodo's speech, the types of figurative language and its meaning of his speech. The data was classified and analysed using a qualitative methodology. The researchers used Perrine's (1963) and Taylor's (1981: 167) to classify the types of figurative language. The researchers identified a total of 9 instances of figurative language in Joko Widodo's address during the international event. These included 7 instances of allusion, 1 metaphor, and 1 assonance. The research concludes that employing figurative language serves as a viable method to convey meanings beyond the literal interpretation, so capturing the interest of readers or listeners and stimulating their imaginative faculties.

The next research is from Palupi, (2021). She identified a poem called *The Echoing Green* by William Blake. The research adopted qualitative research in analyzing the poem. Perrine's theory was applied to identify the types of figurative

language. The result of analysis William Blake's poem concluded that the figurative language used in the poem is a metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, and paradox.

Based on the two researches mentioned above, there are similarity and difference. For the similarity, they used the same theory by Perrine (1969) as this research. Meanwhile the difference is in data source. In this research, the researcher used *The Rime of Ancient Mariner* by ST Coleridge. Moreover, the types and the reasons of figurative language will be examined and discussed.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, several identifications of the problem are presented in the following:

1. The usage of figurative language in song lyrics is able to convey the author's feelings to the listener.
2. The presence of figurative language in the song lyrics and poems.
3. The occurrence of figurative language in poem *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*.
4. The kind of figurative language used in poem *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*.
5. The reason of figurative language found used in poem *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the research, the limitation are two main problems as follows:

1. The kind of figurative language used in poem The Rime of Ancient Mariner.
2. The reason of figurative language used in poem The Rime of Ancient Mariner.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation above, the researcher makes two summarize the compiles problem formula:

1. What are the kinds of figurative language used in the poem The Rime of Ancient Mariner?
2. What are the reasons of Figurative Language used in poem The Rime of Ancient Mariner?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

This research resolved the issue that aims to accomplish some purposes. The objectives for the research are:

1. To analyze the kind of figurative language used in the poem The Rime of Ancient Mariner.
2. To analyze the reason of using figurative language used in the poem The Rime of Ancient Mariner.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this study is hoped to contribute within the field of linguistics, especially in the analysis of figurative language that further gives explanation towards how figurative language is used in poem as one of the forms of literature. Moreover, the discussion on figurative language in this study also contributed to providing a coherent and enriched study related to the application of figurative language as the means of extensive meaning of language.

2. Practical Significance

In practical terms, this study is an attempt to be useful as reference in how figurative language is used especially in literature. Figurative language has the function not only as a tool of extensive meaning but also as an aesthetic which often characterizes certain literary works from one to another. Thus, this study contributes to demonstrating the use of figurative language along with its types, especially in poems.

1.7 Definitions Key of Terms

Semantics : Semantics is the study of word meaning and sentence meaning, abstracted away from contexts of use, is a descriptive subject. Literal and nonliteral language are concepts in semantics (Griffiths, 2006).

Figurative Language : An unusual way of saying something and language employs figures of speech is not meant to be taken literally (Perrine, 1969).

Poetry : Poetry is considered as one of the most literature forms that uses figurative language for the purpose of enticing the readers' imagination to the writing in order to interpret the aimed meaning of the piece (Colston L, 2015).