

ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN SELENA GOMEZ'S ALBUM RARE

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ABSTRACT

Analysis of the types and meanings of metaphorical language in Selena Gomez's song lyrics from the album Rare is the goal of this study. Figurative language, or the manner an author describes what will be delivered, is a style of language use in essays. The use of language in certain circumstances, by specific writers, and for specific subjects is discussed in style (linguistic style). (Putra & Puspitasari, 2020). The researcher analyzing five song lyrics on Selena's "Rare" album, namely the songs Vulnerable, Bad Liar, Lose You to Love Me, Ring, and People you know. The researcher analyses figurative language expressions, namely hyperbole, simile, and repetition. After the analysis, researcher found 15 data that repetition expressions get the highest frequency, which is 6 expressions. And followed by hyperbole expressions which get 5 expressions. The lowest frequency expression is simile which get 4 data. This fact shows that figurative language is important in song lyrics. Expressions of figurative language influence song lyrics to make them more beautiful and interesting and able to insert hidden messages for listeners.

Keywords: figurative language, Selena Gomez, and song lyric

INTRODUCTION

Humans are sociable animals that always coexist. They interact with each other to meet their needs. Humans communicate using a means called language. Language is very important in human life. According to Mercer, N. (2000). Language can help humans to exchange information. In the process of human communication need to translate the meaning of the sender and receiver. Wirastuti, I. G. A. P. (2021) state that the translation is very important for people who study certain knowledge or technology written in a foreign language that the person himself does not understand. In addition, tools are essential for communication. Humans use communication tools such as

letters, electronic media, and newspapers, even as time goes by, humans also use songs as a means of communication. Song is said to be one of the communication tools because in a song one can convey information and feelings that are felt. A lot of song that can express our feelings, such as song with theme love, politic, social, and others. In song there are some elements lyrics and melody. Many individuals enjoy listening to music, but occasionally they find the figurative language used in song lyrics to be confusing.

Figurative expression is a component of semantic. As we know that with semantic we can know the true meaning in a song (Arifah, 2016.). Figurative language is the language that

avoids speaking directly or plainly about the subject under examination. This theory helps the researcher to answer the research question of this study. In this idea, figurative language comes in many different forms. It makes it simpler for the researcher to evaluate the figurative language used in each song. Simile, metaphor, idiom, personification, symbol, synecdoche, and repetition among others were found to be the common figurative language used by the performing artist when composing his or her songs. Figurative language does not mean exactly what it says, but instead forces the reader to make an imaginative leap in order to comprehend an author's point.

Siallagan (2017: 55) says that in a song we can find lyrics that complement and beautify the song and make the listener more interested in hearing it. Song lyrics are a series of words that make up a song, usually consisting of several verses and a (Covach, 2005). Songwriters usually use figurative language in writing songs, so that listeners are more interested in listening to the song. There are many figurative language that can be used by the author, for example metaphors, similes, personifications, symbols, and others. Songwriters, singers and poets who have their own characteristics in their language. One of the famous singers is Selena Gomez.

She likes to use his thoughts, feelings and experiences as inspiration when writing songs. Selena Gomez relates the song's topics to people's circumstances, such as youth, youth, family, growing up and love relationships.

In this study, the researcher analyzed figurative language, especially hyperbole, simile, and repetition in five song lyrics from Selena Gomez's latest album, *Rare*, namely the songs *Vulnerable*, *Bad Liar*, *Lose You To Love Me*, *Ring*, and *People you know*. According to Claridge, C. (2010) said that Hyperbole as a term has a long tradition, in the sense of 'exaggeration'. Samadova (2022) state that Simile is a comparison of two things using "as," "like". The last is repetition, according to Noviani, S., & Bram, B. (2021) repetition refers to words that purposely are being repeated in the text and the form in repetition itself formulates certain tense. From the explanation above, the researcher decided to make a research entitled "Analysis of Figurative Language in Selena Gomez's Album *Rare*".

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, researchers analyzed data using qualitative research methods. Qualitative research is research that stems from an inductive mindset based on participatory objective observation of a social phenomenon (*Harahap*, n.d.). In this

study the authors took songs from Selena's album "Rare" as a data source. The data collection process itself begins with downloading songs and lyrics. After that, the researcher listened to the song while reading the lyrics several times. After that, the researcher tries to find words, phrases and sentences that contain figurative language by marking them. Then, proceed with the collection of figurative language expressions. In this step, the researcher group's data that contains figurative language by indicating which sentences or phrases contain figurative language. The last step to analyze the data in this study is drawing conclusions and verification. In this step, the researcher re-examines the data, considers the data that has been analyzed and draws conclusions from the results that have been obtained.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Hyperbole In Selena Gomez's Album, Rare

Hyperbole is exaggeration used to enhance effect. This is not used to mislead the reader, but to emphasize a point. Some data included in the hyperbole on Selena Gomez album Rare

Data 1

Vulnerable – “I gave my whole body, are you strong enough to hold it?”

Analysis:

Lyrics "I gave my whole body, are you strong enough to hold it?" is a word of hyperbole because it is exaggerated. The sentence I'm give you all my body is too much. When a person is in love, he may give everything like wealth, care and love to the person he loves to make him happy. But, giving him his whole body was exaggerated. The meaning of the lyrics is that he will give it all of his attention, love, and trust and he wants to know if the one he loves can receive it all.

Data 2

Vulnerable – “If I show you all my demons, and we dive into the deep end”

Analysis:

The lyric "If I show you all my demons, and we dive into the deep end" is hyperbole as it is an exaggeration. The sentence show all demons are exaggerated. The word demons is associated with bad things, but signifies all demons are exaggerated. The meaning of the lyrics is someone showing his ugliness or bad things so much that it can be interpreted as diving to the deep end.

Data 3

Bad Liar – “You got your spell on me, baby”

Analysis:

The expression "spell on me" is hyperbole because it is literally impossible for someone to be enchanted. In the context of this song, the phrase describes the very

strong attraction possessed by those who are loved. This use of hyperbole gives the impression that the person's influence is immense and difficult to resist.

Data 4

Lose You to Love Me - "You promised the world and I fell for it"

Analysis:

In the lyrics, hyperbole is used to describe the feelings of the characters in the song who feel betrayed and deceived by very big and unfulfilled promises. In the phrase "You promised the world and I fell for it", the character states that other people make very big promises, promising everything they want or dream of, and the character naively believe in these promises. The use of hyperbole in these lyrics illustrates how much the characters feel affected and disappointed because they feel they have been deceived and betrayed. By saying "give the whole world," characters express how exaggerated promises others make and the extent to which they feel trapped in those lies or betrayals. This hyperbole amplifies the emotional expression and intensity of the characters' feelings in the song, creating a dramatic picture of the disappointment felt.

Data 5

Ring - "I'm one in a billion, baby, don't you agree?"

Analysis:

In the song "Ring" by Selena Gomez, the line "I'm one in a billion, baby, don't you agree?" use hyperbole to convey someone's unique and special feelings. That is, the person who sings this song feels that he is very special and unique, even comparable to one in a million people. By using hyperbole, the singer wants to emphasize that he is so special and rare that it is difficult to find others who are comparable. This is a dramatic figurative use to express his special level of self.

B. SIMILE IN SELENA GOMEZ'S ALBUM, RARE

Simile is a comparison of two things using "like" or "as". Some data included in the simile on Selena Gomez album Rare

Data 1

Bad Liar - "Trying to make it Disappear, but just like the battle of troy"

Analysis:

In this line, Selena Gomez uses a simile by comparing the situation to the battle in the city of Troy. He stated that there was nothing hidden or hidden in the feelings and conflicts he experienced.

Data 2

Bad Liar – "Your touch like a happy pill"

Analysis:

The simile "Your touch like a happy pill" means that the person's touch gives the same effect as a happiness pill. In this

context, the simile depicts that the person's touch gives the singer strong feelings of happiness, joy, or comfort. Just as happiness pills can elevate mood and relieve feelings of sadness or anxiety, the person's touch can have the same effect on singers.

Data 3

Ring – “I’m breakin’ hearts like a heart attack”

Analysis:

The statement "I'm breakin' hearts like a heart attack" in the song "Ring" by Selena Gomez uses a simile to draw a comparison between the way one person breaks another's heart and a heart attack. In this case, singers liken the emotional impact and effect their actions have to those of extremely dangerous physical events such as heart attacks. By using this simile, the singer wants to emphasize how powerful and damaging the emotional impact she has on those she is involved with. Like a sudden and deadly heart attack, the singer describes that he violently and suddenly breaks the hearts of others, causing deep emotional pain and damage. It is important to remember that this is a parable or figurative comparison. This simile is used to convey drama and convey the intensity of the emotional experiences faced by the singer and those involved with him.

Data 4

People You Know – “You are runnin’ through me like water”

Analysis:

The statement "You are runnin' through me like water" in the song "People You Know" by Selena Gomez uses a simile to draw a comparison between someone who is inside of them and running water. In this case, the singer likens the feelings or influence a person has on him or her to the smooth, continuous movement of water. This simile describes the intensity of one's feelings and the influence one has on the singer. Running water represents the inability to avoid it or dissipate its effects. This comparison gives the impression that this person's presence is very significant and influential in the singer's life. By using this simile, the singer wants to portray how strong and unavoidable the influence of that person is on him. Like water flowing through the body, the singer feels the presence of that person constantly and it sticks to him very strongly.

C. REPETITION IN SELENA GOMEZ’S ALBUM, RARE

Repetition is the use of any element of language that a sound, word, and phrase. More than once to stress a certain idea. Some data included in the repetition on Selena Gomez album Rare

Data 1

Vulnerable - I'll stay vulnerable, yeah

I'll stay vulnerable, yeah

I'll stay vulnerable

Analysis:

This repetition of the lyrics can be interpreted as an acknowledgment and commitment to remaining open and vulnerable in relationships, despite past hurts and attacks. The lyrical repetition of this phrase creates emphasis, reinforces the song's emotional message and emphasizes the importance of vulnerability as an important part of a healthy and authentic relationship.

Data 2

Bad Liar – “Oh I’m trying, I’m trying,

I’m trying, I’m trying, I’m trying

Oh I’m trying, I’m trying, I’m trying,

I’m trying, I’m trying”

Analysis:

The repetition of this phrase creates an emotional effect and emphasizes the repeated attempts to overcome complicated feelings and maintain an external appearance of calm. It also reflects the anxiety and hopelessness that the characters in the song may be feeling. Overall, the repetition of the phrase "I'm trying" reflects internal conflict and repeated attempts at keeping secrets or complicated feelings, which gives Selena Gomez's "Bad Liar" an emotional dimension.

Data 3

Bad Liar – “Not to think about you

No no no no

Not to think about you

No no no no”

Analysis:

"Not to think about you" indicates a determination not to think about the person, perhaps because of a complicated relationship or because of some pain or difficulty associated with that person. The repetition of "No no no no" emphasizes resistance and a strong desire not to let thoughts of that person enter your mind. Taken together, the repetition of the phrases "Not to think about you" and "No no no no" reflects the emotional struggle of the song's characters to overcome their feelings and maintain control over their thoughts over a person they will hardly forget.

Data 4

**Bad Liar – “Oh bay let’s make reality,
actuality, a reality**

**Oh bay let’s make reality, actuality, a
reality”**

Analysis:

The phrase "Oh bay let's make reality, actuality, a reality" repeatedly denotes the determination and desire to realize the dream or desire expressed in the song's lyrics. This repetition emphasizes the importance of turning something that only exists in the mind or imagination into a reality that is real and can be felt. In the

context of the song, Selena Gomez might express a desire to be in a closer relationship with someone or achieve some common goal. The repetition of this phrase reflects the power of motivation and determination to manifest what one wants and change the current situation into something more fulfilling and real. Overall, the repetition of the phrase "Oh bay let's make reality, actuality, a reality" reflects the strong will and action required to turn hopes and dreams into realities that can be felt and experienced.

Data 5

**Lose You to Love Me – “To love, love,
yeah
To love, love, yeah
To love, yeah”**

Analysis:

These repetitions show the song's characters emotional journey to recovery and their search for true love. The phrase "To love, love, yeah" conveys the determination and awareness that love is important and necessary to transcend past grief and pain. This repetition also creates an emphasis effect and sends the message that in order to overcome loss and forgetting someone, it is important to direct attention to positive and constructive love. Through the process of repetition, the lyrics of this song reinforce the message that love

is the key to recovering and finding true happiness.

Data 6

**People You Know – “From people you
know to people you don’t
From people you know to people you
don’t”**

Analysis:

The statement "From people you know to people you don't, from people you know to people you don't" in the song "People You Know" by Selena Gomez uses repetition to emphasize changes in one's social circle or relationships. This repetition is used to reinforce the shift from knowing certain people to not knowing new people. Figuratively, this repetition reflects changes in one's social life and relationships. The song may talk about how a person can move from a familiar social circle, which may involve close or familiar people, to an unfamiliar social circle, which may include new people or strangers. Through this repetition, the singer wants to emphasize the contrasts and shifts experienced by a person in creating or building new relationships with people they did not know before. The use of repetition in this case emphasizes and strengthens messages about changes in social circles. The occurrence of types of figurative language could be seen in table 01 below:

Table 01. The occurrence of types of figurative language

Types of Figurative language	Occurrence	Percentage
Hyperbole	5	33,3 %
Simile	4	26,7 %
Repetition	6	40 %
TOTAL	15	100 %

From the table of finding above, the researcher found 16 data from five song in Selena Gomez album Rare. There are three types of figurative language that has been analyzed namely hyperbole, simile, and repetition. The total of figurative language that found is 16 sentences. According to the percentage, the following sequence of figurative language show that repetition are 6 data or 40 %, hyperbole are 5 data or 33,3 % and simile is 4 data or 26,7 %. Repetition expressions get the highest frequency, and followed by hyperbole and the lowest is simile expression. This fact shows that the use of figurative language is important in song lyrics. Expressions of figurative language influence song lyrics to make them more beautiful and interesting and able to insert hidden messages for listeners.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing and presenting the figurative language expressions found in Rare Selena Gomez album in the previous chapter, the conclusions of the results are presented. By analyzing three song lyrics in

Selena's "Rare" album, 15 figurative language expressions were found in three types, namely hyperbole, simile and repetition. Repetition expressions get the highest frequency, which is 6 expressions. And followed by hyperbole with 5 data and simile expressions is the lowest expression which get 4 expressions. Repetition is the most dominant type of figurative language found in the selected song lyrics on Selena Gomez's Rare album. Selena's songs try to tell a story about human life which contains love, sadness, happiness, self-love, relationships and so on. This fact shows that the use of figurative language is important in song lyrics. Figurative language expressions influence song lyrics to be more beautiful and interesting and able to insert hidden messages for listeners.

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