



Figurative Language Found on Joe Biden's Victory Speech in Wilmington

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Abstract This research was aimed to describe the types and the interpretation meanings of figurative languages found on Joe Biden's Victory Speech in Wilmington. This research was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. The subject of this research was the Joe Biden's speech text in Wilmington. The researcher used two instruments namely: observation field note and table. The results showed There were 9 types of figurative language used in the speech delivered by Joe Biden. Based on the results findings as seen in the table above, those classification of figurative meaning are: metaphor containing 1 datum (1.81%), simile containing 9 data (16.36%), symbol containing 4 data (7.27%), personification containing 5 data (9.09%), synecdoche containing 7 data (12.73%), metonymy containing 5 data (9.09%), allegory containing 1 datum (1.81%), hyperbole containing 3 data (5.45%) and irony containing 20 data (36.36%). Based on the data examined, there were 55 data found on Biden's speech consisting figurative language. Furthermore, the researcher describes the interpretation meanings of figurative language based on the data findings supported by Reaske (1996)'s theory and related theories about figurative language. There are 9 types of figurative language including: metaphor, simile, symbol, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, allegory, hyperbole and irony.

Keyword: *figurative language, interpretation meaning, speech*

Abstrak Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan jenis dan makna interpretasi bahasa kiasan yang terdapat pada Pidato Kemenangan Joe Biden di Wilmington. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Subjek penelitian ini adalah teks pidato Joe Biden di Wilmington. Peneliti menggunakan dua instrumen yaitu: catatan lapangan observasi dan tabel. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan Ada 9 jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam pidato yang disampaikan oleh Joe Biden. Berdasarkan hasil temuan seperti terlihat pada tabel di atas, klasifikasi makna kiasan tersebut adalah: metafora yang mengandung 1 datum (1,81%), simile yang mengandung 9 data (16,36%), simbol yang mengandung 4 data (7,27%), personifikasi yang mengandung 5 data. (9,09%), sinekdoke yang mengandung 7 data (12,73%), metonimi yang mengandung 5 data (9,09%), alegori yang mengandung 1 datum (1,81%), hiperbola yang mengandung 3 data (5,45%) dan ironi yang mengandung 20 data (36,36%). Berdasarkan data yang diteliti, terdapat 55 data yang ditemukan pada tuturan Biden yang terdiri dari bahasa kiasan. Selanjutnya, peneliti menjelaskan interpretasi

makna bahasa kiasan berdasarkan temuan data yang didukung oleh teori Reaske (1996) dan teori terkait tentang bahasa kiasan. Ada 9 jenis majas antara lain: metafora, simile, simbol, personifikasi, sinekdoke, metonimi, alegori, hiperbola, dan ironi.

Kata kunci: *bahasa kiasan, interpretasi makna, tuturan*

INTRODUCTION

The scope of literature has been undeniably developing which has now covered the works either written or spoken works. Spiller in Nuriadi (2016, p. 2) argued literature is described as a portrait and record of certain nation's experiences either imaginative or unimaginative works, either using beautiful language or ordinary language, either using verbal language or nonverbal language or visual language. Due to its large scope, literature of course deals with thoughts, rationality, logic, vision, mission, principles of life, besides applying the emotion and imagination. Dealing with the explanations above, it is argued that interpretation of meaning towards the literary works is important.

One of the ways to interpret the meanings used in the literary works is semantics. Through semantics analysis, a related point is that one can know a language effortlessly well without knowing its history. When people think about word meanings, definitions in dictionaries quickly come to mind and they realize that uncertain about a word's meaning can be looked up in a dictionary. This means that it is important to be clear about the similarities and differences between the aspects of meaning that interest linguists (Yule, in Hutasoit, 2016, p. 37). It is also explained that there are a number of ways in expressing ideas which deviate from semantic conventions expressed through the use of figurative language.

Figurative language is using words to imply other meanings and it is a kind of language style that used to describe and expresses feelings. Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. Figurative language is the essential part in literature in order to get the implicit meaning of language being used. Moreover, to know the meaning of figurative language we need to use our imagination to imagine what the words are said or what the words refer to (Saputri, 2014, p. 16). Moreover, figurative language is known as a literary device used to produce a special effect or feeling by making some types of interesting or creative comparison. It requires the readers to use their imagination to figure out the author's meaning and/or the speaker's meaning such as in the form of speech.

Speech is an activity of public speaking or giving speeches to express the speaker's opinions or gives an idea about something. The speech is usually delivered by who gives speeches and statements of a thing / event that is important and should be discussed (Tambunan&Sinambela, 2018, p. 2). This study will be conducted on the analyzing the figurative language in the speech delivered by Joe Biden on his victory speech at Wilmington. Joe Biden, byname of Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr., (born November 20, 1942, Scranton, Pennsylvania, U.S.), the 46th president of the United States (2021– present) and the 47th vice president of the United States (2009–17) in the Democratic administration of President Barack Obama. He previously represented Delaware in the U.S. Senate (1973–2009) (Editors, 2021). Furthermore, Biden's speech on his victory has a great impact in many sectors such as economic, politic, education, technology and so forth. So, his speech is interesting to be analyzed especially in the term of figurative language.

There are several main reasons of using figurative language of speech as a main discussion in this study. First, figurative language affords readers imaginative pleasure of literary works. Second, it is a way of bringing additional imagery, making the abstract concrete, making literary works more sensuous. The third, figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise simply informative statements and conveying attitudes along with information. In getting a deep understanding the messages behind every word, phrase or sentence of the speech, the audiences are required to have the knowledge of how the languages are usually used in literary works. Based on the explanations above, the researcher conducted a study entitled: "*Figurative Language Found on Joe Biden's Victory Speech in Wilmington*" that has two objectives of the study as follows: (1) To describe types of figurative languages found in the Joe Biden's speech in Wilmington. And (2) To describe the interpretation meanings of the figurative language used in the Joe Biden's speech in Wilmington.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Figurative Language

Figurative language is sequences of standard words that are used by the user of language, to achieve the meaning or special effects. Figurative language is a manner of expression in which words are used out of their literal meaning or out of their ordinary use in order to add beauty or emotional intensity by comparing or identifying one thing with another that has a meaning familiar to the reader. In addition, figurative languages are the language or expressions used verbally in order to describe figure out one intention, idea, or message of one speaker (Nuriadi 2016, p. 162). Figurative language offers some interesting ways to convey language using extra language style and the selection of words in literacy works. By using chosen language style in figurative language, the reader will be interested to read the works and the try to find the meaning of it. There are many types of figurative language which is very interesting to learning. According to Reaske (1996) figurative language has classified into nine types of figurative meaning namely: hyperbole, simile, metaphor, irony, litotes, metonymy, synecdoche, alliteration, and allusion.

Interpretation Meaning

Studying meaning is studying how to produce the sentence which can be understood. In consonance with Hurford&Heasley (2007, p. 3), states the word meaning can be applied to people who use language especially for the speakers or authors in roughly the sense of intending, and it can be applied to words and sentences in a different sense, roughly expressed as “be equivalent to”. The term meaning is simply derived from the word mean. The word ‘meaning’ has a number of definitions as suggested by semanticist, for instance, Leech (in Saputri, 2014: 33) points out the three facts of meaning namely: (1). Meaning that involves the speaker’s intention to transfer a certain meaning that may or may not be evident from the message itself. (2). Interpretation by the hearer that is likely to depend on the context. (3). Meaning in the sense of something which is performed rather than something that exists is static way. It involves action (the speaker produces and effects on the hearer) and the interaction (the meaning being negotiated between the speaker and the hearer on the basis of their mutual language). It is clear that, semantics meaning depends on the grammatical structure of the sentence when the speakers say in order to express their ideas, minds and feelings.

Speech

Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving and processing information. The form and meaning of speaking are dependent on the context in which follows, including the participants themselves, their collective experiences, the physical environment, and the purposes for speaking. Speaking is often spontaneous activity evolving such as speech (Brown, 1994; Burns & Joyce, 1997). Rebecca Hughes in Munir, 2014, p. 45), a speech is primarily an oral process which takes place through the dimension of time in a strictly linear manner. It can either be written or spoken. According to Harold Barret (1973: 4), a speech is sighted in two different viewpoints as a societal act and as a practice of communication; the major concern of a speech is to deliver some messages to the reader or audience. The aspects to be considered when delivering a speech are the audience, the occasion, the subject and writing techniques.

METHOD

Research Design

This study was conducted by the aims to describe the types of figurative language and the interpretation meanings found on the Joe Biden’s speech in Wilmington. The method applied in this study was descriptive qualitative method for implementing this study because this study is intended

to describe the types of figurative language and the interpretation meanings found on speech delivered by Joe Biden in the form of description. This approach is appropriate for exploring a research problem; when a complex, detailed understanding is needed; when a researcher want to write in a literary, flexible style; and when the researcher seeks to understand the context or setting of participants.” Thus, based on the statement, the researcher uses qualitative approach to investigate the problem in this study (Creswell & Poth, 2017).

Research Instrument

The primary instrument of this study was the researcher herself because this study is appropriate to descriptive qualitative research. One of the characteristics of qualitative research is that the research mainly uses human being or the researcher himself/herself as the main instrument of the research conducted (Mulyana, 2001; in Widyanti, 2013, p. 40). Moreover, in line with Moleong (2010, p. 121), the researcher became the designer, data collector, analyst, interpreter, and also result reporter of the research in the research conducted.

Moreover, in order to answer the two research questions consisting the types of figurative language and the interpretation meanings found in speech uttered by Joe Biden, this study was supported by the secondary instrument called documentation and table. Documentation was done by the researcher to gain the data by collecting the types of figurative speech and their interpretation meanings. Meanwhile, the table was used in this study in order to classify and analyze the types of figurative language based on the data examined which are found on Joe Biden’s speech at Wilmington.

Source of Data and Data

The source of data in the study is object from which the data can be obtained and the data refers to the information collected which is done by the researcher in conducting the study (Arikunto, 2010, p. 129). The source of data in this study was the speech text of Joe Biden in Wilmington. Meanwhile, the data of this study were all of the words, phrases and sentences containing of figurative language found on Joe Biden’s speech.

Data Collection Procedures

Some steps of collecting the data in this study are taken in order to find types of figurative language and gain the interpretation meanings applied in the data examined. First, browsing the speech of Joe Biden. Second, reading and understanding the speech delivered by Joe Biden. Third, identifying out all the words, phrases and sentences containing figurative languages found in the data of this study. Then, classifying the data based on the types of figurative language used in the data analyzed and describing them into their interpretation meanings. Lastly, drawing the conclusion based on the data findings.

Data Analysis

In this part of discussion, the researcher described the primary steps in order to analyze the data of this study involving identification, classification, interpretation, and drawing the conclusion. First, in identification step, the researcher identified the figurative languages found on Joe Biden’s speech by recognizing the characteristics of figurative languages supported by theories of figurative Language by Frost (2001; as cited in Prakasiwi, 2015). All of figurative languages identified by researcher will be written on observation field note. Furthermore, the second step was classification the databased on the types of figurative languages used. Then, interpretation the data by describing the interpretation meaning of figurative languages found on Joe Biden’s speech as the data examined which was supported by some related theories and previous studies applied. After that, researcher

explained the interpretation meanings with the rich description. Lastly, the researcher drew the conclusion based on the data findings in this study conducted.

RESULTS FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher discussed the types of figurative language and the interpretation meanings used in the speech delivered by Joe Biden in Wilmington which were examined based on Reaske (1996) theory and interpretation by related some previous studies. In line with Reaske (1996), figurative language is generally classified as the figurative meaning into nine types namely: metaphor, simile, symbol, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, allegory, hyperbole and irony. Meanwhile, the interpretation meaning is described as the meaning of the words according to the situation in which they are used by assuming that different situation may provide different meaning through the sentences implemented (Saputri, 2014).

Types of Figurative Language used in the Joe Biden's Speech

Metaphor

Metaphor is categorized as one of the figurative languages which comparing one thing to another directly (Peter, 2012). It can be argued that metaphor is a comparison to the objects focusing on the implicit meanings through the language used. There was 1 datum (1.81%) found in this study referring to metaphor applied on the speech delivered by Biden. The datum was "*The American story is about the slow, yet steady widening of opportunity.*"

Simile

Simile is one of the types of figurative language which comparing the two quite different things to be similar in at least one specification of them (Barnhart, 1995: 118). In this study conducted that focusing on the types of figurative language, the researcher found the type of simile as figurative language on the speech based on the data examined. There were 9 data (16.36%) found namely: "*To make progress, we must stop treating our opponents as our enemy.*"; "*We are not enemies. We are Americans.*"; "*I ran as a proud Democrat.*"; "*I will work as hard for those who didn't vote for me as (for) those who did.*"; "*And I call on the Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike, to make that choice with me.*"; "*Our nation is shaped by the constant battle between our better angels and our darkest impulses.*"; "*I believe at our best America is a beacon for the globe.*"; "*That in America everyone should be given the opportunity to go as far as their dreams and God-given ability will take them.*"; and "*Make you to shine like the sun*"

Symbol

Symbol equals to something with something else, whether it is animals, objects, plants, and other symbols. In symbolic, a thing that can be compared to is usually directly replaced with a parable in that purpose. Symbols vary in the degree of identification and definition gave them by their authors (Perrine, 1992:38). In this study, the classification of symbol was found four data (7.27%) used. They are: "*Who doesn't see red and blue states, but a United States.*"; "*To rebuild the backbone of the nation — the middle class.*"; "*And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,*"; and "*And now, together — on eagle's wings — we embark on the work that God and history have called upon us to do.*"

Personification

Based on table 4.1, it showed that there were 5 data (9.09%) classified into the types of figurative language used in the speech. Personification is identified as means of giving human characteristics to an object (Saputri, 2014, p. 42). Actually, personification is the transfer of human characteristic to an object, animal, or abstract idea. In this study, the type of personification was found

5 data used. They were: *“I sought this office to restore the soul of America.”*; *“The Bible tells us that to everything there is a season — a time to build, a time to reap, a time to sow. And a time to heal.”*; *“This is the time to heal in America.”*; *“It will be constructed out of compassion, empathy, and concern.”*; and *“Bear you on the breath of dawn.”*

Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a part of figurative language representing the whole or it may use a whole to represent a part. The entity refers to as a container of constituents and one of these constituents is being used to represent the entire entity as a whole (Lakoff: 1980 in Fitriatunnas, 2017, p. 22). Based on the data examined, there were 7 data (12.73%) classified into synecdoche. They were: *“A victory for “We the People.”*; *“We have won with the most votes ever cast for a presidential ticket in the history of this nation — 74 million.”*; *“I would not be here without the love and tireless support of Jill, Hunter, Ashley, all of our grandchildren and their spouses, and all our family.”*; *“Kamala, Doug — like it or not — you’re family.”*; *“You deserve a special thanks from this nation.”*; *“The-African-American community stood up again for me. They always have my back, and I’ll have yours.”*; and *“I’ve lost a couple of elections myself.”*

Metonymy

Metonymy is a comparison of meaning in which the name of one object or idea is substituted for that of another closely associated with it (Pardede, 2008; in Widyanti, 2013, p. 15). There were 5 data (9.09%) found as the classification of the figurative language called metonymy in the data examined as the results findings and were described as follow: *“My fellow Americans, the people of this nation have spoken.”*; *“To make America respected around the world again, and to unite us here at home.”*; *“And I will be honored to be serving with a fantastic vice president — Kamala Harris — who will make history as the first woman, first Black woman, first woman of South Asian descent, and first daughter of immigrants ever elected to national office in this country.”*; *“Tonight, the whole world is watching America.”*; and *“I’ve always believed we can define America in one word: Possibilities.”*

Allegory

Allegory is a special kind of comparison which inviting the readers or listeners into the context of discussion something from his/her experiences such as, references to a place, a person, or something that happened. Furthermore, it is called as another word reference. Based on the explanation mentioned, it can be said that allegory is a brief reference to a person, place or event which will be known by the readers which allows the writer, the speaker or the poet a compression of ideas. The following datum was found as allegory in the speech delivered by Joe Biden: *“That plan will be built on a bedrock of science.”*

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is identified as the figurative speech of overstatement in the comparison (Saputri, 2014). In addition, hyperbole usually deliberate and not meant to be taken literally through the language used in literature works. In this study, the researcher identified among the data examined that there are 3 data (5.45%) identified as hyperbole specification such as: *“And who will work with all my heart to win the confidence of the whole people.”*; *“Our nation is shaped by the constant battle between our better angels and our darkest impulses.”*; and *“My heart goes out to each and every one of you.”*

Irony

Irony is described as the type of figurative meaning as a comparison by taking place when the opposite of what a person intended to do or expected to come about (McArthur, 1992). Based on the results findings in this study, there are 20 data (36.36%) found as irony. The three data found were assumed as irony regarding that the perceived notion of an incongruity between what is said and what is meant, or between an understanding or expectation of a representativeness and what actually occurs were delivered by Joe Biden. Those are “*They have delivered us a clear victory. A convincing victory.*”; “*I am humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me.*”; “*I pledge to be a president who seeks not to divide, but to unify.*”; “*She has dedicated her life to education, but teaching isn’t just what she does — it’s who she is.*”; “*It’s long overdue, and we’re reminded tonight of all those who fought so hard for so many years to make this happen.*”; “*I am proud of the campaign we built and ran.*”; “*And to those who voted for President Trump, I understand your disappointment tonight.*”; “*It’s time to put away the harsh rhetoric.*”; “*The battle to restore decency, defend democracy, and give everybody in this country a fair shot.*”

The Interpretation Meaning used in the Joe Biden’s Speech

Metaphor

Based on the results findings of this study, the researcher found 1 datum classified as metaphor on Biden’s speech. In addition, metaphor, one of the types of figurative meanings, is termed as a comparison between two things by saying one thing to another about the intended meanings in which the language attempted (Peter, 2012). The datum found as metaphor was presented in the description as: “The American story is about the slow, yet steady widening of opportunity.” The datum showed that the phrase ‘*about the slow*’ is an implicit meaning as the condition in America that is happened in the time the speech delivered. Meanwhile, the expression of ‘*yet steady widening of opportunity*’ referring to the expression requested by Biden as a chance to overcome the condition happened. It is implied that American could change that condition into a better one when Biden leads the government of America.

Simile

There were 9 data identified as simile in this study. Simile is known as a comparison between two different things by using the similarity of the objects being compared (Saputri, 2014). Based on the results findings, the researcher presented all of the data categorized as the simile as follow: “*To make progress, we must stop treating our opponents as our enemy.*” Biden’s statement was assumed in order to make progress, the people of the United States of America must avoid considering their opponents as enemies. It was added by Biden on his statement “*We are not enemies. We are Americans.*” It is argued that American is one. More than just words are required to overcome these issues, to restore the soul of America, and to ensure the country’s long-term survival. It necessitates the most elusive of all qualities in a democratic society: unity.

Symbol

Symbols are used to represent anything in relation to something else, whether they are animals, objects, plants, or any other type of symbol. In symbolic representation, an item that can be compared to is usually directly replaced with a parable for the purpose of comparison. Symbols differ in the degree to which they are recognized and defined by the writers of the symbols (Perrine, 1992:38). In this investigation, four data (7.27%) were discovered to be utilized in the classification of the symbol. They are: “*Who doesn’t see red and blue states, but a United States.*”; “*To rebuild the backbone of the nation — the middle class.*”; “*And He will raise you up on eagle’s wings.*”; and “*And*

now, together — on eagle’s wings — we embark on the work that God and history have called upon us to do.” If it is read properly, it is identified where the president uses diction which is meant to reference differences that may have occurred so far, both guerrilla and those seen in the big media, namely diction in the section “Who doesn’t see red and blue states, only sees the United States.” One of the word choices in the sentence is “red and blue” which is identified as a connotative diction which reflects the meaning of being divided and separated as a nation.

Personification

Personification, as a figurative speech, is known as a comparison of meaning by giving human characteristics to an object, an animal, or an abstract idea which found in the language used by a speaker or an author of literature work (Saputri, 2014). The researcher found some data related to personification which are mentioned as follow: “I sought this office to restore the soul of America.”; “The Bible tells us that to everything there is a season — a time to build, a time to reap, a time to sow. And a time to heal.” And “This is the time to heal in America.”

Based on the data above, the statement of *‘I sought this office to restore the soul of America.’* had the interpretation meaning it was a day of history and optimism, of regeneration and determination. With each passing year, America has been put through a new crucible, and America has proven itself up to the challenge. Meanwhile, the two statements of *“The Bible tells us that to everything there is a season — a time to build, a time to reap, a time to sow. And a time to heal.”* and *“This is the time to heal in America.”* had meanings of The United States has once again learned that democracy is valuable, democracy is fragile, and, at this hour, democracy has triumphed. So, on this holy ground, where violence only a few days ago threatened to shake the very foundations of the Constitution, people gather together as one nation under God - indivisible - to carry out the peaceful transfer of power.

Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a part of figurative language that represents the entire, or it can be used to express the whole by using a whole. In this case, the entity is described as a container of constituents, with one of these constituents serving as a representation for the complete entity as a unit of analysis (Lakoff: 1980 in Fitriatunnas, 2017, p. 22). Based on the data examined, there were 7 data (12.73%) classified into synecdoche. They were: *“A victory for ‘We the People.’; ‘We have won with the most votes ever cast for a presidential ticket in the history of this nation — 74 million.’* The data had interpretation meanings as Joe Biden was delighted and touched by the commitment that the American people have given in him and in Vice President-elect Harris, and he expressed his gratitude to them. In the midst of enormous challenges, a record number of Americans went to the polls to vote. Demonstrating once more that democracy is alive and well in the United States of America.

The following data were *“I would not be here without the love and tireless support of Jill, Hunter, Ashley, all of our grandchildren and their spouses, and all our family.”; “Kamala, Doug — like it or not — You’re family.”; “You deserve a special thanks from this nation.”; “The-African-American community stood up again for me. They always have my back, and I’ll have yours.”; and “I’ve lost a couple of elections myself.”* A term that describes or might reinforce a statement as a mood or scenario can be classified in an abstract diction. In view of the phrase “tireless support”, the attribute is found in “giving full” to describe the state of the word before it that always struggles in any situation, and in addition to that the “support” is also the abstractness in this phrase that may carry the types of personal information and contain the words so as to influence the information.

Metonymy

Metonymy is a comparison of meaning in which the name of one object or idea is substituted for that of another closely associated with it (Pardede, 2008; in Widyanti, 2013, p. 15). There were 5 data (9.09%) found as the classification of the figurative language called metonymy in the data examined as the results findings and were described as follow: *“My fellow Americans, the people of this nation have spoken.”* Joe brings the opportunity to show his highest position as President-elect of the United States, but still considers all Americans as “fellows” with the hope that in the future they will continue to be together in matters of citizenship.

Allegory

Allegory is a particular type of comparison that invites readers or listeners to talk about something from their experiences such as references to a place, a person or something. It is also called as another reference word. On the basis of that explanation, it can be claimed that allegory is a short reference to a person, place or event, known to the readers and which permits a compression of thoughts by the writer, the speaker or the poet. The following data were found in Joe Biden’s speech as an allegory: *“That plan will be built on a bedrock of science.”*

That particular diction that catches the researcher's eye and is in agreement with the research requirements can be discovered in a sentence before the concluding sentence, in the word *“bedrock”*, which has a referential meaning. The literal meaning of this phrase refers to the bedrock that may be found in the soil and the land system, as well as the science of soil and rock formation. As a result, the speaker refers to the word as an abbreviated version of the essential meaning. It is intended to be made with a concept based on precise understanding of the situation in which it is being used if it is related to the situation in which it is used in the next word.

Hyperbole

It is a comparison of meaning for exaggeration when something is described as larger, greater, or more extreme than it actually is without the intent to deceive (Leech, 1969; in Saputri, 2014). Furthermore, the overstatement is not intended to be taken literally; rather, it is employed as a technique of underlining the veracity of a statement in the context in which it is being used. Biden employed hyperbole throughout his remarks, as follow: *“And who will work with all my heart to win the confidence of the whole people.”*; *“Our nation is shaped by the constant battle between our better angels and our darkest impulses.”*; *“My heart goes out to each and every one of you.”*. The importance of this word is so important that the speaker emphasizes it twice to show the validity of the power of an abstract word. The word *“confidence”* means not only a form of self-confidence but also a form of power derived from those who support them to a considered position in the country. That is the case if you look at the context in the sentence. It can be realized that the diction chosen is *“better angels and our darkest impulses”* which clearly identifies the good and bad sides of a person or group. The word *“angels”* was chosen as a representation of goodness while *“impulses”*, which were not even in line with the comparison, was chosen to represent badness. Henceforth the sentence is filled with a context that is in line with the victory of the good side earlier. It is indeed connotative diction often carries a complex interpretation.

Irony

Irony is defined as the type of figurative meaning that occurs when the absolute opposite of what a person wanted to do or expected to happen occurs. It is used to make a comparison (McArthur, 1992). According to the findings of this investigation, there are 20 data points (36.36 percent) that can be classified as ironic. Joe Biden delivered the three data points that were interpreted as irony,

namely, the perceived notion of incongruity between what is said and what is meant, or between an understanding or expectation of representativeness and what actually occurs, and these three data points were delivered as irony. Those are “*They have delivered us a clear victory. A convincing victory.*” It is explained in this sentence without any elaboration of meaning and complicated words, this sentence reaches the mind of the audience with the authenticity of meaning in every word. In addition to the word “victory” which is indeed denotative, it can be seen clearly that each diction in the sentence represents itself as each original word and is used for the actual context, so that its strengths are well up to the speaker’s intention.

“*I am humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me.*”; “*I pledge to be a president who seeks not to divide, but to unify.*”; “*She has dedicated her life to education, but teaching isn’t just what she does — it’s who she is.*”; “*It’s long overdue, and we’re reminded tonight of all those who fought so hard for so many years to make this happen.*”; “*I am proud of the campaign we built and ran.*” This basis is the reason why this country is good and can run and do all things related to national affairs and interests. The researcher considers the use of this kind of diction is very common to build closeness and confidence among fellow language users because it comes from references and common assumptions around them. Apart from representing the basic meaning and reasons for the establishment of an institution, this diction also involves a meaning similar to the place of origin of a construction, in which this entity takes the form of a nation.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion on this study described on the former chapter, the result of the first research question consisted of the types of figurative language that were discovered in Joe Biden’s speech. There were 9 types of figurative language used in the speech delivered by Joe Biden. Based on the results findings as seen in the table above, those classification of figurative meaning are: metaphor containing 1 datum (1.81%), simile containing 9 data (16.36%), symbol containing 4 data (7.27%), personification containing 5 data (9.09%), synecdoche containing 7 data (12.73%), metonymy containing 5 data (9.09%), allegory containing 1 datum (1.81%), hyperbole containing 3 data (5.45%) and irony containing 20 data (36.36%). Based on the data examined, there were 55 data found on Biden’s speech consisting figurative language.

Moreover, the interpretation meaning refers to a meaning of words, phrases and/or sentences based on the situations applied through the language used in which the different situations also make different meaning as the interpretation used (Leech, 1969 in Saputri, 2014). Furthermore, the researcher describes the interpretation meanings of figurative language based on the data findings supported by Reaske (1996)’s theory and related theories about figurative language. There are 9 types of figurative language including: metaphor, simile, symbol, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, allegory, hyperbole and irony.

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