ANALYSIS OF METAPHORICAL EXPRESSIONS
ON EVERLASTING LOVE SONGS

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ANALYSIS OF METAPHORICAL EXPRESSIONS ON EVERLASTING LOVE SONGS

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ABSTRACT

This research is aimed to identify the types of metaphorical expressions based on Human Perceptual System and explain its meaning in the everlasting love songs. In achieving the objectives, the writer uses descriptive qualitative as the type of research. The data is metaphorical expressions on everlasting love songs lyrics. In collecting the data, the writer uses documentation method and the steps are reading and learning from the lyrics of song, selecting the lyrics that contain metaphor, selecting the metaphorical expressions found in lyrics of song and the last is classifying the data. The technique of data analysis is using Michael C. Haley’s theory. The writer found six categories of Human Perceptual System in the everlasting love songs that include abstract, energy, terrestrial, substance, thing, and man concept.

Key words: Human Perceptual System, Metaphorical Expressions, Lyrics.

1. Introduction

In our daily life, we do many routine activities which have exhausted our power and energy. Those activities can make us tired, bored or stressed. People try to find a solution to solve the problems. Listening a song is one of the answers. It is the most cheapest and an easy way to do. Song is like a medicine that influence and change the listener’s mood and feeling.

The human’s needs are divided into two, namely: physically and mentally ones. Physical needs can be fulfilled by material things. While, the mental needs can be fulfilled by some ways, for example is by the song. Song is an art which created from one’s creativity and has beautiful words. Behind the song, there are many stories and messages that a composer wants to convey. The lyrics are not only entertains but also give an education and values of life to the listeners. The song lyrics usually are created based on
the result of experience, reflection of life, read the books and fantasy. The composer uses love as theme song due to it can touch our heart and feeling. Love is not only related to human’s relationship but also related to God and universe. To make his work has an esthetic taste and not just an ordinary work, a composer uses metaphorical expressions that contain metaphor. Metaphor is the way how to portray something by comparing it with something else. Metaphor can occur in the song because the composer can say more in fewer words.

The study of metaphor is important for two basic reasons namely, first because consciously or not, we are employing metaphor all the time and second because the working of metaphor sheds light on the ways in which literal languages operates (Goatly, 1997:3). Metaphor is used to express our understanding or interpretation of the world around us. To know the meaning of metaphor, the readers need to figure it out the relation between two objects that are compared it in the lyrics and find its similarities. From the lyrics of everlasting love songs, the writer wants to analyze and describe it by using metaphor entitling “Analysis of Metaphorical Expressions on Everlasting Love Songs”.

2. Research Method

The researcher uses descriptive qualitative as the type of research. The object of the study is analysis of metaphorical expressions on everlasting love song. The data are metaphorical expressions of the everlasting love songs lyrics that contain metaphor. Data sources are the lyrics from internet and cassettes. The method of the data collection is documentation and the technique of the data analysis is using Michael C. Haley’s theory.
3. Underlying Theory

a. The Definition of Semantic

Semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences (Yule, 2006:100). In semantics analysis, there is always an attempt to focus on what the words conventionally mean rather than on what an individual speaker might want them to mean on a particular occasion. Semantics deals with the conventional meaning conveyed by the use of words, phrases and sentences. According to Bloomer, Griffiths and Merrison (2005:154), semantics is the study of meaning, as stored in language waiting to be put to use. One notion that related to the concept of meaning is connotation, what the word suggests beyond what it expresses. Besides that, there is a denotation which is the meaning of a word or phrase with entities to which it refers.

i. The Meaning of Meaning

Consulting the dictionaries, Alwasilah (1987) in Srijono (2001:92) gave the meaning of meaning as follows: meaning is the thing that is conveyed especially by language, the meaning is the thing one intends to conveys especially by language, and meaning is logical connotation of a word or phrase. One notion that is related to the concept of meaning is connotation, the set of association that a word’s use can evoke. Besides that, there is a denotation which is the meaning of a word or phrase with entities to which it refers.

ii. The Types of Meaning

There are seven types of meaning, according to Leech in Djajasudarmo (1974:26) namely:

1. Conceptual meaning or sense

   Conceptual meaning is a meaning that sometimes called as denotative or logical or cognitive that is widely assumed as the central factor in linguistic communication (Leech,10).

2. Connotative meaning

   What is communicated by virtue of what language refers to.
3. Stylistic meaning
   What is communicated of the social circumstances of language use

4. Affective meaning
   Affective meaning is the meaning that communicate the feeling and the attitudes of the speaker, thus affective meaning is a type of meaning that reflect the speaker’s personal feeling (Leech:26).

5. Reflected meaning
   What is communicated through association with another sense.

6. Collocative meaning
   What is communicated through association with words which tend to occur in the environment of another words.

7. Thematic
   What is communicated by the way in which the message is organized interns of order and emphasis.

b. Linguistic Forms
   The language are always related of its structure and meaning. In grammatical structure, there are units of meaning which is described by hierarchy or pyramida, such as: words, phrase, clause, and sentence

Words
   Words are the smallest free forms found in language. Free means that it can stand by itself. Words are made up of morpheme. A simple word is a word that consists of a single morpheme (Srijono,2001:51).

Phrase
   According Emery, Kierzek and Lindblom, phrase is a group of a related words that does not contain a subject and a verb in combination (1978:69).

Clause
   Clause, according Emery, Kierzek, and Lindblom (1978:53), is a unit containing a subject and a verb but this group of words cannot stand alone as sentence.
**Sentence**

Frank (1972:220-221) stated that based on traditional grammar, a sentence is defined in one of two ways:

1. By meaning: according to this definition, a sentence is a complete thought.
2. By function: according to this definition, a sentence consists of a subject and a predicate.

**c. The Figurative Language**

**i. The Notion of Figurative Language**

Figurative –Latin *figura*, form, shape. This term is equivalent to metaphorical and opposed to literal (Scott, 1965:107). According to Perrine (1977:61-109), figurative language is a kind of figures speech that is used to utterance indirectly because there has no specific word, which has a concentrate meaning.. According Kennedy (1983:479), figurative of language like imagery refers us to the physical world. A figure of speech may be said to occur whenever a speaker or writer, for the sake of freshness or emphasis, depart from the usual denotation of words.

**ii. The Kinds of Figurative Language**

According to Perrine (1977:61-109), figurative language consists of eleven kinds, namely:

1. **Simile**
   
   Simile is an explicit or clear and direct, comparison between two things that are basically unlike using dead-giveaway- words such as “like”, “as though”, “seems”, “similar to”, “than”, or “as”.

2. **Metaphor**

   Metaphor is substituting words for others with which they share characteristics of meaning.

3. **Personification**

   It is really subtype of metaphor, an implied comparison, in which the figurative term of comparison is always human being.
4. Apostrophe
   Apostrophe is a figure of speech in which the absent is addressed as though it were present, it does as if it were living or the inanimate as though it were animate.

5. Synecdoche
   Synecdoche is using a part to mean the whole (a type of metaphor or metonymy).

6. Metonymy
   Metonymy is substituting words for others with which they share associations of meaning in the time and or space.

7. Allegory
   Allegory is a narrative or description that has a second meaning beneath the surface one.

8. Paradox
   Paradox is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless somehow true.

9. Hyperbole
   Hyperbole is a type of metaphor in which comparison is implied to a similar but extravagant or exaggerated case.

10. Litotes
    Litotes is the opposite of hyperbole, one states less than one’s full meaning.

11. Irony
    Irony is a type of metaphor in which comparison is implied to an opposite or unreasonably extreme case.

   **d. The Types of Metaphorical Expression Based on Human Perceptual System**

   The study of metaphor can be related to study about ecology system. To know about metaphor in ecology system usually use human perceptual concept based on Michael C. Haley that consists of nine types (in Sutrisno, 2006:13) namely:
1. Abstract Concept
The typical characteristics of this category is the predication of being present, although it cannot be directly experienced fully human senses in consists of truth, affection, love ( that exist).

2. Cosmos
It has characteristics of being in the space in the universe and can be experienced by the sense of sight, there in remote distance. It consists of sun, moon, earth, star (use space universe).

3. Energy
The special predication used by this category is not just being in the space, but also bearing the element of moving and energizing energy. It consists of light, wind, thunder, fire, air (which can move).

4. Substance
The predication utilized by this category is requiring space, having languor. It consists of its like gas.

5. Terrestrial
Terrestrial is any spread out area on earth, like sea, river, mountain, hill, dessert, and etc. It consists mountain, river and sea (all of which are spread).

6. Thing
Thing are predication of thing are being able to break, to shatter, to damage. It consists of all minerals (which can break).

7. Life
The special characteristics of this category is being able to grow. It consists of all flora or plants (which can grow).

8. Animate
The predication of this category does not exits and has soul. It consists of fauna (which can walk and run).

9. Man
People with their behavior the predication used by the people does not exist in other categories is the ability for everything.
4. Finding Research and Discussion
   a. Abstract Concept

   **You were the truth**

   The sentence above is included one of the examples of abstract concept that talks about the truth of its existence. The sentence above explains about the speaker’s finding of true love. The meaning of true love belongs to abstract concept.

   The sentence above is metaphoric because it compares the second person “You” and “truth”. The truth means that there is no lie or the truly fact. The speaker said that his lover is his true lover. In this world, there are some people who are beautiful just in outside. They are seems a kind person, but truly they are not. They are pretenders. When the speaker met this girl, he found someone who has beauty in inside and outside. She does not just have beautiful face but also an inner beauty. She acts normally and shows just the way she is.

   b. Energy Concept

   **I’ll be the fire in your night**

   In the utterance above, there is an example of noun from energy category that is a fire. “Fire” includes this special predication because it is not just being in the space, but also bearing the element of moving and emerging energy. A fire can be found in all surrounding and it used as the light in the darkness or producing heat energy. Some people usually make it to warm up the body in cold.

   The utterance “I’ll be the fire in your night” compares between the first person “I” and “fire”. Fire is a symbol of a hope and a spirit. It burns all the worries and frightens in our heart. The speaker states that he will be his lover’s hope in every situation especially when she frighten of something or lost in nowhere. The utterance above means that the speaker promises to her lover that he will be someone who always in her side to give support, spirit and guide her to the right way. He will help
her to calm down in facing all the problems. Nothing she has to worry about.

c. **Substance Concept**

You’re every breath that I take (09/EL/LS)

Breath contains some gases such as oxygen and carbon dioxide. When we are breathing, we take oxygen from the air and release carbon dioxide. Breath includes substance which is requiring space or having languor.

The utterance above is comparing the second person “You” and “everybreath”. The speaker states that his lover is like breath that is taken in every second, minute and hour. In other words, breath is the sign whether we still alive or not. Our body is never forgetting to take a breath. It is the vital part for human, animal or even plant. In the sentence above, the speaker describes his lover’s role position in his life. His lover is someone that he needs and very important in his life. Without her, he can’t live. He always thinks about her anytime and anywhere. She is the reason why he still alive and survive in this world.

d. **Terrestrial Concept**

Love is a river

River includes terrestrial abstract that spread out area on earth. It can be found in all areas in this world. It is on the surface of land.

The utterance above is metaphoric because it compares between “love” and “river”. Love is a feeling that cannot be forced by someone. It’s a natural feeling. River is the place where water from all the directions is concentrate. It is the source of life. Love is like a river that means that its combination or fusion of all the human’s feelings such as like, care, admire, and etc. Love is about the way how we can give many effects or impacts to other people and our environment. We must choose to keep it well or destroy it. Its result can be felt by us and our environment sooner or later, Love is not “take and give”, love is “give”.
e. **Thing Concept**

**Life is a road**

In the utterance above, life has the same characteristics of road. Road is made so human can go anywhere he wants. It is not always flat, sometimes we find a hole in it. Road includes thing concept because it able to break, shatter or damage.

The utterance above is metaphoric because it compares between life and a road. There are some characteristics of a road which can be seen in a life. A road and life are presented for us to reach a goal. A road is made to help us can get to our destination. A life is a way to get to eternality. On the journey of life, we may find something like the thorn or gravel that makes our journey get slowed down. Thorn or gravel is symbolized as the problems of life. From all those problems, we learn something. We have to face many problems of life and solve it. Even though life has many risks, the speaker keeps to move on and never give up. Life is a struggle and a process of learning that needs a patient.

f. **Man Concept**

**It was destiny’s game**

Game is made by human to win something or just for fun. There is a winner and a loser. Game is one of human’s activities that need some skills. It is only done by human not others categories that make game included man concept.

The utterance above compares “destiny” and “game”. Destiny is God’s project that nobody knows what will happen in the future. Game is human’s project that nobody knows who is gonna be the winner or the loser. In destiny and game, anything is unpredictable. Besides that, there are a punishment and reward. In the battle of life, we are faced many problems. In one time, we can get what we want, but in other times we may fail. All that we get isn’t always what we really needed. Sometimes we interested in someone else and want him or her to be ours. Unfortunately, he or she is not born for us. God knows who and what the
best for us. A good person will get the good person and vice versa. Everybody has their own time. Anything in this world is mystery. All that we need are pray, hard work, faith and be patient.

5. Conclusion
1. From nine categories of Michael C. Haley’s theory, the writer only found six categories of Human Perceptual System in the everlasting love songs that include abstract, energy, substance, terrestrial, thing, and man concept.
2. The writer concludes that the meaning of metaphorical expression in the everlasting love songs is “life is nothing without love”.

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