

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the study

Bangtan Sonyeondan/BTS, also known as Bangtan Boys, is a South Korean boy band formed in 2010 and debuted in 2013 under Bighit Entertainment (now Hybe Entertainment). BTS consists of seven members namely, RM (Kim Namjoon) as the leader in this group, Jin (Kim Seokjin), Suga (Min Yoongi), J-Hope (Jung Hoseok), Jimin (Park Jimin), V (Kim Taehyung), Jungkook (Jeon Jungkook). There are several songs sung by Bangtan Sonyeondan: Permission to Dance, Dynamite, and Butter was released on 27 August 2021. Not only achievements, the seven members also have talent, personality and shining visuals that can captivate the hearts of many people. However, it's not just fans who are aware of their global power. Because there are many other parties who recognize the greatness of BTS as world-class musicians. More specifically, it's the message of the songs that ultimately makes BTS look more attractive.

The scientific study of language is linguistics. The word 'linguistics' comes from the Latin words 'lingua' which means 'tongue' and 'istics' which means 'knowledge'. According to Akmajian et al (2001:5) in linguistics, then what is linguistics? Basically, this field is related to communication (linguistics) and the nature of language. One of the linguistic sciences besides Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Pragmatics, and Semantics. Semantics is one of the important branches of linguistics.

Semantics is the study of the meaning and interpretation of words, signs, and sentence structures. Semantics can also relate to the branch of linguistic study that deals with language and how to understand that meaning. The purpose of semantics is to suggest precise meanings of words and phrases, and eliminate confusion, which might lead readers to believe that a word has many possible meanings. As a result, whether a sentence has literal or metaphorical meaning, the meaning inside it becomes crucial to define its meaning.

Actually, many students are still unaware of what semantics is. This is due to a lack of semantic explanation in most classroom environments. Understanding semantic meaning can be challenging for many researchers and students in the class, especially when defining terms that contain metaphors or other literal or figurative meanings. The semantic discussion itself covers only text assignments, discussion, and readings. This is evident from the students' difficulties in reacting to the teachings succinctly conveyed by learning. The low grades in semantics classes are a result of this.

Since the lecturer used many examples of figurative language, including metaphors, during the semantics course, many researchers examined semantics, particularly in metaphors. However, it merely briefly describes the metaphor. In reality, there are countless instances of metaphor in literature, including songs, poetry, and novels. The most significant aspects of semantic theory in mind and language as the primary roles are focused on metaphor, according to Saeed (1997: 347).

A metaphor is a figure of speech that describes an object or action in a way that is not literally true, but explains an idea or makes a comparison. Metaphor occurs when an expression, phrase or word is used in a way that is contrary to its usual (nonfictional) meaning, so that part of its meaning is applied to a different semantic domain.

To overcome this problem can be solved by applying one of the theories of Ullman (2009: 270), dividing the types of metaphors into four categories, namely synthetic metaphors, concrete to abstract metaphors, zoological/animal metaphors, anthropomorphic metaphors. Previous research was conducted by Luthfi Bahrul Anwari (2019) with the title "Analysis of Metaphors Used in Harris Jung's Selected Songs". There are two different sorts of metaphors in the song, according to the evaluation and analysis of the author's findings. According to Stephen Ullman, there are two different categories of metaphors: anthropomorphic metaphors, which are only occasionally employed (1 data), and concrete to abstract metaphors, which Harris Jung uses most frequently (11 data).

Based to a brief description above, this study examines semantics with a metaphoric focus. Because *Permission to Dance*, *Butter* and *Dynamite* by Bangtan Sonyeondan contains many figurative sentences and used the metaphorical language, researchers decided to investigate it.

## **B. Identification of the Problem**

The researcher was given the following details regarding the issue under study based on the written background:

1. English students are weak in understanding semantics which focuses on metaphors.
2. Students feel confused in differentiating metaphors.

## **C. Limitation of the Study**

This study's limitations are related to semantics, and the research in issue concentrates on metaphors in the lyrics of Bangtan Sonyeondan songs. The researcher also uses metaphors to understand the meaning of Bangtan Sonyeondan's song lyrics.

## **D. Problem Statement**

Regarding the context of the study, this study will provide answers to the following two questions:

1. What metaphor types are found in the Bangtan Sonyeondan's songs?
2. What are the metaphors meanings used in the Bangtan Sonyeondan's songs?

## **E. Objective of the Study**

The objectives that are expected to be achieved as a result of this analysis are listed below. The researcher is interested in particular:

1. Describe the metaphor types contained in the Bangtan Sonyeondan's songs.
2. Describe of the meaning of each metaphor used in the Bangtan Sonyeondan's songs.

## **F. Significance of the Study**

### 1. Theoretically

The aim of this study is to expand people's understanding of semantics, particularly in terms of the various kinds of metaphors and their meanings.

### 2. Practically

The researcher expects that it will serve as a resource for further researchers who are interested to conduct this research with the same focus, to understand the meaning of metaphors and their various types.

#### a. For Teachers

English teachers can use this study to improve their understanding of semantics and comprehend the song's meaning more clearly. Every song's lyrics have a deeper meaning, and some have educational value.

#### b. For Students

Students are encouraged to apply their understanding of semantics, particularly metaphors, in their daily activities in both teaching and learning circumstances.

#### c. For Researchers

In particular for students in the Department of English Education at the Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, it is envisaged that additional researchers would deepen their understanding of linked researchers and expand knowledge about semantics.