CHAPTER 2
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In this research, I applied some theories and concepts which are related to my research topic. Some of the theories I used in my research on figurative language study on the song lyrics of Billie Eilish in the album Happier Than Ever include semantics theory, figurative language theory which includes personification, metaphor, hyperbole, simile, idiom, and irony theory

2.1 Semantics

As we know that in linguistics, there are 2 studies which study about meaning. They are semantics and pragmatics. While pragmatics is the study focused on someone's ability in derived meaning. The study of semantics is primarily concerned with a speaker's capacity to utilize the language system in order to produce meaningful speech and comprehend speech from others (Kreidler, 1998. p.18). Instead of focusing on what a specific speaker might want the words, phrases, and sentences in a language to mean in a given situation, linguistic semantics focuses on the conventional meaning that is conveyed by their use (Yule, 2006, p.100).

Basically, semantics is the study which focused on the real meaning of the word or sentence not focused on the meaning understood by the speaker or hearer. Linguistic semantics is the study of how languages organize and express meaning, while semantics is the systematic study of meaning (Kreidler, 1998. p. 66). Semantics is concerned with the analysis of meaning in language. It focuses on the deeper meaning which words, phrases, and sentences convey along with how listeners and speakers interpret those meanings.

2.2 Figurative Language

In semantics, when we analysing the meaning of something, it can be done in various ways. One of is by using the figure of speech. The use of figure of speech can be found in literary works especially in the song lyrics. When writing song lyrics, the song writers usually don't directly convey the true meaning of the song lyrics which they wrote to make it more meaningful and beautiful lyrics, or it because the song writer just don't want to convey the true meaning of the songs they wrote because they want to convey the implicit meaning behind the song they wrote. Although it only figuratively conveys the meaning, figurative language can be interpreted as beautiful language. Figurative meaning in figurative language is the use of language in relating emotions to the speaker's wishes that might result in shock and action (Peter, 2002). Therefore, speakers can channel their ideas or thoughts through processing them using the meaning of figurative language.

A combination of words that exaggerates and twists words are referred to as a word component in figurative language. Figures of speech are required to emphasize the point being made and to create a sense of beauty. Using figurative language can assist readers interpret facts and messages. Language style can be viewed in terms of both linguistic and non-linguistic features (Keraf, 2010. p.112). The use of language in figurative language must be carefully considered, as can be seen from this explanation. Furthermore, to thoughtfully select words, it is essential to pay attention to the sentences used so that the meaning contained in this figurative language can be understood directly. Figurative language may additionally convey the concept of efficiency, freshness, or purity. In general, figurative language indicates meaning implicitly through the description of something.

2.2.1 Types of Figurative Language

There are 10 types of figurative language, there are simile, metaphor, personification, symbol, metonymy, irony, hyperbole, litotes, synecdoche, and idiom. In this research, I only conduct 6 types of figurative language, there are personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, irony, and idiom.

2.2.1.1 Personification

Personification is known giving a dead (not alive) things a quality, sensations, action, or define. Personification is a type of figurative language in which inanimate objects are described like they have characteristics associated with humans. The figure in the illustration seemed to be human in both action and character, and additionally in feelings. Personification is used to describe the senseless things looks to have characteristics like human and make the senseless object look like living things (Keraf, 2009. p.140).

Personification can be recognized through metaphorical features, which can be compared to acts that do not behave or speak like a human. The point of personification is, to give or to express noun or objects which does not have soul described as if they are a human (Keraf, 2009. p. 140). Personification also can give the effect to the readers or even listeners imagine the things. For examples in the song of State lines by Novo Amor there/s a lyric that goes like, "***Dear, I wouldn't bet your heart down***". In here, bet and down given human attribute that is sad.

2.2.1.2 Metaphor

Metaphor is known as comparing the different two things without using expression "like", "as", "same as". This metaphor's application of the expression comparison conveys a concept based on similarities instead of what it actually means. Personification is used when two different things or objects are compared. To relate one subject with another in a metaphor, the imaginative ability is necessary (Keraf, 2009. p. 139). because the term of the thing of comparison and the description used to indicate the object is included in both tenors. In the actual metaphor,

Metaphors are used to describe something by forming a comparison to another object (Keraf, 2009. p.139). As an example, a metaphor might imply a person is really beautiful by comparing it to stars or moon which always shine beautifully every night. A metaphor's full meaning can be determined by its context, and the use of metaphors in literature can improve the reader's understanding and appreciation of the work.an image based on similarities can be used as the comparative word instead of the actual word. For examples in the song lyrics of MirrorBall by Taylor Swift *"I want you to know, I'm a mirrorball"*. Metaphor here imply a person's ability to reflect different versions of themselves by adapting and entertaining the persons' they are talking to by comparing it to a mirror ball which has many small mirrors that can reflect lights and shadows.

2.2.1.3 Hyperbole

Hyperbole is basically exaggerating something because the hyperbole is used to emphasize the importance level of sentence or subject. The word or clause or else which contain the exaggerating might important. Hyperbole is a figure that contains redundant information by exaggerating something or being discussed in a style that involves exaggeration resemblance (Keraf, 2009. p.135). While ambiguous similarity is a comparison between two objects that clearly do not have anything in common. A figure of speech called hyperbole has a way of vividly describing things despite it's not intended for action to be taken.

Hyperbole refers to an exaggerated (figurative) statement intended in order to accomplish particular effects instead of conveying the facts. Hyperbole is frequently used in order to emphasize a point, create a strong impression, or create strong emotions in the reader or listener. It can be found in a variety of kinds of writing, including song lyrics, poetry, and prose, and it has a powerful tool for writers and speakers to use in expressing their message or emotions. For examples in song lyrics of Alonica by Lany *"And the sand, it is stretches for miles."* This lyric contains exaggeration describing the sand stretches in miles. Miles here mean so far away or very long.

2.2.1.4 Simile

Simile is also known as a comparison, when two different things being compared. Simile is generally compared two objects against one another side. Because it utilizes a linking word, the simile's similarity is merely hinted towards in its use. A simile represents an explicit comparison (Keraf, 2009. p.138). Contrasting two things indirectly means that both are similar to one another. When compared to using figurative language, similes are commonly used for expressing meaning. Simile is used in order to describe a particular thing alongside one another that may seem unrelated. Similes can be used to precisely describe objects and also to convey messages in a beautiful way.

Different from personification, when using simile, we use "Like" or "as" to compared the two different things as being similar. Similes enable the reader or listener in visualizing and interpreting the distinctive features of the objects being compared, making the language more vivid and expressive. For examples in the song lyrics of Creep by Radiohead "*You float like a feather in a beautiful world.*" This lyric contains simile because there is "like' to compare a verb "Float" with a thing "feather".

2.2.1.5 Idiom

Idioms are distinctive expressions that go beyond the specific meanings of individual words but can nevertheless improve the elegance and attraction of a language. Idioms frequently have meanings that differ from dictionary definitions. Idioms typically take the form of a phrase, however as a consequence of it, idioms are difficult to define linguistically (Keraf, 2009. p.109). Individual words in idioms have uncertain meanings. Actually, the idiom's meaning is determined when the words are combined instead of from the separate words that compose it. It is the best way for analysing the idiom to look at the context.

Idioms are culturally specific and increase the variety and depth of a language by giving colours to conversation. Yet young people who struggle with language frequently do not understand them. For examples in the song lyric of Bed

of Roses by Bon Jovi "I want to lay you down in a bed of roses." Bed of roses here means something or somewhere where everything feels pleasant or easy.

2.2.1.6 Irony

Irony is a figure of speech in which words are employed in a way that twists their intended meaning from their actual meaning (Keraf, 2009. p.143). A simple way to understand this concept is as a difference between appearance and reality. There are several ways to determine irony, such situational, dramatic, and verbal irony. Verbal irony is when an expression is used to express meaning that contradicts the definition in its true meaning, it seems to be the opposite of what the speaker is saying, Situational irony is when things goes totally opposite what one might've predicted, and Dramatic irony is a literary or dramatic phrase where a character says something that the audience or reader interprets differently.

The irony also can come in the literary works especially in the song lyrics. To make the song lyrics more alive, song writers will used or put the the irony in their song lyrics. For examples in the song lyrics of Bored by Billie Eilish "The games you played were never fun." This lyric contains irony because the actual meaning of games is something fun, but here the lyrics wrote that the games which "he" played not something fun the "games" here is not the actual meaning of game but means something bad which "He" did.

2.3 Previous Related Study

There are several relevant previous studies providing support for this research and present similarities and differences with it. This indicates the existence of studies in linguistics that use the same method and theory for different subjects.

The first research is by Setiawati and Maryani (2018) with the title "An Analysis of Figurative Language In Taylor Swift's Song Lyrics". This research took a qualitative approach and uses descriptive qualitative method. the data sources of this research were taken from Taylor Swift song lyrics in the album od "Red" and "22" they only take 2 songs of each album as their data sources. From the research findings, the types of figurative language that they found in the song lyrics include simile, metaphor, hyperbole, paradox, irony, and personification. The most

dominant types of figurative language which found in the song lyrics is hyperbole. In that research, they conclude that the "Red" and "22" album by Taylor Swift mostly tell about conflict, pain heart, and deeply treachery.

The second research is by Nurudin and Alek (2021) with the tittle "An Analysis of Figurative Language In Maroon 5 *Nobody's Love* Song Lyrics". This research took a qualitative approach and uses descriptive qualitative method. The data sources of this research is taken from Marron 5 song lyrics titled "Nobody's Love" in the album of "Jordi (Deluxe). From the research findings, the researchers make a conclusion that the types of figurative language which they found include Personification (205), Hyperbole (30%), Irony (20%), Simile (20%), and Repetition (20%). So, the most dominant types of figurative language which found in the song lyrics of "Nobody's Love" by Maroon 5.

The third research is by Panjaitan, et.al. (2020) with the title "Figurative Language Analysis at Song Lyrics of Billie Eilish "When We Fall Asleep Where Do We Go?" album." This research used qualitative research, the method used in this research was document or content analysis. The data sources of this research were taken from Billie Eilish's song lyrics in the album of "When we Fall Asleep Where Do We Go?" The researchers chose 5 songs in the album, there are You Should See Me in a Crown, Wish You Were Gay, When the Party is Over, Xanny, and I Love You. From the research findings, the researchers found the types of figurative language which they found include Hyperbole (28%), Simile (12%), Synecdoche (4%), Metonymy (20%), Paradox (4%) , Symbol (24%) , and Irony (8%). It can be concluded that the most dominant types of figurative language in the song lyrics is Hyperbole.

Based on the three previous studies that have been explained, there are differences in each of their studies, namely the first difference is the object studied. In the first study, the objects used were selected songs on the albums Red and 22 by Taylor Swift. The second research used the object of the song lyrics in the song "Nobody's Love" by Maroon 5, and the third research used the object of the song lyrics on the Billie Eilish album "When we fall asleep where do we go". The second difference from the three previous studies is the type of figurative language found

and analysed. In the first research, the figurative language found and analysed was Simile, Metaphor, Hyperbole, Paradox, Irony, and Personification. in the second study the figurative language found and analysed was Personification, Hyperbole, Irony, Simile, and Repetition, and in the third study the figurative language found and analysed was Hyperbole, Simile, Synecdoche, Metonymy, Paradox, Symbol, and Irony.

From the explanation above, I can conclude that my current research has similarities and differences with previous studies. My research has similarities with the third research, namely that the object used is the Billie Eilish album, but the difference is in the choice of album. The third research chose the album "When We Fall Asleep Where Do We Go" which was released in 2019, while my current research chose the Billie Eilish album "Happier Than Ever" which was just released in 2021. The next difference is the type of figurative language found and analysed. Of the three previous studies, none of them analysed the type of figurative language "idiom", but in my research, I analysed types of figurative language: idiom, irony, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, and simile.