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AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN ONE OK ROCK 'EYE OF THE STORM' ALBUM: SEMANTIC STUDY

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ABSTRACT:

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning of linguistic expressions in a language. Language is the method of expressing ideas and emotions in the form of signs and symbols. For this paper, the researcher focuses on the figurative language. This research is aimed to analyze the meaning of the songs of Eye of the Storm album by ONE OK ROCK, and describing the figurative language used in the album. There are two objectives of this research. The first is to identify the types of figurative language that used in Eye of the Storm album. the second is to explain the functional meaning of the figurative language found in the album. This research explores seven types of figurative language: irony, metaphor, hyperbole, litotes, simile, personification, and metonymy. This research is analyzed by using qualitative descriptive method. The data of this research were some phrases and sentences which are the lyrics of the songs that included in the band's album.

Keywords: Semantic, Figurative language, Hyperbole, Meaning, Song Lyrics.

INTRODUCTION

Language is the method of expressing ideas and emotions in the form of signs and symbols. These signs and symbols are used to encode and decode the information. Language can be said as a tool or means to communicate to each other. It is need to interact, giving and getting information from other people. Language can be used to express someone's feeling and emotions, either it is through speaking or writing. The meaning of word is important to be analyzed for better understanding. In linguistics, the study of meaning is called

semantics. Semantics is a branch of linguistics that study the meaning of linguistic expressions in a language, or it can be said that meaning is the most important thing in studying semantics term. According to what has long been the most widely accepted theory of semantics, meanings studies about ideas or concepts, that can be transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer by embodying them, as it were, in the form of one language or another (Lyons, 1984).

Linguistics semantics is the study of literal, decontextualized, grammatical meaning (Frawley, 1992). Kreidler (1998) also states that linguistic semantics is the study of how languages organize and express meaning. According to Yule (2006), semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases and sentences. There are many ways to deliver an idea and intention to other people. One of it is by using a figurative language. Figurative language is a way to say an expression to create a special image or emotion. It can include some words and phrases with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. Figurative languages were a conspicuous departure from what users of language apprehend as the standard meaning of words, or else the standard order of words, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect (Abrams, 1999). In this paper, the researcher focuses in semantic analysis of figurative language that is used in some of the song of Eye of the Storm album by ONE OK ROCK.

Research Questions

There are two research question for this paper, they are:

What kind of figurative language used in ONE OK ROCK Eye of the Storm music album?

What are the meanings of the figurative language in ONE OK ROCK Eye of the Storm music album?

Literature Review

Figurative Language is an expression that uses words to mean something different from their ordinary meaning. Figurative language is used to obtain certain effects that create a literary work more lively, it is a typical way to express thoughts and feelings, either orally or in writing that is used by the author. Definition of figurative language according Perrine (1982) is broadly defined as anyway of saying something other than ordinary way. As stated before, figurative language is a way to express ideas and has a different meaning from its literal interpretation. According to Wren and Martin (1981), figure of speech is a departure from the ordinary form of expression or the ordinary course of ideas in order to produce a greater effect. Figurative language, that is, a means of indirect statement that says one thing in terms of another (Ruth Miller & Robert A. Greenberg, 1986). It is to create a different image or emotion by using words and phrases that have a different meaning from the literal interpretation. Figurative language is used to say an indirect expression and intention. It can be found in literary works.

Leech (1981) classifies figurative language into seven types. The seven types of figurative language according to Leech are:

Irony

Irony is a statement used with an expression with the intention other than what it actually means. Irony is one type of figurative language that declare the opposite meaning and contradiction with the fact.

Metaphor

Metaphor is a statement that represent something else. It is a way to compare two objects which are essentially not alike or different with each other. Frost (2006) states that metaphor is use of word or phrase denoting kind of idea or object in place of another word or phrase for the purpose of suggesting a likeness between the two.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a bold statement or exaggeration statement. Often used in humorous way to make a point. It is used as a means of emphasizing the truth of a statement. Wren and Martin (1981) state in hyperbole a statement is made emphatic by overstatement.

Litotes

Litotes is the opposite of hyperbole. Instead of making a certain statement directly, a speaker expresses it even more effectively, or achieves emphasis, by denying its opposite.

Simile

Simile expresses a direct comparison between things, which have one or more points in common. It is recognized by the use of the words 'like' and 'as'.

Personification

Personification is used when something that is not human is given human like qualities. Personification is a figure of speech in which a thing, an animal, or an abstract term (truth, nature) is made human (Kennedy, 1966).

Metonymy.

Metonymy is used when describing something with a concept that is closely related or closely associated with it. Metonymy is derived from Greek word 'meta' means 'to change' and only means 'name'.

METHOD

This research has the aim to analyze the type of figurative language that is found in the songs from ONE OK ROCK's music album. In conducting this study, the researcher used qualitative descriptive method, where the researcher is going to analyze and describe the type of figurative language and explain the functional meaning of the expression. Bogdan and Biklen (1982) state that qualitative research is descriptive which the data is collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers. Qualitative research is focused on a natural object (Sugiyono, 2013).

The data of this research were some phrases and sentences from the songs included in Eye of the Storm album. The data was collected with the following steps: listening to the full album, looking for the lyrics on the internet, selecting the words or phrase that used figurative language. Then, analyzed using Leech classification of figurative language with seven types. The analysis will search the kind of figurative language that is used in the song. The analysis included the percentage of figurative language that can be found in the songs and the type that frequently occurs.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, researcher found some data after analyzing the songs from the album. The percentage of the figurative language found in the lyrics is shown below:

Table 1. Percentage of Figurative Language Found in Eye of the Storm Album

Figurative Language	Frequency	Percentage
Irony	3	8%
Metaphor	8	22%
Hyperbole	18	50%
Litotes	0	0%
Simile	3	8%
Personification	4	11%
Metonymy	0	0%

Irony

Data 1

"Bright on the surface, dark underneath" in Worst in Me song.

Analysis:

The word "Bright on the surface, dark underneath" in the song lyric of Worst in Me is a kind of irony that declares the opposite meaning and contradiction the actual meaning.

This song tells of a hypocrite woman, who always asking for something, but giving him (her boyfriend) nothing. therefore, he used "Bright on the surface, dark underneath" to express irony.

Metaphor

Data 2

"Bury me in melody to remember when I'm gone" in Unforgettable song. The lyric "Bury me in melody to remember when I'm gone" is a type of metaphor that compares two objects which are essentially not alike or different from each other. The songwriter compares the melody to soil that can bury living creatures.

Hyperbole

Data 3

"I wanna dance till my legs break" in Grow Old Die Young song.

Analysis:

The word "I wanna dance till my legs break" in the song lyric of Grow Old Die Young is a kind of hyperbole where the characteristics of the language are dramatic and exaggerated. It means that they exaggerated their words where

they would like to dance without a rest until their legs break. This could be seen as exaggerating, since one legs could not be broken easily just by dancing.

Simile

Data 4

“Let’s live like we’re immortal” in Wasted Night song.

The word “Let’s live like we’re immortal” in the song lyric of Wasted Night is a kind of simile which comparing thing that similar with other, indicates by the word or phrase such as like, as, then, similar, resemble or seems. It means that they would live as if the world was eternal, and they would live forever, without thinking of tomorrow and fear of death.

Personification

Data 5

“You gotta listen to your heart, what does it say?” in Change song.

The lyric “You gotta listen to your heart, what does it say?” is a kind of personification which gives human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas. The songwriter describes the heart as if it could talk. It was given a human characteristic as shown in “what does it say?”

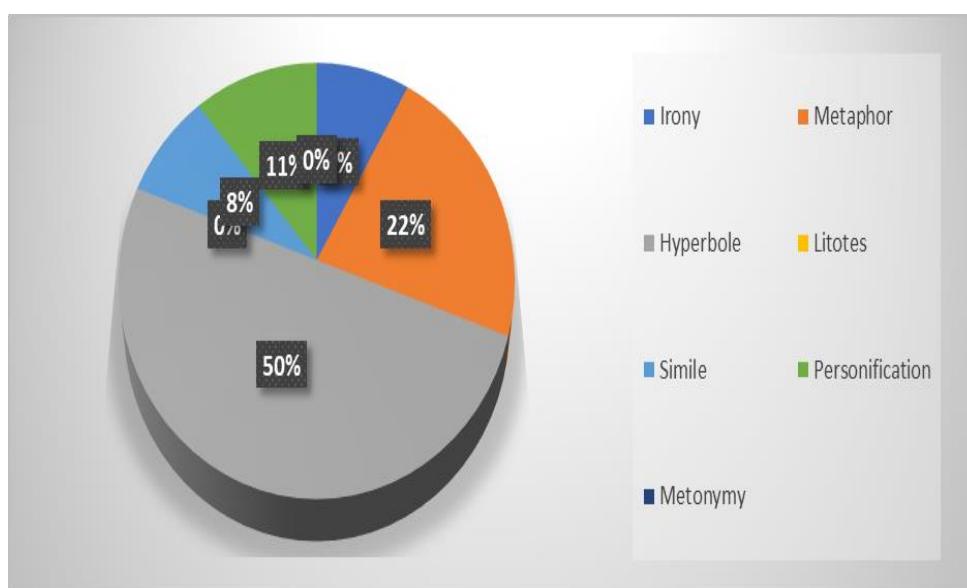


Figure 1. Percentage of Figurative Language Found in Eye of the Storm

CONCLUSION

In the ‘Eye of the Storm’ album by ONE OK ROCK, all kind of figurative language types that proposed by Leech are used. The percentage shows that the type that occurs frequently is hyperbole figurative language with percentage of 46%, which occurs 18 time in the album. Then followed by metaphor type with percentage 20%, which occurs 8 times in the album, and the personification type of figurative language that occurs 4 time in the album with percentage 10%. The album of ‘Eye of the Storm’ by ONE OK ROCK apparently used all the types of the figurative language which is explained above. It explains that the songs in the album use figurative language to

deliver most of their intention. It also can be seen that the purpose of using the expression in the song is to give a different image and emotion through different expressions. The songs describe the functional meaning of figurative language and make the ideas of the lyrics become more beautiful and meaningful.

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