

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE LYRICS OF AYU TING TING'S SONGS

^{1*}Yutika Sari and ²Afrida Hanum

English Applied Linguistics Department, Postgraduate Program
State University of Medan, North Sumatera, Indonesia

*Corresponding author: yutikas@hotmail.com

Abstract

In a song, we can find lyrics which complete and beautify the song and makes the hearer more interested in hearing it. There are many kinds of genres in song. *Dangdut* is one of them. Nowadays *dangdut* song is not as good as it used to be and contains uneducated lyrics. In some lyrics, there are many words written using figurative languages. This study focused on analyzing the kinds figurative language that occur in the lyrics of Ayu Ting-Ting's songs. It consists of four songs. The researchers choose these songs because there are so many figurative languages found in the songs lyrics. Therefore, this reserach examined what types of figurative language and the most dominant are used in Ayu Ting Ting's songs. The research used descriptive qualitative approach supported by quantitative data in order to explore behaviour, perspective, feeling, and experience as figurative meaning. This research carried out by formulating problem, collecting data, classifying data and analyzing data. After investigating the sentence in the songs lyrics, the researchers found five kinds of figurative language and four songs lyrics that have figurative language. From 4 songs lyrics, there are 9 items of hyperbole, 3 items of metaphor, 11 items of personification, 7 items in paradox, and 1 item of oxymoron. The dominant of figurative language used in the song lyrics is personification and the least is oxymoron.

Keywords : figurative language, lyrics, *dangdut* song

Introduction

Literature is one way to express feeling, thought, emotion, and experience. Literature born due to the basic human urge to express himself, showed an interest in the mankind problem, and showed an interest in reality which lasts all the time (Semi, 2012: 1). Song is a part of literature. It is a group of lyrics which has rhythm and music to entertain people, also to form someone's personality. It is a way of life for human. In a song, we can find lyrics which complete and beautify the song and makes the hearer more interested in hearing it. There are many kinds of genres in song. *Dangdut* is one of them. Nowadays *dangdut* song isn't as good as it used to be and contains uneducated lyrics. In some lyrics, there are many words written using figurative language.

This study focused on analyzing the kinds figurative language that occur in the lyrics of Ayu Ting-Ting's songs. It consists of four songs. The researchers choose these songs because there are so many figurative language found in the songs lyrics. Therefore, this reserach examined what types of figurative language and the most dominant are used in Ayu Ting Ting's songs.

Literature Review

Figurative language is language that cannot be taken literally (or should not be taken literally only). It uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation (Arp, 2011: 73). Many authors use this kind of language style to transfer their impression about something in their literary works to give special effects and unique understanding in every sentence of their works.

Kinds of Figurative Language

1. Allegory

According to Abrams in his book *A Glossary of Literary Terms Seventh Edition*, Allegory is a narrative, whether in prose or verse, in which the agents and actions, and sometimes the setting as well, are contrived by the author to make coherent sense on the "literal" or primary, level of signification, and at the same time to signify a second, correlated order of signification.

2. Allusion

Thomas R. Arp describes the Allusion as a reference to something in history or previous literature is like a richly connotative word or a symbol, a mean of suggesting far more than it says. From the definitions above, the researchers can conclude that Allusion refers to an explicit or implicit reference to well-known events, characters, or places, mythology or literature.

3. Hyperbole or Overstatement

Thomas R Arp defines Hyperbole or Overstatement as "simply exaggeration, but exaggeration in the service of truth". In hyperbole, the speakers do not expect to be taken literally but they are only adding emphasis to what they really mean or in the words, they are overstating their statement.

4. Irony

According to Abrams, Irony is the root sense of dissembling or hiding what is actually the case; not, however, in order to deceive, but to achieve special rhetorical or artistic effects.

5. Litotes or Understatement

Litotes is opposite from hyperbole. It is kind of understatement where the speaker uses negative of a word ironically, to mean the opposite. According to Thomas R Arp, litotes is saying less than one means, may exist in what one says or merely in how one says it.

6. Synecdoche

In synecdoche a part of something is used to signify the whole, or (more rarely) the whole is used to signify a part. We use the term "ten hands" for ten workmen, or "a hundred sails" for ships and, in current slang, "wheels" to stand for an automobile (Abrams, 1999:98).

7. Simile

Simile refers to an “indirect” comparison between two different things using the word “like” or “as” or an equivalent term (Mezo, 1999:1). The simile is signified by the words like: *as, so, appear, more than*.

8. Metaphor

According to Thomas R. Arp, metaphor is a figure of speech in which a comparison is made between two things essentially unlike. In first form of metaphor, as in simile, both the literal and figurative terms are named. Metaphor only makes sense when the similarities between the two things become apparent or someone understands the connection.

9. Personification

Personification consists of giving the attributes of a human being to an animal, an object, or a concept. It is a really subtype of metaphor, an implied comparison in which the figurative term of the comparison is always a human being (Arp, 2011:76).

10. Metonymy

According to Arp (2011: 80), metonymy is the use of something closely related for the thing actually meant. It is figure of speech which the name of one object is replaced by another which is closely associated with it.

11. Symbol

Arp stated that *“a symbol may be roughly defined as something that means more than what it is”*. It is closely connected with denotation and connotation meaning. Symbol is the part of poem’s structure that could not be paid attention that is caused of its function in understanding the poem meaning. A symbol can be defined simply as any object or action that means more than itself.

12. Paradox

According to Arp, a paradox is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless somehow true. It often contains two statements that are both true, but in general, cannot both be true at the same time.

13. Oxymoron

If the paradoxical utterance conjoins two terms that in ordinary usage are contraries it is called an oxymoron.

Research Method

In this research, the researchers used a descriptive qualitative method, in which the data are described systematically to get an accurate and factual result. Qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem (Creswell, 2009:22). The research used descriptive qualitative approach supported by quantitative data in order to explore behaviour, perspective, feeling, and experience as figurative meaning. This research carried out by formulating problem, collecting data, classifying data and analyzing data.

The source of the data was taken from the lyrics of Ayu Ting-Ting’s songs. The whole of Ayu Ting Ting’s songs were taken from website www.bukulirik.web.id through searching the key word in each song. The titles of the songs are *Suara Hati, Kamu Kamu Kamu, Indonesia Ku Berkarya Hanya Untukmu*, and *Bulan Dalam Kolam*. Each

lyric expresses in an utterance would be considered the data. When the data had been collected, the researchers sort them. The researchers used documentation method as the way to collect the data because the researchers collected the data from songs. The researchers did 8 steps to the techniques of analysing data, as follows: listening to the songs, reading the song lyrics, underlining the words which were related in figurative language, identifying, classifying certain lyrics, reanalyzing the song lyrics, and making a table.

Discussion

After analyzing the figurative language in the lyrics of Ayu Ting-Ting's songs, the researchers conclude that it consists of five kinds of figurative language and four songs lyrics that have figurative language. From four songs lyrics, there are 9 items of hyperbole, 3 items of metaphor, 11 items of personification, 7 items in paradox, and 1 item of oxymoron. The dominant of figurative language used in the songs lyrics is personification and the least is oxymoron.

Table 1. The Percentage of Figurative Language in Ayu Ting-Ting's Songs

No.	Figure Language	Number of Findings	Percentage
1	Allegory	0	0%
2	Allusion	0	0%
3	Hyperbole	9	29%
4	Irony	0	0%
5	Litotes	0	0%
6	Synecdoche	0	0%
7	Simile	0	0%
8	Metaphor	3	9,7%
9	Personification	11	35,5%
10	Metonymy	0	0%
11	Symbol	0	0%
12	Paradox	7	22,6%
13	Oxymoron	1	3,2%
Total		31	100%

Conclusions

Related to the first research question about figurative language which are used in the lyrics of Ayu Ting-Ting's songs, the researchers found out that there are five figurative languages. Dealing with the second research question about the most dominant used, the researchers found out that the dominant of figurative language used in the songs lyrics is personification and the least is oxymoron.

The language style, in this case, figurative language has an important position in the linguistic studies, especially in a literature, such as poem, novel, song lyrics, etc. In every song definitely has a language style or figurative language that has a deep meaning by song writers when writing the song lyrics. The meanings which are contained in the song lyrics are implicit and explicit meaning. The researchers hope that this research can give a positive contribution for the readers and help the readers to have a better understanding about the meaning of songs lyrics.

Appendices

The Lyrics of Ayu Ting-Ting's Songs

Suara Hati

*Ku ingin engkau tahu
Betapa ku mengagumimu
Ku ingin engkau tahu
Betapa diriku memujamu*

*Haruskah aku nyanyikan cintaku
Agar kau dengar suara hatiku
Haruskah aku melukiskan
Tulus cintaku kepadamu*

*Sekian lama ku pendam rasa
Rasa yang begitu dalam padamu
Tapi itu semua khayalan
Akankah jadi kenyataan*

*Ku ingin engkau tahu
Betapa ku mengagumimu
Ku ingin engkau tahu
Betapa diriku memujamu
Ku ingin engkau tahu*

*Betapa ku mengagumimu
Ku ingin engkau tahu
Betapa diriku memujamu*

Kamu Kamu Kamu

*Kamu kamu kamu
Kamu keterlaluhan
Kalau ketemu maunya dimanja*

*Aduh aduh aduh
Aduh kacau jadinya
Membuat diriku semakin cinta*

*Senada seirama
Hati kita menyatu
Betapa indahny kemesraan
Membuat diriku bahagia*

*Kau sangat menggoda
Buatku gelisah oh sungguh
Kau lelaki sempurna
Membuatku tergila-gila*

*Kamu kamu kamu
Kamu keterlaluhan
Kalau ketemu maunya dimanja*

*Aduh aduh aduh
Aduh kacau jadinya
Membuat diriku semakin cinta*

Kamu kamu kamu

*Kamu pandai merayu
Buatku terhanyut dalam buaianmu*

*Aduh aduh aduh
Aduh tak tahan lagi
Ingin rasanya semua terulang lagi*

*Senada seirama
Hati kita menyatu
Betapa indahny kemesraan
Membuat diriku bahagia*

*Kau sangat menggoda
Buatku gelisah oh sungguh
Kau lelaki sempurna
Membuatku tergila-gila*

*Kamu kamu kamu
Kamu keterlaluhan
Kalau ketemu maunya dimanja*

Indonesia Ku Berkarya Hanya Untukmu

*Tak ada kata yang dapat ku ucapkan
Harapan dan cinta selalu bergetar
Andai melodi tak dikumandangkan
Nada-nada indah tak akan terdengar*

*Ketika matakmu memandang harapan
Yang tak dapat ku lihat namun ku rasa
Olehmu semuanya ku dapatkan
Untukmu ku persembahkan negeriku indonesia*

*Menggapai cinta tak ku dapat tanpamu
Nan indah impianku menjadi nyata
Cinta memberi kekuatan ku tuk berkarya*

*Kau yang telah memilihku
Doa harapan takkan ku siakan
Indonesia ku berkarya hanya untukmu*

*Tak ada kata yang dapat ku ucapkan
Harapan dan cinta selalu bergetar
Andai melodi tak dikumandangkan
Nada-nada indah takkan terdengar*

*Ketika matakmu memandang harapan
Yang tak dapat ku lihat namun ku rasa
Olehmu semuanya ku dapatkan
Untukmu ku persembahkan negeriku indonesia*

*Menggapai cinta tak ku dapat tanpamu
Nan indah impianku menjadi nyata
Cinta memberi kekuatan ku tuk berkarya*

*Kau yang telah memilihku
Doa harapan takkan ku siakan
Indonesia ku berkarya hanya untukmu*

*Menggapai cinta tak ku dapat tanpamu
Nan indah impianku menjadi nyata
Cinta memberi kekuatan ku tuk berkarya*

*Kau yang telah memilihku
Doa harapan takkan ku siakan
Indonesia ku berkarya hanya untukmu
(Berkarya hanya untukmu) ku berkarya hanya
untukmu*

Bulan Dalam Kolam

*Ku lihat ada bulan
Jatuh di dalam kola*

Tenggelam di sana

*Ingin ku memelukmu hu.. hu..
Namun tiada dapat ku sentuh
Ingin memilikimu hu.. hu..
Namun semakin jauh, menjauh
Apa daya, ku tak berdaya*

*Kadang kadang sesuatu sering terjadi
Di luar kemampuanku
Kadang kadang sesuatu yang ku dapati
Bukan yang ku harapkan*

*Mereka tak memahami
Apa yang aku rasakan*

*Memaksaku.. Untuk menurutinya
Harus aku jalani kepedihan ini*

*Ku lihat ada bulan
Jatuh di dalam kolam
Tenggelam di sana*

*Ingin ku memelukmu hu.. hu..
Namun tiada dapat ku sentuh
Ingin memilikimu hu.. hu..
Namun semakin jauh, menjauh
Apa daya, ku tak berdaya*

*Kadang kadang sesuatu sering terjadi
Di luar kemampuanku
Kadang kadang sesuatu yang ku dapati
Bukan yang ku harapkan*

*Mereka tak memahami
Apa yang aku rasakan
Memaksaku.. Untuk menurutinya
Harus aku jalani kepedihan ini*

*Ku lihat ada bulan
Jatuh di dalam kolam
Tenggelam di sana*

*Ingin ku memelukmu hu.. hu..
Namun tiada dapat ku sentuh
Ingin memilikimu hu hu
Namun semakin jauh, menjauh
Apa daya, ku tak berdaya*

References

- Abrams, M. H. (1999). *A glosary of literary term seventh edition*. Retrieved from: http://www.ohio.edu/people/hartlevg/ref/abrams_mh.pdf.
- Arp, Thomas R. and Greg Johnson. (2011). *Perrine's Sound and Sense: An introduction to Poetry*. 13th Ed. USA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
- Creswell, John W. (2009). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Method Approaches third edition*. USA: Sage Publication.
- Mezo, Richard E. (1999). *"Fire l' the blood": A Handbook of Figurative Language*. Retrieved from: <http://www.bookpump.com/upb/pdf-b/1128347b.pdf>.
- Semi, Atar M. (2012). *Metode Penelitian Sastra*. Bandung: Angkasa.