

AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGES USED IN NOVEL JOHN GREEN “THE FAULT IN OUR STARS”

Mu’amar Yudha Ersyadi
STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo
yudhanitas@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Figurative language is not interpreted in a literal sense. figurative language has a new meaning in looking at the world and thinking more imagination. Objectives of the study to describe types of figurative language and identify contextual meaning figurative language in John Green’s Novel “*The Fault in our Star*”. This research employed descriptive qualitative method. The result showed they were 82 figurative languages in this novel, the researcher have found 7 kinds of figurative language consisted of 12 hyperbole, 5 irony, 5 litotes, 16 metaphor, 15 metonymy, 12 personification, and 17 simile. The most dominant figurative languages used is a simile as many as 17. All of the figurative language used in “*The Fault in Our Stars*” made to be descriptive, understandable and imaginable. Some figurative in this novel were used to describe something funny, serious, or unpredictable. Figurative language can be concluded to have an important role in this novel. therefore the author uses so many sentences contained in figurative language in the novel. Using figurative language makes novels more interesting to read, and really helps the reader to imagine stories, characters based on illustrations given by the author in the story of the novel.

Key words: *Figurative Language, Novel “The Fault in Our Star”*

ABSTRAK

Bahasa kiasan tidak dimaksudkan untuk ditafsirkan dalam arti literal. Menarik bagi imajinasi, bahasa kiasan menyediakan cara baru dalam memandang dunia. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk menggambarkan jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan dan untuk mengidentifikasi makna kontekstual dari bahasa kiasan dalam Novel John Green “*The Fault in our Star*”. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ada 82 kalimat bahasa kiasan dalam novel ini, peneliti menemukan 7 macam - macam bahasa kiasan yang terdiri dari 12 hiperbola, 5 ironi, 5 litotes, 16 metafora, 15 metonimi, 12 personifikasi, 17 simile. Bahasa kiasan yang sangat dominan digunakan ialah Simile sebanyak 17. Semua bahasa kiasan yang digunakan di dalam novel “*The Fault in Our Stars*” dibuat menjadi deskriptif, dapat dimengerti dan bisa dibayangkan. Beberapa kiasan dalam novel ini digunakan untuk menggambarkan sesuatu yang lucu, serius, atau tidak terduga. Bahasa kiasan dapat disimpulkan memiliki peran penting pada novel ini. Itulah sebabnya penulis memakai begitu banyak kalimat yang memiliki bahasa kiasan dalam novel. Menggunakan bahasa kiasan menjadikan novel lebih menarik untuk dibaca, dan sangat membantu pembaca untuk membayangkan alur cerita, karakter berdasarkan ilustrasi yang telah diberikan penulis cerita di novel.

Kata Kunci: *Bahasa kiasan, Novel “The Fault in Our Star”*

INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool to interact on a social being and a way to express their feelings in daily life, language as means of communication plays important role in social relationship among human being. That opinion as Lindsay and Knight Explanation (2010: 27) that language is a tool we use to communicate with other people. People can encode against what they want to say which consists of various components. According to Douglas (2000: 155) defined that Language is a vocal system, writing, symbols, or conventional cues that have authority that can enable certain groups to communicate intelligently with others. In linguistics, studies related to meaning called semantics. Semantics is one branch of linguistics, which studies the meaning of language, or can be interpretation as the main study in semantic terms. According to Lyons (1984: 136) Semantic theory that is very popular, is how to realize an idea and concept could be transfer from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the listener using in the form of language or another. Semantic studies have two parts, literal meaning and non-literal meaning. Literal meaning can be interpretation if someone speaks using real meaning and has no other meaning, while the non-literal meaning is when someone speaks to say something that is not the real meaning and is different from what they say or have other meanings.

Figurative language is commonly understood to refer to language that is embellished and poetic and uses imagery to achieve a special effect. According to Murphy and Koskela (2010, p. 67) the meaning of figurative language can be assumed through figurative use like metaphor, metonymy, irony, hyperbole and understatement. Meanwhile according to Beckson and Ganz (1975: p.80) says that Figurative language is a language that makes us communicate using a particular device or what is called a figure of speech, mostly aimed at comparing different objects with the aim of achieving literal language. Figurative languages are often found in literature, such as novels, poems, television commercials, newspaper articles, etc. The figurative language uses words that go beyond ordinary meanings. You must use the mind of your imagination to find out what the author wrote. A writer uses literal language only to state facts are they should. Figurative language, as a comparative language, used excessively or with changes in certain linguistic points. Figurative language used in literary works, such as prose, poetry, and nonfiction writing as well.

The figure of speech and vocabulary have strong reciprocal relationships. The figure of speech and semantics also has a strong relationship because without the knowledge of the meaning of words, even connotative meanings, it is difficult to understand figurative meanings, sometimes people read news, magazines, newspapers, or novels, always ignoring reading non-literal expressions. Literally of course what the meaning of the phrase reads becomes strange

or incomprehensible. Therefore, according to Tarigan (1995: 113) says that in vocabulary learning, figurative language is important, while vocabulary as supporting learning in semantics

Hyperbole

Leech (1969: 168) says that Hyperbole, like two or more other figures, often cares about personal values and sentiments; that is, by making subjective claims that, however exaggerating it is, we are unable to verify unless we try to get into the heads of people about who the claims were made.

Irony

H.W Fowler in Leech (1969: 171) describes —Irony as a mode of expression which postulates a double audience, one of which is in the know and aware of the speaker's intention whilst the other is naive enough to take the utterance at its face value.

Litotes

Leech (1969: 169) says “The term litotes is sometimes reserved for a particular kind of understatement in which the speaker uses the negative expression where a positive one would have been more forceful and direct”.

Metaphor

Leech (1969: 151) stated that Metaphor ...“making believe that tenor and vehicle are identical. But as many writers have observed, the pretense often seems more serious and more real than the real world of literal understanding”... *However, from a linguistic point of view, literal meaning is always the basis, and figurative meaning originates.*

Metonymy

Leech (1969: 152) says, “Metonymy is a figure of speech that consists in using the name of one thing for that of something else with which it is associated”.

Personification

Leech (1969: 158) says that Personification where an abstraction is represented figuratively when humans really combine the three categories, concrete, animistic and humanizing.

Simile

Leech (1969: 156) a metaphor is something that is open, a metaphor that has a comparison like the simile. Metaphorical parable is in by writing out tenor and vehicle side by side, and indicating (by like or some other formal indicator) the similarity between them.

Figurative languages can provide more effective meanings than direct statements. In any case, there are several reasons for that effectiveness, they are (1) figures of speech are effective concentration meanings, ways of speaking a lot in short compasses, (2) figures of speech are ways to bring additional images into verses, abstract concrete and poetry more sensual, (3) figurative language provides imaginative pleasure, (4) figuratively is a way of adding emotional intensity to statements that are merely informative and convey attitudes and information. Written in the first person or third person.

In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method. The purpose of descriptive qualitative method is to describe the place, facts and characteristics of the population systematically, factually and accurately. Descriptive qualitative methods use techniques to find, collect, and analyze data. The analysis qualitative research concern in understanding the result of found data rather than calculating the result of found data. The subject of the study all sentences written in the Novel John Green's *"The Fault in our Stars"*. Source of data is based on words, phrase, and sentences in the novel. The data is the figurative language found in words, phrases, and sentences in the novel John Green's *"The Fault in our stars"*. The researcher uses primary instrument such as data sheet, synopsis, and the official novel John Green *"The Fault in Our Stars"*. And the researcher considered himself as a secondary instrument. He used reading skill to analyze the figurative language described in John Green's novel *"The Fault in Our Star"* by using Geoffrey Leech model of figurative language analysis.

The researcher also analyzed messages implied in each construction. The data were collected by doing reading the novel and selecting the relevant sentences which have figurative language from the novel. The data were analyze used identifying the types of figurative language, identifying the contextual meaning of figurative language and drawing conclusions.

FINDING AND DISCUSSIONS

The results of the figurative languages from the above can be seen clearly through the following table:

**Table 4.8 Total Sentences of Figurative Language in
Novel *"The Fault in Our Stars"***

Kinds of Figurative language	Frequency (Sentences)
Hyperbole	12

Irony	5
Litotes	5
Metaphor	16
Metonymy	15
Personification	12
Simile	17
TOTAL	82

The table above shows that the simile is found the most in the novel *“The Fault in Our Stars”* by John Green is very prominent. From 82 figurative languages in this novel, the researcher found 7 kinds of figurative languages consist of 12 hyperbole, 5 irony, 5 litotes, 16 metaphors, 15 metonymy, 12 personifications, and 17 similes. The most dominant figurative languages used is a simile as many as 17. All of the figurative language that are used in *“The Fault in Our Stars”* made to be descriptive, understandable and imaginable. Some figurative in this novel were used to describe something funny, serious, or unpredictable.

After analyzing, it is found that the expression of simile is the type mostly found in novel *“The Fault in Our Stars”* by John Green. It is proven that the most dominant were used in the novel is simile with the results of the data found 17 of 82 sentences figurative languages. The purpose of the simile in the novel *“The Fault in Our Stars”* is comparing two different things using as or like. This is appropriate with the study of the theory that the simile is the comparison between one of thing with another thing using as or like.

From 82 sentences of figurative languages in *“The Fault in Our Stars”*, there are 17 of simile in the novel. According to Leech (1969: 156), Simile is like a figurative language that compares two things that are functional and fundamentally different. Simile expresses a direct comparison of things that have one meaning or more similar meaning and can be identified using the words 'like' and 'as'. The word simile comes from the Latin word that has the same meaning, namely 'simile' that means 'like' comparing physical characters with things like the Moon and the Land. In characterization, he mostly uses the showing technique because the author explains the novel figuratively. Indeed, he uses figurative languages to tell about the characters but it can be interpreted by the reader based on context.

The important think we learn literature especially figurative language. It is focus on how people communicate their personal affective experiences. Besides that, we can identify the language that people used in their communication to show their feeling particularly in

emotional communication. Emotions such as anger, sadness, pride, happiness are subjective experiences, and it difficult to capture in literal terms. Usually it used in daily conversation. The author of the novel used a lot of figurative language so that readers understand what characters feel, the topic of conversation, individuals, social settings, moral messages, and supporting factors related to influencing, typing, and the consequences of interaction.

CONCLUSION

From the conclusions obtained, researchers found figurative language contained in the novel as many as 82 sentences figurative languages consisting of 12 hyperbole, 5 irony, 5 litotes, 16 metaphors, 15 metonymy, 12 personifications, and 17 similes. The most dominant figurative languages used is a simile. It is as many as 17 of 82 sentences figurative languages. All of the figurative languages used in "*The Fault in Our Stars*" are made to be descriptive, understandable, and imaginable. Some figurative languages in this novel were used to describe something funny, serious, or unpredictable.

REFERENCES

- Bloomfield, Leonard. (1994). *Language*. New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publ.
- Brown, H. Douglas. (2000). *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching. 4th Edition*. New York: The Free Press.
- Beckson, Karl; Ganz, Arthur. (1975). *Literary Terms: A Dictionary*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Chase, Mary Ellen. (1965). *Values in Literature*. USA: Houghton Mifflin Company
- Crystal, David. (1991). *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetic*. Cambridge: Basil Blackwell Ltd.
- Dewi, Kumala Sari. (2010). *An Analysis of Figurative Meaning in The Time's Magazine's Advertisement*. Medan: Universitas Sumatra Utara.
- Dian, Siti Khodijah. (2010). *The Figurative Language of Nirvana's Song*. Cirebon: Syekh Nurjati State Institute for Islamic Studies Cirebon.
- Dinnen, Francis P. (1966). *An Introduction to General Linguistic*. USA: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, INC.
- Elder, Janet. (2004). *Exercise Your Reading Skills*. New York: McGraw Hill.
- Kennedy, XJ. (1983). *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry and Drama*. Boston: Little Brown and Company.
- Lado, Robert. (1964). *Language Teaching: A Scientific Approach*. New York, USA: McGray Hill, Inc.
- Leech, Geoffrey. (1969). *A Linguistic Guide to English Poetry*. New York: Longman Inc.
- Leech, Geoffrey. (1974). *Semantics*. London: Penguin Book.
- Leech, Geoffrey. (1977). *Semantics*. London: Penguin Book.
- Leech, Geoffrey. (1981). *The Study of Meaning, 2nd Edition*. London: Penguin Book.
- Lindsay, Cora; Knight, Paul. (2010). *Learning and Teaching English*. New York: Oxford University Press.

- Longman, Group UK Team. (1998) *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (New Edition)*. Essex: Longman Group UK Limited.
- Lyons, John. (1977). *Semantics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Lyons, John. (1981). *An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Lyons, John. (1984). *Language and Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Manik, Wilda Rahmawati. (2013). *Semantic Analysis of Slang Used in Paul Movie Script*. Medan: Universitas Sumatra Utara.
- Moleong, L. J. (2009). *Metodology Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya.
- Moleong, L. J. (2011). *Metodology Penelitian Kualitatif Edisi Revisi*. Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya.
- Murphy, M. L.; Koskela, A. (2010). *Key terms in semantics*. London: Continuum International Publishing Group.
- Perrine, Laurence, (1970), *Structure, Sound, and Sense*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc.
- Perrine, L. (1978). *An Introduction to Poetry*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Inc.
- Perrine, Laurence. (1982). *An Introduction to Poetry, 6th Edition*. San Diego, California: Harcourt College Publishers.
- Sapir, Edward. (1921). *An Introduction to the Study of Speech*. New York. USA: Harcourt, Brace, and Company.
- Sapir, Edward. (1921). *A Scientific Approach*. New York. USA: Harcourt, Brace, and Company.
- Stanton, Robert. (1965). *An Introduction of Fiction*. USA: Holt, Rinehart, and Wiston Inc.
- Sumardjo, Jakob; Saini, K. M. (1998). *Apresiasi Kesusastaan*. Jakarta: Gramedia.
- Tarigan, Henry Guntur. (1995). *Pengajaran Semantik*. Bandung: Angkasa.

