

COMPARATIVE FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE FOUND IN SELECTED SONG LYRICS OF JESSIE J

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Abstract

This study focused on the types of comparative figurative language in selected song lyrics of Jessie J and their meaning. In resolving the problems of the study, this study used theory from Kennedy (1983) with the book entitled *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction: poetry and Drama* and the theory from Leech (1981) with the book entitled *Semantic: The Study of Meaning*. This study used the data source from the song lyrics of Jessie J. Documentation method was used to collect the data. The qualitative descriptive method has been used to describe the data to analyze the data, whereas formal and informal method has been used to present the finding. There was found 20 data from 6 selected song lyrics of Jessie J. The meaning of those 20 comparative figurative languages was described using Leech's theory (1981). There was found four types of meaning were found from the data. There are conceptual meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning and connotative meaning.

Keywords – *comparative figurative language, lyrics, meaning*

Introduction

Semantics is a part of the linguistics, which studies language meaning, which concentrates on language significance, or one might say that importance is the main review in semantics term. As indicated by what has for some time been the most broadly acknowledged hypothesis of semantics, meanings are thoughts or ideas that can be moved from the psyche of the speaker to the brain of the listener by epitomizing them, in a manner of speaking, as some language. (Lyons, 1984:136). In semantics, we regularly catch about figurative language. As per Perrine (1988:565), figurative language is the language that cannot be taken in a real sense (or should not be taken literally) and offer some different option from conventional ways or say a certain something and mean another.

As indicated by Kennedy (1983:481), figurative language consists of comparative, contradictive, and correlative. Comparative figurative language is a term used to allude to any non-literal language to communicate a point by contrasting items with different articles. Comparative figurative language consists of Personification, Metaphor, and Simile. Comparative figurative language can be found in the literature. As we probably are aware, the song belongs to literature. Songs comprise of melodic notes and words that individuals know as verses. Paying attention to a tune is a great movement, yet the audience can't get joy assuming they don't comprehend the allegorical language regularly found in a tune. At the point when the audience members don't comprehend the importance of the verses, it is difficult for them to acquire the message. The clear expressions of figurative language have an importance other than strict. Indeed, even the words pass on exact significance.

In view of that explanation, it brings the researchers broke down figurative in song lyrics of chosen songs of Jessie J. There are a few motivations behind why the researchers picked the figurative language for the examination of the semantic significance in a song lyrics. To begin

with, in light of the fact that this tune comprises of figurative. Along these lines, it makes the tune fascinating to be sung and acknowledged in the public arena. Second, the scientist picked chosen tunes from Jessie J is on the grounds that the tunes are comprise of different sorts of comparative figurative language and those melodies are well known. Additionally, as music sweetheart, we ought to comprehend the ideas in figurative language.

The researchers intended to discover and examine the significance of each sort of figurative language in the song lyrics. There are two speculations utilized in directing this exploration. The principal hypothesis alludes to the kinds of figurative language. The hypothesis of kinds of figurative language was taken from Kennedy (1983) in a book named "An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama" used to find and group the sorts of figurative language in the songs of Jessie J. The second hypothesis that utilized is the hypothesis of importance. It is utilized to depict and break down the significance of every figurative language found in the song lyrics. Hypothesis of significance was taken from the book entitled semantic: The Study of Meaning by Leech (1981:9-13).

Methods

The utilization of technique needs to get great outcomes and agreement with the strategy that applied overall literary work, technique was applied to make this review underlying, procedural and efficient. The exploration applied subjective examination technique. The information of this exploration was taken from chosen songs of Jessie J, The information in this review found in her 6 selected songs, they are Domino, Flashlight, Sexy Silk, Thunder, Who is Laughing Now and Bang. The song lyrics were taken from various collection of Jessie J. The main collection "What Your identity is" delivered in 2011, the researchers picked two songs: Domino and Who is Laughing Now. The subsequent collection is "Simple A" which delivered in 2010. In that collection the researchers pick one melody, that is Sexy Silk, the third collection is "Alive", which delivered in 2013. The researchers picked one melody, that is Thunder. For the rest melodies, the researchers picked the song from the soundtrack of the film. Spotlight is a soundtrack for the film Pitch Perfect 2 out of 2019. This song was delivered in the United Kingdom on 11 May 2015 the two on the soundtrack and as an independent single. The last melody is Bang. This melody was delivered in 2014 and it was sung by Jessie J, Ariana Grande and Nicki Minaj.

The data were collected by documentation method. Documentation is the strategy utilized in logical exploration to gather the information by utilizing the document or proof rundown. The researchers gathered and recorded the information in a kind of archives and utilized as the proof of the review.

The necessary steps of collect the data as follows:

1. Read the song lyrics more than once time aims to understand the meaning, purpose and message of every comparative figurative language found in Jessie J's song lyrics.
2. Found and taking note of the song's lyric sentence, which comparative figurative language types were found based on theory.

The data in this research was analyzed using the descriptive qualitative method and based on the linguistic theory used in semantics. The following steps analyzed the data. First, identify the types of comparative figurative language of each sentence in the song lyrics based on the comparative figurative language theory of Kennedy (1983). The second is analyzing the meaning of each comparative figurative language based on the "Meaning" theory of Leech (1981).

Finding and Discussion

The comparative figurative language found in selected song lyrics of Jessie J comprised of various types of comparative figurative language namely: simile, metaphor and personification. Selected Jessie J's song lyrics contained many forms of comparative figurative language; there are 20 comparative figurative language mentions overall, with every song having some form of comparative figurative language. However, only representative data were presented as an analysis result in this article.

Simile

The simile is figurative language involving comparison; it draws resemblance with the help of the words "like" or "as". The simile is a figure of speech in which things are essentially different but thought to be alike in one or more respect.

Data 1

“I'm feeling sexy and free Like glitter's raining on me”

(Jessie J, Domino: 2009; Stanza 1)

The data above is a song lyric containing comparative figurative language and classified into simile. It could be seen in the sentence where the speaker compares two things between *feeling* and *glitter's*. It used word helps *like*.

Conceptual meaning from the data above the speaker feels very confident with herself. It shows when she said that she feels sexy and free and wants to compare with glitter. Glitter is something bright, shimmering, glowing and reflected light. As the writer and singer of this song, Jessie wants to tell that she currently likes having the good time of her life on this sentence. Jessie already knows that tonight is going to be a crazy night. She might go to the party, have some drink. She imagines on that party she really confidence with her appearance, she ready to expressing great praise and ready to make many people who see her will amazed.

Data 2

“Hey, Jessica you looking like an Alien”

(Jessie J, Who is Laughing Now: 2009; Stanza 1)

The sentence above is categorized as a simile. This lyric was considered as simile, because this lyric has the term like which is a characteristic of simile. In this lyric, the two objects are being compared, they are *you* an *alien*. The human is compared with alien, that means something that is unreal and come from another planet. The songwriter compared a person to an alien because they have differences and between two things the songwriter wants to deliver his or her expression to show her or his feeling.

Alien refers to extraterrestrial life, life which does not originate from Earth or in the other way alien is something external that comes from another planet, they comes from different place. Their exact shape and appearance is not yet known, but people try to figure alien as something ugly and bad. The alien itself has a connotative meaning as a stranger.

Connotative meaning from that lyric is the author tells that Jessica look like an alien. Alien is primarily refers to something different to the other. In other word the author tells that Jessica is different with other person then alien is always associated with ugly things. In this song lyric, Jessica indirectly gets bullied by her friends because Jessica is different with her friends and it is like Jessica is a stranger among their community.

Metaphor

Metaphor is a statement that one thing is something else, which is a literal sense, it is not. It does not use connective words such as like or as. The figurative terms is substituted for or identified the literal term. The similarities between the objects being compared may be implied rather than directly stated.

Data 3

“I’m stuck in the dark but you’re my flashlight”

(*Jessie J, Flashlight: 2015; Stanza 2*)

This lyric is classified as Metaphor in comparative figurative language terms. Metaphor is a statement that one thing is something else, which is a literal sense, it is not and it does not use connective words such as like or as. In this song lyric, the author compares two things without using helps word *like* or *as*. The author compares the word *you* and *flashlight*. Those two things are totally different. The word *you* is the second-person personal pronoun while *flashlight* is a portable hand-held electric light.

The writer used Leech (1981) theory for analyzing the meaning of this comparative figurative language and this metaphor has connotative meaning. One of characteristic of connotative meaning is something more than the dictionary meaning. The lyric *I’m stuck in the dark, but you’re my flashlight* means the author tells to the person she/he really loves that you are the person who always give her the light when the life is so dark and it is seems like no other way. Flashlight is the source of the light when we losing our main light, flashlight is something that help to make us keep walking in the dark, as same as flashlight serves to provide the light so the author give the massage to the one’s the really helps him/her to keep walking in the hard situation even it is seems light there is no way out from the sorrow.

Data 4

“Will you be my sugar rush?”

(*Jessie J, Sexy Silk: 2010; Stanza 4*)

This lyric is classified as Metaphor in comparative figurative language terms. Metaphor is a statement that one thing is something else, which is a literal sense, it is not and it does not use connective words such as like or as. In this song lyric, the author compares two things without using helps word *like* or *as*. The author compares the word *you* and *sugar rush*.

The lyric *will you be my sugar rush* is classified in to connotative meaning, because that lyric has another meaning besides literal meaning and this lyric contain communication value and expression has by virtue of what it refers to over and above its purely conceptual content. This lyric goes beyond referent of a word and hints at its attributes in the real world. It is something more than the dictionary meaning. Sugar rush in literal meaning is a sudden and brief burst of energy supposedly experienced after the consumption of food or drink with a high sugar content. Based on the literal meaning the writer draw a conclusion that sugar rush is an explosive and passionate feeling to get something or kind of deep ambition to chase something that she or he wants. In the other word sugar rush is also feeling that makes someone become addiction to something.

Sugar rush in this song lyrics has connotative meaning, sugar rush in this lyric means someone special, someone that the singer really loves and falling in love like a crazy even she became addicted to the man. There is a question the singer that addressed to the man, which is

a question to stating and convincing the man a seduction to her loved one, to be someone she would be crazy about loving him and to be someone that she will become addicted.

Personification

Personification is a figure in which a thing, an animal, or an abstract term (truth or nature) is made human. Personification gives human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas.

Data 5

“You make my earth quake”

(Jessie J, Thunder: 2013; Stanza 2)

The phrases *you make my earthquake* in Jessie J song lyric is classified in to comparative figurative language. The sentence showed a kind of personification because the author gives human characteristics to something abstract feeling. in this song lyric, the songwriter put the word *earth* and the word *earth* is an abstract thing or not really a thing but the songwriter make a *quake* in to it. So in this song lyric, the songwriter is giving a movement to something that does not live.

The lyric above is classified in to connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is sentence has communication value and expression has by virtue of what it refers to over and above its purely conceptual content. It is something that goes beyond the referent of a word and hints at its attributes in the real word. The word *quake* itself has a meaning, it is a movement or shake because of someone feel very frightened or a feeling that is surprising so that person aware about something in their life. This lyric means the man make the girl's life is more live, before the man come to her life, the girl has a balanced life.

Data 6

“Damn this love is skin tight”

(Jessie J, Domino: 2009; Stanza 2)

The sentence above showed the use of kind of personification. Personification is a kind of comparative figurative language that has category to gives human characteristic to something abstract feeling. Skin is part of the human body or specifically, skin is the thin layer of tissue forming the natural outer covering of the body of a person or animal. In this lyric, the songwriter put the word *love*, love is a feeling or something abstract and cannot fill something. So in this lyric, the songwriter give human characteristic to something abstract.

Based on the theory meaning proposed by Leech, the sentence is classified in to connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is sentence has communication value and expression has by virtue of what it refers to over and above its purely conceptual content. It is something that goes beyond the referent of a word and hints at its attributes in the real word. This lyric means her feeling of love expressed is so great and overwhelming that it almost feels stuffy.

Conclusions

After the data analyzed, it can be concluded that the researchers found all types of comparative figurative language in this research. They are simile, metaphor and personification. Simile is the most dominant in Jessie J song lyrics. The songwriter makes the lyric more interesting by comparing with another thing. Similes spark the listener or the reader's imagination while

getting the information across. They help the reader 'see' the scene in their heads and by using simile, the writer make the song lyric more expressive and emotional. Also, the writer found four types of meaning from the study, there are conceptual meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning and connotative meaning.

Furthermore, connotative meaning is the most dominant used in the song lyric of Jessie J. The reason connotative meaning is often used in Jessie J song lyrics is because the songwriter wants to make the song lyrics more expressive and the lyrics above it is purely conceptual content. The listener can interpret the meaning differently.

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