Figurative Language In James Arthur's Song Lyrics

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Abstract. The title of this thesis is Figurative Language in James Arthur's Song Lyrics. This thesis discusses the types of figurative language are used in the song lyrics of James Arthur's and the meanings of figurative language used in the song lyrics of James Arthur's. The method used in data collection is the observation method. Classification types of Figurative Language based on the theory that Knickerborker and Reninger (1963) proposed of Figurative language. Identification meaning using theory of meaning proposed by Leech (1981). Based on the results of the analysis and discussion above, the first point that can be drawn as conclusion is the finding three out of ten types of figurative language which are personification, metaphor and hyperbole. The second point that can be drawn as conclusion is the process of discovering the meaning of figurative language. There were only three types of words that were used in the song lyrics. The words used are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, and affective meaning but the data source mostly contained conceptual meaning, where the meaning was mostly recorded in the dictionary. The conceptual and the connotative meanings found were balanced.

Keywords: figurative language; james arthur's; song

1.   Introduction

Semantics is one component of grammar (the other two components are syntax and phonology), the meaning of a sentence is largely determined by this semantic component. Semantic analysis can also see very unique forms of language, because language is closely related to various cultures and the people who use the language themselves. Therefore, semantic analysis is only applicable to one language and cannot be used in other foreign languages. This provides an analytical picture that semantics is closely related to meaning and the community of speakers. One part of semantics is figurative language. Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. Figurative language makes expression of varied thoughts and feelings. It comes to how to compose sentence effectively and aesthetically, it can give concrete description in mind of the reader. Figurative language is very common in poetry, but it also used in short story. Figurative language plays a major role in compelling literary works. Its primary purpose is to force readers to imagine or intuit what an author means with an expression or statement. Mulitiple literary devices and elements are commonly used in the category of figurative language. The important thing of figurative language is can makes language more colorful. It means allows people to express abstract thoughts. It create tone and communicates emotional content, often through humor.

This study focuses on analyzing the types and the meaning of figurative language determine the lyrics of song compose by James Arthur. One of a famous singer that has beautiful voice and good in written lyric song is James Andrew Arthur (born on March, 2 1988). Arthur's is an English singer and song writer . He became a famous male singer in October 2012 when he was joined music competition

called X Factor, and his debut single "impossible" that released by Syco Music after his number one final debut in UK single chart in the first week of relese. His song are loved by people because it is something amusing to be heared. Each song conveys different message. Therefore, arthur's songs will be chose as data source in this study. The figurative expressions in arthur's songs will be analyzed by using by K.L Knickerbocker and H. Williard Reninger (1963) theory of figurative language and this topic supported by other theories. This study is focused on figurative language which used mainly in the song lyrics of James Arthur's.Some of James Arthur's songs that contain figurative language are Naked, Say You Won't Let Go, Impossible and Empty Space. However, these songs have spread widely and are enjoyed by all people around the world, especially young people.

The reason researchers chose this topic is because in capturing and expressing ideas, someone can use many ways to convey their ideas to other people. Music is one way that can be used to convey messages or communicate. So that the message they write will be remembered by others, each musician composes a song that they write in their own language in a simple way so that it can be written wholeheartedly. With their emotions, musicians create songs in such a way that they are communicated and conveyed through the song lyrics. This shows that songs can also interact with other people to exchange opinions, emotions and even arguments. A research objective is a sentence formulation that explains what will be achieved, obtained, or completed in a study. The research objective is related to the formulation of the research problem and is the answer to the problem formulation.There are three aims to be presented in this research. These aims are general aim, spesific aim and academic aim. The first is general aim. The general aim is to Identify the types of figurative language used in the lyrics of James Arthur's. The second is spesific aim. The spesific aim is to analyze the meanings of figurative language used in the song lyrics of James Arthur's. The last aim is academic aim. The academic aim is to provide understanding to writers regarding Semantic Analysis Of Figurative Language In James Arthur's Song Lyrics and to obtain a Bachelor's degree in the Department of English, Faculty of Letters, Warmadewa University.

2. Method

According to Sugiyono (2019:2), research methods are a scientific way to obtain data with specific purposes and uses. Research methods are closely related to the procedures, techniques, tools and research designs used. The research design must match the chosen research approach. The procedures, techniques and tools used in research must also be compatible with the established research methods. The benefits that will be obtained from using research methodology are research results that can be accounted for. This benefit can be obtained because when using research methodology, the data source is very valid. Apart from that, with a valid data source, the researcher's results will be trusted by many people. Some of James Arthur's songs that contain figurative language are Naked, Say You Won't Let Go, Impossible and Empty Space. However, these songs have spread widely and are enjoyed by all people around the world, especially young people. The following are the stages in this research the first stage is research observation, then the researcher will observe the songs Naked, Say You Won't Let Go, Impossible and Empty Space, after that the researcher will record the songs Naked, Say You Won't Let Go, Impossible and Empty Space. Finally, the researcher will note down song lyrics that contain figurative language.

The data source in this research is a secondary data source. This data is used to obtain new scientific knowledge and is useful as a complement to information that has been collected by the researcher himself. Apart from that, this data can also strengthen existing discoveries or knowledge. Secondary data in this research is data collected by the researcher himself, for example the title of the song " Naked, Say You Won't Let Go, Impossible and Empty Space" sung by James Arthur.Those selected songs have different meaning than the original meaning. Because it has such meaning, it can be called figurative language.Where figurative language have characteristic that have more than one meaning. Therefore this song is interesting to discuss. The method used in data collection is the observation method. Observation is a data collection technique that has specific characteristics when compared with other techniques. Observations are also not limited to people, but also other natural

objects. Through observation activities, researchers can learn about behavior and the meaning of that behavior. Researchers will make observations regarding several James Arthur songs that contain figurative language, namely You, Say You Won't Let Go, Maybe and Car's Outside. The data collection technique was carried out by writing and recording the songs You, Say You Won't Let Go, Maybe and Car's Outside.The data used in this research are sentences in the form of song lyrics that contain figurative language. The data in this study   analyzed by these following steps classification type of Figurative Language based   on the theory that proposed   Knickerborker and Reninger (1963) of Figurative language. Identification meaning using theory of meaning proposed by Leech (1981).

3.   Discussion

The types of figurative language are devided into simile, metaphor, personification, metonymy, hyperbole, irony, synecdoche, dead metaphor, allusion, and paradox (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963:367) :

Simile

Example (1) *Heat me up like a soup, baby* in this lyric, the meaning of like a soup can describe it not a good start or to be in a dangerous situation. It means the writer felt was having a hard time adjusting to the way things are as compared to how they want to take it or leave it. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **conceptual meaning** because widely assumed to be the central factor in verbal communication and it can be shown to be integral to the essential functioning of language in a way that other types of meaning are not. The denotation of word is its agreed-upon sense what it refers to, stands for, or designates, apart from feelings it may call up.

Example (2) *You could play me all day, like a video game* in this lyric, "play" seems to manipulate or control someone. It means play it the action to controlling someone with the same freedom likes as playing a video game, this simile can portray a situation where someone feels like they are being treated as an object that can be played with controlled by others, so it called like a video game. It also may show such treatment who feels weak situation. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **conceptual meaning** because the basic propositional meaning that corresponds to the main dictionary definition. Such meaning is stylistically neutral and objective, in contrast to other types of associative meaning.

Example (3) *Like it was a private show, but I know you never saw me* these lyrics consist as simile. A private show seems like it shows was in private since it the writers claiming himself as a private show that how hard the writer tried, it means someone they liked never to look at back and he feel that its existence not be appreciated. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **conceptual meaning** because denotative meaning is to provide, for each interpretation of a sentence, a configuration of abstract symbols that indicates exactly what we need to know if we are to distinguish that meaning from all other possible meanings of sentences in the language. Conceptual meaning is also called logical or cognitive meaning.

Metaphor

Example (1) *Then you became a butterfly* it seem that what is being compared is you and butterfly using the word like or as. You is a second person pronoun, while butterfly is a type of insect that can fly. However, the butterfly referred to here is not just an insect that can fly, but there is a beauty that is being compared here. Butterfly is an insect that has beautiful wings and is usually used as a symbol of beauty, but before having beautiful wings, butterflies originally come from a caterpillar and then become a cocoon and then transform into a beautiful butterfly. In the context of the song, the poet tries to convey a very deep message, namely if we persist in the process and believe and trust ourselves, the beautiful side of ourselves will emerge. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **stylistic meaning** because we decode the social meaning of the text through ourrecognition of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. A recent account of English has recognized some main dimensions of stylistic variation.

Example (2) *For a minute, **I was stone-cold sober*** can also be said to be a metaphor because the bolded words above are used to compare the speaker with "**stone-cold sober**" as the marker of metaphor in this song. It means that that the speaker is totally mindful and "**sober**". The speaker is also is described as cold as a "**stone**" to show that he feels stunned to see his lover, and he totally realizes that. "Stone-cold sober" is a metaphor that means completely and utterly not drunk, having drunk no alcohol at all. The phrase "stone-cold sober" emphasizes that someone is not even slightly under the influence of alcohol. It's a strong way of saying someone is completely sober. It just means absolutely and completely sober, or not drunk. Someone who is stone cold sober hasn't had any alcohol, and is completely in charge of his body, his speech or what he says, and his mind. When someone touches a dead body, the body is as cold as a stone. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **stylistic meaning** because we decode the social meaning of the text through ourrecognition of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. A recent account of English has recognized some main dimensions of stylistic variation.

Example (3) *I'm the cape, I'm the villain, I'm the metaphor* the lyric is a metaphor that describes the singer as a double symbol with opposing qualities that it can be hero or a villain. In short, the singer has multiple characteristics that can be interpreted in different way depending on the viewpoint. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **stylistic meaning** because we decode the social meaning of the text through ourrecognition of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. A recent account of English has recognized some main dimensions of stylistic variation.

Example (4) ***Give me your pain,** give me your burden* from the lyrics consist of metaphor that describes the words are not a meaning for someone to give a heart, pain, or burden, but are a metaphor that uses of the words it means that it can be explain a desire to have a relationship and to divide the burdens with each other. Metaphors can help people understand and communicate their pain. They can also help clinicians and patients work together to discuss pain in more concrete ways. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **stylistic meaning** because we decode the social meaning of the text through ourrecognition of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. A recent account of English has recognized some main dimensions of stylistic variation.

Example (5) *Oh, time to turn this **wine to water,** yeah* in this lyric "wine" it describes something alcoholic beverages that are not good for consumption and "water" is something good drink to consume every day. It meant time to turn this wine to water is compared between difficult and easy or it's a difficult situation to get better. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **stylistic meaning** because we decode the social meaning of the text through ourrecognition of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. A recent account of English has recognized some main dimensions of stylistic variation.

Example (6) ***The comedown's** harder in the headline* this lyric it consists of metaphor that the comedown that used as an indirect comparison for express a difficulty or failure after reaching the top or seems like get success in entertainment. It means like feel get harder when became public or it is making like news headline for the lyric the comedown's harder in the headline. After using drugs, you may notice that you feel differently as the effects start to wear off. You might feel tired, low in mood, irritable, nauseous, or even experience flu-like symptoms. This is what people mean when they refer to a comedown. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **stylistic meaning** because we decode the social meaning of the text through ourrecognition of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. A recent account of English has recognized some main dimensions of stylistic variation.

Idiom

Example (1) ***Kill them with kindness*** literally the word Kill means to kill or take the life of a living creature, while the word goodness literally means goodness. If the two words are collaborated like the lyrics above, it will be an illogical sentence. However, in terms of figurative language, the sentence has the meaning of repaying evil with good. This song tells the story of a man who usually comes to a bar alone but is always surrounded by people he doesn't like there who always say adventures so that the man always shows an angry attitude and facial expression so that no one wants to approach him. In the

end, there is a woman who enters the bar who changes the man's perspective on other people, then the man is interested and wants to get to know her better so that he realizes that it is better to remain silent to anyone because we never know the person we meet accidentally can be someone who brings happiness to our lives. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **affective meaning** because a sort of meaning which can reflect the personal feelings of the speakers, including his attitude to the listener, or his attitude to something he is talking about. Affective meaning refers to that part of meaning which conveys emotions and attitudes of the language users. Affective meaning indicate the speakers' attitude towards the person or thing in question.

Personification

Example (1) *Oh, my eyes can't lie* literally the word lie when translated means to **lie**, and is an action carried out by humans through words, while the word **eye** when translated means eyes, and is one of the human organs whose function is to see. So the meaning behind the lyrics is the poet's feelings that cannot deny or **lie** when seeing something. Overall this song tells about the poet who falls in love with a meaningful figure when the poet looks at him and finally expresses his feelings to have a love affair with the figure. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **reflected meaning** because meaning which arises in cases of multiple conceptual meaning, when one sense of a word forms part of our response to another sense. For instance, on hearing in church service, the synonymous expressions The Comforter and The Holy Ghost both refer to the third person of the Trinity, but the comforter sound warm and comforting (although in the religious context, it means 'the strengthener or supporter'), while The Holy Ghost sounds awesome.

Example (2) *I'll thank **my lucky stars** for that night* prsonification compared inanimate objects and human. In this lyric, my lucky starts seem like personification as its figurative language because it said a thing as in it have human knowledge (the writers thank the lucky stars) The writers feel so thankful that he very lucky for that night. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **reflected meaning** because terms like erection, intercourse, ejaculation. The word 'intercourse' immediately reminds us of its association with sex (sexual intercourse). The sexual association of the word drives away its innocent sense, i.e. 'communication'. The taboo sense of the word is so dominant that its non-taboo sense almost dies out.

Synecdoche

Example (1) *Cause a one-in-a-million chance Is still a chance, still a chance* synecdoche it calls like question that minimize something or weaken and state the opposite. The question contains negative that "a one-in-a-million chance is still a chance" indirectly it is expressing positive questions that even though the chance is very small, but the opportunity still valuable. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **collocative meaning** because consists of the association a word acquires on account of the meaning of word, which tends to occur in its environment. For example, the word handsome shares common ground in the meaning of "good looking", so a handsome man is interpreted as "a man who is good looking". The ranger may well match although they suggest a different kind of attractiveness because of the collocative associations of the two adjectives.

Metonymy

Example (1) *Oh, time to turn this **wine** to water, yeah* it consists of Metonymy it because from the word "wine" as became metonymy that used to something amazing, or it can call that is very precious things. It's to replacement that the wine above describes to change something more luxury.

Example (2) ***R. Kelly**, remix to ignition* in metonymy, the replacement of words or phrases is done based on causal relationships that way, this is one way to give a sentence an added dimension. In this Lyrics that the sentence "R. Kelly remix to ignition" is used to refer to a remix of a song by the writer, that illustrating the close relationship between the singer and the song. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **collocative meaning** because with the other word, collocative meaning is the meaning which a word acquires in the company of certain words. Words collocate or co-occur with certain words only e.g. Big business not large or great. Collocative meaning refers to associations of a word because of its usual or habitual co-occurrence with certain types of words. 'Pretty' and 'handsome'

share common ground in the meaning 'good looking'.

Dead Metaphor

Example (1) *Unbreak the broken* dead metaphor also is an effective literary effort because it conveys impressions that contain great restraint. Dead metaphor will work if the listener aware that of the meaning hidden behind the series of words. This lyric consists of dead metaphor as it's figurative language because it's signifying the opposite like unbreak the broken it describes that a person who are having given up all hope or became despairing something that happened it. It means that there is something cannot to fix it to not add more broke things in their life or it wanna have a new hope for a while. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **thematic meaning** because meaning is thematic meaning, what is communicated by the way in which a speaker or writer organizes the message, in terms of ordering, and emphasis.

Allusion

Example (1) *All I know is that **I feel** it like it's the realest thing **I mean it*** the word "feel" shows that the speaker conveys that his first meeting with the lover is not a coincidence, but it is a real thing that he can feel it. The words "I mean it" point that the speaker really appreciates that first meeting with the lover. The readers also can feel the speaker's happiness to see his lover at that time. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual content. Talking about connotation is in fact talking about the real world experience one associates with an expression when one uses or hears it.

Example (2) *And **I love** how you're so forward Is it too soon to say I'm **falling**?* the bolded words show that the lover also feels something different after her first meeting with the speaker. The lover admits that she is falling in love with the speaker as described in "Is is too soon to say I'm falling?", and she knows that the feeling comes too fast more than she expects. It gives the imagination to the readers to feel the lover's feeling to the speaker. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because that connotative meaning is compared with conceptual meaning as it is relatively unstable, which varies considerably with culture, historical period, and the experience of the individuals themselves. Although all the speakers of particular language speak the language exactly on the basis of the same conceptual framework, actually each of them has individual perception of words.

Paradox

Example (1) *I should **take your hand** and make you come with me* based on the first line of the verse 2, the marker "take your hand" relates with a movement. It gives an image to the readers that describes about the speaker's deep love feeling to the lover, so the speaker wants to hold the lover's hand and does not want to be apart with the lover. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because indeterminate and open in the same way as our knowledge and belief about the universe are open ended. Connotative plays a major role in the language of literature, especially in a poem. For example, "There's no place like home'. While home may refer to the actual building someone lives in, connotatively, it most often refers to family, comfort, and security.

Hyperbole

Example (1) *Oh, darling, **all of the city lights never shine as bright as your eyes*** the above lyric excerpt is classified into a hyperbole figurative form because the sentence all the city lights never shine as bright as your eyes (all the city lights never shine as bright as your eyes) exceeds the existing reality, that the eyes can shine. In fact, the eyes are human organs that cannot shine, but the human eye captures light or requires light to gain visibility. In the context of the song, the poet is praising his lover in this case, her beautiful eyes. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because classified into a hyperbole figurative form because the sentence all the city lights never shine as bright as your eyes (all the city lights never shine as bright as your eyes) exceeds the existing reality, that the eyes can shine. In fact, the eyes are human organs that cannot shine, but the human eye captures light or requires light to gain visibility.

Example (2) *Back before **demons** took control of my head* in this lyric, "demons" seem like someone that may be scared the meaning explain about the writer's situation, the head full of thoughts that it can't control his mind. Because the feeling of unable to control what he thinks feel like the demon did it on his thought. In this lyric, "take" is get something. In the lyric above the writers wanted to give everything whatever it can be true or not. Its mean that the writer wants to become his home for a while. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because an evil spirit that comes from hell. Demons is the name of an entity from the ruler of hell. In a book, Demons was the first angel who was expelled from Heaven and then brought the angels who rebelled, they were Belial, Mammon, Asmodeus, Beelzebub and Leviathan. Before Demons fell into hell his name was Lucifer, who was described as the Star of Morning.

Example (3) *You can take all I've got 'til I'm **skin and bone*** in this lyric, words of skin and bone that as in it's something that be able easily to explain it. It means, the writers would be easy to give everything to their lover. So, the writer said you can take all that I've got. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because this phrase is often blanketed as nothing but skin and bones, as in He returned from his journey with nothing but skin and bones. This hyperbolic expression one can hardly live without meat dates back to the early 1400s.

Example (4) *You walked into the room and now **my heart has been stolen*** this lyric consists of hyperbole, from the way writer said that his heart has been stolen or it already broken up. The meaning is someone that was attract them. From the first met, the writer has already attracted by their partner and time is over for that. Based on the example above, the type of meaning in the example is **connotative meaning** because "My heart has been stolen" is not a hyperbole, but it is an expression that means to love or like someone or something very much. "My heart has been stolen" is an expression that means to love or like someone or something very much. For example, "She was kind and honest, and she stole my heart". Hyperbole is a figure of speech that uses exaggeration to emphasize a point or create strong feelings. For example, "My backpack weighs a ton". Hyperbole is often used in novels, poetry, politics, and advertising slogans. The opposite of hyperbole is litotes, which is a deliberate understatement. In A Midsummer Night's Dream, Egeus uses hyperbole when he says, "with cunning hast thou filched my daughter's heart". This means that Lysander has stolen his daughter's heart, but Egeus is being dramatic and exaggerating how he feels. "Stolen" is the past tense of the word "steal" in English. "To steal" means to take something from someone else without permission, without the owner's knowledge, or secretly.

4.   Conclusion

This study has discussed the analysis of figurative language in the song lyrics by James Arthur. The discussion focuses on the types and meaning of figurative language. Based on the result of the analysis and discussion above, the first point that can be drawn as conclusion is the finding three out of ten types of figurative language which are personification, metaphor and hyperbole. The second point that can be drawn as conclusion is the discovering process of the meaning of the figurative language. There were only three types of meanings that were used in the song lyrics. The meanings used are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, and affective meaning but the data source mostly contained conceptual meaning, where the meaning were mostly recorded in the dictionary. The conceptual and the connotative meanings found were balance.

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