AN ANALYSIS ON FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE OF SONG LYRICS OF ADELE’S ALBUM ENTITLED “25”

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ABSTRACT

Figurative language is a language that uses expressions with different meanings from literal interpretations. This research used thirteen types of figurative language. They are hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, litotes, symbol, paradox, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm. This research focuses on analyzing the types of figurative language found on the album entitled “25” by Adele. The objectives of this research are to find out the types and meaning of figurative language of the song lyrics on the album entitled “25” and to find out the most dominant figurative language used in the song lyrics in the album entitled “25”. In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method. The results of this research show nine types of figurative language in the song lyrics. They are hyperbole 19.04%, simile 14.28%, metaphor 4.76%, personification 9.52%, metonymy 14.28%, symbol 9.52%, litotes 4.76%, paradox 9.52%, and allegory 9.52%. The dominant figurative language is hyperbole. It is used to compose beautiful sentences that will give a dramatic impression and can emphasize emotions.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Song Lyrics, Album entitled “25”

A. Introduction

Language is a system of communication and human interaction which is expressed in spoken and written form (Bull, 2011). It can help people to express their ideas, feelings, or information to get good communication with each other. It means that language cannot be separated from human life, because language has a very important role in various aspects of human life such as education, economy, technology, politics, and even in the making of literary works.

Literary work is something that is created with the author's goals and objectives which is conveyed communicatively with language as the medium. According to Tjahyadi (2017) literature is the name used for human creative works by using language as a medium of creation. One of the literary works is song. The song has two elements,
namely music and lyrics. Music is a mix of vocal and instrumental sounds that have beautiful forms and emotional expressions. While the lyrics are a pitched arrangement of words. Lyrics are part of song where words are sung with the aim of expressing ideas and feelings (Lusiana and Qamariana, 2017). In general, songs are created to entertain. This is similar to Hasby and Muhlisin (2017) who say that songs are literary works created to entertain people of all ages, ethnicities, races and cultures. Besides being used as entertainment, songs can also be used as learning media.

Song lyrics are short poetry sections of the music that will be sung. Song lyrics are written based on the experience or imagination of the author. According to Hanifah (2017), the resulting song lyrics are usually inspired by something that has been seen, heard, felt, or experienced by the songwriter. In writing song lyrics, songwriters need imagination and figurative language. Song lyrics usually contain beautiful words full of figure of speech that represent the feelings of the songwriter. In addition to beautifying every word, figurative language gives the impression of being creative, varied and more meaningful. When songwriters add figurative language, it is a language trick to create an implied meaning that will make people think about the meaning (Permatasari et al, 2016).

Figurative language is often used in literary works so that literary works can be more lively and not boring (Manuaba and Tika, 2019). Figurative language is used to convey something in a different way and it sounds more beautiful. Syafitri and Marlinton, (2018) say that figurative language enhances the effect that will give many meanings to words, emphasize their meaning and beautify them. Therefore, figurative language is an important element in literary works, including songs. Generally, figurative language is formed based on similarities or comparisons. Comparing or equating something with something else, will expand the meaning of the word.

Although figurative language gives the impression of beauty and expands the meaning of literary works, not everyone who receives messages containing figurative language understands the meaning of the message conveyed. Improper understanding can lead to misunderstanding and miscommunication. Many studies related to figurative language have been carried out by previous researchers such as qualitative descriptive research conducted by Aryawan et al (2019) which analyzed the types of figurative language in Eminem's songs. Research was also conducted by Siallagan et al (2017) who analyzed figurative language and imagery in Taylor Swift's songs. By having the description above, the researcher studied figurative language to analyze the figurative language used in Adele's album entitled "25"

In principle the researcher chose the album entitled “25” in this research for several reasons. The first reason album entitled “25” was proved best seller in 2015. In addition to the album entitled “25” has penetrated 19 million copies worldwide. It has got the awards of platinum and diamonds on its period. The second reason was the album entitled “25” which contained eleven songs has three music genre. One more
thing, what made them very sensational that was almost all of the song lyrics could inspire everyone who heard them. Seeing these reasons, finally the researcher is anxious to do the research the titled *An Analysis on Figurative Language of The Song Lyrics of Adele’s Album Entitled “25”*.

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning of language words. Semantics is a part of linguistics that studies the meaning of words or sentences that are separated from the context of their use (Griffiths, 2006). Meanwhile, according to Leech (1981:2) says that semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases and sentences in the language. Semantics is a branch of linguistics that researcher use to study language that discusses meaning. One branch of semantics is figurative language. According to Keraf (2009), figurative language is formed based on comparisons or similarities. It is formed by comparing or equating an object with another object to find characteristics that indicate the similarity between the two things, giving rise to a figure of speech. It can be interpreted that figurative language is a way of expressing something in a different way from the original.

According to Larson (1984:11) in Marina and Nurhaida (2017), figurative meaning cannot be translated into literal word forms. That means in interpreting figurative language it is necessary to imagine another translation of the word. Figurative language is often used by everyone to interact with others to add special effects in conveying messages. It is used to create an impression of being effective, persuasive and emphasizing. In addition, figurative language is most often used in a literary work such as songs, novels, poetry, etc. Figurative language is a language that has a connotative meaning so that it gives the impression of beauty in a literary work. According to Daniswara et al (2016), figurative language is a word or phrase that is different from literal language which contains hidden meanings behind it. Figurative language is a way of using language specifically to get an aesthetic impression so that literary works have artistic value (Christiano, 2017), while according to Petel (2014) it can be interpreted as a literary unit commonly used by authors to gain freshness and strength in expressing their literary works. Figurative language style is often used to enhance the aesthetic effect by comparing an object with certain objects more generally. With figurative language, songwriters can express their feelings or ideas in different ways so that they can express the emotions of listeners and readers.

However, to produce figurative language, must use high imagination for better results. According to Arditami (2017), states that for literary lovers, the use of figurative language aims to make their literary works more beautiful and to control the emotions of the audience or readers. In addition, the reason for using figurative language in literary works is because figurative language gives a high imaginative impression that provides additional information on words, phrases, poems, or sentences. Figurative language is sometimes used to add emotional satire, persuade, convince, etc.
According to Keraf (1991) in Harya (2016) figurative language is divided into four main categories, namely:

1. Figure of speech of comparison or equation (personification, metaphor, euphemism, allegory, hyperbole, litotes, etc.)
2. Figure of speech of opposition (antithesis, paradox, etc.)
3. Figure of speech of satire (irony, sarcasm, etc.)
4. Figure of speech of affirmation (pleonasm, repetition, climax, etc.)

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that figurative language is a part of the style of language in which to express a meaning is used comparison to make meaning widen so that the reader becomes more interested.

There are thirteen types of figurative language described by Keraf (2009), they are: hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, litotes, symbol, paradox, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm.

1. Hyperbole
   Hyperbole is a language style that contains an exaggerated statement by exaggerating something. What is exaggerated is the nature, size or number.
   Example: I remember all of the things that I thought I wanted to be (Remedy)
   The example above exaggerated the human capacity for memory. Usually people cannot remember everything that is thought of throughout his life, but can only remember a part of what is thought throughout his life.

2. Parables
   Comparison or simile is an explicit style of language. That is, is directly stating something is the same as another thing, for that it requires an explicit effort to show that similarity. The comparison usually uses the words like, as, and for example.
   Example: It feel like we’re oceans apart (Love in the Dark)
   The example above compares a person to the ocean. The meaning of the above example is that he feels that she and her lover are like very far apart.

3. Metaphor
   Metaphor is a style of language that compares two things directly, but in a short form.
   Example: I’ll be the shelter that won’t let the rain come through (Remedy)
   The example above compares a person to a shelter. The meaning is that he will become a refuge for his lover who will protect his lover when in a bad situation.

4. Personification
   Personification is a language style that describes inanimate objects or inanimate objects as if they have human nature.
   Example: When the night keeps you from sleeping (Remedy)
   The example above uses the noun “night” to perform an action by adding the verb “keep”.

5. Irony
Irony is a style of language that wants to say something with a different meaning or purpose from what is contained in the series of words. This meaning can be expressed by:

a. Contradictory meaning to the real
b. The incompatibility between the atmosphere presented and the actual reality.
c. The incompatibility between hope and reality.

Example: *I can’t go back, but the reeds are growing out of my fingertips (River Lea)*

The stanza above tells that the songwriter can’t go back to river lea. The above statement is a hope that contrasts with what happened in the river. It meant that she had to start something he didn't like.

6. Metonymy

Metonymy is a style of language that uses a word to express something because it has a very close relationship.

Example: *It is the world to me (Love in the Dark)*

The word “world” can be interpreted as a life. The example above can be interpreted that his life with his lover is not what he expected.

7. Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a style of language that uses part of a thing to state the whole (pars pro toto) or uses the whole to state some things (totum pro parle).

Example: *And a part of me keeps holding on just in case it hasn’t gone (when we were young)*

The lyrics above show the half of someone who is impossible. The meaning of the lyrics above is that the songwriter can't move on from someone in his past. So she uses the parable that half of her is someone in his past.

8. Litotes

Litotes is a style of language used to express something with the aim of demeaning oneself. something is stated less than the actual situation or a thought is expressed by denying the opposite.

Example:

9. Symbolic

Symbolic is a style of language that describes something using a symbol to convey a specific purpose (Mc Arthur, 1992). The symbols used are usually symbols that are easy and are familiar.

Example: *I can’t love you in the dark (Love in the Dark)*

The word “dark” in the example above can be interpreted as bad. It can also mean that there is no bright future. What he means is that if he continues the relationship with his lover he thinks that he will not have a bright future.

10. Paradox

Paradox is a style of language that contains a real contradiction with the facts. Paradox can also mean anything that attracts attention because of its truth.
Example: *I’m being cruel to be kind (Love in the Dark)*
The words “cruel” and “kind” are opposite words. The above example can be interpreted that he wants to hurt someone for his own good.

11. Allegory

Allegory is a short story that contain of figurative language. In allegory, the names of the perpetrators are abstract traits and their purpose is clearly stated.

Example: *O you who have shed bood for your beloved country, give us justice and freedom like you have fought for.*

From the example above, these words are addressed to something that is not present but is considered present.

12. Antithesis

Antithesis is a style of language that contains opposing words or ideas but is still balanced.

Example: *Heaven or hell is my affairs.*

The word “heaven or hell” is an opposite word, between heaven which refers to the most beautiful place and hell which refers to a humiliating and terrible place.

13. Sarcasm

Sarcasm is a style of language that is expressed more harshly that cynicism and irony. This style of language is often unpleasant to hear and hurtful (Keraf, 2009: 143).

Example: *Shut up your fuckin mouth!*

The purpose of the example above is to tell the other person to be quiet but use harsh expressions. Sarcasm is often used or pronounced when feeling emotional or dissapointed. This figurative language often hurts of hearts of the listeners.

Reporting from Detik.com, the album entitled "25" is the third album by English songwriter and singer Adele. This album was released on November 20, 2015. In addition to album entitled “25”, Adele has album entitled “19” which was released in 2008 and album entitled “21” which was released in 2011. Albums entitled “19” and “21” are also best-selling albums of their time. However, after the appearance of album entitled “25”, it was claimed that this album was better than the previous two albums. This album has 11 other songs they are; *Hello, Remedy, Water Under the Bridge, River Lea, When We Were Young, Send My Love, I Miss You, Love in The Dark, Million Years Ago, dan Sweetest Devotion.* This album is named "25", not without reason, this album contains Adele's desire to reminisce and return to her old self. The emergence of the album entitled "25" is considered to have a positive impact on the music industry. The album was a commercial success by debuting at number one on more than 25 album charts and breaking first week sales records in several countries including United States and the United Kingdom. This album became the best-selling album in the world in 2015 with sales of 17.4 million copies at the first week and at that time had sold 19 million copies worldwide. This album has also received several certifications in the form of platinum and diamond. Of the eleven songs contained in the album entitled
"25", researchers only examined four songs including: Love in The Dark, Send My Love, I Miss You, and Sweetest Devotion.

B. Research Method

The researcher used descriptive qualitative method to analyze the figurative language use in the song lyrics. Qualitative method is a research method used to examine natural objects (Sugiyono, 2017:9). Qualitative method used to understand the meaning behind visible data, understand social interactions, and ensure the correctness of data. Because this study aims to analyze figurative language, the appropriate method is descriptive qualitative. Descriptive qualitative method is a method that describes the basic data by describing the situation or event. Descriptive qualitative method not obtained from calculating forms or other statistical procedures, but describing data about a state or phenomenon that appears. This research discusses the figurative language used in the song lyrics.

The Research Object

The object of this research is about figurative language used in the song lyrics of album entitled “25”. In this album there are 11 songs namely: Hello, Remedy, Water Under the Bridge, River Lea, When We Were Young, Send My Love, I Miss You, Love in The Dark, Million Years Ago, dan Sweetest Devotion. Of eleven songs, the researcher used 4 songs with the theme of romance to be analyzed. They are Love in the Dark, Send My Love, I Miss You, Sweetest Devotion. The researcher did not use the other 7 songs because the theme of the songs did not match the theme raised by the researcher.

The themes are: nostalgia, apology, and friendzone.

The researcher used the documentation method to collect the data. Here are some steps that researcher use to analyze data:

1. First, download songs and the lyrics from the internet then listen and read carefully.
2. Second, read repeatedly to understand the stanzas that are included in figurative language.
3. Third, highlight word or stanzas that contain figurative language
4. Next, clarify each word or stanza and categorizing based on types of figurative language.
5. The last, re-analysis the figurative language that has been classified to avoid mistake. Finally, the data that has been collected is based on its classification.

Data analysis is the process of observing, and compiling data obtained from the results of observations, field notes, interviews, and documentation by classifying, describing, and compiling data according to categories and units then selecting the data that is important and will be studied to make conclusions that are easy to understand (Sugiyono, 2016:244). Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono (2017) suggested that there are three steps of qualitative data analysis technique. Here are the following explanations:
1. Data Reduction
Data reduction is an activity to summarize and select the main things to look for themes and patterns. The results of data reduction will provide a clearer picture so that it can make it easier for researchers to collect data. At this stage the researcher listens, reads and observes sentences that contain figurative language, then classifies the data based on 13 types of figurative language.

2. Data Display
Data display is a simple data display process to make it easier for the researcher to master data and draw conclusions. Data presentation in qualitative research is carried out in the form of charts, flowcharts and brief descriptions. At this stage the researcher presents the data in the form of descriptions.

C. Research Finding and Discussion
The results of the research findings are used to find answers to the formulation of the problems that have been raised in this study. In conducting the research findings, the researcher analyzed the data by identifying and classifying song lyrics based on the type of figurative language in the form of a table which would then be described. There are four (4) songs that has been analyze they are Love in The Dark, Send My Love, I Miss You, and Sweetest Devotion. The results of the research are written based on the results of data analysis that has been carried out. To analyze figurative language, the researcher uses thirteen types of figurative language, namely: hyperbole, simile, metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, litotes, symbol, paradox, apostrophe, antithesis, sarcasm. Based on the research results, there are nine types of figurative language, namely hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, litotes, metonymy, allegory, symbol, and paradox. There are four types of figurative language not found in song lyrics they are irony, synecdoche, antithesis and sarcasm.

1. Types and Meanings of Figurative Language Based on The Four Songs in The Album entitled "25"

a. Types of Figurative Language
Figurative language is a language used to describe a person or object by using comparisons or equations. Some examples of figurative language are hyperbole, metaphor, simile and personification. After analyzing the data, the researcher found nine types of figurative language from in four songs on the album entitled “25” by Adele.

The Sum of Figurative Language in the Four Songs Lyrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Song Lyrics</th>
<th>Total of Figurative Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Love in the Dark</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Send My Love</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I Miss You</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sweetest Devotion</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on the data above, the researcher found nine (9) types of figurative language from thirteen (13) types of figurative language in four (4) songs. The total of all figurative language data is 21 data including: 4 lyrics in hyperbole, 3 lyrics in simile, 1 lyric in metaphor, 2 lyrics in personification, 3 lyrics in metonymy, 1 lyric in litotes, 3 lyrics in symbol, 2 lyrics in paradox, 2 lyrics in allegory. Of the 13 types of figurative language, there are four (4) types of figurative language that are not found in the song lyrics, including: irony, synecdoche, antithesis, sarcasm.

2. The Meaning of Figurative Language

A. Love in The Dark

There are four (4) types of figurative language in this song lyrics, namely: simile, metonymy, symbol and paradox. There are nine (9) types of figurative language that are not found in this song, including: hyperbole, metaphor, personification, irony, synecdoche, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm. The following is an explanation of the four figurative languages:

1. Simile
   ➢ *It fell like we’re oceans apart* (line 10)
   
   The stanza above is a simile because it compares his feelings with an ocean. The stanza above likens that his feelings with his lover are like very far apart. This means that the feelings that the songwriter has felt are hard to go through with his lover and whatever he will go through with his lover will only find a dead end.

2. Metonymy
   ➢ *It is the world to me* (line 32)
   
   The word "world" in the stanza above can be interpreted as a life. The life referred to in the verse above is that the life of the songwriter and his lover is not as imagined. The stanza above explains that no matter how difficult the decision the author chooses, he will accept it gracefully and continue to live his life as before.

3. Symbol
   ➢ *I can’t love you in the dark* (line 22)
   
   In the stanza above, the word dark has a meaning that is not good in the future. The meaning of the verse above is the feeling that the songwriter feels so heavy with his lover and whatever will be passed with him is like going to a dead end. So that the songwriter thinks that if he keeps the relationship going, he will not have a bright future.

4. Paradox
   ➢ *I’m being cruel to be kind* (line 8)
   
   The paradox above means that the songwriter has the confidence to choose another path by ending his relationship with her lover which is so hard to live
with. The author then chooses to be cruel by hurting his lover's heart but for his own good.

B. *Send My Love*

There are three (3) types of figurative language in this song lyrics, they are: metaphor, metonymy, and paradox. There are ten (10) types of figurative language that are not found in this song, including: hyperbole, simile, personification, irony, synecdoche, symbol, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm. The following is an explanation of the four figurative languages:

1. **Metaphor**
   
   ➢ *We've gotta let go of all of our ghosts* (line 14)
   
   The stanza above is a metaphor figure of speech. The word shadow is still alive with its original meaning. So that the deviation of meaning in the stanza above is a living metaphor. The meaning of the stanza above is that the songwriter and her ex-lover must both let go and let go of all the beautiful memories that they have been through.

2. **Paradox**
   
   ➢ *I was running, you were walking* (line 19)
   
   The purpose of the stanza above is to describe how the songwriter's love and affection is very large for her lover, but on the other hand her lover is cold and the feelings that her lover has are ordinary.

3. **Metonymy**
   
   ➢ *For the big one, for the big jump* (line 5)
   
   Big one and the big jump is interpreted as a hope and a dream. The stanza above means that her lover has a new lover, even though the songwriter has big hope and dreams that will be realized with his lover.

C. *I Miss You*

There are four (4) types of figurative language in this song lyrics, namely: hyperbole, metonymy, litotes, and allegory. There are nine (9) types of figurative language that are not found in this song, including: metaphor, personification, irony, synecdoche, symbol, paradox, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm. The following is an explanation of the four figurative languages:

   ➢ **Hyperbole**
   
   ➢ *I want your heaven and your ocean too* (line 2)
   
   The lyrics above is example of hyperbole. The songwriter uses the words heaven and your ocean to describe the beauty of being with his lover. The meaning of the lyrics of the song above is his desire to always get happiness and also very beautiful things to remember from her lover.

   ➢ *Then kiss me back to life to see* (line 7)
   
   The example above is a hyperbole figure of speech because it uses an exaggerating expression in the sentence to bring me back to life. The purpose of
the example above is that the author wants to convey that he really misses her lover who is always there and makes her enthusiastic in living life and wants him to really be present again in her life.

2. Allegory
   - *We play so dirty in the dark* (line 38)
     Dirty in the dark is an allegory that describes her feelings and inner journey during a long-distance relationship. Songwriters often experience many difficult things while waiting for their lover.

3. Litotes
   - *Treat me soft but touch me cruel* (line 3)
     The songwriter expresses her feelings by using soft and cruel denial. Treat me gently as if to say that you love me sincerely. And touch me cruelly as if to tell him that when he is wrong then reprimand him. The purpose of the verse above is that the author wants to convey that he and his partner can understand each other.

4. Symbol
   - *Baby don’t let the lights go down* (line 9)
     The stanza above is a figure of speech symbol which means that the songwriter has high hopes that the relationship she is undergoing will be fine and she hopes that her lover will not disappoint him.
   - *Baby give me light* (line 19)
     Similar to the previous stanza, the songwriter uses a figure of speech symbol to illustrate a big hope that her lover will continue to give love and affection even though they are separated by distance. And she hopes that her lover's love and affection will not decrease even though they are separated by distance.

5. Personification
   - *I want to step into your great unknown* (line 31)
     Unknown is a personification figure of speech which means that songwriter hopes to have a beautiful future with her lover and can go through beautiful things in the future.

D. Sweetest Devotion

There are six (6) types of figurative language in this song lyrics, namely: hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, metonymy, allegory. There are seven (7) types of figurative language that are not found in this song, including: irony, synecdoche, litotes, symbol, paradox, antithesis, and sarcasm. The following is an explanation of the four figurative languages:

- **Hyperbole**
  - *I’ve been frozen!* (line 15)
    The stanza above is a hyperbole figure of speech that represents the songwriter's feelings that are special and full of meaning for the love she is
experiencing. The meaning of the above stanza is that the songwriter feels comfortable and her heart is reluctant to open her heart and accept new people.

- **You’re the right kind of madness (line 34)**
  The madness in the stanza above is a hyperbole because it uses an exaggerated expression. The meaning of the above stanza is that the songwriter likens madness to the feelings of love and affection she has for her lover.

2. **Simile**
- **Hitting me like an explosion (line 14)**
  The stanza above is an example of a simile that the songwriter uses to illustrate a feeling of beauty that has never been felt before. The point is that with the love of her current boyfriend, the songwriter feels extraordinary things that she did not meet in his previous story.
- **That finally feels like home (line 26)**
  The sentence above is included in simile because it uses a comparison between love and home. Home can be interpreted as a place to go home, a place that can provide a sense of comfort and safety. In the stanza above, the songwriter uses the figure of speech to symbolize the feeling of comfort that is experienced or felt. The stanza above can be interpreted that whatever happens, no matter what the situation is, the songwriter will still return to her lover.

3. **Personification**
- **That tears down my wall (line 8)**
  The word wall in the stanza above symbolizes a feeling or belief that has never been felt before. The stanza above can be interpreted that his lover is able to make his heart feel love again.

4. **Metonymy**
- **In every face that I’ve ever know (line 30)**
  The stanza above is a metonymy figure of speech which means that the feelings of love experienced by the writer at this time are considered to be so special and between previous loves.

5. **Allegory**
- **When you wonder if I’m gonna lose my way home (line 19)**
  The stanza above is an allegory figure of speech which means that no matter what obstacles the songwriter will encounter, she will not lose his way to return to her lover and her love will never fade in the slightest.

4.1.2 The Most Dominant Types of Figurative Language Use in Four Songs
Based on the results of data analysis, there are nine (9) types of figurative language used in the four (4) song lyrics that have been analyzed. The first is the song “love in the dark”, the researchers found four types of figurative language they are: 1 lyric in personification, 1 lyric in symbol, 1 lyric in simile and 1 lyric metonymy.
The second is “send my love” the researcher found three types of figurative language, including: 1 lyric metonymy, 1 lyric metaphor, and 1 lyric in paradox.

The third is “I miss you” the researcher found nine types of figurative language, they are: 1 lyric in metonymy, 2 lyrics in hyperbole, 1 lyric in metaphor, 3 lyrics in symbol and 1 lyric in allegory.

And the last one is the “sweetest devotion” the researcher found seven types of figurative language, they are: 1 lyric in personification, 1 lyric in simile, 2 lyrics hyperbole, 1 lyrics in allegory, 1 lyric metonymy, 1 lyric in metaphor.

From the pie chart above, it can be seen the percentage of figurative language in four (4) songs. There are 21 data in this research they are 4 lyrics in hyperbole with percentage 19,04%, the second are 3 lyrics in simile, symbol and metonymy with the percentage 14,28%, the third are 2 lyrics in paradox, personification and allegory with percentage 9,52%, and the last are 1 lyric in metaphor, and litotes with the percentage 4,76%. The most dominant used figurative language by songwriter is hyperbole. Songwriter use hyperbole to build the listener's imagination and to express feelings, emotions, ideas, and imagine by exaggerating expressions.

In this discussion, the research discusses the types of figurative language in song lyrics. The researcher discusses the figurative language used in four songs from the album entitled “25” by Adele. They are, Love in the Dark, Send My Love, I Miss You and Sweetest Devotion. In this song lyrics, the researcher found 21 data of figurative language with its meaning by using documentation as the data collecting method. In conducting the research, the researcher uses the theory of Gorys Keraff (2009) which uses thirteen types of figurative language such as, hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, irony, metonymy, litotes, synecdoche, symbol, paradox, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm. In this research there are nine types of figurative language found in the four song lyrics are: hyperbole, simile, metaphor, metonymy, personifications, allegories, litotes, symbols, and paradoxes. Figurative languages that are not found in the song lyrics include: synecdoche, antithesis, irony and sarcasm.

1. Types and Meaning Figurative Language

Based on data above, it was found in song Love in the Dark there are four types of figurative language. They are, simile, metonymy, symbol, and paradox for example
in lyrics it fell like we’re ocean apart, It is the world to me, I can’t love you in the dark, I’m being cruel to be kind. The second song is Send My Love, in this song researcher found three types of figurative language namely: metaphor, metonymy, and paradox for example in lyrics we’ve gotta let go of all of our ghosts, I was running you were walking, for the big one, for the big jump. Next song is I Miss You that was found five types they are, hyperbole, metonymy, litotes, allegory. For examples I want your heaven and your ocean too, we play so dirty in the dark, treat me soft but touch me cruel, baby don’t let the light go down, I want to step into your great unknown. The last is Sweetest Devotion there are five types of figurative language. For example: I’ve been frozen, hitting me like an explosion, that tears down my wall, in every face that I’ve ever know. Based on analyze four song the researcher found 21 data. There are 4 data of hyperbole, 3 data of simile, 1 data of metaphor, 2 data of personification, 3 data of metonymy, 1 data of litotes, 3 data symbol, 2 data of allegory, and 2 data of paradox.

In analyze the four songs the researcher did not find four (4) types of figurative language such as synecdoche, antithesis, irony and sarcasm. This types of figurative language does not match the theme of the song, so it is not properly placed in the lyrics of the song. The first song is Love in the Dark with the theme toxic relationship, second is Send My Love with the theme can’t move on, third is I Miss You with the theme longing, and the last Sweetest Devotion with the theme falling in love. In addition, not all song lyrics use figurative language, because the author wants to strengthen the meaning to be conveyed. This is in line with previous researchers Hasyim et al who said that in the lyrics of each word or line of song lyrics in it has a comparative meaning between the meaning of denotation and connotation so that it gives aesthetic value to the song.

2. The Dominant of Figurative Language Use in Four Songs

Based on the result of the analysis, it was found that percentage of hyperbole is 19,04%, the second are simile and metonymy with the percentage of 19,04%, the third are personification, symbol, paradox, and allegory with the percentage of 9,52%, and the last are metaphor and litotes with the percentage of 4,76%. Based on the percentage the most dominant of figurative language is hyperbole. It is line with the previous study by Dewi et al (2020) entitled Investigating Figurative Language In “Lose You to Love Me” Song Lyric. This research showed that the figurative language dominant is hyperbole which was found in the song lyrics. The figurative language of hyperbole is used to express ideas, emotions and imagination by exaggerating something so that the message the songwriter wants to convey can be conveyed.

D. Conclusion

The conclusion in this research based on the analysis and discussion explained in the previous chapter. It includes the types of figurative language on the album
entitled “25” and the most dominant of figurative language used on the album entitled “25”.

From the first statement problem, in analyzing figurative language, the researcher uses thirteen figurative languages which are used to analyze song lyrics namely: hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, litotes, symbol, paradox, allegory, antithesis, and sarcasm. Researcher found nine (9) types of figurative language being used in four (4) song such as hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, litotes, allegory, metonymy, symbol, and paradox.

The second statement problem, from the figurative language in the four (4) songs, the researcher has 21 data. There are 4 data of hyperbole with the percentage of 19,04%, 3 data of simile with the percentage of 14,28%, 1 data of metaphor with percentage of 4,76%, 2 data of personification with percentage of 9,52%, 3 data metonymy with percentage of 14,28%, 1 data litotes with the percentage of 4,76%, 3 data of symbol with the percentage of 14,28%, 2 data allegory with the percentage of 9,52% and 2 data paradox with the percentage of 9,52%. Based on the data the dominant types of figurative language in four song is hyperbole. Hyperbole is used to explain a songwriter’s ideas, emotions, and imagination by exaggerating something.

D. Acknowledgement

The researcher is so grateful to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala, The Most Gracious and Merciful one. All praise is to Allah for the powerful blessing and help that the researcher blessed with everything the researcher have today for the love and peaceful feeling that the researcher able to finish this thesis.

During the writing of this thesis, there are a lot of people who gave great helps from the beginning phase of the research until it finished. The researcher would like to express my thanks to:

1. SutamiDwi Lestari, M.Pd, as the Dean of Language and Art Faculty.
2. Nur Hasibin, M.Pd, as the Head of English Educational Department.
3. Sutami Dwi Lestari, M.Pd, and Wageyono, M.Pd., M.Hum, as the consultants.
   The researcher very grateful and indebted for their patience, motivation, enthusiasm, and immense knowledge.
   The researcher realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect. Therefore, the researcher is grateful to receive any constructive criticism and advice to improvement of this thesis. The researcher hopes this thesis can be one of those which give contribution for the readers in learning figurative language.

E. Reference


