



An Analysis Of Hyperbole In Album “The Chainsmoker”

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Abstract

This article discusses the hyperbole figure used in the lyrics of Chainsmokers songs. The author assumes that the hyperbole figurative language in the song lyrics is used to attract song lovers to be interested in buying original, not pirated, CD tapes. The article, entitled "Hyperbola language used in Chainsmokers' Songs, aims to identify the types and find the meaning of the hyperbola language in the song. To analyze the data, the main theory used in this article is the figurative language theory proposed by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963), the theory of meaning proposed by Leech (1981) and some of another supporting theory. This article uses qualitative methods to provide a clear picture of the problems identified. Descriptive study in textual analysis is applied to describe the types and meanings of hyperbolic figures in the song lyric. The data is taken from several editions of the song released in 2017-2020.

Keywords: *Hyperbole figure of speech, meaning, song lyric*

Abstrak

Bahasa hiperbola yang digunakan pada album The Chainsmoker, bertujuan untuk mengetahui jenis-jenis dan mengetahui arti dari bahasa hiperbola pada lagu tersebut. Untuk menganalisis datanya, teori utama yang digunakan dalam artikel ini adalah teori bahasa kiasan yang dikemukakan oleh Knickerbocker dan Reninger 1963, teori makna yang dikemukakan oleh Leech 1981 dan beberapa teori pendukung lainnya. Artikel ini menggunakan metode kualitatif untuk memberikan gambaran yang jelas tentang masalah-masalah yang teridentifikasi. Kajian deskriptif dalam analisis tekstual diterapkan untuk mendeskripsikan jenis dan Makna hiperbolik dalam lirik lagu. Data diambil dari beberapa edisi lagu yang ada dalam album The Chainsmoker.

Kata kunci: *Hyperbole, makna, lyric lagu*

Introduction

Language is tool which has relationship with other for sharing information and for communication. Language is also very important thing for building good communication in social life. It is medium of cooperation in line with its functions. It has many main function, namely, for transferring, sending and receiving information. As a means of communication it is very important in daily life. Based on Croft (2000:56), language is a symbolic or metaphorical and not meant to be taken literally. And Verdonk (2003) figurative language is kind of stylistics.

From the definition above we can know that language is form of sound sign generated symbol by human vocal organs. As we know, language consisting of words or set of words. As system it words of a language are systematically developed and also systematic. Crystal (1991: 310) mentioned that semantic is one of the branches of linguistics devoted of the study of meaning in language. Based on Yule (1985: 114), semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. There is always an attempt to focus on what the words conventionally mean, rather than on what a speaker might want the words to mean on a particular occasion. Semantic theory of meaning. Semantic is study about relationship between the distinction linguistics with relationship of symbol in the activity of talking. In traditional linguistics, language is viewed as the vocabulary which is contained in literary works.

Based on (Knickerbocker, (1963) “stated that, aim at make the human characteristics in order to make the sentence more alive and impressive”. And also the songs from the album *The Chainsmoker* very much loved by all people, especially young people, this songs is interesting because all the songs created by Chainsmokers have intended meaning. The *Chainsmokers* is one of famous album, that contains the beauty of words and uss a sensitivity to express the feelings and imagination. The songs consist of elements of beautiful diction.

This study was conducted by reading and reviewing some relevant thesis concerned with hyperbole figure of speech in the song lyrics. The first thesis related to this study entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Five John Legend’s Songs Lyrics” was written by Khdiyah Arfiah (2016). The second study entitled “The Analysis of Figurative Language in Novia Qaidrie selected Song Lyrics” was written by Siswanto (2017). And The third is “in the journal about, Analysis of Figurative Language in Jamie Song Lyrics ” which written by Meyer (2011).

Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) say that hyperbole is an exaggerated word used for special effects. Hyperbole is perhaps one of the most familiar forms of figurative language and is pervasive in everyday life and the song and entertainment industry. Singers can use hyperbole to add extra drama or comedy to a situation or even for propaganda purposes. In short, hyperbole is the use of exaggerated statements, intended to create strong feelings, as well as to evoke or demonstrate strong feelings.

The first review related to this research is Khdiyah Arfiah (2016) in her paper entitled “Figurative Language Analysis in Five John legend’s Song”. The topic was chosen because many students did not understand figurative language, and have explained the connotative meaning of each figurative meaning. In addition, each song has many messages and it is necessary to do research on the meaning of the song. Her research aims to the figurative language use in the *John Legend* song. In the data, this observation method is applied in her paper. Data analysis using descriptive qualitative methods.

From the description above there are similarities between previous study and this study, both studies used the same problems in analyzing types and meaning of figurative language. Whereas the difference is the data taken from the lyrics of the song. The Previous study used the data from John Legend in the five albums. And in this research took the data from the lyric of *Chainsmokers* song “Something Just Like This Albums”. He uses a theory taken from Hornby (2000 ; 2181) to identify types of figurative language and in this study used the theory from Knickerbocker and

Reninger (1963) to identify types of figurative language and theory of meaning by Leech (1981; 5) The previous study was focused on finding the most dominant figurative language in song lyrics and this study analyze the meaning of figurative language in song lyrics.

The second review related to this research in “Analysis of Figurative Language in Jamie Song Lyrics.” This research was conducted by Meyer (2011) . The previous study uses descriptive qualitative methods in observation and literature study in collecting data. In this study there are two problems to understand the type of figurative language used in Jamie lyrics. The figurative language found in his research consists of 6 type of figurative language which are metaphor, simile, paradox, hyperbole, personification, and irony. This shows hyperbole is the most dominant in Jamie songs and supported by the total contextual meaning of Jamie song lyrics about conflict, broken heart, and sadness.

From the description above the similarities between the previous study and this study used the method descriptive qualitative. And the different from this study and the previous study is in the data used. This study took the data from the *Chainsmokers songs*. And previous study took the data from Jamie song lyrics. This study used a theory taken from Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) to identify types of figurative language and theory of meaning by Leech (1981; 5). And He uses theory taken from Hornby (1995 ; 34) to identify the type of figurative language in the research. His research just focused on finding the most dominant figurative language in song lyric but in this research will focus to analyze the meaning of figurative language in song lyric.

The third review related to this research is, “Analysis of Figurative language in Novia Qaidrie Selected Song Lyric. “This research has been conducted by Siswantoro (2017), The writer makes two problems in this study, 1. What kind of figurative language is found in Novia Qaidrie song lyrics. 2. How many lyric using figurative language in Novia Qaidrie song lyrics. The previous study used two methods in research, namely descriptive and qualitative to collect data.

The similarity between this research and the previous research, are : The first is the definition of types of figurative language and the method used by the qualitative descriptive method. Between this study and the previous study is, the previous study used data taken from Novia Qaidrie song lyric and in the research take the lyric of *The Chainsmoker songs* , The previous study used the theory from Hornby (1999 : 13) to analyzed the data, meanwhile this study will use theory from Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) to analyze the data . Based on Dennis (1996:65), hyperbole is a figure of speech that has statement containing exaggeration. Moreover, it is used to express strong feeling or produce strong impression, and not intended to be understood literally.

Method

Sources of data in this study are transcripts of several Chainsmokers songs contained in *Something Just Like This* album. The use of song lyrics as a source of research data is because it is one of the most famous albums that are widely circulated in the world community and contains many expressions in data collection, observation methods using listening and note

taking techniques are widely used. The data analysis was performed using a qualitative descriptive method. Figurative language is analyzed by the theory put forward by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367). Then the types of meaning are analyzed based on the theory put forward by Leech (1981). Data presentation was carried out by formal and informal methods

Result and Discussion

This part presented the result of the analysis. Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367) mention hyperbole is an exaggerated word used for special effects. Hyperbole is perhaps one of the most familiar forms of figurative language and is pervasive in everyday life and the song and entertainment industry. Singers can use hyperbole to add extra drama or comedy to a situation or even for propaganda purposes. In short, hyperbole is the use of exaggerated statements, intended to create strong feelings, as well as to evoke or demonstrate strong feelings. Leech (1981) says, Meaning is described as the message that is intended or expressed or signified; and the idea that is intended. The term meaning is simple derived from the word mean. It is a fact that the verb to mean and the noun meaning have many distinguishable meanings. From all the data obtained in the album The Chainsmoker consists of 6 songs and there are 9 sentences using figures of speech in songs that are composed of hyperbole.

Data 1: “Sold My Body To Survive “ (Children of night-line 17)

The hyperbole of this statement is identified when the speaker said that "Sold my body to survive" which means fight. This lyrics is categorized as hyperbole because it exaggerates the word fight for life, so from the above we can conclude that survive means fight for our life.

Based on Leech (1981), this sentence categorized as social meaning, because the lyrics survive related with a social context which fighting for our life. The meaning of the song is selling oneself, namely being an entertainer or working that is not feasible, such as in a social environment, selling oneself is an act that violates norm and rules, and is considered bad so that it has negative connotation,

Data 2: “ I love you to Atlantic Ocean”(Atlantic Ocean-line 7)

This sentence is categorized as hyperbole, the hyperbole of this statement was identified when the speaker said that "I love you to the Atlantic Ocean" which means loving her more than anything else. Because it exaggerates the word, I love you to Atlantic Ocean, so from the explanation above it can be concluded that the feeling of love for someone loved is more than anything else.

Based on the theory of Leech (1981) this sentence is categorized as a social meaning, because the lyrics I love you are related to the social context that states love for someone. The meaning of the song is that love for someone is very natural and

giving something more about love is true. The data above provides a moral message for someone who is single to find a partner in life, and has a positive influence on the listeners.

Data 3: “*This problem kills me*” (*It Kill Me-line 12*)

The sentence above is hyperbole, because the sentence seem redundant, and the sentence has have other meanings. The real meaning of these data is someone who feels confused about the problems he is facing, so he chooses a shortcut to think about his life. It seems exaggerated because it uses the meaning of hyperbole besides that the lyrics also use sentences that give an imaginary impression.

According to the theory of meaning that perposed by Leech (1981), the data is categorized in terms of connotative meaning because the word "this problem kills me" has a different interpretation from the actual meaning. And if the meaning is traced, then if interpreted, the real meaning is someone who is experiencing problems in his life.

Data 4: “*You’re scaring me to death, that’s not cool!*” (*Leave Me Alone-line12*)

The data above is hyperbole, because maybe, scaring her to death and saying that, no abbreviation cool at all. The real meaning was someone who was so worried about what was going to happen to him that he was afraid to think about it.

Based on the theory of Leech (1981), this data has a connotative meaning because this sentence has the intended meaning. The sentence above has the connotation. Because it does not reveal the true meaning of the word "scare me to death". And if the true meaning of the word is someone who is afraid of something bad happen to him. Then that is why he imagine negative things so he is afraid.

Data 5: “*Now you got me into something very sick and twisted* “ (*Leave Me Alone-line 8*)

The hyperbole of this statement was identified when the speaker said that "now you got me into something very sick and twisted" which means feeling hurt. This sentence is categorized as hyperbole because it exaggerates the word "Very sick and twisted", then from the above explanation it can be concluded that if the feeling of love betrayed is very painful.

Based on Leech in (1981) this sentence is categorized this data belongs to affective meaning. Expressing emotion affective language behaviors that elicit affective reactions. The meaning of the song is someone whose love is betrayed so that being prayerful feels very hurt. And considered bad so that it has a negative image.

Data 6: “*We only said goodbye with words I died a hundred times You go back to her And I go back to Black, black, black*” (*Back to Black-AMY Winehouse-line 13*)

The sentence above has impression of being excessive and when the love of you a lot sad. But you see how insipid our description is? Amy Winehouse did a better

job with her hyperbolic” I died a hundred times”. Brilliant, really. If the word is interpreted a hundred times in this sentence, then it has a relative meaning, for example repeated and often the word dies at the climax above the text on lost love.

Based on the theory of Leech in (1981) this sentence is categorized as a social meaning, related to the social context because it connects the feelings of one person to another, the hyperbole impression is seen in the word “ I died a hundred times. The meaning of the song is someone whose love is betrayed and their lover returns to their previous love, the sentence above gives an impression of sadness.

Data 7: “*You Walked Out Of All Of My Dreams*” (Heart On The Line –Line3)

The hyperbole of this statement was identified when the speaker said that "You walked out of all of my dreams" which means cannot forget. This sentence is categorized as hyperbole because it exaggerates the word walk out, so from the above we can conclude that survive means hard to forget someone.

The Leech theory in (1981) this sentence used affective meaning that enables the addressee to express people emotions, which can be seen the sentence you walked out of all of my dreams. This sentence categorized as affective meaning because shows the examples of expressing confusion. The author shows that they really hard to forget someone in their life because of lot of memories that them got. It related to the cognitive or emotion as the definition of affective meaning.

Data 8: “*You've Got Me Go in' Crazy*” (Heart On the Line-line 5)

The hyperbole of this statement was identified when the speaker said that “You've got me go in' crazy “which means because that word greatly exaggerates, where the true meaning when the people doing relationship they would not crazy but more depressed. This sentence is categorized as hyperbole because it exaggerates the word depressed to crazy.

Based on Leech in (1981) this sentence categorized as affective meaning that enables to express people emotions, such as emotions happiness, unhappiness, politeness, impoliteness, respect, disrespect and insult. Affective meaning in language produces positive and negative. The emotion for example, in this sentence show expresses of sadness that make them feel really crazy which refers to feel depression because of someone.

Data 9: “*Children seem like they lost their smile, I wondered lost in the dark,*”(*Children of Night -line 1*).

The sentence above are hyperbole, because the sentence are prosperous, and the sentence has other meanings. The real meaning of these data is someone who feels lost on the right path. seems exaggerated because it uses hyperbole meaning besides that these sentence also used sentences that give an imaginary impression.

According to the theory of meaning that proposed by Leech (1969), The data is categorized in the sense of connotative meaning because the word *lost in the dark* has

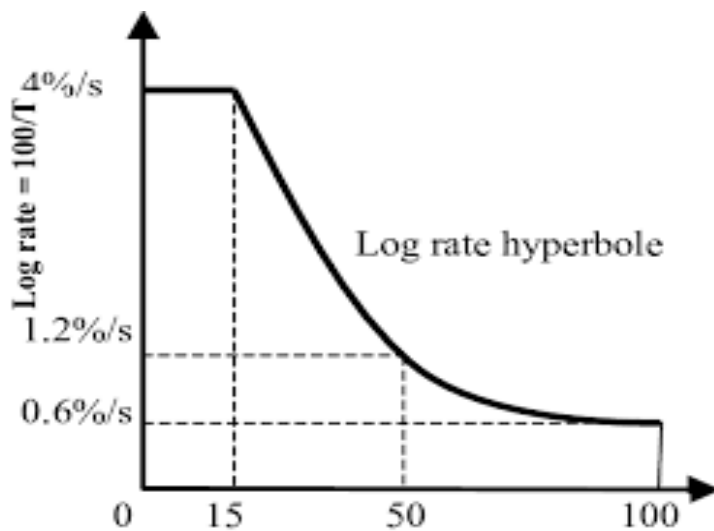
different viewpoint from no abbreviation true meaning. And if the meaning is traced, then the real meaning is get lost on a bright path.

Table 1. The Occurrence of Referential Function

The hyperbole figure of speech which was analyzed by the theory Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367) is presented in a table. Meanwhile, the elements of the data found which was analyze by the theory Lecch in (1981) were presented by description. The occurrence of meaning could be seen in the table :

No	Songs Title	Occurrence of Hyperbole	Percentage of Hyperbole
1	Children of Night	2	20,1%
2	Atlantic Ocean	1	10,2%
3	It kills Me	1	5,5%
4	Leave Me Alone	2	20,3%
5	Back to Black-AMY Winehouse	2	20,3%
6	Heart On the Line	2	10,1%
	Total		100%

Based on the theory proposed by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963), there were 9 data of hyperbole figure of speech found in 6 songs of *Chainsmokers album* whit the name *The Chainsmoker*. The hyperbole figure of speech function as could be seen in the table above were 20,1% found in *Children of Night*, & 10,2% found in the song *Atlantic Ocean*, & 20,3% found in the song title *It Kill Me*, 20,3% found in *Leave Me Alone*, 5,5% found in *Back to Black AMY Winehouse*, and 10,1% found in *Heart On the Line*.



Grafic1.

In the chart above, can see the use hyperbole in the album namely *The Chainsmoker*, which occupies the highest position. In the song *Leve Me alone* with a percentage of 20,3%, and in the second place is occupied by the song *Blac to Back* with a number of 20,3%, on the ranking. *Three Childrent of night* with precentage of 20,1%, in the fourth section there is in the song title namely *Ocean atelantic* with a number of 10,2%, in the section five is on the song *Hert On the Line* with a numbr of 10,1%. And the *lost lowst level* of hyperbole reading on the alburn *The Chainsmoker* is on the song *It kill Me* with a figure of 5,5%. There are 6 cursed songs and 9 data obtained on the album *The Chainsmoker*.

Conclusion

From the finding discussion above, there were 10 data of hyperbole figure of speech found in 6 songs of Chainsmokers albums *whit* the name *Something Just Like This*. The hyperbole figure of speech function as could be seen in the table above were 20,1% found in *Children of Night line-17*, & 10,2% found in the song *Atlantic Ocean*, & 20,3% found in the song title *It Kill Me*, 20,3% found in *Leave Me Alone*, 5,5% found in *Back to Black-AMY Winehouse*, and 10,1% found in *Heart On the Line*. And the use of the types on meaning in the data above which consist of affective meaning, social meaning and connotative meaning. The types of meaning that can be seen in the data above were the *Children of night* data used social meaning and data used connotative meaning, *Atlantic ocean* using social meaning, *It kill me* used connotative meaning, *Leave me alone* in data used connotative meaning and data used affective

meaning, *Back to Black*- AMY wine house used social meaning, *Heart On the Line* used affective meaning.

From the analysis, it can be concluded that figurative language is very important in a song lyrics. Therefore, the researcher uses sentences that contain figurative language in the song lyrics because they contain hidden meanings and make the lyrics more interesting to read and sing and help listeners to imagine what the songwriter's story is like and can feel its emotions. Several reasons underlie why figurative languages is interesting to be analyzed because : First there are some figurative languages found in this song sentence. So that is what causes the song to be interesting to sing and accepted by the wider community. Second, the *Chainsmoker album* is the most popular in the world. A singer must master the lyrics and meaning of the song that is sung. The writer himself must really master and understand the theory of figurative languages.

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