

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE FOUND IN THE SONG LYRICS IN THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE KOREAN BOY GROUP NCT AND EXO

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ABSTRACT

This research aimed to analyze the types, meanings, and functions of figurative language in the Korean boy groups NCT and EXO song lyrics.

This research is included in qualitative research. The data in the research are in the form of words and sentences in the song lyrics of the Korean boy group NCT and EXO. The method of collecting data is the document study method by Sugiyono (2016). Then the approach uses a stylistic approach and the method of analyzing data uses the first method by Leech and Short (1981) that focuses on the figure of speech.

The results of this research show that 14 (fourteen) figurative languages are found in the selected songs. There are 2 (two) personifications, 8 (eight) hyperbole, 1 (one) metonymy, 1 (one) irony, and 2 (two) symbols. In total, there are 14 (fourteen) figurative languages found in 2 (two) NCT songs and 1 (one) EXO song. And this research found the functions of figurative language according to Perrine. The functions are to produce imaginative pleasure, to produce additional images so that abstract things become concrete and can be enjoyed by readers, to increase the intensity of the author's feelings in conveying meaning and attitude, and to concentrate the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language.

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is essential in life because it is a medium for communicating, expressing opinions, conveying feelings, expressing oneself, sharing experiences, and various other activities. Without language, people would not know how to socialize and communicate with other people. By studying language, humans not only can understand the form of language, but humans can also understand the meaning behind the language.

There are many ways to convey ideas to others in an easy-to-understand way. One of them is pouring ideas through a song. Many people use songs as media to convey their feelings, ideas, and thoughts. Songs can be used as media to convey feelings to others. Among the types of literary works, the researcher is most interested in the type of literary work in the form of song lyrics.

Figurative language is a language to describe the comparison, equation, and imagery. Cindy (2019, p. 1) said that figurative language is crucial to get the poetic meaning of poem and figurative language make poem more interesting, more beautiful, more life, and make clear of imagine. The presence of figurative language in several literary works will show that literary works that use figurative language will be more meaningful. And with figurative language, there are beautiful meanings contained in literary works.

The objectives of the study are to analyze the types and meaning of figurative language in NCT and EXO song lyrics and to analyze the functions of figurative language in NCT and EXO song lyrics. The researcher would like to discuss the figurative language found in several songs belonging to several Korean Boy Groups. The researcher will discuss the songs of Korean Boy groups, namely NCT and EXO. And to recognize the sorts of figurative language found in song lyrics, the researcher will analyze the chosen songs.

2. METHOD

2.1. METHOD OF RESEARCH

The research is categorized into descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive qualitative research is one of the types of research. According to Sugiyono (2016, p. 6) this study interprets and describes the data concerned with the current situation, attitudes, and views that occur in a society, the conflict between two or more circumstances, the relationship between variables that arise, the differences between existing facts and influence on a condition, and so on. The researcher uses this method because the data is text in the form of song lyrics from Korean boy groups, namely NCT and EXO.

2.2. DATA COLLECTION

The method used to collect data is the document study method. Sugiyono (2016) says that the notion of documentation study is a data collection technique by studying documents to obtain data or information related to the problem under study. This data collection technique relies on documents as one of the data sources used to complete the research. Documents used can be in the form of written sources, films, pictures, or photos.

The data collection process starts by finding the lyrics of the selected song on www.azlyrics.com. Then the researcher will access YouTube as a medium to listen to songs. Next step, the researcher will try to find sentences that contain figurative language in the selected song lyrics. After that, the researcher will understand the theory of figurative language. Finally, the researcher will analyze and classify by category of figurative language.

3. THEORY

According to Sekaran (2003), the theoretical framework is a conceptual model regarding the interrelationships between factors identified as necessary to the problem. The theoretical approach introduces and explains the theory of why there are problems in the research being studied. This research uses a stylistics approach. The reason the researcher chooses this approach is that there is a relationship between stylistics and the topic of figurative language. Sudjiman (1993, p. 3) said that stylistics is a style, a strategy a speaker or writer uses to communicate his expectation by involving language as a method. Style can be translated as figurative language. And the researcher will use Pierre's perception in figurative language to support this research because many types of figurative language can be found in song lyrics.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the song "Regular" found 1 (one) metonymy, 1 (one) symbol, and 4 (four) hyperbole. And in the song "Highway to Heaven" found 2 (two) hyperboles. Then the song "For Life" found 1 (one) irony, 2 (two) personification, 2 (two) hyperbole, and 1 (symbol). There are 14 (fourteen) figurative languages found.

4.1. TABLE

Table 1. Data Classification of Figurative Language Found in "Regular", "Highway to Heaven", and "For Life".

No	Data	Types of Figurative Language	Meaning	Function	Data Code	Source
1	I might pull up in a spaceship	Hyperbole	The whole song is about a person who is surrounded by luxury and wealth. It will be very easy for him to board a spaceship that can be said to have a very expensive cost to ride or just rent it.	To produce imaginative pleasure	R.2.13	"Regular", Line 13
2	VVS my diamonds, I don't need no light to shine	Metonymy	VVS is the distinction between diamonds by their clarity, the less carbon there is, the clearer the diamond. The meaning is "I am the clearest diamond ever. Like it does not need the slightest light to shine".	To concentrate on the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language	R.3.19	"Regular", Line 19

3	Iced out both my wrists, now I can barely see the time	Symbol	The meaning is that this arrogant person arrogantly flaunts his diamond jewelry to people to show his wealth. It means like that person flexing diamonds on everyone.	To produce imaginative pleasure	R.4.20	“Regular”, Line 20
4	One way, no stop, to the stars	Hyperbole	The lyrics "one way, no stop, to the stars" means that he will very easily get what he wants without any obstacles and without exception.	To produce imaginative pleasure	R.5.37	“Regular”, Line 37
5	Crew fly, Dubai	Hyperbole	A person will very easily go wherever he wants because of his wealth.	To produce imaginative pleasure	R.6.38	“Regular”, Line 38
6	One way to Mars, you better watch yourself	Hyperbole	The lyric "one way to mars, you better watch yourself" means that we must be careful of arrogant people because they can bring us down at any time with their power and wealth.	To concentrate on the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language	R.7.40	“Regular”, Line 40
7	We'll take the highway to heaven	Hyperbole	The meaning of the lyrics is to describe how everyone can feel freedom.	To produce additional images so that abstract things become concrete and can be enjoyed by readers	H.1.10	“Highway to Heaven”, Line 10
8	Hit my line, anytime	Hyperbole	The lyrics have the meaning of "spend time with me every time". Which means he is willing to give his time for the people he loves.	To concentrate on the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language	H.2.17	“Highway to Heaven”, Line 17

9	But it's the sweetest mystery	Irony	The lyric means that the singer will be the most comfortable home to return to, where the house will always protect the people, he loves with all his abilities.	To produce additional images so that abstract things become concrete and can be enjoyed by readers	F.1.2	“For Life”, Line 2
10	We say a thousand words	Hyperbole	These lyrics contain figurative language in the form of hyperbole because it describes something excessively. The lyrics describe how they say words that number in the thousands.	To concentrate on the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language	F.2.4	“For Life”, Line 4
11	Giving you my heart and soul	Hyperbole	This lyric contains hyperbole because it describes something with exaggeration. In the lyrics, it is described that someone will give their heart and soul.	To increase the intensity of the author's feelings in conveying meaning and attitude	F.1.14	“For Life”, Line 14
12	The storm may come	Personification	The meaning of lyrics describes how everyone can feel freedom.	To concentrate on the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language	F.2.20	“For Life”, Line 20
13	And winds may blow	Personification	In the lyrics “And wind may blow” contains personification because the word “wind” do a human activity in the form of blow.	To produce additional images so that abstract things become concrete and can be enjoyed by readers	F.5.21	“For Life”, Line 21

14	I'll be your shelter for life	Symbol	These lyrics contain figurative language in the form of symbols because the word "shelter" can act as a symbol that someone will protect others.	To increase the intensity of the author's feelings in conveying meaning and attitude	F.6.22	"For Life", Line 22
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The researcher found several types of figurative language used in songs from NCT and EXO. Then the researcher explained the meaning and the function after analyzing the selected songs. Several figurative languages are used in NCT and EXO's song lyrics, such as personification, hyperbole, metonymy, symbol, and irony. And in determining the function, the researcher uses the function theory according to Perrine. From the data above, the researcher found that many figurative languages are used in NCT and EXO's song lyrics.

The first song entitled "Regular" by NCT 127, found figurative language in the form of metonymy in 1 (one) song lyric, symbol in 1 (one) song lyrics, and hyperbole in 4 (four) song lyrics. The second song entitled "Highway to Heaven" by NCT 127 found figurative language in the form of hyperbole in 2 (two) song lyrics. And in the song titled "For Life" by EXO, found figurative language in the form of irony in 1 (one) song lyrics, personification in 2 (two) song lyrics, hyperbole in 2 (two) song lyrics, and symbol in 1 (one) song lyrics.

Of all the songs the researcher has analyzed, figurative language in the form of hyperbole is dominant. Using hyperbole in song lyrics emphasizes a statement or a situation to enhance the impression. This figure of speech is usually used to exaggerate something.

5. CONCLUSION

The results of this research found 2 (two) personifications, 8 (eight) hyperbole, 1 (one) metonymy, 1 (one) irony, and 2 (two) symbols. In total, there are 14 (fourteen) figurative languages found in 2 (two) NCT songs and 1 (one) EXO song. The most dominant figurative language in this research is hyperbole with a total of 8 (eight) in the 3 (three) selected songs. This is because the songwriter creates lyrics that are exaggerated to enhance the impression and amplify the lyrics.

The researcher explained the meaning of song lyrics containing figurative language based on the appropriate figurative language in the selected songs. In that explanation, there are various kinds of hidden meanings and also meanings that have beautiful meanings to enjoy.

Dealing with the function, the researcher groups 14 (fourteen) song lyrics containing figurative language into 4 (four) kinds of figurative language functions according to Perrine. The functions are to produce imaginative pleasure, to produce additional images so that abstract things become concrete and can be enjoyed by readers, to increase the intensity of the author's feelings in conveying meaning and attitude, and to concentrate the meaning to be conveyed and ways to convey something in short language.

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