

ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE AND EDUCATIONAL VALUES IN QUEEN BAND SONGS

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ABSTRACT This study describes the figurative language and educational values in the Queen band song. The aims of this research were divided into two parts, firstly, to know the figurative language that is used in Queen band songs. secondly, to know what educational values are found in the songs. In this research, the researcher applied a qualitative approach with a descriptive qualitative method. The data for this research was taken from the lyrics video official Queen band on the YouTube channel. The data were collected through an enumeration system based on Bugin's theory which covers some steps namely simple binary coding. The researcher used the triangulation method which consists whit decontextualization, recontextualization, categorization, and compilation. The data analysis covers five steps: classifying and coding sentences, analyzing the types of figurative language and educational values, drawing the table, verifying, and concluding. The result of this research The researcher found out there are 59 figurative languages from six selected songs by the Queen band, which included: 3 similes, 13 metaphors, 3 synecdoche, 3 metonymies, 10 symbols, 10 allegories, 3 paradoxes, 4 hyperboles, and 10 ironies. the researcher found 19 values of being such as 2 honesties, 10 braveries, 3 confident and potential, and 4 purities. Also, the researcher found there is one value of giving which is loyalty.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Educational Values, and Queen Songs

INTRODUCTION

Language is a human tool that is used for communication purposes, and also to deliver messages. According to Jakobson (1995), language has six functions namely referential, emotive, conative, phatic, metalingual, and poetic. Each function has its own characteristic. For example, poetic function only focuses on the messages. The poetic function is not only merely about poetry but also about other fields including songs.

Songs consist of musical notes and words that people know as lyrics. Lyrics have big power in the song. When the listeners do not understand the meaning of the lyrics, it is hard for them to gain the message. Lyric is one of many types of poems. Ade and Okuyene (2008) state that "it is a short poem that can be sung or that is musical". Therefore, lyrics are included in the poetic function since it focuses on the message delivered from the meaning of the lyrics.

Here are some famous group bands that often add deep messages by using language figures of speech in the lyrics of their work, such as The Beatles, Scorpion, Nirvana, Queen, and so on. Queen is a British rock band founded in 1970 with the singer Freddie Mercury, the guitarist is Brian May, the drummer is Roger Taylor and the bassist is John Deacon these are five members of Queen. The band was still active until 2009 even though there are some members absent. The first time they were presented the show was in 1970, at the City Hall of the City of Truro, and the next show in Imperial College in the same year. Before they met John Deacon as a bassist, they tried out several tests for the bassist like Doug Ewood Bogie, Mike Grose, and Carry Mitchell. They met John Deacon in a bar and then recruited him to join the band. in 1971, for the first time, he appeared in the band. Freddie Mercury designed the logo of the Queen Band in the same year. He used the zodiac signs of the members of the band, which is why the logo was made of a crab for May who were Cancer, two lions for Deacon and Taylor who were Leo, and two fairies for Mercury who was Virgo (Wikipedia contributors, 2023).

Singers use words or lyrics to convey meaning. In linguistics, the study of meaning is called semantics. There are some types of meaning that are studied in semantics, one of them is figurative language. Figurative language is used to convey figurative meaning implicitly.

According to Heller (2011), figurative language refers to groups of words that exaggerate or alter the usual meanings of the component words. Figurative language may involve analogy to similar concepts or other contexts and may involve exaggerations. Research on figurative language has been conducted by some researchers such as Swarniti (2022) in Adelle's song 'Eazy on Me'; Fajrin and Parmawati (2021) in Bruno Mars' song Grenade; and Milana and Ardi (2021) in Saif Adam song. These studies only focus to find out about figurative language yet not in Queens' songs despite the band has said to be one of the most popular music icons. Based on the explanation above, the researcher intends to further examine the types of figurative language and educational values in selected songs "Bohemian Rhapsody, We Are The Champion, Too Much Love Will Kill You, The Show Must Go On, Princes Of The Universe, Love Of My Life" by Queen band.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Some studies focus on figurative language in songs. Dewi's study (2020) aimed to find the types of figurative language in Maher Zain's songs and disclose the most dominant types of figurative language in Maher Zain's songs. This research applied a descriptive qualitative approach. The research design was content analysis. The instrument of this research used non-participant observation, and the researcher analyzed and classified the data by himself. The data were obtained from selected Maher Zain's song lyrics, Hold My Hand, For The Rest of My Life, Number One For Me, Open Your Eyes, and Awaken. By using the figurative language theory of Perrine and supported by the theories of Abrams, Keraf, and Reaske. The result of the research showed that from 5 songs, there are 42 lyrics containing figurative language. Those 42 lyrics comprise 8 types of figurative language. Based on the result of the study, it can be concluded that the most dominant type of figurative language in Maher Zain's song is hyperbole.

Secondly, Lumbantonruan (2018) tries to find out the types of figurative language found in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's songs and the contextual meanings of figurative language. In this study, the researcher used Perrine's theory to analyze the phenomenon of types of figurative language found in five selected songs' lyrics of Ed Sheeran. The instrument of this research the researcher himself applied the purposive random sampling method to collect the data. This analysis used a descriptive qualitative approach based on the problems of the study. The study revealed that there were fifty-one sentences containing figurative language used in Ed Sheeran's songs. It can be concluded that every song of Ed Sheeran had a different kind of figurative language and each figurative language used in Ed Sheeran's songs had meaning that can be analyzed contextually.

The previous studies which had been conducted by Rusman (2021) found nine types of figurative meaning are used in twelve songs from Queen's Album. The figurative meaning that is used are metaphor, metonymy, overstatement/hyperbole, paradox, simile, symbol, synecdoche, euphemism, and idiom. Metaphor, metonymy, overstatement/hyperbole, simile, symbol, and idiom are the dominant type that appeared the most with each of them 5 data, followed by euphemism with 4 data, and the last are paradox and synecdoche with 1 data for each. From this research the researcher found the differences, his research found 9 types of figurative language from 12 types of figurative language, and the researcher also found 10 types of figurative language from 12 types of figurative language.

Meanwhile, the research deals with educational values conducted by Wulansari (2020). She found that educational values are classified based on Elmubarok, the value of being, and the value of giving. In this research, the researcher found five values of being such as honesty, brave, confidence, discipline, and purity. As well as the four values of giving such as loyalty, love and affection, respect, and unselfishness. The difference between the research that conducted by the researcher is the researcher found 4 values of being and one value of giving

In this research, the researcher discusses figurative language based on Perrine’s perception. According to Perrine (1969), figurative language consists of 12 kinds, namely simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole/overstatement, understatement, and irony. In finding educational values the researcher used Elmubarok’s theory to discuss the educational value. He divides educational value into two groups: the value of giving, and the value of being.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research applied a qualitative approach. Creswell (2012) states qualitative research is investigating and understanding the meaning individuals or groups consider to be a social or human problem. This research used a content analysis method. Krippendorff (1993) stated that content analysis is a research technique for making references to the introduction of certain characteristics in a text systematically and objectively. Wisnu (2008) adds that content analysis is a research tool used to conclude words or concepts that appear in texts or series of texts. So it can be concluded that content analysis is used by researchers who want to obtain an explanation contained in an object in the form of signs, symbols, symbols, or other certain criteria It also helped the researcher to analyze the types of figurative language and educational values which consist in songs.

The data was obtained from the lyrics video of the six selected songs from the official Queen band on the YouTube channel that can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiMhD4jzUqG-IgPzUmmytRQ>. In addition, to have the song lyrics, the researchers find <https://www.azlyrics.com/q/queen.html>. The process of collecting more specific information or better known as the enumeration system includes some aspects, namely, Simple binary coding (to indicate the presence or absence of categories in documents), frequency (to indicate the frequency of appearance of categories in documents), Amount of space used in category (Yuris, 2023).

The researcher analyzed the data using the triangulation method which consists of some steps namely, decontextualization (the researcher must familiarize themselves with the data), recontextualization (the researcher has to check whether all aspects of the content have been covered in relation to the aim), categorization based on the following code; L1 for Love of My Life, L2 for We Are the Champion, L3 for Bohemian Rhapsody, L4 for Too Much Love Will Kill You, L5 for The Show Must Go On, and L6 for Princes of the Universe (before the researcher can begin to create categories, extended meaning units must be considered), the compilation (the researcher must analyze the process itself and adapts to the result).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Finding

This chapter contains the data findings of Figurative Language and educational values found in Queen band songs. This chapter also presents the analysis of the data in a table. The researcher found 59 figurative languages in the songs, which include: 3 similes, 13 metaphors, 3 synecdoche, 3 metonymies, 10 symbols, 10 allegories, 3 paradoxes, 4 hyperboles, and 10 ironies. The educational values are classified based on Elmubarok, the value of being, and the value of giving. In this research, the researcher found 19 values of being such as 2 honesties, 10 braveries, 3 confident and potential, and 4 purities. The researcher found there is only one value of giving which is loyalty.

Table 1: figurative language

No	Figurative language	Songs	Lyrics
1	Simile	L3	Just sure as none at all
		L4	My soul painted like wings od butterflies
2	Metaphor	L1	Too much love will kill you

		L3	Caught in the landslide
3	Synecdoche	L5	Abandoned places, I guess we know the score
		L5	Another heartache, another failed romance
4	Metonymy	L1	I’ve done my sentence
		L2	Bring it back, don’t take it away
5	Symbol	L2	But it’s been no bed of roses
		L2	No pleasure cruise
6	Allegory	L6	No man could understand
		L6	My power is on my hand
7	Paradox	L5	But my smile, still stays on whatever happens
		L6	I have no rival, no man can be my equal
8	Hyperbole	L3	So you think you can love me and leave me to die
		L6	I am immortal, I have inside my blood of kings yeah
9	Irony	L1	And everything’s all by the way
		L3	I am just poor boy I need no sympathy

Table 2: Educational Values (value of being)

No	Value of being	Songs	Lyrics
1	Honesty	L1	Love of my life, you’ve hurt me, you broken my heart and now you leave me
2	Bravery	L2	And we’ll keep fighting till the end
3	Confident and potential	L6	I am immortal, I have inside me blood of kings
4	Purity	L1	Love of my life don’t leave me, you’ve taken my love, you now desert me

Table 3: educational values (value of giving)

No	Value of giving	Songs	Lyrics
1	Loyalty	L1	When I grow older, I will be there at your side to remind you how I steal love you

Discussion

This part contains a discussion of the finding of the research. This is the main part of this research. Here, the researcher will present further explanation from the data display and research findings. In this part, the researcher discussed the figurative language and educational values that contains in Queen band songs.

Figurative language

The researcher identified that figurative language based on Perrin’s theory consists of simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole, and irony. These figurative languages are described below.

According to Perrine (1969), Simile is the comparison of two things, by the use of some words or phrases such as, like, as, than, similar to, or resemble. This characteristic is intended to express a similar thing to another directly. The simile was used by the Queen band to compare several things to one another and put connective words such as, *like*, and *as*. For example, in the lyric found “*my soul painted like the wings of butterflies*”, Freddie connected the comparison between *my soul* and *wings of butterflies*. It stated, clearly, as a simile. A figure of speech that implies the comparison of one thing to another to make the conception more emphatic or clear. another to make the conception more emphatic or clear. In short, this figure of speech obtains with comparison, it is comparing “*my soul painted*” and “*like the wings of butterflies*”. It uses the word “*like*” which indicates a kind of simile of figurative language.

According to Ritchie (2013), a metaphor is something that is seen, experienced, or discussed in terms of another object. It is a creative technique of defining something by making a specific reference to something else that is similar yet different. For example, saying that a person is a wolf might convey their extreme timidity and fear of new experiences. While in

metaphor the comparison is implied; the figurative term is substituted for or identified with the literal term. Freddie used to compare his bad experience in romance by saying “*caught in landslide, too much love will kill you*”, they actually compare two, unlike things that happened in his life. Caught in the landslide reverses to some event that had happened and too much love will kill you is reverses to a bad experience in romance (heartbreak).

Perrine (1969) states synecdoche is the use of the part for the whole. Synecdoche is taken from Greek and means take up with something else. It is the figure of speech in which a part represents the whole, as in the expression hired hands for workmen, or less commonly, the whole represents a part as in the use of the word society to mean high society. It is closely related with metonymy the replacement of a word by one closely related to the original. The use of synecdoche can simplify what is being talked about by stating significant detail only. An example of synecdoche from the lyrics is “*I guess we know the score*“. This sentence clearly contains synecdoche, because it describes something as a whole with the word “*score*”. Freddie uses “*score*” to referent the whole thing that he had experienced before in his life and always ended up in the same ways

Perrine (1969) states that metonymy is the use of something closely related to the thing actually meant. It can be considered that metonymy names a thing by using something associated with it. Metonymy is a close relationship that uses the name of things, a person, or a characteristic as a substitute for something itself. Metonymy was used to substitute some significant detail or aspect of an experience for the experience itself. It is also talked about the use of something closely related to the thing actually meant. The researcher found some metonymy like “*bring it back, bring it back, don't take it away from me*”. The word “*it*” aims at Freddie's girlfriend that has left him for some reason, and after that Freddie emphasizes his feeling by saying “*don't take it away from me*,

Balla, (2012) said that the word "symbol" is derived from the Greek word "*Sumbolon*," which denotes an emblem, sign, token, or mark. It is considered that figurative language of that type is defined as anything that expresses a more abstract idea. Furthermore, a symbol is defined as something that denotes or implies another idea. It can also be stated for further clarification due to a connection, affiliation, custom, or unintentional resemblance: particularly, a visual indication of something invisible. Something that means more than what it is as a symbol is also used by Freddie in his lyrics one of them is “*but it's been no bed of roses*”. The word “*roses*” is often a symbol of something sweet, nice, or elegant, but before it, there are two words that go the opposite of it that has to mean that nothing is easy in this world, everything needs process or hard work if we want to reach the goal.

Perrine (1969) states that allegory is a narrative or a description that has meaning beneath the surface. Allegory is a description that has another meaning. The meaning beneath is different from its description. An allegory is a description that has another meaning and sees a whole comparison. Example: “*Story about mouse deer and crocodile*”. A description that has another meaning, better known as allegory. This figure of speech is marked by something that has more deep meaning than the literal meaning. “*no man could understand, and my power is in my hand* “. These lyrics represent something that has deep meaning. Freddie wants to tell everyone that in this world no one could understand us better than ourselves, also everyone has their own power, and to do something that they love or like.

Perrine (1969) states that paradox is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless something true. It may be either a situation or a statement. Paradox is a statement seemingly self-contradictory or opposed to what is commonly held to be true but which nevertheless contains a truth. In other words, a paradox is a condition that not likes the fact. This figure of speech is often marked by something that is over or a statement that seemingly contradicts the truth. “*I have no rival, no man can be my equal*”. this statement is clearly a paradox because it

contains apparent contradictions. The term “*no man can be my equal*” is something that has meaning overstatement, arrogance, and overconfidence.

Hyperbole or overstatement is figurative language that contains an exaggeration element about something. Hyperbole is such a style that contains an overstatement to exaggerate things. Deliberate overstatement is not intended to be taken literally; it is used as a means of emphasizing the truth of a statement. This is relatively rare in Frost. The statement has a penchant for fact and truth, not literal truth but uses a figure of speech called overstatement (Perrine, 1969). An example of hyperbole in Freddie's work is “*So you think you can love me and leave me to die*”. It explains exaggeration. The assertion refers to a flamboyant claim or figure of speech that is not meant to be taken literally. Actually, it is exaggerating the truth. Simply said, leaving someone alive won't result in their death. Therefore, even when that person leaves him, he won't actually die

Perrine (1969) states that irony is the opposite of what one means. The author employs the device of irony for irony effect, letting the reader into the author's confidence, and revealing him as an inventor who is often at or loss for matter to sustain his plot and undecided about how to continue it. In simple words, it is a difference between the appearance and the reality. Irony is another form of figurative language that enables the truth to be expressed in a subtle, and sometimes, blatant manner. It is the use of words to express something to others and especially the opposite of the literal meaning for example in one of the lyrics “*and everything's all by the way*”. Actually, this is the opposite of what Freddie said, the fact is. He was suffering from a lot of things, his girlfriend, and his disease.

Educational values

Elmubarok (2008), educational values are divided into 2; the value of being and the value of giving. The value of being is a value that exists in human beings and then evolved into the behavior and the way we treat others. The value of being consists of honesty, bravery, peace, confidence and potential, discipline, and purity. The values of giving are the values that need to be applied or given and then accepted as a given value. The value of giving consists of loyalty, respect, love and affection, unselfishness, kindness, friendliness, fairness, and humaneness. These educational values of Queens' songs are explained as the following.

Queen's songs reveal some values of being for example honesty, bravery, confidence and potential, and purity. The research found these values of being scattered from numerous lyrics as described below.

Honesty can be defined as an attitude or behavior that appears and come from our deep heart, saying or doing something in accordance with the situation. For example in L1 with the lyrics “*Love of my life, you've hurt me. You've broken my heart and now you leave me*”. We can recognize the characteristics of honesty from the term “*love of my life*”. Freddie still calls his girlfriend the love of his life even though she is no longer with him.

Bravery can be defined as the attitude that occurs from someone who dares to try or do something tough or difficult. For example, in L2 “*We are the champion, my friend, And we'll the keep fighting till end*”. Freddie tried to raise everyone's spirits by saying them. The term “*fighting till end*” is the symbol to keep the spirit and never surrender till the end of the day.

Confidence and potential can be defined as the manner of feeling sure of yourself. In this data, confidence, and potential can be seen in L2 “*no time for loser, I have no rival no man can be equal*”. From these examples, we can see how sure Freddie is about himself by saying “*I have no rival, no man can be equal*”. He trusts himself and he knows he has potential.

Purity is the condition or quality of being pure, morally clean without blemish. It also can be defined as the way human being real about themselves. For example, in L1 “*Love of my life don't leave me, you've taken my love, you now desert me*”. Freddie described how pure his

feelings for his girlfriend were. She has no longer with him but he still calls his girl as the love of his life.

Meanwhile, the value of giving is found to be represented by the terms loyalty. Loyalty is a condition or quality of being loyal, faithfulness to commitments or obligations. Loyal people are usually ready to help, ready to support, ready to serve, and trusted in carrying out consistent promises. For example, in L1, "When I grow older, I will be there at your side to remind you how I still love you". Freddie promised his girl when he gets old he will always love her and have her back, the sentence "I will be there at your side to remind you how I still love you" is proof of how much Freddie loves his girl.

CONCLUSION

The researcher found out there are 59 figurative languages from six selected songs by The Queen band, which included: 3 similes, 13 metaphors, 3 synecdoche, 3 metonymies, 10 symbols, 10 allegories, 3 paradoxes, 4 hyperboles, and 10 ironies. According to Perrine's theory, he divided figurative languages into 12 parts, and the researcher found 10 of them. The educational values are classified based on Elmubarok, the value of being, and the value of giving. In this research, the researcher found 19 values of being such as 2 honesties, 10 braveries, 3 confident and potential, and 4 purities. The researcher only found one value of giving which is loyalty.

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