

CHAPTER 2

FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

This chapter discusses the framework of the theories which support the understanding of the problems formulated in Chapter 1. This chapter involves the definition of literature, content analysis, figurative language, types of figurative language, functions of figurative language, and literature review.

2.1 Literature

According to Wellek and Warren (1984) literature has been divided into two distinct activities: the literature itself and literary study, one is something that cannot be studied, but we can enjoy and appreciate it, the other is a species of knowledge or learning facts, ideas or happenings. For some people one way is to define “Literature” as everything in print. And then we can be able to study the written matter, it can be argued in defense of such a view that historians neglect the problems such as history, culture or history of civilization.

Literature is known as the expressions of beautiful ideas in beautiful words and turned into beautiful sentences. It will have a place in the readers’ heart if they have a sensitive imagination to describe it and really enjoy them. Literature has two categories, they are: interpretative and escape literature. One is that purely to entertain the readers because of the plot and the way the writers deliver it. The other one is written to make us aware about life, through our imagination about the world.

2.1.1 Content Analysis

There are many different methods of interpreting the text. One of the most commonly known is Content Analysis. Content analysis occurs not because of a philosophical reflection, but from an event or event and in practice is a qualitative method. This method starts from human awareness of the use of symbols, including numbers and language. Everyday life and throughout life, a human being deals with symbols and language and all of them are related to the meaning, message, function and power carried by language and symbols (Krippendorf, 2004).

Still, according to Krippendorf (2004), the historical roots of content analysis began with theological studies in the church in the late 1600s. This method was first used to study printed material which is well documented in Sweden in the 18th century because at that time, the role of church was very large in the life of the people there.

And the emergence of an unauthorized work entitled "Song of Zion" which was considered very dangerous so that the interpretation of the content was needed at that time. Since then, understanding the contents of written works has been used in many scientific fields.

Based on the explanations above I can conclude that content analysis is the method to interpret words with imaginative mind. Imaginative interpretation can provide a pleasant experience of how we participate in understanding meaning by using imagination and understanding words and symbols in a written work.

2.2 Figurative Language

Figurative language represents some kinds studied frequently by linguists, psychologists and other language scholars. People use it all the time. In our conversation or writing we are presented with it. But, people keep using figurative language even if it makes us confused, misinterpreted, or utter lack of comprehension. Herbert (2014) said that the reasons why people still use figurative language to say something is because it provides a lot of variations of meaning behind them. It has been argued that one cannot understand literature unless one writes it (Wellek and Warren, 1954). When we use language in conversation with our friends, sometimes we hear it literally but unimagatively one of our friends have been speaking nonsense, but actually they have been speaking figuratively. We have been speaking less or more than what we mean. We need something or the opposite of what we mean, because figures of speech offer another way of adding extra dimensions to language (Perrine, 1992). It is a way of stating one thing and meaning another and we need to be concerned about defining the words.

For analyzing the meaning, those need to appeal to the imagination. Figurative language is expressed by the meaning of a figure of speech such as metaphor. It provides a new way for us to look at the world differently (Rozakis, 1995). Some linguists have different points of view in dividing the kinds of figurative language. According to Perrine (1983) divided figurative language into ten types, they are: simile, metaphor, synecdoche, personification, metonymy, allegory, hyperbole, irony, paradox, and symbol.

In other hand, Rozakis (1995) divided figurative language more than ten, they are: allegory, ambiguity, apostrophe, conceit, connotation and denotation,

contrast, metaphor, irony, hyperbole, irony, litotes, metonymy, onomatopoeia, oxymoron, personification, sarcasm, simile, symbolism, synecdoche, synesthesia, transferred epithet, and understatement.

Figurative language is language that uses figures of speech. A figure of speech is a way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the word. Numbers can be said to arise when a speaker or writer, for the sake of freshness or emphasis, deviates from the usual denotation of words. These are words that make explicit comparisons between things unlike using figures of speech such as metaphors and similes. Images convey nuances of meaning that cannot be well expressed in any other way, they convey a lot in less time than is possible, and they are direct because they embody meaning in images rather than expressing it abstractly. Figurative is a word or words used in an imaginative rather than a literal sense in the same way. The general term we will use for the figures of speech that make up figurative language is metaphor, as is the term imagery, which refers narrowly to visual phenomena, but is used to cover other sensory impressions. The basic process of a metaphor is a comparison if it is mostly different, but has at least one characteristic in common. Figurative language is a figure of speech or a figurative way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the word. Figurative language is very common in poetry, but it is also used in prose and nonfiction writing. This is very useful for writers because it can make their language more beautiful to listen to (X.J. Kennedy, 1979).

Figurative language is often associated with literature and poetry in particular. It is an ordinary form of human expressions that cannot be expressed directly (Wren and Martin, 1995). It can help the reader or the listener to understand and stay interested in the song lyrics writer's writing and thoughts to convey meaning in unexpected ways.

Based on the explanations above I can conclude that figurative language is the expression of using words to express the feeling indirectly, because of that we need the ability to interpret the purpose of the conversation with someone who speaks figuratively.

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2.2.1 Types of Figurative Language

Figurative language is a type of language that uses words, phrases, and sentences but they have different meanings from literal meaning. Type of Figurative language are personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, allusion, idiom, repetition, onomatopoeia, metonymy, allegory, hyperbole, irony, paradox, and symbol (Perrine, 1983 and Rozakis, 1995).

There are many types of Figurative Language. Six of them include the use of specific type of words or their meaning, such as:

a. Metaphor

Metaphor is a statement that compares two things that are not alike. Metaphors do not use the word “like or as”. The statement only makes sense when the reader understands the connection between two things being compared. It makes references to a thing as being another thing. Someone uses metaphor as a means of describing the quality of something or a person. The use of metaphor usually to help the readers to understand an extraordinary statement that does not actually have meaning. But the writers use metaphor to communicate a complex thought. The function of metaphor however, intensifies the actual meaning of what is being said (Siswantoro, 2002).

- (a) He was a lion in the fight
- (b) I see the lion in the forest

We can see from two examples above how two different things are being compared. A lion and “he” are different. In (a) Lion refers to the way “he” acts in a fight. Describing the way lions were scary and always won the fight in the jungle. However, in (b) Lion shows the actual meaning because it is the real wild animal and the king of the jungle.

b. Simile

Simile is a figure of speech that compares two unlike things and uses the words *like*, *as* and *so*. And they are commonly used in everyday communication (Siswantoro, 2002). According to Martin (1981) Simile is a comparison between two objects that have a different kind however have a point in common. Siswantoro (2002) gives the example of Simile:

- (a). My love is like a red, red rose, That’s newly sprung in June

(b). My mother plant red rose

As we can see in (a) the author tries to express his love to his partner as the red rose. And the sentences use “like” to describe a thing which is not real. But the main point of blooming in June is being compared to “love”. In example (b) the red rose refers to real flowers and those flowers were planted by the mother as the author said.

c. Personification

Personification is the attribution of human character for non-living objects. It will affect the way readers imagine things and it will spark an interest in the non-living things (Frederick, 1988). According to Siswantoro (2002) Personification is when non-living things are being treated as humans. He also stated the example of personification:

(a). The old train crept along the narrow path

(b). My baby starts to crept

In the first example, the author wants to describe how an old train crawls slowly through the narrow path. However, for the second example, the author uses the word “crept” as crawling as a stage for a baby to start moving on its own.

d. Hyperbole

According to Perrine (1983) hyperbole is an exaggeration that is created to emphasize a point or bring out a sense of humor. It is often used in everyday conversation without the speakers even noticing it but the service of truth. It is used to add depth and color to a statement. Siswantoro (2002) gives example of hyperbole:

(a). I am able to fill it with tears

(b). She laughs to tears

In the first example (a) the author uses the word “tear” as a connotative meaning that the real one is coming out from our eyes to present the effort done by “I”. However, in the second example (b) is using a denotative meaning that the tears refer to real tears that come out while laughing.

e. Sarcasm

According to Arp and Perrine (1992) sarcasm comes from a Greek word meaning to tear flesh. It is simply cutting or bitter speech for mocking conveying

contempt. On their book “*Sound and Sense*” (1992) they give an example of sarcasm:

Student: “I don’t understand.”

Teacher: “Well, I wouldn’t expect you to,”

In this example above the situation happened in a classroom when the student raised his hand on the discussion and stated the problem he had, but the teacher was being sarcastic but he means exactly what he tries to say. We can see being sarcastic is sounding so cruel, and it intends to hurt.

f. Irony

Irony has meanings that extend beyond its uses merely as a figure of speech. But irony has two types, verbal irony and dramatic Irony (Arp and Perrine, 1992). Verbal Irony is saying the opposite of what one means. Sometimes it is often confused with sarcasm. But, Irony is a literary device that may be used in the service of sarcasm. Like all figures of speech, verbal irony runs the danger of being misunderstood. And because of that, when we use verbal irony in our daily conversation then we are ready to be called villains. Dramatic irony is a speech or an action in the story that has a huge impact on the audiences or the readers. For the example of verbal Irony from Herbert L Colston (2015)

“You cannot judge a book by its cover.”

According to Colston (2015), the use of irony is 94% to show negative emotion and 65% to be humorous. From the example above we can emphasize things and be more positive. People are showing positive emotion in everyday conversation or in action.

g. Symbol

Symbol is any object or action that represent something beyond. The meaning of any symbol whether an object or an action is controlled by its context (Arp and Perrine, 1992). A chain can symbolize the coming together of two things.

h. Paradox

A paradox is a statement that appears at first to be contradictory, but upon reflection then makes sense. This literary device is commonly used to engage a reader to discover an underlying logic in a seemingly self-contradictory statement

or phrase. As a result, paradox allows readers to understand concepts in a different and even non-traditional way (Arp and Perrine, 1992)

(a) “Youth is wasted on the young.”

i. Metonymy

Metonymy is a figure of speech in which one object or idea takes the place of another with which it has a close association. In fact, metonymy means “change of name”

(a) **Silver screen**

The example is an excellent use of metonymy. This phrase is a figure of speech, meaning it's used for effect rather than literal meaning. Also, it is a substitute concept for movies or movie theaters. “Screen” is related to the way movies were traditionally shown (or screened) in a theater. In addition, “silver” is associated with original black and white films and the glitter of Hollywood. As metonymy, it can take the place of words such as movie, theater, film, etc. In this way, words such as movie or film aren't overused.

j. Idiom

Keysar and Bly (1995), for instance, taught participants new meanings for unfamiliar idioms and then asked the participants to determine which meaning other people might select for those idioms when the meanings.

(a): “rain cats and dogs”

In this example, the sentence cannot be taken literally, because it wasn't how dog or cat impersonating rain or otherwise, but it refers to the meaning of how heavy the rain was.

2.2.2 The Function of Figurative Language

In fact, Figurative language is used by people in everyday conversation (Colston, 2015). It was thought of as being one aspect of a text such as a poetic text that has an esthetic value. The researchers have brought us a new understanding that most semanticists have assumed that literal meaning can be fully analyzed independently of figurative language (Dancygier B. S, 2014). Creative writing is becoming one of the best ways to use figurative language such as metaphor, personification, irony, sarcasm, simile and hyperbole to bring out the readers'

imagination. Those imaginations lead them to visualize the expression and the hidden feeling of the writers.

Figurative language in literature has a very important role. Its function is not to tell the readers about thinking about the situation or trying to feel the experience but to allow the readers to imaginatively participate in it. It is a means of allowing the readers, through the imagination to live more fully, deeply with awareness (Arp and Perrine, 1992).

According to Herbert L. Colston (2015) figurative language can produce humor or the other gesture indicating the readers experiencing humor. But also can indicate facial expression such as anger, eye rolling, displays or head shaking. Figurative language can determine broad emotion when the readers use their imagination to interpret the figurative language works.

According to the opinions that have been mentioned above, it can be concluded that figurative language is the main part in literary work. It can lead the readers to use their imagination towards literary work and participate in it. Figurative language describes the feeling of the writer, to concretize, clarify the picture, emphasize the emotion, turn the picture, and certain emotion we can get from imagining things and situations through literary work. The discussion about the function of the figurative language can be seen as follows:

a. Describe the feeling

Figurative language can serve to describe the feeling of characters. According to Waluyo (1987) the writer uses language to describe happiness or distress. The intensity of the language can increase the feeling of the characters and convey the attitude. Asmara (1955) gives the example of Describe a feeling of a character:

- (a). When I see the pain, my heart is like a revoked life.
- (b). He is a child who is revoked of his life by robbers.

The example of describing the feeling in (7a) and (7b) are similar but in different functions. In (7a) the word revoked refers to a sad feeling. Because of the pain, the speaker is becoming sad. In (7b) the word revoked his life refers to the real meaning of death. The robbers killed the child.

b. Concretization

According to Perrine (1992) figurative language can be concretely something abstract. Picture painted concrete is used to portray moods or situations with the intent imagination of the readers. Asmara (1955) gives the example of concretization:

- (a). Endra mind's more widespread, extending away everywhere.
- (b). Harto garden's even more widespread since buying it from his neighbors.

The examples of concretization in (a) and (b) are metaphors. In (a) a concrete picture. Human mind is something we cannot fully understand. The thought of the thing we cannot see. As we can see in (a) Endra's abstract mind can be wild and thinks widely. And in (b) widespread is the real thing and refers to large or huge. So, Harto does have a very large garden since he bought it from his neighbors.

c. Clarify the Picture

Figurative language is an effective way to express feelings directly (Badrin, 1989). It is a device to clarify the picture (Suyuti, 1985), the use of clarifying the picture is to visualize the imagination about unusual things so the abstract thing can be more real. Asmara (1955) gives the example of Clarify the picture:

- (a). Susilawati entered the room and stunned everyone with her eyes.
- (b). The man's eyes glanced at Susilawati.

The example of clarifying the picture in (a) and (b) contains synecdoche. Synecdoche is a style that is in the packaging portion of manifestations. Figure of speech concerned with parts and whole, it means that one part can defined the whole one (Siswanto, 2002). In (a) Eyes refers to all members which serves to clarify the picture of people who are in the room being amazed by Susilawati. In (b) the word eyes refers to a real human body where a guy steals a glance at Susilawati.

d. Emphasize Emotion

According to Badrin (1989) one of the functions of figurative language in the study is to emphasize the narrative. Hyperbole can be used to understand emotion. Because of the understanding, the readers can use their imagination to create new impressions about something. Asmara (1955) gives the example of Emphasize narrative and emotions:

(a). Endra started being difficult and sad, he was quiet and dreamy to touch the sky.

(b).The night sky is very dark as it is covered by clouds.

The example of emphasizes narrative and emotions in (a) and (b). In (a) Endra as a human being cannot touch the sky. That is no way we can touch the sky. In (b) the word sky refers to the real one. But we need to think about what kind of information we can get through that statement. Sky is covered by clouds, which means that it will rain soon.

e. Turning on the Picture

Figure of speech is way more than saying something. Figurative language is language using figures of speech that cannot be taken literally. It is defined as a way of stating one thing but has another meaning (Arp and Perrine, 1992). The function of personification figures of speech is the attribution that created by humans to non-living objects to bring out the imaginative minds and leads to an interest in the subject. Asmara (1955) gives an example of turning on the picture:

(a). Looking at the mist shrouded Merapi Mountain, which looked like a sitting giant.

(b). Merapi Mountain is one of the mountains that are active in Indonesia.

The example of turning on picture in (a) is a personification that gives us the attribution to a non-living object to spark an interest in the subject of conversation. Merapi Mountain is portrayed as a sitting giant. And the example in (b) just stated the fact that Merapi is one of many mountains in Indonesia that are still active.

2.2.3 Theories of Meaning

The expression of our feelings is expressed in languages that have meanings. Sometimes, it requires knowledge in interpreting hidden messages and this is called Translational Semantics (Leech, 1985). This is a theory for understanding the beauty of meaning behind words. The interpretation of the meaning of a language that we use is sometimes very interesting because someone does not immediately say what they want to say, but by studying the theory of interpreting meaning in semantics, we will correctly understand the hidden purpose of a language. As quoted from Sampson (1980) in Leech's (1985) book, it is stated

that language expressions do not fully express feelings semantically, but their meaning can be different from the language used. It can lead to expressions of hatred, anger, or sadness depending on how we interpret the meaning we get after participating in the conversation.

C. I. Lewis said in (Rudolf Carnap, 1948), some of the concepts in a method are tools for a semantically meaningful analysis. The concepts in question are extension, intention, connotation, and denotation. However, Rudolf (1948) said that we cannot accept Lewis's statement because whatever is said in terms of comprehension can immediately be translated into terms of intention, because comprehension and intention determine each other logically.

Perrine (2015) the meaning is the experience it expresses nothing less which makes readers confused and wondering what is the meaning and purpose of a literary work. Maybe it is a story, an explanation or an outlet of expression contained by a human emotion in a literary work. A literary work becomes very interesting when we are invited to participate in imagining the meaning and purpose that a writer wants to convey indirectly and uses figurative language in his literary work.

Based on the explanation above I can conclude that theory of meaning is the tool for interpreting the meanings behind literary work. The function of this theory is helping readers to take part in understanding contextual meaning.

2.2.4 Types of Meanings

According to Geoffrey Neil Leech (1985) semantics is a central to study meaning of communication. It is an integrated component of the total theory of how language works. Leech also acknowledges three main things about study meaning through his book *Semantics: The Study of Meaning* (1985), first is that the mistake when trying to define meaning by reducing it to another language.

a. Conceptual Meaning

According to Arp and Perrine (1992) word has three component aspects; sound, denotation and connotation. It all started as a combination of two things such as noises and tones, and uttered by our lips, tongue and throat, the written word is called notation. And the last is the basic part of its meaning is called denotation or sometimes called Conceptual meaning. It is the dictionary meaning of the word.

But Leech in his book (1985) states that conceptual meaning has two structural principles in all linguistics patterns: attractiveness and structure. The one is a classification of sounds in phonology and the other one is the main of all larger units to build other units by being able to analyze a sentence syntactically.

b. Contextual Meaning

According to Miller and Leacock (2000) contextual meaning is not always explicit; it may be hidden within the words. If we cannot elaborate the information relevant to the base meaning of a word used in a piece of text, we need to investigate it. They have classified contextual meaning into two categories; 1) local context, and 2) topical context. The first one refers to one or more words before and after the key word in investigation. And the other one refers to the main topic of the text where the key word has been used.

2.3 Literature Review

The title that I analyzed is “Figurative Language Study on Billie Eilish Song’s Lyrics in The Album *“When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?”*” Figurative language theory deals with theory of meaning and content analysis. Warren and Wallek (1984) stated that figurative language is an attribution for languages to make them more colorful. Another theory from Perrine (1992) to understand more the hidden message Billie Eilish put in figurative language in her song. For any additional theories will be applied if I found it difficult to elaborate the meaning from Leech or Perrine theories of meaning.

Their theories will help me to analyze the lyrics from six Billie Eilish’s songs in her album *“When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?”* And for the whole song I will analyze its content. The differences in the title that I read before is in the Journal by Yohanes Martin N. S (2017) entitled, *“The Message of The Betrayal in Figurative Language of The Song “Your Betrayal”*. This journal is using theories from Knickerbocker and Renninger (1963) to analyze several figures of speech that are used in language. And to elaborate the meaning from the lyric, the author is using theory of meaning from Perrine (1969). The difference in previous research is that the author only focuses on one song and is able to find four types of figurative languages contained in the song titled *“Your Betrayal”*, they are; (1) metaphor, (2) hyperbole, (3) irony, and (4) dead metaphor. The author is trying

to elaborate the intended message of the song writer about being betrayed. The author believes that those types of contextual meaning show the message of the song writer that conveyed it through the meaning of figurative language.

The second journal is entitled *"Investigating Figurative Language in the Lyrics of the Song 'Lose You to Love Me' by Erniyanti Fatahhela, Didin Nuruddin Hidayat and Alek (2021)*. This journal discusses figurative language on the semantic aspects contained in the lyrics of Selena Gomez's song *"Lose You to Love Me"*. This study aims to find the types and meanings of figurative language which will be analyzed using qualitative descriptive methods. The difference that can be mentioned from previous research lies in the focus of the research to be achieved by using the theory of figurative language from Rozakis (1995) and the study only found three figurative languages, namely; similes, hyperboles, and metaphors. The most dominant type of figurative language is hyperbole and simile. According to the author, the song sung by Selena Gomez is distorted by adding original meaning to exact words, and the lyrics of the song contain a comparison of meaning between denotative and connotative so that the author wants to reveal the meaning behind the figurative language used by the singer of the song.

The third journal is entitled *"An Analysis of Figurative Language Found on The Song Lyric by Taylor Swift's 'Speak Now' Album" (2015)* by Heny Listiani. This study focuses on analyzing the figurative language of songs in one album by singer Taylor Swift. Researchers focus on discussing seven types (hyperbole, metaphor, personification, simile, synecdoche, symbol, and oxymoron) of figurative language in the fourteen songs in the album. She is using qualitative descriptive methods and figurative language theory from X. J. Kennedy. The difference lies in the type of figurative language found. If the previous researcher analyzed a full album with seven figurative languages, my research focused on ten types of figurative languages in six songs on Billie Eilish's album.

From the review above, I conclude that Figurative language is a research material that is widely used to understand the meaning of a sung utterance. By citing some of the differences that exist between previous studies, I would like to provide a new study of songs that are admired by the younger generation. From the first study, it is stated that if the author focuses on one song that contains the meaning

of betrayal, and in the second study it is also still with one song, but the author focuses on discussing the comparison between denotative and connotative meanings contained in the song entitled "Lose you to love me". And in the third study, the author focuses on discussing the album which contains fourteen songs, and the final result that the author can share is the discovery of seven types of figurative language contained in one album of Taylor Swift songs using Kennedy's theory.

