

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the background of research, research questions, research objective, significances of research, the definition of key term and organization of writing.

### 1.1 Background

Figurative language is an expression of thought by using language; it is used to create some effects of theme in literary work. Commonly, figurative language is a form of rhetoric meaning that gives imaginative feeling for readers. According to Cruse (2006: 63), figurative language is related to figure of speech. Many figures of speech are recognized in the study of rhetoric, but the main ones can be categorized such as: euphemism, hyperbole, irony, metaphor, metonymy, simile, and understatement (litotes).

Commonly, figurative language is used in several texts. One of them is a song. A song is an interesting way to entertain people usually written by using beautiful and nice words. The languages or words in the song are used a specific way because it made to give different interpretation as what people think. According to Lazar (2003: 12), all these forms of figurative language or metaphorical language have one thing in common. In classical rhetoric, the term

*metaphor* comes from the Greek *meta* expressing ‘change’, and *pherein* meaning ‘to carry’. Metaphors thus involve a ‘carrying across’ of meaning from one object to another. An identification is made between two apparently dissimilar thing, so that some of the characteristic of the one are ‘carried over’ to the other.

Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. Figurative language is used in any form of communication, such as in articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, and song. So that the most of the song lyrics use figurative language to convey the ideas of the language as well as to make the effect of beauty and to attract people’s attention. Among the many songs lyrics that use figurative language is Adele’s album “25”. There are some songs in that album such as Hello, Send My Love and I Miss You. Adele is a singer as well as a song writer who is considered as being expert in choosing good diction, or using figurative language in most of her songs. So that Adele is one of the famous singer as a teenagers and a music lovers know. Adele many expressed sorrow for her song packed with figurative language by presenting words that formed of satire. For example Adele’s songs contained in a sample lyric that uses figurative language “They say that time’s supposed to heal ya.

In this graduating paper, the writer analyzes Adele’s song lyrics to understand the meaning of figurative language in that songs, there are some previous studies related to the topic of this paper. Those are:

1. Setiawan (2014) did research about *Figurative Language analysis In Song Lyrics Of Coldplay Band*. This research purpose was to find the types of

figurative language analysis in song lyrics of cold play band. The result showed that there were metaphor, simile, hyperbole, personification and onomatopoeia.

2. Jauhari (2015) did research about *An Analysis Of Figurative Language Used In Song Lyrics Of "4" Album By Beyonce*. This research purpose was to find the types of figurative language and to describe the meaning of figurative language used in song lyrics of "4" album by Beyonce. The result showed that there were apostrophe, simile, hyperbole, euphemism, antithesis, chiasmus, anaphora, personification, ellipsis, synecdoche, alliteration, assonance and oxymoron.
3. Wulandani (2008) did research about *Figurative Language in Scorpion's Song Lyrics (Stylistic Approach)*. This research purpose was to find the type figurative language in scorpion's song lyrics (stylistic approach). The result showed that there were metaphors, personification and simile.

From the previous study above the writer compares the different objects which focus on four types of figurative language. This paper is intended to study figurative language in song lyrics of Adele's Album "25". Therefore this paper is entitled *The Figurative Language In Song Lyrics Of Adele's Album "25"*.

## **1.2 Statement of problem**

The problem of this graduating paper is the diction of Adele song lyrics contains many implied meanings. Sometimes, the listeners ignore the context and just enjoying the song. Therefore, the writer formulated the problem by following questions:

1. What are the types of figurative language found in the selected song lyrics by Adele album “25”?
2. What is the contextual meaning of the figurative language in the song lyrics by Adele album “25”?

### **1.3 Research Objective**

The aims of this paper are:

1. To describe the types of figurative language found in the selected song lyrics by Adele.
2. To analyze and describe the contextual meaning of the figurative language used in the song lyrics by Adele.

### **1.4 Significance of Research**

1. Theoretically, the research is significance to provide some information about figurative language for those who are interested in the study of the figurative language.
2. Practically, this research is hoped to be one of the references for the next researcher to conduct similar research about figurative language.

### **1.5 Definition of Key Terms**

The keys terms of this research are:

#### **1. Figurative Language**

Figurative language is an expression of thought by using language; it is used to create some effect of something in literary work. Commonly, figurative language is a form of rhetoric that gives imaginative feeling for readers.

## **2. Euphemism**

Euphemism commonly used in the context of sexual activity and sex organs, and bodily functions such as defecation and urination, but euphemism can also be found in reference to death, aspect of religion and money. The main strategies of indirectness are metonymy, generalization, metaphor and phonological deformation. According to Cruse states that, euphemism is an expression that refers to something that people hesitate to mention lest it cause offence, but which lessens the offensiveness by referring indirectly in some way (2006: 57).

## **3. Hyperbole**

Hyperbole is Exaggeration may be negative or positive. According to Cruse states that, hyperbole is a figure of speech involving deliberate exaggeration for rhetorical effect, to increase impact or to attract attention (2006: 80).

## **4. Irony**

Irony is the opposite meaning or satire. According to Cruse states that, irony is a species of figurative language in which the intended meaning of an expression is usually some kind of opposite of the literal meaning (2006: 90).

## **5. Metaphor**

Metaphor is an expression which describes a person or object in a literary way by referring to something that is considered to have similar characteristics to the person or object people are trying to describe.

According to Cruse states that, metaphor involves a relation of resemblance or analogy, although this is not explicitly stated. Metaphor invites us to ‘see something as something else’ (2006: 106).

## **6. Metonymy**

Metonymy is also a process of meaning change in which a word shifts to a contiguous meaning. According to Cruse states that, metonymy involves a relation of association (2006: 108).

## **7. Simile**

Simile is the expression of language by comparison. According to Cruse states that, simile involves an explicit comparison between two things or actions (2006: 165).

## **8. Understatement (litotes)**

Understatement (litotes) is a form of irony, where the intention is to emphasize the opposite, as when a lottery winner of five million pounds is described as having acquired a ‘*tidy little nest-egg*’ (meaning ‘a very large sum’). According to Cruse states that, understatement (also known as litotes, meiosis) is a figure of speech in which there is a statement of the quantity, intensity, or seriousness of something that is less than what is objectively the case, for rhetorical effect (2006: 186).

### **1.6 Organization of Writing**

This graduating paper composes with five chapter, those are:

CHAPTER I : This chapter deals with the background of research, research questions, research objective, significance of research, the definition of key term and organization of writing.

CHAPTER II : This chapter presents the theory in this research. They are: Semantic theory, figurative language, euphemism, hyperbole, irony, metaphor, metonymy, simile and understatement (litotes).

CHAPTER III : This chapter provides a description about the method used by the writer. It consists of the research sample of data, data & source of data, technique of collecting data and technique of analyzing data.

CHAPTER IV: The chapter describes the result and the data analysis. The analysis of figurative language in song's lyric of Adele's album "25". The data is analyzed to answer the research questions about; 1) The types of figurative language found in the selected song lyrics Adele's album "25", and 2) The contextual meaning of the figurative language in the song lyrics Adele's album "25".

CHAPTER V : This chapter presents the conclusion of the analysis in the previous chapter and provides suggestion for further research relative to the figurative language analysis.