

## **ANALYSIS FIGURE OF SPEECH IN ADELE'S SONGS**

**Nungki Lupita Prasetia, Masulah, Waode Hamsia**

English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education  
Muhammadiyah University at Surabaya, [masrurnungky@yahoo.com](mailto:masrurnungky@yahoo.com)

### **ABSTRACT**

Language is an important means of communication to express our idea, emotion and feeling. Literature is creative and imaginative work of art spoken and written. Lyrics and poems, which are examples of literature, can express our feeling. Song is an imaginative awareness of experiences expressed through meaning, sound and rhythmic language choice so as to evoke an emotional response. There are many western musicians who use figure of speech in the songs. The researchers interested in Adele songs. Because her songs contain figure of speech and the researcher believes that these figure not yet well understood by the listeners. Her songs always contain about her experience. From this research, it is found in the songs that the kinds of figure of speech are personification, Metaphor and Synecdoche. The meaning in the figure of speech that is different from one song to another. Finally the researcher suggest the readers or other research want to conduct some researches that can analyze other types and aspect of figure of speech in the lyrics of songs composed or created by other singers.

Keywords : Figure of Speech, meaning

Language is an important media in the information used by humans. That is what makes the language as part of life in the community. Language is a matter that an important role in human survival. Through language, the information conveyed to others. Therefore we need a styling inside in order to create an aesthetic in the language itself. The understanding will be reached if the understanding of the language used to convey the information has been experiencing the diversity.

There are same features that are different in one language to another. That is like English feature different from Indonesian feature. Chaer (2007:33) states that are (1) language is system, (2) language is a sign, (3) language is a sound, (4) language is arbitrary feature, (5) language is meaning, (6) language is conventional, (7) language is unique, (8) language is universal, (9) language is productive, (10) language is variable, (11) language is dynamic, (12) language is a tool of society interaction, and (13) language is identity of person.

Wheeler (2010) according state that Language is a particular system of signs used by members of a group communicated with each other. These signs can be verbal sounds, language gesture or written markings like letters. Yet, as material literature, language is not simply the same like stone, bronze or picture because languages is creativity its own.

A language is considered to be a system of communicating with other people using sound, symbol and words in expressing a meaning, idea or thought. This language can be used in many forms, primarily through oral and written communications as well as using expressions through body language. While written, it is given and received through the form of poetry, novel, song, letter, etc.

The researcher focuses on literature that is specifically the lyrics songs which can categorize like poem. Song is a poem which sounded by rhythm. Accordingly, a song contains language exposition that uses composer to express

this feeling. The variation used by composer is suitable with thought, feeling, and ability. Moreover, to give a song more artistic value, the composer usually used figurative language. A song does not sound poetic if it just used simple word and beautiful word. Therefore they often use in lyrics of song because they can make the listeners understands easier, interest, and give entertainment. Wheeler in Iin (2010) states that songs is a lyric poem with a number repeating of stanza (called refrains), the written to be set to music in either vocal performance or with accompaniment of musical instruments.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The researcher choose a descriptive qualitative research because the data collected were in the form of words rather than numbers and the findings produced was not arrived at by means of statistic procedure. This research was aimed at understanding the phenomena such as behaviors, perceptions, motivations, and actions holistically and descriptively in words in a specific context by using natural method or certain theories. Denzin and Lincoln (in Metode Penelitian Kualitatif, 1991 :5 ) states that qualitative research is research that uses the natural setting, with the intention of interpreting the phenomenon occurs and is carried out by road involves a variety of methods that exist.

To do the analysis, the descriptive qualitative research method is applied in order to describe the types of figure of speech in Adele songs. This is a research focusing on the language of song from figure of speech. Through these songs the listeners more easily to understand the intended meaning that include in these songs. Therefore, the hearers were not only listen or enjoy the songs. But they also need to interpret by knowing types and meaning of figure of speech from the Adele songs. The interpretations were to decide what the intended meaning of the lyrics.

## **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

The first song to be analyzed is entitled "Set Fire to The Rain". The song was released as the third single in the United Kingdom on 4 July 2011. In this song "Set Fire to The Rain," Adele used figurative languages. She used Personification and Metaphor to describe her ideas. This song told about relationship in which she knows (mind) the relationship wrong and destroying her but when she sees him (heart) she cannot resist going back to him for the moment only knowing that in the morning he will hurt her again by leaving. I wonder if it is not so much about a new relationship as it is with the same guy. He ignores her with no real commitment, but then he comes around and she is too unstable or unhealthy to say NO. When he is not there, she longs for him even though he hurts her over and over. Her mind says the relationship is over, but her passion gives in when he shows up or contacts her.

She was grateful to have him "love" her. She was rebounding, from her last relationship. At first, she was unable to see him for who he truly was - likely a liar and cheater. Their relationship was one-sided. He loved himself more than he loved her and he had taken control her feelings. She began to lose herself in favor of loving him. The rain is the terrible sadness he caused her. The "setting fire..." is her leaving and her way of taking control of her own life and reclaiming her

feelings, realizing it is a poor situation for both of them even though she loves to be with him. She is very sad to have to let him go, as she has deep, deep feelings for him in spite of his lack of good character. However, she knows if she does not leave, she cannot become her own person and will always be "rained on" by him. She wants a REAL relationship and real love.

The second song to be analyzed is entitled "Rolling to The Deep." Rolling in the Deep is the first single released by Adele on her album '21'. The researcher found of figure of speech used in that song are personification, Metaphor and Hyperbola. The researcher found of figure of speech mostly used in that song are personifications. Personification is the process of assigning human characteristic to nonhuman, object abstraction or ideas. Reaske (1966 : 39).

Rolling in the Deep is the first single released by Adele on her album '21'. Adele herself describes this song as a "dark, bluesy, gospel, disco tune." The song is meant to be a kiss off song by Adele speaking to a former boyfriend who had done her wrong in the past. In her words she wrote this song as her own personal reaction to being told that she was weak if she did not stay in the relationship she was in. She wrote this song the day after her relationship ended and took only a few hours to complete. She initially sat down to write a love one wring type of song but was coerced to write a more feisty song instead and 'Rolling in the Deep' was written that day.

The relationship here is love relationship between Adele (the author and singer) and her boyfriend. Adele expresses her love memories and feeling through the combination of literal and figurative language with the most frequent figurative languages used in this study are Metaphors, hyperboles and personifications. They are used to beautify the song and convey deeper meaning than that of the literal one. The literal language used supports the analysis of the figurative language used in the song lyrics.

The third song to be analyzed is entitled "Skyfall". The song was released in the United Kingdom on 23 October 2011. In this song "Skyfall," Adele used figurative languages. She used Personification and Metaphor to describe her ideas.

"Skyfall" is the theme song to the James Bond movie in 2012, also called Skyfall. The song is sung by Adele, written by Adele herself, and produced by Paul Epworth and J orchestration. A. c. Redford. Eon Productions film company invited Adele to create the theme song at the beginning of 2011, and the duty to receive after Adele reading the script of the film. When songwriting, Adele and Epworth tried capturing the mood and style of the James Bond films, such as the lyrics are dark and brooding story that describes the film.

But I think this song was told about a woman tried to rise from adversity. She felt that she loss all her dream and she had to reach her dream which have been delayed. She realized that everything should be ended, she began to be struggle to face the fact. The man who was in anywhere but the man would never have her heart again. She though that her love is not true love story.

## CONCLUSION

An analysis of figurative languages in Adele's songs is very important. It is important for the readers or listeners to understand figurative language to comprehend the song lyrics. If the readers or listeners have difficulty in doing so, they may not understand the song which is sang by the singer. It is also important for the readers or listeners to be able to recognize figurative language. These two factors, recognizing and understanding figurative language are important if the readers or listener are to fully comprehend the material in which figurative language appears.

The research found there are four types of figurative languages namely, hyperbole, personification, metaphor and Synecdoche in Adele's songs. There are two types of figurative language in *Set Fire to The Rain*. Those are personification and metaphor. There are two figurative languages in *Rolling To The Deep*. Those are personification and metaphor. There are two figurative languages in *Sky Fall*, those are Personification and metaphor.

## REFERENCE

- Chaer, Abdul. 2007. *Linguistik Umum*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta
- Echol, John M and Hasan Shadly. 1989. *An English-Indonesian Dictionary, and An Indonesia-English Dictionary*. Jakarta: PT. Gramedia Utama.
- Hopper, Publishing Company Jeffrey D. And Pickering, James H. *Poetry An Introduction*, New York: Macmillan
- Moleong, Lexy (1991). *Methodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung Remaja Rosdakarya
- Pradopo, Rahmat Djoko. 2002. *Pengkajian Puisi*. Yogyakarta: Gajah Mada University Press
- Quin, Arthur. 1982. "Figure of Speech". Retrieved from <http://grammar.about.com/od/fh/g/figuresterms.htm>
- Reaske, Christopher Russell 1966. *How to Analyze Poetry*. Monarch Press. Haruard University
- Robert I Bradshaw, [http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/article\\_idioms](http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/article_idioms)
- Soeparno. 2002. *Dasar-dasar Linguistik Umum*. Yogyakarta. PT. Tiara Wacana
- Wheeler. 2010. "Literary Terms and Definitions; A". *Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*.
- Wikipedia. 2013. *Literal and Figurative Language*. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literal\\_and\\_figurative\\_Language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literal_and_figurative_Language)