

THE ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN SONG LYRIC BY INDINA MENZEL

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bahasa kiasan yang terdapat dalam tiga lagu Idina Menzel, yaitu "Let It Go", "I Got My Love to Keep Me Warm" dan "For The First Time in Forever". Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dan makna yang diwakili oleh bahasa kiasan dalam tiga lagu Idina Menzel. Manfaat penelitian ini secara teoritis adalah penelitian ini bisa menjadi referensi bagi peneliti lain yang melakukan penelitian yang mirip. Sedangkan manfaat praktis dibagi menjadi dua, yaitu siswa dan guru. Bagi siswa, penelitian kiranya bermanfaat untuk meningkat pemahaman dan pengetahuan akan bahasa kiasan; meningkatkan motivasi literasi siswa, khususnya observasi bahasa kiasan; dan siswa menjadi lebih kreatif dan kritis. Bagi guru, penelitian ini dapat bermfaat untuk menjadi acuan dalam pembelajaran khususnya bahasa kiasan; mendapatkan pengalaman baru pada situasi belajar yang berbeda; dan memaksimalkan kepuasan guru karena kemampuan berbahasa siswa semakin meningkat. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif. Hasil penelitian menemukan bahwa terdapat sebelas bahasa kiasan yang digunakan oleh pencipta lagu, yaitu hiperbola sebanyak 31,3%, repetisi 25,4%, personifikasi 9,8%, metafora, simile, dan aliterasi 5,8%, onomatopoeia, ironi, dan idiom. 3,9%, dan terakhir citra dan pleonasme 1,9%. Selain itu, pencipta lagu juga menggunakan makna konotatif dan denotatif dalam ketiga lagu tersebut.

Kata Kunci: *Kiasan, Lirik Lagu, Konotatif, Denotatif.*

ABSTRACT

The motivation behind this review is to research analyzed the figurative language contained in three of Idina Menzel's songs, namely "Let It Go", "I Got My Love to Keep Me Warm" and "For The First Time in Forever". The objective of this study is to find out the type of figurative language used and the meaning represented by the figurative language in the three songs of Idina Menzel. The theoretical benefit of this study is that this study can be a reference to other researchers who do similar study. While practical benefits are divided into two, for students and teachers. For students, research may be useful to increase understanding and knowledge of figurative language; increase student literacy motivation, especially figurative language observation; and students become more creative and critical. For teachers, this research can be useful as a reference in learning, especially figurative language; gain new experiences in different learning situations; and maximize teacher satisfaction because students' language skills are increasing. This study is a descriptive qualitative approach. Results of study found that there were eleven figurative languages used by songwriters, namely hyperbole as much as 31.3%, repetition 25.4%, personification 9.8%, metaphor, simile, and alliteration 5.8%, onomatopoeia, irony, and idiom. 3.9%, and finally imagery and pleonasm 1.9%. In addition, the songwriter also uses connotative and denotative meanings in the three songs.

Keywords: *Figurative Language, Song Lyrics, Connotative, Denotative.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The song is an art through text that can be sung and accompanied by music. A song is an artistic creations related to vocal types, by linking melodies (Moeliono, 2003). A song is created by a songwriter to deliver the message or meaning the writer wants to say. In a song, a songwriter is like talking to the listener in various messages that he wants to convey, it can be attachment for others, government to relationships with other people (Hariyanto, 2017, p. 47). The writer of the song hopes that listeners can receive and understand the message through his song.

In songwriting, usually, the songwriter gives a unique color or impression to the listener. One of them is figurative language in song lyrics. Bonvillain (2003) says that the study of linguistics, specific words and expressions, reveals a person's ideas, beliefs and traits that are important to humans. According to Ibrahim, et al (2019, p. 119), Figurative language becomes necessary in song lyrics because songwriters can convey messages that show the beauty and uniqueness of the song to people who hear or read it. Looks or sounds like poetry uttered with a series of song structures and accompanied by music (Suka, Ginting; Jeremia, 2019). It will make the song will have a different yet unique meaning if translated and the hearer more attracted to hearing or reading that song.

If the listener is interested in a song, the listener will learn the vocabulary contained in the song. According to Ifadah (2012, p. 364), humans unconsciously store parts of the song in their brain. humans unconsciously store parts of the song in their brain. So that they often repeat,

imitating a small part of the song they have just heard. That's why, to improve students' English skills, songs can be used as a learning medium. Students can repeat the songs they hear and learn words that they do not know. The new vocabulary becomes easier to remember and can be used in appropriate situations. In addition, students can imitate the pronunciation and intonation of the words in the song. Thus, students' speaking and listening skills can improve.

However, the figurative language found in song lyrics can give listeners misunderstandings. Moreover, students sometimes literally translate words or sentences that contain figurative language. This misunderstanding can make the meaning or message in the song not conveyed properly to the listener. That's why the researcher hopes that this study can increase the interest and insight of listeners (such as students) about figurative language, especially those used in songs. So listeners or readers can enjoy the song while capturing the meaning expected by the songwriter. In addition, other researchers who are working on the same interest can use this research as a reference.

There have been many studies that have observed figurative language in songs, one of which is Ibrahim, et al (2019) research with the title: The Analysis of Figurative Language in "Endless Love" Song Lyric. The method used to investigate the lyric song is a descriptive method with a pure structuralism approach. Researchers get results as follows, repetition 36%, hyperbole 32%, metaphor 12%, pleonasm 8%, personification 4%, dispersonification 4%, and onomatopoeia 4%, accompanied by connotative and denotative meaning (Ibrahim et al., 2019, p. 130). These

results indicate that repetition is more dominant in the song "Endless Love".

This study has the title "The Analysis Of Figurative Language In Three Idina Menzel's Song Lyrics". The three songs that will be observed in this research are 'Let It Go', 'I Got My Love To Keep Me Warm', and 'For The First Time in Forever'. The three songs have never been studied in terms of analyzing figurative language. The researcher also found that the three songs have many figurative languages to study.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

Every research is generally analyzed using the right method or approach. The approach applied in this research is the descriptive qualitative method. According to Listiani (2015), descriptive analysis is a procedure that is described to investigate with the right method to portray an area/location, fact, and feature of the population systematically, factually, and properly. This approach is applied because this study will analyze the entire text lyrics of Idina Menzel's song to find the figurative language used. The songs that will be observed include 'Let It Go', 'I Got My Love To Keep Me Warm', and 'For The First Time in Forever'.

The subjects in this study were three song lyrics by Idina Menzel, namely 'Let It Go', 'I Got My Love To Keep Me Warm', and 'For The First Time in Forever'.

The primary instrument in this qualitative study is the human researcher to collect and analyze the data. According to Hariyanto (2017, p. 49), Human is the main instrument in the qualitative method to understand the meaning of events that humans receive through the people around them. Researchers directly examine the text obtained through the website <https://genius.com/>, because this website has uploaded various song lyrics up to music knowledge globally.

In collecting data, the researcher did the first time quoting the song's lyrics entitled "'Let It Go', 'I Got My Love To Keep Me Warm, and 'For The First Time in Forever' via the website <https://genius.com/>. The reason the researcher quoted the song lyrics was that the researcher wanted to find the figurative meaning implied in the song lyrics. Then, the researcher listened to the song and also read the entire lyrics. Next, the researcher identifies the types of figurative language found in the song lyrics and then makes specific notes as data. Finally, the researchers conducted data analysis.

In this study, each verse that has been collected by the researcher is immediately classified into the types of figurative language. The researcher also analyzed the connotation and denotation meaning of the three songs. Then, the researcher analyzed and explained the meaning of the song. To further support the explanation of the meaning of the data, researchers also looked at the background of making lyrics through relevant sources such as articles. After that, the researcher will determine the highest number of each type of figurative language used by the songwriter in the form of a percent. After finding the highest number, the researcher concludes.

According to Hulu, et al (2021, p. 321) As for the way researchers change the amount of figurative language into percent as follows:

$$x = \frac{f}{n} \times 100\%$$

Where:

X = percentage of the obtained figurative language

F = Frequency of each type of figurative language

N = The total number of all figurative language

According to Sugiyono (in (Mari'fah, 2014)), validity is a 'degree of accuracy' between information

originating from the object of study and the information reported by the research team. The validity used in the study is the triangulation technique. The triangulation technique is the examination of data from various sources in various ways and times (in (Mari'fah, 2014)). Meanwhile, according to H.B, Sutopo (2006) triangulation technique consists of several techniques, including: Data Triangulation, Researcher Triangulation, Methodological Triangulation, Theoretical Triangulation.

The triangulation technique used by researchers is a data triangulation technique which is also known as source triangulation. This technique is done by collecting data by trying to use various existing sources (H.B, 2006, p. 93) through text data and data collected from various sources that explain the figurative language in three Idina Menzel song lyrics.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

The analysis data shows figurative language and meaning found from song lyrics Let It Go, I Got My Love To Keep Me Warm, and For The First Time in Forever by Idina Menzel.

The table below shows the figurative language used in the song lyric.

Table 1. Lyric 'Let It Go' (Genius, 2013) and Kinds of Figurative Language

No	Lyric	Kinds of Figurative Language
1	The snow glows white on the mountain tonight	Hyperbole
2	A kingdom of isolation	Metaphor
3	The wind is howling like this swirling storm inside	Onomatopoeia, simile

4	Couldn't keep it in, heaven knows I've tried	Hyperbole
5	Don't let them in, don't let them see	Repetition
6	Conceal, don't feel, don't let them know	Repetition
7	Well, now they know	Irony
8	Let it go, let it go	Idiom, repetition
9	Let the storm rage on	Personification
10.	The cold never bothered me anyway	Personification
11.	It's funny how some distance makes everything seem small	Hyperbole
12	And the fears that once controlled me can't get to me at all	Personification
13	No right, no wrong, no rules for me	Repetition
14	I am one with the wind and sky	Metaphor
15	Here I stand and here I stay	Repetition
16	My power flurries through the air into the ground	Hyperbole
17	My soul is spiraling in frozen fractals all around	Hyperbole
18	And one thought crystallizes like an icy blast	Hyperbole, simile
19	I'm never going back, the past is in	Repetition

	the past	
20	When I'll rise like the break of dawn	Simile
21	That perfect girl is gone	Hyperbole
22	Here I stand in the light of day	Hyperbole

Table 2. Lyric 'I Got My Love to Keep Me Warm' (Genius, 2019) and Kinds of Figurative Language

No	Lyric	Kinds of Figurative Language
1	The snow is snowing and the wind it is blowing	Onomatopoeia
2	But I can weather the storm	Hyperbole
3	I've got my love to keep me warm	Personification
4	Just watch the icicles form	Imagery
5	Off with my overcoat Off with my gloves	Repetition
6	Who needs an overcoat I'm burning with love	Hyperbole
7	My heart's on fire and the flame grows higher	Hyperbole
8	The flame just leaps higher	Personification

Table 3. Lyric 'For The First Time in Forever' (Genius, 2020) and Kinds of Figurative Language

No	Lyric	Kinds of Figurative Language
1	Who knew we owned eight thousand salad plates?	Hyperbole
2	Why have a ballroom with no balls?	Irony
3	There'll be actual real live people	Pleonasm
4	'Cause for the first time in forever	Alliteration
5	There'll be music, there'll be light	Repetition
6	For the first time in forever	Alliteration
7	I'll be dancing through the night	Hyperbole
8	'Cause for the first time in forever	Alliteration
9	The picture of sophisticated grace	Metaphor
10	I wanna stuff some chocolate in my face	Idiom
11	But then we laugh and talk all evening	Hyperbole
12	There'll be	Hyperbole,

	magic, there'll be fun	Repetition
13	Don't let them in, don't let them see	Repetition
14	But it's only for today It's only for today	Repetition
15	It's agony to wait It's agony to wait	Repetition, Hyperbole
16	Conceal, don't feel, don't let them know	Repetition

Discussion

In the discussion phase, researchers will explain the application of figuratively used by the author and describe the values that the author will convey to the reader. The researcher will demonstrate a number of data from several types of figurative languages used by the author.

“Let It Go”

Here, the researcher describes and explains some of the data that uses figurative language in the song "Let It Go". Because this song adapts the lyrics exactly to the scene in the Frozen (2013) movie, the researcher will explain the meaning that is closely related to the Frozen (2013) movie scene and then give the overall meaning that the author wants to express to his readers.

1. The snow glows white on the mountain tonight

The figurative language used by the researcher is hyperbole because the author gives an overstatement on snow that can glow white. The meaning of shining that the author wants to convey can be understood if it is followed by the

second line, namely "Not a footprint to be seen". These two lines illustrate the situation in Elsa's character (Idina Menzel as voice-actress) at that time. Elsa was sad and lonely so she could only see the snow around her. She noticed it because her footprints were nowhere to be seen.

2. A kingdom of isolation

The metaphor is found in this line of the song because the author illustrates the mountain as representing a kingdom. The interesting thing about this line is that when Elsa's character sings the part "A kingdom of isolation", Elsa puts special emphasis on the word isolation so that it sounds ice(solation) (Genius, 2013). Elsa at that time isolated herself away from the kingdom of Arendelle built her castle with her magic and became a 'queen' for herself.

3. ‘The wind is howling like this swirling storm inside’

Onomatopoeia is found during this line as a result of it makes the reader will imagine the wind delineated within the song processing violently. there's additionally a figure of speech during this line, particularly "like this whirling storm inside" as a result of it provides the equivalent of howling wind as a whirling storm. we all know that Elsa's character is gloomy and lonely as a result of she has got to isolate herself aloof from her 'home'. The atmosphere was amplified by the incidental cyclone accompanying it was akin to her heart raging like a swirling storm.

4. ‘Don't let them in, don't let them see’

“Don't let them in, don't let them see” is a form of figurative language repetition. this line is a picture of Elsa's expectations. Elsa has been repeating those words since she was little because she is afraid of hurting the people who are precious to her, namely Anna and also the people of Arendlle. She must remember the sentence well so that she will act as a "good girl" as his oldsters suggested him and not hurt anyone. This

line additionally reminds the explanation why Elsa ne'er open the door for anna. Elsa once accidentally hurt anna as a little. For Anna's sake, her reminiscences of the incident in addition because the memory of Elsa's power were erased. Elsa finally locks herself in her area so that anna ne'er enters and finds out that she has powers.

5. Well, now they know.

The researcher found that this line is a figurative language irony. The reason is that Elsa's expectation expressed in the previous line is contrary to reality. The people of Arendelle and Anna have learned of Elsa's ice magic. This line is displayed by Elsa with a disappointed and resigned expression to reality while throwing away the gloves she usually uses to hide her magic.

6. Let it go, let it go

In this sentence, the author uses figurative language idiom and repetition. The meaning of letting it go is to forget or ignore something (Merriam-Webster, n.d.). This idiom is repeated by the author to emphasize how Elsa allows the harsh reality she has experienced which has been implied since the beginning of the song. She could no longer endure the magic she had long ago, turned away at this moment, and didn't care about the judgment of those who called him a dangerous monster.

7. Let the storm rage on

The author uses personification figurative language in this line. The author seems to liken the storm that can rage like humans. Elsa is a person who has ice magic. The storm here is described as his passionate strength because she has been hidden for so long and is finally free to release him.

8. When I'll rise like the break of dawn

In the line "...I'll rise like the break of dawn" there is simile figurative language because the author gives a resemblance to how someone rises like the dawn. When these lyrics are sung, Elsa transforms her dress design into a

design like an ice queen. This symbolizes that she will also transform into a new person, namely Elsa who has the power of ice. like dawn after night, Elsa will also rise from her past.

Overall, this song illustrates that sometimes strengths and weaknesses have subtle differences. Strengths can be weaknesses, while weaknesses can become strengths. Therefore, it is important to accept these two things by forgiving one's failures, not imposing what cannot be changed, exploring existing potential, and daring to express oneself even if it is not following the views of others.

"I Got My Love to Keep Me Warm"

Here, the researcher describes and explains some of the data that uses figurative language in the song "I Got My Love to Keep Me Warm". The researcher also explained the implied meaning of the song.

1. The snow is snowing and the wind it is blowing

The researcher finds that the figurative language used by the writer in this line is onomatopoeia. The author seems to describe the original sound of the object in question, in this case, the sound of snow falling and the sound of the wind blowing. In this line, in the video clip, Idina Menzel is holding an object like fire, while the person beside her freezes into a statue. This shows that it is the snow and wind that freezes them. While Idina Menzel did not, because of the fire object.

This song was released together with Idina Menzel's music album entitled Christmas: A Season of Love, so it is not surprising that the lyrics of the song are closely related to snow and wind (storm) because Christmas is often synonymous with these things.

The snow and wind that are combined in the lyrics can describe the storms of life, such as problems, bad

events, or unpleasant events that happen to someone.

2. But I can weather the storm

In the next line, the writer uses hyperbole figurative language, because "weather" has the meaning of the ability to overcome or endure so that it gives the impression of exaggerating the literal meaning of the sentence. "storm" as explained in the previous lyric (number 1), describes the problems of life that make a person chaotic, messy and gloomy. However, Idina Menzel said that these things can be overcome or faced. While the people around Idina Menzel don't seem to be able to get through it, so they are 'frozen' in the chaos of life's problems.

3. I've got my love to keep me warm

This line shows that the author uses personification figurative language, which likens an inanimate object as if it were carrying out human activities or traits. These lyrics are the reason why Idina Menzel can overcome the 'storm' of her life, namely the existence of love in her. Love has a fairly broad meaning, such as a form of attention, passion, kindness to sacrifice. Love can't give warmth in theory, but it's feelings and souls that feel it, both for the giver and the recipient of love. Therefore, in the video clip, Idina Menzel shares "fire" (which means love) with those frozen around her. After that, they all smiled, rejoiced, and danced together with Idina.

4. Just watch the icicles form

The author uses imagery figurative language in this lyric, because of the sense of sight involved so that listeners can imagine what the author is saying. Icicles are a form of ice formed from droplets that flow and then freeze. Just as ice is a picture of life's problems, so problems are formed from small things that we may see as trivial or not problematic for us but are not good to ignore.

5. Off with my overcoat Off with my gloves

The author uses figurative language in the lyrics "Off with my overcoat Off with my gloves" is repetition because of the repetition of the phrase in the sentence, namely "off with my ...". The author emphasizes that because of the love that warms him, he no longer needs to use coats and gloves. When we have love, sometimes we have enough. The love in question may come from people who are valuable to us, the kindness we pass on to others, or love for the job, hobby we are currently doing, etc.

“For the First Time in Forever”

Here, the researcher describes and explains some of the data that uses figurative language in the song "For the First Time in Forever". This song is sung to match the lyrics exactly to the scene in the movie Frozen (2013). Therefore, the researcher will explain the meaning that is closely related to the Frozen (2013) movie scene and then give the overall meaning that the author wants to convey to his readers.

1. Who knew we owned eight thousand salad plates?

In this line, the writer uses hyperbole, because the writer gives an exaggerated impression that there are eight thousand salad plates, but does not know whether there are eight thousand or not. These lyrics illustrate that Anna and Elsa (Idina Menzel as voice-actress) do not have any long-term relationship with anyone other than those in the palace. So when Anna performed these lyrics, Anna, who was very excited to start the coronation party, was still not used to such a luxurious scene even though she was a royal child.

2. Why have a ballroom with no balls?

The researcher found that this statement uses irony figurative language because a dance hall should be used for dancing, but this sentence gives the opposite reality. This line of the song reveals that during Anna and Elsa's

isolation, there was no party at all. No party, no dancing.

3. There'll be actual real live people

Pleonasm is found in this line of the song. The author adds information that does not need to be added, namely actual and real-live, both have the same meaning. Anna is by nature a very energetic person, but because of the years of isolation and Elsa who shut herself off from her, she has no one to talk to. She was certainly lonely and alone. But with the coronation party, she was able to meet a lot of new people.

4. 'Cause for the first time in forever

In the sentence "...for the first time in forever", the writer uses alliteration figurative language, because of the repetition of the same consonant sound in several words. This lyric has the meaning that Elsa's coronation day is the first day for Anna to interact and party with many people after the palace was closed for several years.

5. There'll be music, there'll be light

In this line, the researcher finds that the figurative language used is repetition, because there is the repetition of words in one sentence, namely "there'll ..". This sentence reinforces how Anna felt when the coronation day arrived. He is very excited and happy. The "music" in question is a dance party that will be held in their kingdom. While the "light" here is not bright literally, but the atmosphere changes from a very gloomy and lonely atmosphere to one that is cheerful and pleasant.

Overall, this song illustrates that isolating oneself (whether done by others or oneself) is not good for one's social and mental development. Anna in the song "For the First Time in Forever" may look upbeat and cheerful, but it's clear that every lyric in this song expresses her loneliness and doesn't know anything outside of her palace. Meanwhile, Elsa is tormented by having to keep her magic a secret and is constantly haunted by the fear that her

magic will be discovered. Even though it's for the good of both of them, excessive self-isolation is also not the right choice.

This song describes how life has a different side to each person. Some are happy, some are sad. Some have failed. There is also a feeling of victory, and so on. Life is like that. However, this is not always the case, if there is effort, hope, and the will to face life

At this stage, the researcher also determines the highest number of each figurative language. The following is the total percentage of figurative language types found.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research in finding figurative language in Idina Menzel's songs, namely "Let It Go", "I Got My Love to Keep Me Warm" and "For The First Time in Forever", there are eleven (11) figurative languages used by the songwriters. , namely hyperbole as much as 31.3%, repetition 25.4%, personification 9.8%, metaphor, simile and alliteration 5.8%, onomatopoeia, irony and idiom 3.9%, and finally imagery and pleonasm 1.9%. The figurative language of hyperbole tends to be used the most in Idina Menzel's songs to give a strong impression or emphasis on something by exaggerating the statement so that it adds to the influence of the statement. The lyrics of these three songs, they have denotative and connotative meanings so that they strengthen the message the author wants to convey and make these three songs memorable for the readers.

For students of English education, it is important to learn the figurative language contained in songs because apart from being able to increase vocabulary, they can understand the broader meaning of a song. Students can follow the instructions used by researchers to analyze figurative language. For teachers, analyzing

figurative language in songs can be an interesting material for students in learning English. Research can be used and developed in the teaching and learning process. As for other researchers, studying this research can add new perspectives as well as increase knowledge about the use of figurative language in songs.

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