AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN SABRINA CARPENTER'S SONG ALBUM "*SHORT N' SWEET*"

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ABSTRACT

The study is very important because when listening to songs, most people only focus on the music rather than the lyrics without knowing the meaning of the song. This study aims to find out the types of figurative language in "Short n Sweet" song album by Sabrina Carpenter and how is the figurative language realized in the song album. This research used mix-method research namely quantitative and qualitative. This study used Perrine (1992) theory which classified figurative language into 12 types. However, this research only focuses into 6 types of figurative language with the research results of 97 data. There are Metaphor (16), Simile (14), Personification (9), Symbol (19), Hyperbole (23), and Irony (16). The realization is that there are six types of figurative language, namely metaphors (comparing two different ideas, namely intelligence with sharpest tools and describing a partner with bee). Simile (make a direct comparison using the term "like"). Personification (inanimate objects namely fan and car are given human characteristics or talents). Symbol (use elements of numbers and drink brands with meanings that are different from their literal meanings). Hyperbole (use clearly exaggerated statements to emphasize certain feelings and situations). Irony (there is a mismatch between what is said or expected and the truth or deepest feelings behind the statement). This study is very important for english department and literature students, teacher, lecturer, and other researchers because it will teach them how to evaluate and analyze figurative language both in songs and in other media.

Keywords: *Figurative Language, Semantics, Sabrina Carpenter, Song Album*

INTRODUCTION

The most significant and widely recognized tool for communication is language. Swarniti (2019) stated that in human life, language is an important element that is used as the main medium for communication and interaction. The use of language helps individuals or groups express their thoughts, emotions, and ideas. Language can provide understanding and establish relationships between individuals in everyday life. However, in general, not all of these languages have the same conceptual framework or the same communicative function in their use stated (Santika & Sudiana, 2021).

Linguistics is defined as the scientific study of language, which comprises four primary disciplines. One of these branches is semantics, which investigates the meanings of written and spoken words. This area of study vital since all texts whether written or spoken, require meaning to effectively convey their message. Leech (1974) stated that meaning is

an idea or concept that can be trasferred from the mind of the speakers in the mind of the listener by embodying them in the form of one language or another.

Figurative language is a type of semantics that uses words to convey and infer meaning. Stated by Perrine (1992) that figurative language is language that cannot be taken literally. Figurative language is the practice of describing one thing by drawing parallels to another, using terminology that goes beyond the literal meaning of words to express a message or concept. People can use figurative language to evoke emotions and spark the imagination of their listeners. This style of language appears in a variety of works, including novels, poetry, short stories, movies, and songs.

Based on Miller and Currie (2000), there are many types of figurative language. This proves how limitless the human ability is in creating practical tools to make their lives more colorful. There are several types of figurative language, namely: simile, rhetorical question, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, apostrophe, alliteration, assonance. According to Knickerbocker and Renninger (1963) in their book, there are different categories of figurative language, namely simile, metaphor, personification, symbolism, irony, hyperbole, synecdoche, and metonymy. In this study, the writer uses Perrine's theory (1992) in her book which reveals that there are 12 types of figurative language, namely methapor, simile, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole, understatement, and irony.

This research focuses on figurative language in songs. Songs are a form of beautiful literary work that many individuals or groups like to hear. According to Jamalus (1988) states that a song is a work of art that is performed vocally accompanied by musical instruments. In addition, Hornby in (Setiawati & Maryani, 2018) defines a song as a short poem or series of verses in music that is intended to be sung. According to Hornby in (Pamungkas et al., 2022) " Lyrics are a written work written by someone who imagines in stringing beautiful words that have a deep meaning". Through song lyrics, singers can convey messages with the aim of

convincing the audience/listeners to interpret the song. So, interpreting song lyrics requires more than just enjoying the melody or music.

There has been previous study regarding figurative language. First is is An Analysis of Figurative Language in Poems by Laksmi Pamuntjak by Laimena & Que (2022). She

found that the figurative language most often found in her study was personification. There were similarities and differences between research and previous research. The difference lies in the object of research. Previous research analyzed figurative language in poems, while this research analyzes figurative language in songs. The second study is Analysis Figurative Language in Song Lyrics "Make it Right" and "Permission to Dance" by BTS by Agustina & Mustikawati (2023). The results of the study show that there are five kinds of figurative language found in the song lyrics with the most dominant being Metaphor and Simile. There are similarities and differences in research with previous research. This research has the same focus, namely analyzing figurative language in songs. However, the difference was that the previous research used the theory of Knickerbocker and Renninger (1963) and in this research used the theory of Perrine (1992).

The third study is An Analysis of Figurative Language in the Novel Let the Right One In by Lestari et al., (2020). She found that the most figurative language was in Simile. The difference between this research and previous research lies in the research object. Previous research analyzed figurative language in novels, while this research analyzes figurative language in songs. Then, An Analysis Figurative Language in the Song Lyrics by Jamie Miller by Datul & Agung (2023). The result of the study show there are four types of figurative language found in Jamie Miller's song lyrics: personification, metaphor, simile and hyperbole. The difference between this research and previous research lies in the research theory used. Previous research used theory proposed by Kennedy et al., (2013) while this research uses the theory of Perrine (1992).

This research analyzes the figurative language used in Sabrina Carpenter music albums. Sabrina Carpenter is the songwriter and sings all the songs on her latest album "Short n' Sweet. This album shows her ability to use figurative

language in her songs, allowing listeners to identify and understand the feelings conveyed by her songs. This research is very important to analyze for many reasons. First, in previous studies, many have conducted research in Sabrina Carpenter's songs such as Illocutionary Act, Deixis, Generation Z Reception, Transitivity Processes, etc. But figurative language in her songs has never been analyzed. Secondly, when listening the songs, most people only focus on the music rather than the lyrics without knowing the meaning of the song. Lastly, usually in the songs, singers often use figurative language to enhance the emotional depth, and expression of the songs, thus making listeners less aware of the meaning in the songs.

Therefore, this research identified types of figurative language were found in Sabrina Carpenter's song album "Short n Sweet" by analyzing how she uses figurative language, and explains how is the figurative language realized in the Sabrina Carpenter song album "Short n' Sweet". By understanding these elements, the listener can understand the complexity of the song and the themes it communicates.

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Semantics

Semantics is a linguistics field that investigates the meaning of both written and spoken language. This research is critical to comprehend because each piece of written or spoken content must transmit meaning in order to be effective. Chomsky (1957) stated that semantic studies how words, phrases, and sentences convey certain meanings and how those meanings can shift depending on context, usage, and cultural influences. Stated by Kasanah in (Nurbaini et al., 2024) that semantic is the linguistic study of the meaning or significance of language. Understanding semantics is critical for good communication because it enables people to understand messages correctly and respond appropriately.

Figurative Language

Ismail et al (2020) stated that figurative language has different meaning from the actual word or sentence so that it forces the listener to think and understand the author's intention. To understand figurative language, imagination is needed to imagine what is stated or what is related to the words (Gunawan et al., 2021). Based on Perrine (1992), figurative language can be categorized into several distinct types, each serving different purposes in communication. Figurative language divided into 12 types. There are Methapor, Simile, Personification, Apostrophe, Synecdoche, Metonymy, Symbol, Allegory, Paradox, Hyperbole, Understatement, And Irony. This study focuses into 6 (six) types of figurative language; there are Metaphor, Simile, Personification, Symbol, Hyperbole, and Irony.

Metaphor

A metaphor is a simple comparison of two dissimilar object that does not incude the use of a conjunction. A metaphor involves replacing an object with another that has similar features or characteristics, resulting in a better understanding. Metaphors use words or groups of words not with their actual meaning, but as a description based on similarities or

comparisons. According to Perrine in (Sandy et al., 2021) stated that metaphor is a style of language that directly compares two different things in short form without conjunctions indicating comparison, example like, as, etc. It can be concluded that figurative language implicitly compares two different objects by identifying or replace one with another.

Simile

A simile is a description of two distinct things that employs conective phrases like "like" or "as". Similes employ direct comparisons to provide a concise explanation of an object or situation. This makes things more relevant and understandable by directly comparing characteristics. According to Perrine in (Sandy et al., 2021) stated that a simile is a real comparison between two things different things indicated by the words "like" or "as". This expression compares things in essence the same. It can be concluded that the Parable forms explicit comparison with the words like or as which compare one thing is the same as another.

Personification

Personification is a tecnhique in which inanimate objects or abstract concepts are given human characteristics. This allows the writer to bring an object or concept to life, making it easier for readers to understand. According to Perrine in (Sandy et al., 2021) stated that personification is a language style that gives characteristics or traits humans on animals, objects, or concepts. It can be said that personification is a figure of speech that describes something which has typical human characteristics. By using personification this is what the singer wants to make the language alive.

Symbol

A symbol is a word or phrase that represents something other than its literal meaning, frequently communicating deeper connotations associated with themes or notions. According to Perrine in (Sandy et al., 2021) stated that symbols are defined as something that means more than what it is. Symbols are broadly defined as a type of figurative language that uses images, objects, actions, characters or concepts to represent something else. In literature, the term symbol is applied to a word or phrase that denotes an object or event in which it is contained.

Hyperbole

A hyperbole is an exaggerated remark used to accentuate a point or generate a dramatic effect. Hyperbole is not intended to be understood literally; rather, it serves to emphasize a specific emotion or image in the reader's mind. According to Perrine in (Sandy et al., 2021) stated that hyperbole is an exaggeration that is usually done to emphasize truth. It can be interpreted that hyperbole is a style of language that uses exaggerated words to convey meaning or show emphasis.

Irony

Irony is the use words to express a meaning that is opposed to their literal meaning and a discrepancy between what is expected and what actually happens. According to Perrine in (Sandy et al., 2021) stated that Irony is the inversion of what is said and what is actually true it means. Irony is also defined as the use of words to express a meaning that is diametrically opposed to its literal meaning. Irony is a discrepancy between what is expected and what actually happens.

METHODOLOGY

This study used a mixed approach (mix-method), namely research that combines two forms of approach, namely quantitative and qualitative. According to Sugiyono (2011) the mixed method combines two research methods, namely quantitative and qualitative, so that the data obtained will be more comprehensive, valid, reliable, and objective. This research involves collecting and calculating the amount of data using quantitative methods. To analyze the data, this research uses a qualitative method, which refers to a research methodology that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken language by describing an object being observed. This study used the album "Short n Sweet" as the focus of examination. The data for the research gathered from the lyrics of the song which consists of 12 songs: Taste, Please Please Please, Good Graces, Sharpest Tool, Coincidence, Bed Chem, Espresso, Dumb & Poetic, Slim Pickins, Juno, Lie To Girls, and Don't Smile. The song lyrics collected from YouTube music on the internet.

The data collection technique in this research was carried out by downloading all the lyrics to the song Short n' Sweet from YouTube Music. After that, continue by reading the album song lyrics line by line to understand the content and context. Words or sentences that contain figurative language are underlined to be identified at the analysis stage. After data collection is complete, proceed with analyzing and identifying what types of figurative

language are used in song lyrics and explaining how figurative language is manifested in song lyrics. The final step is to draw conclusions based on the results of the analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research results, 97 data were found that contained the use of figurative language in the Short n' Sweet album. Based on Perrine theory (1992), there are six figurative language were found in the song lyrics.

Table 1. Finding of Figurative Language in "Short n Sweet" Song Album

Types	Frequency
Metaphor	16
Simile	14
Personification	9
Symbol	19
Hyperbole	23
Irony	16
Total	**97**

The table 1 above is the result based on data collection and analysis of figurative language contained in the album "Short n Sweet". From the results of the analysis, there are six types of figurative language were found in the song album, namely Metaphor (16), Simile (14), Personification (9), Symbol (19), Hyperbole (23) and Irony (16).

Table 2. Types of Figurative Language in "Short n Sweet" Song Album

No.	Types	Lyric
	Metaphor	I know you're not the **sharpest tool** in the shed
		My **honey bee**, come and get this pollen
	Simile	I'm sweet **like** an angel
		I heard that you're an actor, so act **like** a stand-up guy
	Personification	The **ceiling fan** is so **nice**
		Your **car drove itself** from LA to her thighs
	Symbol	The thermostat's set at **six-nine**
		(Yes), I know I **Mountain Dew** it for ya
	Hyperbole	My body's where they're at
		The way you told me the truth, minus seven percent

Irony	You can have him if you want
	We were going right, then you took a left

Metaphor

Data 1 : "*I know you're not the **sharpest tool** in the shed*"

Data 2: "*My **honey bee**, come and get this pollen*

In data 1, "sharpest tool" is used as metaphor. The lyrics use a metaphor by comparing a person's intellectual talent to a sharp weapon without using terms "like" or "as". Sharpest tool is defined as intelligence. But in this lyric, the singer describes the person in the opposite way where she considers the person unintelligent or slow in understanding something. The realization in this metaphor is used to convey critism or satire in a more subtle and humorous way without having to say it directly by comparing the person to a blunt tool. This data shows that the singer highlights the partner's inability to capture the situation or feelings that occur.

In data 2, "honey bee" is a metaphor. In the song, bee was interpreted as having an interest in the pollen produced by flowers. Pollen is interpreted as something interesting and valuable. In this context, the singer describes her lover as a honey bee looking for pollen that is attention, affection, or attraction from the singer. Meanwhile, the singer describes herself as someone who provides for her partner. The realization in this metaphor is used to express feeling by touching someone's heart to create a romantic relationship by comparing someone to a honey bee.

These two data are included in the metaphor because they connect two different ideas (intelligence with sharpest tools and describing a partner with a bee). The phrases and words are used without explicitly comparing them, thus giving a deep meaning to the song's lyrics.

Simile

Data 3: "*I'm sweet **like** an angel*"

Data 4: "*I heard that you're an actor, so act **like** a stand-up guy*"

In data 3, the lyrics use simile by using the word "like" to compare the nature of a person with an angel. This simile depicts the singer's gentle and caring nature, using the image of an angel. In general, angel is interpreted as a sign of goodness and purity.The

realization in this simile is used by the singer to compare her sweet nature to that of an angel when she is in love. This data shows how gentle and loving she is when she is in a good relationship.

In data 4, the lyrics use simile " like". This simile used to compare someone's character to "a stand up guy". Literally, stand up guy is defined as a comedian. The term "like" indicates that the lyrics are intended to convey a desire that the person

will behave in a certain way, as a "stand-up guy" would. The realization in this simile is used by the singer to compare the man's behavior to how an actor should play a stand up guy.

These two data are included in the simile category because they make a direct comparison using the term "like". By providing a direct description of the character or activity in question, this parable provides a clear picture of a person, making the meaning of the song perfect.

Personification

Data 5: "*The **ceiling fan** is so **nice***"

Data 6: "*Your **car drove itself** from LA to her thighs*"

In data 5, the lyrics use personification in which the "ceiling fan" is given human characteristics. In its literal sense, a ceiling fan is an inanimate object that lacks human characteristics such as "good" or emotional attributes. However, in this context, ceiling fan are described as having the ability to make someone feel more alive, comfortable and enjoyable. The realization of this personification can describe how inanimate objects can provide a feeling a comfort and a pleasant atmosphere for the people in the room.

In data 6, "car" is a personification category because it is given human characteristics which make it seem as if the car can act on its own, that is, drive itself. In this context, "drove itself" means that the journey occurs without any control or thought. In general, cars are inanimate objects that can only move if controlled by humans. However, in this context, the car is given human characteristics in the lyrics to describe rash driving. This phrase is used to insinuate her lover is heading towards temptation or infidelity. The realization in this personification depicts an inanimate object, namely a car, given human characteristics where the object can move on its own.

These two data are categorized into personification because inanimate objects (fans

and cars) are given human characteristics or talents. personification is used in both of these examples to make the message more interesting, creative, and passionate. In addition, this provides a more imaginative understanding of the listener's condition or feelings.

Symbol

Data 7: "*The thermostat's set at **six-nine***"

Data 8: "*(Yes), I know I **Mountain Dew** it for ya*"

In data 7, the number "69" is a symbol in a context of intimate relationships. In general, the Number 69 may refer to the temperature setting on a thermostat, but in popular culture, it is often associated with sexual overtones or personal relationships. The number 69 is used as a symbol in these songs to represent closeness or a deep sensual connection between the performer and his accompanist. As a result, this number has become a symbol of the concept of sensuality or lust which does not require a long explanation. The realization of this symbol implies a very intense relationship in which the singer conveys the theme of sensuality indirectly using symbol but is still easy to understand.

In data 8, "Mountain Dew" is a symbol that means fressness and energy. In the lyrics, the singer describes herself as someone who brings coolness and something new to her lover. Mountain Dew is a brand of soft drink, but in its lyrics it represents freshness, energy, and something new or refreshing. The singer describes herself as something exciting to her lover. By leveraging the brand name, it shows itself as a source of joy in the relationship.The realization in this symbol shows that the singer uses the drink brand in her relationship to symbolize herself so that it seems more interesting and beautiful to hear.

These two data are symbols because they use elements (numbers and drink brands) with meanings that are different from their literal meanings, thus adding depth and subtlety to the message conveyed by the lyrics.

Hyperbole

Data 9: "*My body's where they're at*'"

Data 10: "*The way you told me the truth, minus seven percent*"

In data 9, the expression used in the lyrics is hyperbole because it is an exaggeration by claiming that this woman's body will still be there wherever he ex and new partner are. But in reality, that is something impossible to happen. In general, a person's body cannot always be the focus of attention or be where another

person is in a particular relationship or situation. This hyperbole is used to emphasize the great impact his presence has on the lives of others. The realization in hyperbole reflects a high sense of self-confidence about her impact on her ex's new life by making exaggerations that are actually impossible to happen.

In data 10, the expression used in the lyrics is hyperbole because it is an exaggeration by stating that the truth in her lover words is minus seven percent. But in reality, truth cannot calculated in percent. However, by using the phrase "minus seven percent", the singer exaggerated the couple's dishonesty, giving the impression that the couple was not completely honest, even in small things. The realization in hyperbole when the singer reveals a partner's lack of honesty in the relationship by making exaggerated statements where in reality honesty cannot be measured.

These two data are categorized as hyperbole because they use clearly exaggerated statements to emphasize certain feelings and situations.

Irony

Data 11: "*You can have him if you want*"

Data 12: "*We were going right, then you took a left*"

In data 11, the irony lies in the attitude as if the woman does not care about her ex anymore. Whereas through the way she talks about this relationship, there are signs that she is actually still affected. Despite saying these things, the singer actually still has feelings for her ex, feeling sadness, jealousy, or pain. Because there is a discrepancy between the words spoken and actual feelings, it gives rise to a sense of irony. The realization in this irony shows a mismatch where the singer expects her ex to move on but her heart has not fuly let go of her ex to be with someone else.

In data 12, the lyrics use irony where the singer realized that although they have a good relationship and are on the right track, but her partner is making the wrong decision or taking a left turn. The realization in irony shows a mismatch between expectations and reality in their relationship where the singer hopes that their relationship will be fine but in reality her partner does not meet these expectations.

These two data show irony because there is a mismatch between what is said or expected and the truth or deepest feelings behind the statement. It can be concluded, this irony enhances the meaning of the song by adding emotional depth.

CONCLUSION

The aims for this research are to find out out the types of figurative language in Sabrina Carpenter song album "Short n' Sweet" and how is the figrative language realized in the song album. Based on the analysis, there are six types of figurative language found in Sabrina Carpenter's song album: Metaphor, Simile, Personification, Symbol, Hyperbole, and Irony. The number of figurative language found in this album is 97 data with the most dominant found in Hyperbole. The realization is that there are six types of figurative language, namely Metaphors (comparing two different ideas, namely intelligence with sharpest tools and describing a partner with bee). Simile (make a direct comparison using the term "like"). Personification (inanimate objects namely fan and car are given human characteristics or talents). Symbol (use elements of numbers and drink brands with meanings that are different from their literal meanings). Hyperbole (use clearly exaggerated statements to emphasize certain feelings and situations). Irony (there is a mismatch between what is said or expected and the truth or deepest feelings behind the statement). This research has benefits for students and other researchers who will analyze figurative language in other media and also will give contribution to lectures as material for teaching.

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