



Comparative Figurative Language Found in Maya Angeluo Poems

Paulinus Jas¹, Komang Dian Puspita Candra², Nimade Verayanti Utami³

^{1,2,3}English Department, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Mahasaraswati Denpasar University,
Jl. Kamboja No.11A Dangin Puri Kangin, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

Correspondence Email: 2 paulinusjas@gmail.com, dianpuspitacandra@unmas.ac.id,
verayanti.utami@unmas.ac.id

Abstract

The objective of this study focus on types of comparative figurative language in the poem Maya Angeluo and their meaning. In resolving the problem of the study. The study for analyzed used the theory from Kennedy (1983), with the book entitled Literature: An introduction to Fiction : Poetry and Drama, and the theory of meaning ussed from Leech (1981), with the book entitled semantics : The study of Meaning. this study was used to describe the meaning of the types figurative language found in Maya Angeluo poems. This study used the data source from Maya Angeluo poems. Documentation method was used to collect data. This study used qualitative descriptive method has beed used to describe the data to analyzed the data, whereeas formal and informal method has been used to present the finding. There was found 21 data of types figurative language from 12 in poem Maya Angleuo. The meaning of those 21 comparative figurative language was describe using the theory of Leech (1981). There was found two types of meaning were found from the data. They were affective meaning and connotative meaning.

Keywords: *figurative language, types, meaning, maya angeluo*

Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini berfokus pada jeni- jenis majas komparative dalam puisi Maya Angeluo dan malnanya. Dalam memecahkan study. Kajian yang di analysis menggunakan teori dari Kneedy (1983), dengan buku berjudul Literature : An Introduction to Fiction :poetry and drama, dan teori makna yang di gunakan dari Leech (1981), dengan buku yang berjudul semantics : The study of Meaning. penelitian ini di gunakan untuk mendeskripsikan makna dari jenin- jenis bahasa kiasan yang di temukan dalam puisi Maya Angeluo. Penelitian ini di menggunakan sumber data dari puisi Maya Angeluo. Metode dokumentasi di gunakan untuk mengumpulkan data. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif yang di gunakan untuk mendeskripsikan data untuk menganalisis data, sedangkan metode formal dan informal di gunakan untuk menyajikan temuan. Di temukan 21 data jenis bahasa kiasan dari 12 dalam puisi Maya Angeluo. Makna dari 21 bahasa kiasan pembanding tersebut di deskripsikan dengan menggunakan teori Leech (1981). Di temukan dua jenis makna yang di temukan dari data tersebut. Yaitu makna afektif dan makna konotative.

Kata kunci: *Bahasa kiasan, makna, type, maya angeluo*

Introduction

Literature has been widely engaged in both English speaking countries and non-English speaking countries. It has been one of the effective ways to develop the learners' English skill. Literature helps the student to see the diversity of language. Literature is the representative of the writer's feelings, Robert and Jacobs (1993) refer "literature" to composition that tells a story, dramatizes a situation, expresses emotion, analyzes and advocates ideas. Literature is not a matter of fact – experiences "personal response" or "imaginative uniqueness", such as terms, is dissociable for us today. The whole idea of literary Eagleton (2003). By the time, literature was becoming virtually synonymous with the "imaginative" figurative language.

By studying literature not only learn about such as reading, writing, listening, grammar, pronunciation, and then vocabulary. But there are also which understanding literary work, it is much easier if the student can examine the literature, for novel, and poem, and etc. There are several literary works, such as poetry, prose, and drama. Poem is a collection of words that express emotion or ideas into a literary text. It helps student to increase not only language skill but also their vocabulary items. Poem contains vocabulary features that aids students to improve listening skill while listening to the speaker who perform poetry reading on the stage, video or audio. In addition, poem will be drill students reading abilities through comprehending its meaning and at the further stage their speaking skills will also improve through delivering their ideas to other student concerning to the meaning, moral, value, or thought wrapped in poem. There are some elements include in poem such as rhyme, rhythm, stanza, tone, and theme. But the most important one is figurative language. Figurative language used to create a special effect or feeling.

Language play important role human live. The main function of language is a communication tool. Without language it would be difficult to human in communicating and understanding each other. There are two kind of language, they are literal language and figurative language. The literal language has meaning as it is uttered. Literal language refers to fact without any exaggeration or alteration of the meaning. In contrast, figurative language refers to word that alter and exaggerate the meaning. Keraf (2007) identifies that figurative language in two categories: direct and indirect meaning. The figure of speech compare one thing with another thing and find the similarity between these two things.

Figurative language known as a part figure of speech that been used literature. Literature is social creation made by author using language as the media for express their feelings or ideas. The author uses the depth of their imagination, vision, and intellectually in writing a literary work (Welles & Warren). Figurative language is method taken to express a feeling or an idea by comparing two different things, similes

an object to another which has no similarity at all between them or treat inanimate object like inanimate creature. It shows how boundless the use of language to deliver a meaning. According to Miller and Curie (2000:97) Figurative language has many types and this is going to analyze some of them such as : simile, metaphors, hyperbole, personification, metonymy. After considering some factors, the writer is going to analyze five of figurative language as it has mentioned before and Maya Angelou poems as the object to be analyzed. Figurative language is so close to daily activity of human life because day to day interaction or communication everyday to tell what they would like others to know. It is sometimes difficult to address what he or she feels inside straight forwardly and as the solution of this condition, figurative language forms of this alternative. Through this research which is about the types of figurative language used in some poems, hopefully this article can help all the people to understand.

The first previous study is a journal conducted by Khairunisa and Dirgeyasa (2020), entitled “Figurative language in Amirhamzah’s poems” the study focused to analyze the types of figurative language found in some poems of Amirhamzah. The collected data was analyzed by using qualitative and descriptive methods. The research of this study shows that there are some types of figurative language found in poems. They were hyperbole, simile, irony, personification, metaphor. Most of the figurative language found in those similes. For out of seven types of meaning used those poems in order to understand the figurative meaning in the poems that is connotative meaning, conceptual meaning, affective meaning, and collocative meaning.

The second study was taken from a journal by Fernando (2018), entitled “Figurative language found in Emily Dickinson’s poems” the study focused to analyze the types of figurative language found in Emily Dickinson’s poems. The collected data was analyzed by using the qualitative and descriptive method. The research of this study shows that there are many types of figurative language found in Emily Dickinson’s poems. The dominant types of figurative language that is simile, synecdoche, hyperbole and personification. For out of seven types of meaning used in the poems in order to understand the figurative language meaning there are affective meaning and connotative meaning.

The third previous study was taken from a journal by Arafah and Abbas (2021), entitled “Figurative language in Poe’s Annabelle” the study focused to analyze the types of figurative language found in Annabelle poems. The collected data was analyzed by using qualitative and descriptive methods. The research of this study shows the many types of figurative language in the Annabelle poems. They were hyperbole, personification, metaphor, paradox, paradox, allusion, and the last one metonymy. Four out of seven types of meaning used in the poems in order to understand the figurative

language meaning they are affective meaning, connotative meaning, thematic meaning and collocative meaning.

The last one previous study was taken from a jurnal by Nuraeni and Peron (2017) entitled “Figurative language in kelly darrow’s selected poetry” The study focused to analyzed of the types figurative language in kelly darrow poetry. The collected data was analyzed by using qualitative and descriptive method. The research of this study show that the many types of figurative language in the kelly darrow’s poetry’s. They were, metaphor, personification, simile, hyperbole, irony, paradox, allusion and symbol. For out seven types of menaing used in the poetry’s to understand that the figurative language meaning. The dominat of meaning there are connotative meaning, affective meaning, collocatative meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning.

Based on the previous study above, the writer interested to analyzed the figurative language used in the Maya Angeluo poems because there are many types of figurative language and the use of comparative figurative language in poem make it very interesting.

Method

This study used Maya Angeluo poems as data source. The data was analysis qualitative. In collecting the data, the researcher did some step, such as: donwload the poems from the internet, reading the poems and note taking of data which contained figurative language. The theory this study is divided into two parts: the first is to find out the types of figurative language by the theory of Kneedy (1983), and the second is to analyzed the meaning of figurative language proposed by Leech (1981).

Result and Discussion

The poem of Maya Angelou used some of figurative language in the poem. The figurative language have certain meaning which can be categorized as affective meaning and social meaning. The result of this study is explained by the tables below:

Table 1. The Types of Figurative Language of Maya Angeluo Poems

Types Figurative Language	Occurrence	Percentage
Simile	8	38%
Metaphor	3	9,5%
Personification	3	19%
Total	21	100%

Table 2 Types of Meaning of Figurative Language of Maya Angeluo poem

Types of Meaning	Occurrence	Percentage
Affective meaning	15	57%
Connotative meaning	6	28%
Total	2	100%

After analyze the data from Maya Angeluo poem, the writer found as many types of figurative language. they were comparative of figurative language 21 data. Minewhile for the meaning of figurative language the writer found two types of meaning they were affective meaning and connotative meaning. Analysed of figurative language meaning in the Maya Angeluo poems. According to Kneedy (1983), there are kinds of figurative language, such as: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, paradox, irony, allusion, and the meaning of figurative language there are seven types of meaning according to Leech (1981), such as, social meaning, connotative meaning, affective meaning, collocative meaning, reflected meaning, and thematic meaning.

Comparative Figurative Language

Comparative figurative language consist of, simile, methapora, and personification.

According to Kneedy (1983), personification is figure of speech in which a thing, an animal, or an abstract term (truth or nature) is made human.

Simile

According to Kneedy (1983), simile is comparison of two things, indicated by some connective, usually like, as, than, or verb such as resembles.

Data 1

“Offering me as to a child, an attic”(13) line/stanza:5/6

In the expression above, the types of figurative language that the research found is simile. The sentences above is categorized as simile which is comparison between two things. “offering me” offering its meand a gift to the honorable. Which

is the poet compare with “child”. The sentences above explained about the situation of the poet that feels the passion. This sentences above the poems writer to expression her feeling.

Based on the theory proposed by Leech (1974), this sentence was classified into affective meaning. Affective meaning is one of the types of meaning that reflects the personal feeling of the spiker. The sentences above used in affective meaning because it refers to what is conveying about the feeling of the poet through the poem. The real meaning of those poem is show the feeling old the poet when he was as the key of happiness even the bad event that happened and makes us feeling down.

Data 2

“Your skin like dawn” (60)line/stanza:3/4

In the sentence about, the types of figurative language used is simile. In the sentence above there is word “like” that the is function to compare “your skin and dawn”. Dawn is the first appearance of light in the morning followed by sunrise. In this case the sentence above your skin like dawn. Its mean the expression hidden of dawn. About the sentence express someone who a beauty skin colour as dawn.

Based on the theory proposed by Leech (1981), the sentence above was categorized as connotative meaning. Because skin the author part of the body organs. So the skin like dawn which mean that the skin a beauty. The sentence above its does not the real meaning of what the poet want to explain but by using the poems will sound more interesting to the listener.

Data 3

“mine like dusk” one paints the beginning of certain end (60) line/stanza:1/2

The sentence above was categorized is simile. In the sentence above there is word “like” the function to compare “mine and dusk”. In sense mine like dusk , that from the poem the poet says that the skin will be as beautiful as described in the poem “mine like dusk” Based on the sentence above the writer’s expression to someone that black skin color will be look as beauty. About the sentence expression her awn feeling.

Based on the theory proposed by Leech (1981), the sentence was classified into affective meaning. According to Leech affective meaning is one of the types that reflects the personal feeling of the speaker. About the sentence it means all the people that is not different well black skin or white everything is the same. Above the sentence her expression that in this world there is not difference all is the same.

Metaphor

According to Kneedy (1983), it means that metaphors only makes sense when the similarities between the two things become apparent or someone understands the connection.

Data 4

“ with your bitter twisted lies”

In the expression above, the types of figurative language was categorized metaphors. This sentences above metaphors because the word unlike things are compare. The word “bitter and lies” the bitter it means they have a bitter meaning, which is used to describe them, every taste. And then lies means similar information reveals a laying or a lie. The sentences it means that describe feeling. The poem writer with the sentences above expression her feelings.

Based on the theory proposed by Leech (1981), the sentences above was classified into the affective meaning. According to Leech affective meaning is one of the types of meaning that reflects the personal of the speaker. Here affective meaning because this sentences describe feeling or guarding the feeling of others. The poem writer express with the sentences above to convey her feeling to someone.

Data 5

“ my heart is torn asunder”

In expression above, the types of figurative language that the research found is metaphor. The sentence above was categorized as metaphor. Because this sentences can make the readers or listener to animate something or animate things. The

sentence above its means to take someone feel very sad or upset. Because she was being heart- broken to some one she had love. The writer above the sentence she is convey that was broken heart. The writer expressed that above the sentence she feel sad. The writer indeed her personal feeling to someone that she is despondent.

Based on the theory proposed Leech (1981), the sentences above was used connotative meaning. The sentence above was categorized connotative meaning because the sentence “my heart is torn asunder” is not a literal meaning but the sentence can make a listener interest to listen or reading the poem. The sentence above was used connotative meaning because the sentence above can also be seen in the real world like social media.

Personification

According to Kneedy (1983), personification is a figure of speech known as personification transform an object , an animal, or an abstract concept (such as reality or nature) into a human (Kneedy,1983:487).

Data 6

“ they high way is full of big cars going nowhere fast and folks is smoking anything that “ **burn some people wrap their lives around a glass cocktail**” (line/stanza 72” 3-4)

In the expression above, the types of figurative language that the researcher found is personification. The sentence above considered as personification it because the writer prented that “smoking” has human characteristic, that makes something burning. Actually smoking is a daily habit. And cocktail is a mixture of various kinds of soft drink and fruit juices with extra alcohol. Smoking and cocktail make some feel unconscious.

Based on the theory by Leech (1974) this sentence was classified into the affective meaning. Affective meaning is one the types of meaning that reflect the personal feeling. Based on the sentence above her express the feeling of futility that destroyed modern life. So the sentence that conveying her feelings and the ability to move on with life. Actually, their real purpose in life is to drink and smoke.

Data 7

“**a cold man gutting me and and kill me was an ice man a though man**” (263) line/stanza; 2/4

In the sentence above, the types of figurative language, that the research found is personification. The sentence can define in this poem “a cold man gutting me and kill me”. A cold man a term that describes a person or action that is mean “heartless”. It comes from cold hearted which describes people who seeming have comparison. The poem writer express imagination thing and give human idea.

Based on the theory by Leech (1981), the sentence was classified into the connotative meaning. The sentence above is not to tell for readers real meaning. A cold man means uncommunicative man. The sentence above used to reaction to someone who does something this is more that just mean because it seems like it was deliberate done cause harm. The writer expression imagination things to all people.

Conclusion

After the analyzed, there are several of comparative figurative language in Maya Angeluo poem. Out of three comparative figurative language, three figurative language were found: they are simile, methpora, and personification. Figurative language is mostly found in the poem. Whle from the meaning of comparative figurative language in Maya Angluo poems. The research found two types of meaning, namely : affective meaning and connotative meaning

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