



The Analysis of Figurative Language in Little Mix's Third Album Entitled "Get Weird"

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Abstract

This research aims to identify the kinds of figurative languages used in the chosen song lyrics of Little Mix album entitled "Get Weird" to examine the meanings of figurative languages in the song lyrics of Little Mix. Several song lyrics from Little Mix's album that were taken randomly are the database of this analysis. This study used a qualitative approach and formal and informal methods to describe the types of figurative language. The theory of Perrine (1970) was used to analyse the types of figurative languages, and the theory by Leech (1974) was used to describe the meaning of each type of figurative language. After the study has been finished, the researchers revealed that the chosen song lyrics of Little Mix's album consist of 10 lyrics that used figurative language. In addition to that, six types of figurative language were found, namely Simile (10%), Personification (10%), Hyperbole (20%), Paradox (20%), Metaphor (30%), and Metonymy (10%).

Keywords: *figurative language, song lyrics, Little Mix*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu pilihan Little Mix yang berjudul "Get Weird" untuk mengkaji makna bahasa kiasan dalam lirik lagu Little Mix. Beberapa lirik lagu dari album Little Mix yang diambil secara acak untuk data dari analisis ini. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dan metode formal dan informal untuk mendeskripsikan jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan. Teori Perrine (1970) digunakan untuk menganalisis jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan dan teori Leech (1974) digunakan untuk menjelaskan makna dari setiap jenis bahasa kiasan yang ditemukan. Setelah penelitian selesai, peneliti berasumsi bahwa lirik lagu yang dipilih dari album Little Mix terdiri dari 10 lirik yang menggunakan bahasa kiasan. Oleh karena itu, ditemukan enam jenis bahasa kiasan, ada Simile (10%), Personifikasi (10%), Hiperbola (20%), Paradoks (20%), Metafora (30%), dan Metonimi (10%).

Kata kunci: *bahasa kiasan, lirik lagu, Little Mix*

Introduction

Language is one of the tools for human speech. One of the most critical aspects of our lives is language. People never be able to communicate with one another without the use of language. Aside from that, individuals require language to communicate and

seek out and provide helpful information to others. In addition to being a medium of communication, language has applications in other areas of our lives, such as literature. People employ language in literary works in various ways, both spoken and written. According to Hartman (1972: 132), linguistics is a discipline whose subject is language. Phonetics, phonology, syntax, morphology, and semantics are some of the branches of linguistics. According to Lehrer (1974:1), the study of meaning is known as semantics. For Lehrer, semantics is a vast field of study because it touches on aspects of the structure and function of language, so that it can be linked to psychology, philosophy, and anthropology. The study of the human mind, cognitive processes, and cognition are also based on semantics, and they're all linked to the way people classify and communicate their feelings through language. Every word said by a speaker must have a literal and non-literal meaning. The literal meaning reflects the speaker's meaning as it appears in ordinary usage or in a dictionary, whereas the non-literal meaning (figurative language) denotes a deeper meaning.

A figurative language is one in which the author or speaker uses language to convey something other than the literal meaning of Tarigan (Azwardi, 2016). Figurative language is most commonly used in poetry and music lyrics. By studying figurative language, song listeners and poetry connoisseurs can better comprehend the meaning, feelings, and messages communicated in song lyrics and poetry stanzas. The purpose of employing metaphorical language in a song is to make it more intriguing and beautiful. In this study, the researchers discuss, the researcher discusses the types of figurative language based on Perrine's (1970) theory. The figurative language used to analyze this research is simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, metonymy, synecdoche, symbol, apostrophe, allegory, paradox, and irony. Figurative language is fascinating to study and analyze for fans of poetry and music. By learning the figurative language, listeners to poetry or songs might better understand the message and feelings given by the author or singer to the poem reader or song listener.

A song is a single piece of music that often stands alone and is designed to be sung by a human voice with distinct tones and patterns. The song is one of the ways to communicate that allows humans to cooperate, according to Hutajulu and Herman (2019). A system of communicating with other people using sounds and music to express a feeling, sense, concept, emotion, or cognition is referred to as a song (Thao and Herman, 2020; Herman and Silalahi, 2020). Songs are frequently performed with musical instruments to create a beautiful harmony with their own rhythm and melody. Songs cover a wide range of topics and themes, including love, family, life events, and so on. Songs can also entertain oneself when bored or acquire vocabulary, listening, pronunciation, and grammar. As a result, one of the most popular types of entertainment is songs. Many songs, like the times, have figurative language. Song lyrics are a collection of feelings expressed by a singer or songwriter in the form of a series of words.

Lyrics are a type of word that is used to enhance a song's choruses and verses. The meaning or message of a song can be conveyed to listeners through lyrics. Singers or songwriters are usually the ones that write the lyrics for songs. Little Mix is one of the most well-known girl groups in the world. This group is from the United Kingdom, created in 2011. Perrie Edwards, Leigh-Anne Pinnock, and Jade Thirlwall make up the trio. Little Mix's song lyrics are intriguing to examine because they are popular, and

many people are familiar with and love their music. However, few people are aware that the lyrics of their favourite songs contain a variety of figurative language. Many emotions are expressed through the singer's song lyrics, which explain the singer's sentiments and touch the hearts of listeners. As a result, it is seen as a viable source of data sets for analysis.

Several other previous studies related to the topic discuss figurative language as the object of research. Some of them are: The first review is a study entitled "An Analysis of Figurative Language in Taylor Swift's Song Lyrics" by Setiawati and Maryani (2018). This study aimed to determine the types of figurative language used in Taylor Swift's lyrics and describe the contextual meaning of the figurative language used in Taylor Swift's lyrics. This study uses the theory of Kennedy (1983: 481). The results of the data analysis showed that there were six types of figures of speech found: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, paradox, irony, and personification. Based on the research above, we can compare similarities and differences. This previous study only used two songs from the album entitled *Red* and only 6 types of figurative language were found in each data.

The second similar research was done by Siti Nursolihat and Evie Kareviati (2020), where they examined figurative language in the lyrics of "A Whole New World" song By Zayn Malik And Zhavia Ward". This research is trying to analyze the figurative language in the lyric of the song "A Whole New World" and focus on finding out its meaning by analyzing its contextual meaning. This is descriptive qualitative research. The result showed that this song consists of some figurative language, such as alliteration, simile, personification, metaphor, and hyperbole. Furthermore, the most figurative language used in the lyric is a metaphor. The contextual meaning of each figurative language is also explained based on the situation of the lyric. Based on the research above, we can compare the similarities and differences. The similarities between the research above are that they analyze the type of figurative language in the song. In this study, only one song was analyzed and only 5 types of figurative language were found in the song. This study only analyzes figurative language without explaining what meaning is contained in each data found.

The last one is a study entitled "Figurative Language Used In One Direction's Album Entitled *Up All Night*" by Tira Nur Fitria (2018). This study aimed to know the types of figurative language and the most dominant figurative language used in the lyrics of One Direction's album song entitled *Up All Night*. Based on this research, six types of figurative language in One Direction's album entitled *Up All Night* were repetition, parallelism, personification, metaphor, simile, and hyperbole. The most dominant figurative language used was repetition in 50 lyrics, anaphora and epiphora. Based on the research above, we can compare the similarities and differences. In In this study, the album analyzed contained 13 songs but only 6 types of figurative language were found.

Method

This research used qualitative the method to examined the interpretation of this knowledge using observation and note-taking techniques. Direct observation is a

method of collecting data in which a researcher watches or listens to research participants rather than conducting an interview or manipulating variables through the experimental methodology. Then, in collecting the data, there are several steps to undergo the following: downloading songs on Little Mix's "Get Weird" album, searching the lyrics of the selected song from the internet to copy and save them, listening to the song while matching the lyrics found on the internet, taking a note to classify the data based on the type of figurative language.

Result and Discussion

Based on the results, ten song lyrics that contained figurative language were found in Little Mix's album entitled "Get Weird" based on figurative language. The data is presented in the table below, and the data below shows six types of figurative language from the five songs in the album "Get Weird" by Little Mix. The song lyrics also include the title used and which line of the song lyrics each figurative language uses.

Table 3.1 Figurative Language in Little Mix song lyrics

Month	Frequency	Percentage
Simile	1	10%
Personification	1	10%
Hyperbole	2	20%
Paradox	2	20%
Metaphor	3	30%
Metonymy	1	10%
Total	10	100%

Table 3.1 shows Perrine's (1970) classification of figurative language. This table shows the total finding of figurative language found in Little Mix's song lyrics. There are 11 types of figure of speech based on the applied theory, but 5 out of 11 types of figure of speech are not found in the lyrics of the Little Mix song, namely synecdoche, apostrophe, symbol, irony, and allegory. Little Mix's song lyrics contain many forms of figurative language, and there are ten figurative languages mentioned in total, with each song having several figurative languages. Detailed information on the findings of the figurative language used in the Get weird album lyrics can be found in the table. The tabulated data table above shows that there are ten figurative language data found in Little Mix's song lyrics. Namely Simile (10%), Personification (10%), Hyperbole (20%), Paradox (20%), Metaphor (30%), and Metonymy (10%).

Table 3.2. Meaning Little Mix song lyrics

Month	Frequency	Percentage
Affective meaning	7	70%
Connotative meaning	3	30%
Total	10	100%

Meanwhile, from a total of 10 types of meaning in Little Mix's lyrics, only 2 of 7 types of meanings were found, namely connotative meaning and affective meaning. Each type is found to occur relatively often. These two types were found with seven affective meanings and three connotative meanings.

1 Simile

The simile is a comparison that is expressed by the use of some words or phrases such as: "like", "as", "then", "similar to", or "resembles". The simile is an explicit comparison, meaning it implies something to one another directly. That is why it needs the effort to show the similarity explicitly (Perrine, 1970).

Data 1:

People like you and the people like me

(Weird people, line 18)

This data is categorized as simile because the songwriters compare two things, such as "people like you" and "people like me" This sentence uses the word "like" to compare two different things. The phrase "people like you" in this sentence means describing familiar people. Furthermore, "people like me" means people who have personalities similar to songwriters.

Based on Leech's (1974) theory, affective meaning refers to what is conveyed about the speaker's feelings and attitudes through language (attitude towards the listener and attitude towards what they say). The phrase "People like you and the people like me" means that the songwriter feels behind those superior to him. This sentence is included in the affective meaning because the songwriter expresses his feelings about the sadness he is experiencing.

2 Personification

Personification is giving the attributes of human being to animal, object, or an idea. This can really affect how readers imagine things. This type of image is widely used in children's books, poetry, and fictional literature. Personification creates an

abstract emotional image by making anomalous statements about activities that inanimate objects may not be able to perform. (Perrine, 1970).

Data 2:

For a spell that can't be broken

(Black magic, line 21)

The sentence above is classified as personification because the sentence gives the attributes of a human being to an animal, object, or idea. The word "for a spell that cannot be broken" means a magic spell that cannot be broken, and there is no way of dispelling it. This data belongs to personification since a magic spell is a word spoken by a person, and it cannot be broken.

Based on Leech's theory, these lyrics are classified as connotative because they have implicit meaning. The occurrence of the connotative meaning can be seen from the indirect phrase "can't be broken" as something that cannot cure in real life.

3 Hyperbole

Hyperbole or overstatement is simply exaggeration in service of truth. It is an exaggeration of the meaning of words and events, and understatement refers to disregarding the meaning. Both are forms of visual language used to set accents and evoke emotions. (Perrine, 1970).

Data 3:

To change him over night

(Black magic, line 37)

This data is categorized as hyperbole because this sentence gives an exaggerated expression. This data classifies as hyperbole since the sentence "To change him overnight" describes a person who wants to change the feelings of a loved one in a short time. This lyric is exaggerated since it is impossible to change someone's feelings in a short time.

This sentence is categorized as affective meaning because the lyrics show a context of forgetting which kind of emotions. The lyrics imply the sense of how someone who is who feels passionate about changing the nature of the person they like for the better.

Data 4:

One taste and you'll be mine

(Black magic, line 30)

This data is categorized as hyperbole because this sentence gives an exaggerated expression. This data classifies as hyperbole since the sentence "one taste, and you'll be mine" describes a person who can fall in love with the opposite sex for no reason. This lyric is exaggerated since it is impossible to love us without a good reason.

This sentence is categorized as affective meaning because the lyrics show a context of forgetting which kind of emotions. The lyrics imply the importance of how someone who feels happy and optimistic because, with some action or changes, someone they like becomes attracted and owned.

4 Paradox

Paradox is an apparent contradiction which is nevertheless somehow true. It may be either a situation or statement. In paradoxical statements the contradiction normally stems for one in all phrases being figuratively or in multiple tense. (Perrine, 1970).

Data 5:

Oh, said I'm gonna leave but I'm never leaving

(The end, line 12)

This data is categorized as a paradox because it is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless somehow true. The word "I gonna leave" is paradoxical because the songwriter will leave the life of the person he loves. Furthermore, the word "I'm never leaving" describes someone who cannot leave the person he likes. This reveals that the songwriter couldn't be consistent with what was said and could not start a new life.

The affective meaning can be seen in the lyrics above because it contains emotions. This sentence is classified as an affective meaning because the lyrics show the feeling of the squad, which is the type of emotion. The song implies someone wants to hide in trouble and avoid people who do not want to be seen.

Data 6:

You can say what you want, but love isn't here anymore

(The end, line 18)

This data is categorized as a paradox because it is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless somehow true. The word "say what you want" is paradoxical since songwriters don't want to believe what their loved ones say. Furthermore, the word "love isn't here anymore" describes someone who has no love for a partner who has

hurt his feelings. This is intended to express that the songwriter is no longer in love and can no longer believe in all the words spoken by his lover.

The affective meaning can be seen in the lyrics above because it contains emotions. This sentence is classified as an affective meaning because the lyrics show a feeling of anger which is a type of emotion. The song expresses feelings of irritation towards someone's words.

5 Metaphor

A metaphor is a comparison between things essentially unlike. The comparison is implied; the figurative term is substituted for or identifies the literal term. What is essentially different is shown to have some similarity or to create a new image. Similarities between the objects being compared can be implied rather than stated directly. It only makes sense if the similarities between the two become apparent or if someone understands the relationship between the two words. (Perrine, 1970).

Data 7:

Cause we're all weird people and we're shaking

(Weird people, line 15)

This data is categorized as a metaphor since the songwriter compares two things, such as "weird people" and "shaking," using to be. Weird people mean people who have strange behavior, and this strange behavior can be influenced by drinking alcohol and getting drunk. Furthermore, the word "shaking" means someone who has a great fear that makes his body tremble.

The lyrics above indicate the affective meaning because it contains emotions. This sentence is categorized as affective because the lyrics show a nervous and anxious feeling, which kind of emotions. The song conveys the feeling of fear from the singer that makes him anxious and nervous, as described by the lyrics "we're shaking".

Data 8:

Cause what you do is crazy

(A.D.I.D.A.S, line 12)

This data is categorized as a metaphor since the songwriter compares two things, "what you do" and "crazy," by using to be. What you do means all actions performed by a person. Furthermore, the word "crazy" means crazy person. Mad people have irrational thoughts and actions.

Based on Leech's theory, the lyrics above have a connotative meaning. The connotative meaning can be seen from indirect words such as the sentence "Cause

what you do is crazy" means someone does not easily trust you because what you do turns out to be bad and looks ridiculous.

Data 9:

That this time is the end

(The end, line 10)

This data is categorized as a metaphor since the songwriter compares two things, such as "this time" and "the end," used to be. This time means someone gives time to people close to him, and furthermore, the word "the end" means the last chance someone gave.

This sentence is categorized as affective meaning because the lyrics show a context of sadness, which kind of emotion. The lyrics imply the meaning of how someone had given up on the love relationship that was lived and made sure this time the relationship ended.

6 Metonymy

Metonymy is a figure of speech in which one word or phrase is substituted for another with which it is closely associated. Also, the rhetorical strategy of describing something indirectly by referring to things around it. It is the use of something closely related to its actual meaning. (Perrine, 1970).

Data 10:

Just to make him sweet

(Black magic, line 11)

The sentence above is classified as a metonymy because it describes something indirectly by referring to the things around it. In the lyrics above, the word "sweet" describes something that attracts someone. With the phrase "Just to make him sweet," it seems the songwriter wants to change someone to become interested and liked by many people, and it literally means someone wants to change the appearance of the opposite sex.

This sentence is classified as an affective meaning because the lyrics indicate the context of happiness, which type of emotion. The lyrics imply the meaning of how the songwriter is very optimistic and passionate so that the person he likes can change to be better than before.

Conclusion

Based on the results from the analyzed songs, this study found many figurative languages. There are ten lyrics that contain figurative language in the lyrics of the song Little Mix, and all of them can be classified into seven (6) types of figures of speech, respectively language. Namely, Simile (10%), Personification (10%), Hyperbole (20%), Paradox (20%), Metaphor (30%), and Metonymy (10%). The meanings contained in the figurative language expressions found in this study are as follows, 7 kinds of affective meaning and 3 types of connotative meaning. However, one of them occurs most frequently, called affective meaning (7). From the analysis above, the more dominant type of figure of speech found in Little Mix's lyrics is the hyperbole type of speech. Most songwriters express something or someone hyperbolic or exaggeratedly to serve the truth. Using too much can make song lyrics more unique, interesting, beautiful, and internalized in their expression.

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