

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Song is one example of literary product. Listening song is an enjoyable activity, but the listeners cannot get a pleasure if they don't understand the message conveyed by the song writer. A song usually consists of figurative language, it can make the song lyrics more attractive. Figurative language can be found in song lyrics written well by the song writer. Understanding the song lyrics through analysing the figurative language makes people able to know the message that conveyed by song writer. Based on the reason, it brings the researcher analyze figurative language. In this research, the researcher analyzes figurative language in song lyrics of Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Semantics, according to Griffiths (2006), is the study of the sentence meaning coded in the overall sentence based on the elementary meaning of the sentence units. It can be summarized that every words have to be the important part, because the words are base of what sentences mean. In other way, when a person wants to analyze the goal of the sentences or paragraphs, it must be started from the bases on the elementary part of the sentences.

Figurative language is language that uses words or expression with a meaning that is different from the literal meaning. Every figurative language used in songs lyric always has a message. In the Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary, it is stated that message is a written or spoken piece of information sent to somebody or left for somebody. To understand deeply the message represented by the use of figurative language interpretation is needed. Many people who feel sad, boring, uneasy, and worried to do something fun, they like to listen to music or sing a song because music can illustrate feeling, emotion, and imagination. Thus, when someone listen to the music, they will feel enjoy, relax, and happy. Moreover, they will give appreciation if they can understand and absorb every meaning of word from songs which they listen to. However, most of people find difficulty when they are reading or understanding some lyrics.

Figurative language is commonly applied in literary works, such as in short fiction, poetry, and drama. Songs are included as poetry. Poems, perhaps even more than other texts, can sharpen the reading skills because they tend to be so compact, so fully dependent on concise expressions of feeling. In poems, ideas and feelings are packed tightly into just a few lines (Beatty, 2002-601). The language of poetry is almost always visual and pictorial. Rather than depending primarily on abstract ideas and elaborate reasoning, poems depend mainly on concrete and specific words that create images in our mind (Beatty, 2002-710). Being visual does not just mean describing; telling us facts; indicating shapes, colors, and specific details; and giving us precise discriminations through exacting verbs, nouns, adverbs, and adjectives. Often vividness of the picture in our minds depends upon comparisons through figures of speech.

For the example, one of the lyric in Californication song “*Firstborn unicorn*” this song lyrics has a figurative language namely metonymy. Metonymy is one kind of figurative language that use of something closely related for the thing actually meant. In lexical meaning, the word “unicorn” means a mythical animal, usually white animal generally depicted with the body and head of a horse with long flowing mane and tail and a single often spiraled horn in the middle of the forehead. While in contextual meaning, unicorn are strongly associated with the feminine and as such have traditionally appeared as a symbol of chastity, the divine power that nurtures all living things, and an emblem of the word of divine presence. This is why it is often said that only a virgin can catch a unicorn.

The reasons why the researcher choose song lyrics in this research because in all time, music has a spiritual power to be able to send the message from the song writer to listener. Beside that, the song by Red Hot Chili Peppers was successful in attracting the listener with satirical lyric brought up with figurative language which has ambiguous meaning. Song lyrics by the Red Hot Chili Peppers on the album Californication generally raised issues that were being widely held at that time, for example in the song Californication, the issue raised on that song was globalization that occurred in California. Moreover, with this ambiguous song lyrics that contains figurative language are the reason why the researcher write this research.

## **B. Problem Statement**

There are problem statements of this research :

1. What are the types of figurative language used in Red Hot Chili Pappers selected song in Californication album?.
2. What are the types of meaning used Red Hot Chili Pappers selected song in Californication album?.

## **C. Objective of the Study**

There are objective of the research:

1. To identify the types of figurative language used in Red Hot Chili Pappers selected song in Californication album.
2. To describe the types of meaning used in Red Hot Chili Pappers selected song in Californication album.

## **D. Benefit of he Study**

The benefit of this research can be viewed from theoretical and practical aspects, as describe below :

1. Theoretically, this research is expected to show the types of figurative language used in the lyric of Red Hot Chili Pappers selected song in Californication album.

2. Practically,

- a. Teacher

This research is expected to enrich the knowledge about figurative languagae in learning process.

- b. Future Researcher

This research is hopefully give the information for the next researcher how to analyze song lyric using semantic analysis, especially in figurative language.