

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

This research is based on Olivia Rodrigo's album lyrics entitled: "Guts". In daily life, human communicate with each other by language to expresses a feeling, idea, or thought. Through language, humans can form and strengthen social relationship with each other and articulate their cultural identity and values. According to Basilan (2023:1-2), language is a system of communication that employs symbols such as spoken words, written characters, or gestures to convey information, ideas, emotions, and cultural norms. It allows individuals to express themselves, share their experiences, and connect with others. Languages can be spoken, written, or signed, and they frequently use complex rules to combine symbols into meaningful units such as words, and sentences. The scientific study of language in all of it's forms is called as *linguistics*. As stated by Monika (2023:3), linguistics is the formal study of language, that language can be classified into various levels. In linguistics, the study of meaning is known as *semantics*. Semantics is the study of language's meaning, it focuses on how words, phrases, sentences, and texts convey meaning and how these meanings are interpreted by speakers and listeners. Sematic seeks to understand how language expresses concepts, how meaning is constructed, and how it may be scientifically analyzed.

In addition, to use of semantics to comprehend what a language means, figurative language can help a language looks more attractive, unique, and expressive. Basically, figurative language is a part of semantics study, it refers to a language style in which the speaker speaks beyond the literal meaning. Figurative language enriches communication by adding layers of meaning and creating more engaging and expressive ways to convey ideas. As explained by Harya (2017:46), figurative language is a type of language used to make comparisons and exaggerations as well as to convey a meanings beyond their literal language. Through semantics study, humans can understand and learned about the meaning and sign contained in a language. Figurative language is commonly found in poetry, novels, newspapers, advertisements, scripts, music etc. However, in this globalization era, many types of music are preferred among the public, especially among teenagers who enjoy music of various genres. Songs usually consist of figurative language, a song is defined as poetry and is considered as a piece of literature (Sulung and Rahim, 2015:104).

Song lyrics are pieces of conversation that are made up of various grammatical words and phrases. People who listen to the song like both the lyrics and the music. They have an important part in creating the song's overall theme and increasing its resonance with the listener. In addition, according to Subagiharti (2022:221-222), song lyrics have their own characteristics compared to poetry because the expression of ideas through song lyrics is enhanced by melodies and rhythms that match the song lyrics. Awe (2003:51) argues, song lyrics are a person's expression of what they see, hear, or

feel. Songwriter employs words and language to communicate their experiences, resulting in appealing and unique lyrics or poems. Poetry lyrics in song form can reveal the author's personal heart tale or describe something else. Furthermore, both have a structure and shape that often follows a certain pattern. Rhymes, meters, and stanzas are all examples of poetry elements. Song lyrics frequently follow specific frameworks, such as verses, choruses, and bridges, and use rhymes and rhythmic patterns to achieve the desired impact.

In addition, the researcher is interested in analyzing figurative language, especially in Olivia Rodrigo's album lyrics entitled: "Guts". The reason are, Olivia Rodrigo is a singer and songwriter relatively new artist who has shown extraordinary artistic growth in a short period of time. She is also achieved success career in the music industry, with all the songs that are popular with many listeners, especially the younger generation. Olivia Rodrigo is known for her profound and poetic lyrics and often uses figurative language in creative ways, ranging from complicated as metaphors to simple as similes. This offers an opportunity for an in-depth exploration of how figurative language is used in various works. As well as, Olivia Rodrigo's song often deal with emotional feelings such as heartbreak, love, frustration, nostalgia, and identity. In addition, her songs often reflect relevant social and cultural issues, such as romantic relationship, self-awareness, and personal challenges. By analyzing figurative language in her song lyrics, can help understanding of how these themes are communicated and help explain why her lyrics are so powerful and affect listeners so deeply, and how the way she used

figurative language in this context offer insight into unique songwriting strategies. So, it can provide insight into how her writing style and its influence on today's pop music can be accepted by listeners.

Based on the researcher explanation on the background above, the researcher decided to analyzed of Olivia Rodrigo's album lyrics, which consisted of 12 tracks. The researcher wanted to know the figurative languages found in the lyrics of the song, as well as the most frequently types and their meaning. Furthermore, it can assist listeners in understanding the meaning and significance of the song's lyrics. Therefore, the research will be entitled: **“Rodrigo's Album Lyrics “Guts” (Figurative Language Analysis)”**.

1.2 Identification of the Problems

Based on explanation above, it is possible to assume that the focus of this research will be figurative language. Where many of the problems experienced are found in figurative language, which many people still misunderstand and unaware about figurative language especially often found in the song lyrics. Songwriters are often used figurative language in their song lyrics, because it allows them to convey feelings and experiences in a more profound and nuanced way. As well as to convey messages or themes more effectively than direct action. In addition, it can add an artistic and creative dimension to the song lyrics, so as to stimulate the readers imagination by providing broader visual and emotional context.

Therefore, by added figurative language a songwriter can easily expresses their feelings and emotions through their own perspective in order to create a song to make the lyrics more memorable and meaningful to the readers that related to their personal experiences to the messages of the song lyrics.

1.3 Limitation of the Problems

The scope and limitation in this research focus on Olivia Rodrigo`s album “Guts” as the research subject. There are limits to the problem in this research to make it more focused, to identify and analyze about 12 types of figurative language, which are metaphor, simile, irony, understatement, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, and apostrophe. Furthermore, this research has been chosen for the songs which consists of 12 tracks such as *All-American Bitch*, *Bad Idea Right*, *Vampire*, *Lacy*, *Ballad of a Homeschooled Girl*, *Making the Bed*, *Logical*, *Get Him Back*, *Love is Embarrassing*, *The Grudge*, *Pretty isn`t Pretty*, and *Teenage Dream*.

1.4 Research Problems

Based on the identification of the problems above, the research focuses on two problems that can be mentioned as follows:

1. What types of figurative language used in Rodrigo`s album lyrics “Guts” based on Laurence Perrine theory?
2. What is the meaning of figurative language used in Rodrigo`s album lyrics “Guts”?

1.5 Objectives of the Study

Dealing with the questions research above, the objectives of the study are formulated as follows:

1. To find out and identify types of figurative language in Rodrigo`s album lyrics “Guts” based on Laurence Perrine theory.
2. To analyze the meaning of figurative language used in Rodrigo`s album lyrics “Guts”.

1.6 Significances of the Study

The result of this research are expected to be useful and relevant in the future in the form of theoretically and practically.

1.6.1 Theoretically

The results of this research hopefully can give an understanding of how figurative language works in the context of music and lyrics. It can contribute to linguistic and literary work by providing new insights into the use of types of figurative language in specialized genres such as music. It can provide direction on how figurative language affects the aesthetic quality and appeal of a song and ultimately effective message delivery can be achieved through the use of figurative language. Figurative language in song not only provides specific insights into music and lyrics, but it can also provide insights into how figurative language develops and adapts in the context of music and

popular culture, as well as contribute to the development of theory and methodology in various fields of study, all of which will benefit for the readers.

1.6.2 Practically

Hopefully, this research can be useful and can be used as a reference. Especially for student who want to learn a new experience in understanding about figurative language and its meaning. Provide information and an additional reference for teachers to understanding more about figurative language. And for readers to add more knowledge about the kinds of figurative language especially in the music and lyrics and being alternative reference for readers can write a similar researcher with a different topic. And for last this research findings can help songwriters to improve their skills in use of figurative language. A deep understanding of figurative language can help them create more creative, powerful, and memorable meaning of the lyrics.