

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Nowadays, young people are familiar with the term breakup. The term can also be referred to as the breakup of a relationship between lovers, which can cause feelings of heartbreak. This condition can occur when the relationship always arises problems and quarrels, so that the relationship cannot be maintained on the grounds that it is no longer suitable or no longer loves each other. When in this condition, we definitely want to express our feelings and need a tool or place to convey what we feel so that it can be heard and accepted by others.

One of the tools commonly used to shed feelings is through music. In this era of globalization, people can easily listen to songs through various media, such as Youtube, Spotify, and Apple Music. Listening to songs not only makes us dissolve in the situation that is being felt, but can also express what we feel. We can release emotions through songs, and a sense of joy will arise when we feel connected to the lyrics of the song, which can make us free to imagine.

One of the most important things in a song is the existence of the lyrics, because through song lyrics the writer or commonly called a musician wants to convey a message that is an expression of whatever he feels about the phenomena that occur in the surrounding environment, where he interacts in it. So, a song lyric is not just a series of beautiful words, but

more than that, it is a representation of the reality that the writer sees or feels or perceives. It is this reality that inspires a musician to create song lyrics (Permana, 2013).

One of the singers who is very popular with songs whose lyrics relate to breakups and heartbreak experienced by teenagers is Olivia Rodrigo. Olivia Rodrigo grew up in California, where she demonstrated an early ability in music that included composing her own songs. In 2021, Olivia Rodrigo released an album entitled "Sour." The album is about heartbreak, written based on experiences that she thinks are proven to be true and authentic. The album was released because Olivia Rodrigo thought it was important to convey to others who have also experienced or may be experiencing heartbreak as she did.

The album "Sour" contains eleven songs, namely; *Brutal*, *Traitor*, *Driver License*, *1 Step Forward 3 Step Back*, *Déjà vu*, *Good 4 U*, *Enough for You*, *Happier*, *Jealousy Jealousy*, *Favourite Crime*, and *Hope Ur Ok*.

Nowadays, research on song lyrics is important to do so that the object of literary research (and linguistics) is not limited to poetry, prose, and drama scripts. Literary and linguistic researchers have a responsibility to research song lyrics to show the audience the meaning and intention that a songwriter wants to convey to her listeners (Lestari, 2021).

Based on the explanation above, the researcher chose the song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's album "Sour" as the object of this research. Researcher feel that the song lyrics from the album are very interesting.

Therefore, this research is intended to provide an analysis of song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's album "Sour." This study's examination of the song lyrics is grounded in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) theory, specifically in the framework of appraisal analysis. SFL is essentially a multi-perspective model created to give analysts complementary perspectives to evaluate language that is being used. The concept of sorts of meaning, which holds that language is a tool for mapping ideational meanings, interpersonal meanings, and textual meanings to each other in practically every act of communication, is one of the most fundamental of these complementarities (Martin & White, 2005).

Appraisal analysis focuses attention on the meanings a text affords and the reading positions which focus on this potential in different ways (Martin & White, 2005). Appraisal consists of three parts, namely: attitude, engagement, and graduation. This research uses attitude to analyze the affect, judgement, and appreciation of the song lyrics. By using this theory, researchers can analyze and know the meaning of the song lyrics.

## **B. Problem Formulation**

Based on the context and identification and definition of the problem, the writer has determined the problem, among others:

1. What appraisal attitudinal devices are employed in the song lyrics?
2. How is the song lyrics of Olivia Rodrigo's "Sour" album evaluated from the Attitude features?

### **C. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems that have been obtained, the researcher has the following objectives:

1. To give descriptive knowledge by describing the appraisal attitudinal devices employed in the song lyrics of Olivia Rodrigo's Album "Sour".
2. To find out how the features of Attitude evaluated the song lyrics of Olivia Rodrigo's Album "Sour".

### **D. Scope of The Study**

Based on the background that has been written above, the scope and analysis of this research is to focus on certain words from song lyrics that contain appraisal. The discussion conducted in this research uses the appraisal attitude only. The appraisal attitude theory consists of affect, judgement, and appreciation resources.

### **E. Review of the Related Study**

Researchers found several previous studies that used Appraisal as a theory. Here are some studies that might be a reference:

The first research is an undergraduate thesis by Priyono (2022), she wrote *An Appraisal Analysis of Character Ily on Novel Moon by Tere Liye*. She used the appraisal by Martin and White (2005) as the approach and focused on the attitudinal system, which is affect, judgement, and appreciation, to evaluate the character of Ily in Novel Moon by Tere Liye. As a final step, she describes how attitude features depict the character of

Ily in Novel Moon by Tere Liye by describing and interpreting the data that has been collected.

Second, Situmeang (2022) wrote *An Appraisal Analysis: Evaluative Language Features on Fake and Real News Related to Meth Drugs in Dealing with Covid-19*. She used the content analysis method by Martin and White (2005), especially the appraisal approach. She classified the sorted data into each division of attitudes with the derivatives of affect, appraisal, and appreciation to analyze the evaluative language features of fake news and real news related to meth drugs constructed in handling viruses, including the COVID-19 virus, on an online news site in the United States. She hopes to contribute to handling the spread of hoaxes in society, especially in identifying the linguistic characteristics that characterize hoax news and the objectivity or subjectivity of writing hoax information.

The third is a graduating paper entitled *An Appraisal Analysis of Viewers' Comments in Tariq Ramadan's Interview* by Saldina (2019). She applies appraisal theory by J.R. Martin and P. R. R. White to unfold the meaning of the comments of the viewer in Tariq's Ramadhan interview. She starts by compiling the comments by the latest date. Then, indicate each item in the comments, such as the words or clauses that use appraisal devices, and put them into sub-categories of each appraisal, such as attitude, engagement, and graduation.

From some of the previous studies that the researcher has listed above, we can see that the difference is the subject of the research. The data

taken for this research are song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's album "Sour," because the lyrics are very related to toxic relationships and heartbreak.

## **F. Research Methodology**

The researcher used the descriptive method to guide the investigation in this study. Because the data collected in the form of sentences, phrases, clauses, and words is then categorized to draw conclusions, it is called qualitative research.

Qualitative inquiry uses different philosophical assumptions, inquiry strategies, and methods of data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Although the processes are similar to quantitative, qualitative procedures rely on text and image data, have unique steps in data analysis, and utilize diverse inquiry strategies (Cresswell, 2009).

Based on the explanation above, this research explains descriptively about the utilization of documents in the form of the meaning of the song lyrics.

### **1. Data and Source of Data**

The data sources used in this research are written sources in the form of song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's album "Sour." In the album, there are eleven songs that will be used as the main data for this research. While the data used in this research are words, phrases, and clauses taken from data sources that I have mentioned above.

The reason why the song lyrics from the album were chosen is because the album "Sour" by Olivia Rodrigo consists of songs that have

lyrics that relate very well to the love lives of young people who often feel toxic relationships and heartbreak. Therefore, this is very interesting to analyze in order to dig deeper into the artistic experience and expression contained in these songs.

## **2. Method and Technique of Collecting Data**

Data collection steps include setting the boundaries for the study, collecting information through unstructured or semistructured observations, interviews, documents, and visual materials, as well as establishing the protocol for recording information (Cresswell, 2009).

The data collection step used in this research is the qualitative document method because it can provide rich insights related to the meaning and context of song lyrics. The researcher uses several steps to collect data:

1. The researcher downloaded all song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's album "Sour" from an open website.
2. The researcher read while examining the words, phrases, and sentences of the song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's "Sour" album that included attitude.
3. The researcher marked the words of the song lyrics.
4. The researcher presents the data in a table.

## **3. Method and Technique of Analyzing Data**

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative method. Qualitative research is carried out with characteristics that describe an

actual situation or fact, but the report made is not a mere report of an event without a scientific interpretation. (Anggito, 2018).

This research was analyzed using the SFL framework with a focus on discourse semantics resources named appraisal by Martin and White (2005). The focus of this research is on attitude in order to evaluate the song lyrics. The researcher grouped the data into each of its parts, including: affect, judgement, and appreciation, to be analyzed using tables. Then the researcher categorizes the data found, whether it is positive or negative. The last is to describe the data that has been analyzed in paragraph form based on the attitude category.

This research use abbreviation by Martin & White (2005) for analyzing the data.

+	‘positive attitude’
-	‘negative attitude’
des	‘affect: desire’
hap	‘affect: un/happiness’
sec	‘affect: in/security’
sat	‘affect: dis/satisfaction’
norm	‘judgement: normality’
cap	‘judgement: capacity’
ten	‘judgement: tenacity’
ver	‘judgement: veracity’
prop	‘judgement: propriety’



reac	‘appreciation: reaction’
comp	‘appreciation: composition’
val	‘appreciation: valuation’

## **G. Presentation**

This research is written in four chapters. The first chapter is the introduction, which discusses the background of topic selection, problem formulation, research objectives, research scope, review of related research, research methods, data and data sources, data collection methods and techniques, data analysis methods, and systematic discussion. The second chapter discusses the theoretical approach and framework of this research. Chapter three consists of the results of the analysis and discussion of the data. And for the last chapter, it discusses conclusions and suggestions.