Figurative Language in Little Mix Album Glory Days: Semantics Study

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Abstract

The title of this research is "figurative language in little mix album glory days" the purpose of this study is to find out what the function of figurative language and to find out the various figurative meanings contained in the lyrics of the album Glory Days. This study used a qualitative method. From the data found there are figurative connections (euphemism: data 1, inverse: data 2 and data 3), opposition (hyperbole: data 8, litotes: data 10), comparison (simile: data 4, metaphor: data 5, personification: data 6 and data 7), and repetition (anactaclasis: data 10), as also find effective meaning(data 2, data 8, data10), connotative meaning(data 4 and data 6), conceptual/denotative(data 2, data 3, data 9), and collective meaning(data 6 and data 7). This album uses dance-pop and tropical house, and the lyrics tell about love, female empowerment, and heartbreak.

I. Introduction

One of the communication mechanisms used by human is language. Language is an important point for humans to communicate. Not only communicating, but also providing information, expressing expressions, tools for thinking, and channelling the meaning of trust in society, including the function of language. Without language, we cannot communicate. In general, the understanding of language is a means of communication owned by humans, namely in the form of a system of sound symbols derived from human speech or mouth tools. Language is one of the most important things in the life of every human being. Each of them is of course inseparable from language, the first time a child gets a language that is heard directly from the father or mother when the child is born into this world. Then as time goes by and as the child grows, they will acquire a language other than the language taught by the mother and father, either in the form of a second, third, foreign language or so on which is called language acquisition where it depends on the social environment and cognitive level possessed by these children through the learning process in their environment. (Purba, N. et al. (2020).Depending on who is using it and to whom the language is being conveyed. Language is art because through language we can share everything related especially literal works that are usually used in language art or usually called figurative language. Applied in the form of communiques such as in conversations, articles, novels, news, poetry, newspapers and song lyrics. One of the problems people have in a language is the use of figurative language (Saboe, 2018). sometimes humans say something without a clear meaning and have no intention of explaining the real meaning, which makes language more difficult to understand because it contains figurative language. the language used to communicate at all times with other

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people from different backgrounds. Therefore, language creates a language variant called figurative language.

One of the objects that we often find and easily find in which there is figurative language is poetry or song lyrics. Song lyrics are some descriptive literature that accord information with literal definition using figurative language. To understand the lyrics in the song, we must first know and find the figurative language contained in the lyrics. Each song lyric has a different purpose for each listener.

Recently, Little Mix songs from Glory Days, which were released on November 18, 2018, are trending again on several social media platforms, like touch, shout out to my ex, oops collaborate with Charlie Puth, and many more. Glory Days is the fourth studio collection by British girl band Little Mix. The album aply dance-pop and tropical house, and the lyrics touch upon the meaning of love, female assent and heartbreak. The researcher found many types of figurative language used in Little Mix's album song lyric. The author intends to analyze and learn about the types of figurative language used in Little Mix's album song lyrics. The researcher also found what kinds of meaning of figurative with in the song lyrics.

Based on the background and reason of choosing the tittle, the writes formulas the problems as follows:
1. What are the function of figurative language are use in the song lyric of "Little Mix's album Glory Days"?
2. What kinds of meanings are found in the song lyrics of "Little Mix's album Glory Days"?

II. Review of Literature

2.1 Semantics

Semantics is the study of the meaning of words, mean to show, to signify, indicate by a sign. A semantics vocabulary of the data used in a spesific domain such as advertising, physics, real estate, telecom, and others. Comparison with syntax, which governs the complex of a language and the rules pertaining to the certain data. Lyons (1997) said "Semantics is the study of meaning", while Hurford & Heasley (1983) said "Semantics is the study of meaning in language". More specifically satted by Kreidler (1998) said "Linguistics semantics is the study of how language organize and express meanings"

From those definitions, we can draw conclusions that semantics means is meaning, interpretation of words, signs, and sentence structure. It also attributes to the various meanings of words as sound. Two points relevant to semantics are connotation and denotation. Connotation refers to the meanings that we associate with the word-beyond the literal definition, the connotation of a word includes all of the emotions and feelings that go along with the use of the word. Denotation comprises the literal explanation of the word.
Example:

1. A picture book could be called a book, a folio, a booklet.
2. A parent could be called a father, mother, uncle, aunt, grandpa, grandma.
3. So, one part of studying a language is knowing the many meanings of individual words. Semantics also refers to the multiple meaning of words.
1. The word "run" has many meanings, that is to depart or go (I will go running), to spent (the motor runs by itself), to flow (the memories keep runs like tears).
2. A ball pool can be referred to a playground or a play tour.

3. The verb 'motion' can mean run, jump, dance, fall, fly.

Based on Farida Sasmi '(Semantics A Teaching Notes, (1-6), when semantics mean to investigate the meaning of words in a language, they are normally interested in characterizing the conceptual definition and less disturbed with the associative or stylistic meaning of words.

The purpose of semantic is to propose exact meaning of the words and phrases and remove confusion, which might lead the readers to believe a word has many possible meanings. It makes a relation betwixt word and sentence complete their meanings.

Semantics also the study and analysis of how language is used figuratively and literally to produce meaning. For example: semantics in literature (in Romeo and Juliet, Juliet refers to the abstract concept of the meaning of a name by comparing Romeo to a flower.

Example: Be some other name! What's in a name? That which we call a rose. By any other, name would smell as sweet. So, Romeo would, were he not Romeo called.

From that example, Juliet separates the man she loves from the name he is called. She points out that the talk 'rose' has blank to do with the smell or form of the certain flower. The meaning is the importance of a person or thing is the way it is; not because of what it is called.

2.2 Figurative language

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, figurative words are forms of parables, symbols, satire, and lessons. Figurative words are commonly used in the creation of literary works, to emphasize and beautify an expression. Figurative language uses words or expressions whose meaning is different from the actual meaning. When a writer uses literal language, it is simply stating the actual facts. Figurative language is used only to exaggerate a sentence or word (Semantics A Teaching Notes by Sasmi Farida 88-89). The types of figurative language are metaphor, simile, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, hyperbole, irony and many more. But you have to pay attention to the figurative language as well as the literal language. A person is able to create his own figurative language. When we cannot distinguish figurative and literal language, we will find it difficult to understand the meaning of a language.

Based on Tarigan (1985) in figure of speech there are four groups, it is: Figure of comparison, Opposition, Connection, and Repetition.

1. Figure of Comparison

Figure of Comparison is a figurative language used to find the similarities in different things. Figure of comparison is restricted into category as follows:

a. Simile is the identification of between necessarily dissimilar. In simile the comparison is forwarded by the use of any words such as: like, as, than, similar to, or resembles.
   For example: The Eagles waterfall like arrow (Perrine, 1969:65).

b. Metaphor is an implied comparison between two o without the use of words 'like or as.'
   For example: Time is money. (Perrine, 1996:65)

c. Personification is dwell in offering the essence of human being to an animal, an object, or an idea. For example: England suppose every man to do his commission. (Perrine, 1996:65).

III. Research Method

This study used a qualitative method. Qualitative research is a research method that focuses more on social understanding and emphasizes the whole picture rather than on a more detailed meaning into interrelated variables. Qualitative research aims to gain an understanding of verstehen meanings, develop theories and describe complex realities. In qualitative research, it cannot be obtained or measured using statistical procedures. Research with qualitative methods is more often used for research on people's lives. The data generated in qualitative research is descriptive data in the form of written words or speeches of the actors being observed. This qualitative research aims to gain an understanding of what is observed and obtain a new theory to be used as a scientific work. The paradigm used in qualitative research is a natural paradigm based on a phenomenal view.

IV. Result and Discussion

4.1 Figure of connection

Based on the song lyric data studied, it was found that 1 euphemism is found in data 1, and 2 inverses are found in data 2 and 3.

a. Euphemism
Data 1

Cause now I'm wishing every morning would come
With you next to me, baby (lyrics song from Oops by Little Mix feat Charlie Puth)

Data 1 belongs to euphemism. The lyric element or a mild explanation used to conceal a painful or a rude truth and the mean of this sentence. Consist of words "cause now I'm wishing every morning would come with you next to me" literal meaning she want her boyfriend is beside her when she wakes up. The phrase of that lyric explains that he's gone and every morning he's not next to her. The meaning of the lyrics in a euphemism is to explain the fact that she desperately wishes her lover to be by her side when she wakes up.

The expression has an affective meaning. Affective is the meaning of a sentence whose purpose is to explain personal feelings. The lyrics shed light on the personal feelings of the woman who wished that whenever she opened her eye, she wished her boyfriend was there beside her.

b. Inverse
Data 2

swear you'll never bring me down (lyrics song from shout out to my ex from Little Mix)

Data 2 belongs to inverse. This lyric variation of normal word in the sentence. We often find sentences like the lyrics above in daily life. Consist of the words "swear you'll never bring me down" literal meaning is she can be sure she won't fall just because of someone else. The lyric is a sentence that expresses a promise or a proverb for hope.

This lyric meaning has a denotative meaning. Denotative is the meaning that explains the true meaning. She spoke words that seemed like a promise, if she was strong and no one could take her down.

Data 3

we had a good run we messed around and had some good fun (lyrics song from Oops from Little Mix feat Charlie Puth)

Data 3 belongs to inverse, because the lyric is a normal sentence. Consists of words "we had a god run we messed around and had some good fun" literal meaning is she and her lover run to destroy many things for the purpose of having fun. We can find the lyric in daily life. The lyric explain how they made an activity whose only purpose was to have fun.

This lyric found a denotative meaning, because it tells a meaning. How they have good flight and how do they find happiness from what they do. In the lyrics explain how they have fun.

4.2 Figure of comparison

Based on the data from the lyrics that have been studied, it was found that 1 simile contained in data 4, 1 metaphor contained in data 5, and 2 personifications contained in data 6 and 7.

a. Simile

Data 4

They'll never know me like you used to know me, no (lyric song from no more sad song by Little Mix)

This lyric is the comparison. A simile is a figurative type that compares two things. Consist of words "they'll never know me like you used to know me, no" literal meaning is no one can treat her as well as her lover. Comparison is forwarded by the use of any words such as: like, as, then, similar to. In the lyrics, there is the word "like" which describes part of the simile.

The meaning discovered in this lyric is connotative meaning. Where two words that use the same word with different implications. (*They'll never know me*) and (*used to know me,*) explains the difference, if it's the first sentence, explaining others won't be able to understand her. While the second line explained how the man understood her.

b. Metaphor

Data 5

Dancing with danger, talking to strangers (lyrics sing from no more sad song by Little Mix)

Data 5 consists the words "Dancing with danger, talking to strangers". Literal meaning from the lyric is someone dancing with dangerous situation. The phrase of "talking to stranger" has literal meaning someone is speaking with unknown person. However, the lyric above has semantically meaning as connotative which mean someone doing unsafe or dangerous things. Based on analysis, the data belongs to metaphor. Because it implies comparison between two or without the use of word like or as.

c. Personification

Data 6

And now my whole week, my whole week is golden, can you see me glowing? That's how I feel (lyric song from touch by Little Mix)

Data 6 belongs to personification. Personification is dwell in offering the essence of human being to an animal, an object, or an idea, the lyrics explain how the past weeks are

now more meaningful and more valuable. The gold mentioned is not gold which means jewelry but it more refers to precious days.

The meaning of these lyrics has a collocative meaning. Both have the company of words. The golden referred to in the first words, describes his day as lavish, and shinier. While the second sentence describes the same thing shone.

Data 7

Luxurious lovin' like Egyptian cotton, If I ain't got nothin', least I got you (lyrics song from your love by Little Mix)

Data 7 belongs to personification. The word luxury usually refers to something valuable. In this lyric love that we can't even see is called luxury. From the lyrics of "like Egyptian cotton" it has literal meaning something that so luxurious. This lyric contains collocative meaning. Luxurious love like Egyptian cotton means something that is expensive and not everyone can afford it, and this lyric explains that if she has nothing, but if she has him, it's more than enough. The lyrics also explain that if he doesn't have anything but still has him, he's still very grateful to have something precious.

4.3 Figure of opposition

Based on the lyric data obtained 1 hyperbole contained in data 8, and 1 litotes contained in data 9.

a. Hyperbole
Data 8

Deeper than oceans, as sweet as devotion, it's all I need. You pull me close and there's no way I can describe (lyrics song from your love by Little Mix)

The above lyrics are included in hyperbole. Literal meaning from "deeper than oceans, as sweet as devotion" explain she just need someone who can love her as deep as the ocean and also as sweet as devotion. She no need anything as she has him in her life.

The lyrics involve a sense of affective meaning. Can we see it in terms of 'disposition also sweet' and 'no way I can imagine'? That's telling about her personal feelings. The lyric explains how her feeling want to someone who can love her as deep, and she just want it.

b. Litotes
Data 9

and I'm not afraid to fade into emotions, because I know that this could be something real (lyrics song from touch by Little Mix)

Data 10 belongs to litotes. This lyric is which an approval is expressed by the gloomy of its adverse. According to the lyric "and I'm not afraid to fade into emotion, cause I know that this could be something real" the lyrics explain that she is not afraid of her feelings, because she realizes that the feelings she has are real. Without elaborating its meaning in the lyrics, we can already understand its true meaning. Therefore, this lyric is in a denotative sense. This lyric says the true meaning of what happened.

4.4 Figure of repetition

From the song lyric data studied, it was found that 1 antanaklasis was found in the 10 data.

a. Anactaclasis
Data 10

you made my heart break and that made me who I am. (Lyric song from shout to my ex by Little Mix)

Data 10 belongs to anactaclasis because there is an identical repetition, in this sentence the word of "made" are identical repetition. The lyrics explain the words "made" in a different sense, the first word describes the hurt, and the second word describes her rising from her pain. Consist the words "You broke my heart and it made me who I am" based on its true meaning, this lyric explains that if she finds herself and becomes herself because of the heartbreak she went through. This lyric contains an effective meaning. In these lyrics she explained how her personal feelings were hurt which made her stronger.

From the analysis of the data above, it can be concluded that the function of using figurative language in the lyrics of the song "Little Mix album Glory Days" is to force the reader to imagine what the author wants to express. Figurative language is not meant to convey literal meaning, and often compares one concept to another to make the first concept easier to understand. As well as providing understanding through illustrative language whose purpose is to beautify and not be monotonous whose function is to help listeners more easily describe the meaning of the lyrics.

V. Conclusion

Based on the findings and discussion of the data above, some conclusions are given as follows. This research is to analyze the function of figurative language and what are the meanings contained in the lyrics of the little mix song on the album, The Glory Days. And from the data obtained the following results, found a figurative of connection in which there are euphemism, and inverse, and the inverse is the most widely used figurative in the figurative of connection. There is a figurative of comparison, namely simile, metaphor, and personification, and personification is the most widely used figurative in figurative of comparison. There is a figurative of opposition, namely hyperbole and litotes. and figurative of repetition, namely anactaclasis. and for meaning found affective, denotative, connotative, and collocative. And the most frequently used are denotative and connotative meaning.

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