



Figurative Language Found In The Song Lyric “Jealously” By Olivia Rodrigo

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Abstract: This article discusses the figurative language used in the lyric song Jealously by Olivia Rodrigo. The author assumes that the song’s figurative language is intended to pique the interest of music fans in describing their feelings. The article entitled ‘an analysis of figurative language in the lyric song Jealously by Olivia Rodrigo aims to identify what types and find the meaning of the figurative language in the song. To analyze the data, the main theory used in this article is the figurative language theory proposed by Arp and Perrine (1991), Meanwhile to analyze the meaning the writer proposed the theory by Leech (1981). The data on the song lyric was collected by downloading the song from youtube, listening to and understanding the song lyric, and taking notes classifying the data based on figurative language. As a result of this analysis, the researcher found 5 types of figurative language found in song lyrics. They were simile consisted of 1 (16%) word, overstatement had 1 word (16%), personification 2 words (36%), irony 1 word (16%), and paradox 1 word (16%). The data were analyzed descriptively by using qualitative methods. The data is taken from one edition of the song released in 2021. These lyrics convey a deep feeling of sorrow and regret. The jealousy expressed is not related to doubts about infidelity, but instead highlights the unbearable hurt of witnessing an ex-lover move forward and discover joy with another person.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Song, Figurative Language Meaning.

Introduction

According to Griffiths (2006), Semantics is the study of a ‘toolkit’ for meaning known as semantics. knowledge encoded in the language’s patterns and vocabulary for constructing more complex meanings. A descriptive subject, semantics is the study of word and sentence meanings separated from usage contexts. It is hoped that people will be able to describe and comprehend the nature of their language-related knowledge of the meaning. Semantic is an attempt to explicate the knowledge of any speaker to communicate facts, feelings, intentions, and products of the imagination to other speakers and to understand what they communicate to him or her, (Kreidler, 1998). As a main study semantic figurative language is often used by people in their daily conversation in order to make sentence sounds beautiful. Figurative language is the language using a figure of speech in a way of saying one thing and has meaning. Arp and Perrine (1992), define figurative speech as ‘any way of saying something other than ordinary way’. Rhetoricians have categorized up to 250 figures. A figure of speech, on the other hand, can be more precisely defined for our purposes as a means of saying one thing and meaning another, and we only need to be

concerned with a dozen of them. A type of language that can not be taken literally (or should not be taken only) is figurative language that makes use of figurative speech. Figurative language is language, words, and phrases, used in a way that is different from the usual meaning, to create a particular mental picture (Oxford dictionary). Figurative language is presented in literary works as a song. A song is a musical composition intended to be performed by the human voice. Songs have many different structures, like sections that are repeated and changed. Lyrics are written words that are either created specifically for music or for which music is specifically created. Chants are songs that are sung on repeated pitches without distinct contours or rising and falling patterns. Folk songs are songs written in a straightforward style that are learned casually 'by ear'. Popular songs are songs written for professional singers who sell their recordings or live shows to the general public. Songs can be recorded simultaneously on video or audio, or they can perform live and record simultaneously. The similarity between previous research and the current research is that both analyze the figurative language used in the lyrics of songs. Meanwhile, the difference between previous research and the current research can be seen in the data source and theories.

Literature Review

The first related research was written by Swarniti (2022) entitled *Analysis of Figurative Language in "Easy On Me" Song Lyrics*. Swarniti proposes two statements of the problem: to classify and analyze the lyric of Adele's song "Easy on Me" based on the figurative language used. To analyze the problem, Swarniti used the theory by Miller and Greenberg (1981). Based on her research, she found symbols, metonymy, ellipsis, allusion, paradox, litotes, hyperbole, and personification. The similarity between his study and the current research is that both analyze the figurative language used in the lyrics of songs. Meanwhile, the difference between his study and the current research can be seen in the data source and theories. The second study was performed by Heni (2021) entitled *An Analysis of Figurative Language Found in Ed Sheeran's Selected Songs*. The aims of his study are what types of figurative language are used in Ed Sheeran's selected song and what the meaning of figurative language is presented in Ed Sheeran's selected song. In his study, she found six types of figurative language: irony, personification, simile, hyperbole, and metaphor. To solve the problem, she used the theory proposed by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963), to analyze the meaning of those figurative languages, used in the theory proposed by Leech (1974). The third is an article written by Rusdiyanto and Astutik (2018) entitled *An Analysis of Figurative Language in The Song Albums of Adele and Taylor Swift*. The authors offer two solutions to the issue: what are Adele and Taylor Swift's figurative languages, and what is their most common type of figurative language? This study employs a qualitative approach by the author. Finally, the author discovered 22 figurative languages in the song by Taylor Swift and 23 in the song by Adele. Synecdoche, irony, symbol, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, paradox, and simile are all examples of these words. Personification, which falls under comparative figurative language, is Adele and Taylor Swift's most common form of figurative language. The last article published by Ibrahim, Akib, and Hasyim (2019) is entitled *The Analysis of Figurative Language in "Endless Love" song lyrics*. The study aims of the research is to find out the kinds and meanings of figurative

language in 'endless love song lyrics The result of their study showed that there are 7 kinds of figurative language in the lyric song, there are repetition, hyperbole, metaphor, personification, dispersonafication, pleonasm, and onomatopeia. The meanings used in the figurative language of the song lyric are connotative and denotative. The method used to analyze the data is similar to this study. Meanwhile, the difference is seen in the data source. In terms of the previous above, this learn about concludes that there are some methods that can be used to analyze figurative language in literary works. In this study, the writer tries to use one of the techniques to analyze the music lyric namely the descriptive qualitative method although there are similarities between the research to this study in terms of figurative language. the figurative language in this study will be analyzed based on the "Jealously" song lyric.

Methodology

The data of this study were taken from the Sour album by Olivia Rodrigo. To collect the data, the writer used method observation by conducting several steps: © downloading the songs. understanding and listening repeatedly to the songs. classifying and note-taking the data based on types of figurative language. To analyze the data the writer used the qualitative method, it was done in the following stare to identify the kinds of figurative language using the theory of figurative language by Arp&Perrine (1992) to analyze the meaning of figurative language using the theory by Leech (1981). The informal method used descriptive paragraphs to describe the types of figurative language and their meaning of figurative language found in the song lyric Jealously.

Result and Discussion

This section presents how the researcher analyzed the data source with a small description of how figurative language is determined. This study found types of figurative language such as simile, metaphor, personification, irony, and paradox.

Table 1. An example of a table (font size 10pt)

Figurative language	Occurrence	Percentages
Simile	1	16%
Overstatement	1	16%
Personification	2	36%
Irony	1	16%
Paradox	1	16%
Total		100%



Figure 1. Types of figurative language .

1. Simile.

Simile means comparing things that are essentially unlike (Perrine, 1992). In a simile, the comparison is expressed by the utilization of some words or phrases, like, as, and so.

- Data 1

I know their beauty's not my lack but it feels like that weight is on my back. The data mentioned above are included in the example for types of figurative language simile. The data above is a simile because there is the word 'like' as a characteristic type of simile in the description of the figurative language. The sentence above is categorized as a simile because this sentence compares to express something, they are beauty and weight, both have different meanings that beauty is something that we can make and also weight is the heaviness of a person or thing. So, the author wants to describe many people right now comparing their life to others so that's why a lot of people are insecure.

2. Personification.

Personification is the process of imputing human characteristics to an item, an animal, or an idea. It is a sort of metaphor and implied comparison in which a human being is always used as the metaphorical term of comparison.

- Data 2

Am I happy for them, but then again, I'm not? The data is categorized as a personification because personification shows a comparison of two different things, in this case, the writer wants to explain to the reader that both are things that influencers are constantly posting to their feeds. She digresses though as she points out that I'm happy for them, but then again, I'm not. So, the author wants to describe how people are jealous of someone on social media, but then they are still seeing them.

- Data 3

Cause all I see are girls too good to be true, with paper white teeth and perfect bodies. The data above is categorized as a personification because that sentence shows the comparison of things. The author wants to describe right now a lot of people are obsessed with social media, that's like how people hurt their feelings all the time and compare themselves to everyone. They felt like their life was only what they showed to others.

3. Overstatement.

Overstatement or hyperbole is simply an exaggeration, but exaggeration in the service of truth ([Perrine 1992](#))

- Data 4

Co-comparison is killing me slowly. Within the sentence above kind of figurative language, the researcher observed an overstatement, because it compares two different things. The sentence "co-comparison killin me slowly" is considered an overstatement because, in fact, the comparison cannot make someone killed. It has a hyperbolic meaning because the author exaggeration the meaning. In this lyric, the

author wants to tell the readers when people followed someone famous on social media, they compare to themselves, so it makes feels toxic to want other people's life.

4. Ironi Perrine (1992) said that verbal irony is saying the other what one means. In a simple form, verbal irony means the other of what's being said. Irony features a meaning that extends beyond its use merely as a figure of speech. Irony on the opposite hand may be a literary device or figure which will be utilized in the service of sarcasm or ridicule or might not.

- Data 5

I'm so sick of myself. The lyrics above are categorized as irony because just realized how the world really is. Everything in this world is inseparable from the good or bad of something. In this context, the singer said, "I'm so sick of myself" This sentence is typically for emphatic effects, like how someone blames themselves, so the author wants to describe the sentence as about how people sarcasm in their life.

5. Paradox.

Perrine (1992) said paradox is an apparent contradiction that is nevertheless somehow true, it may be either a situation or a statement.

- Data 6

Their win is not my loss. As a paradox means a statement that consists of two things. The sentence above is a paradox because the sentence has contradicted each other. This sentence looks to not make any sense. The paradox appears when two things should not be able to exist together. The word win and loss are showing the contradiction. The sentence is like a statement, to give an explanation for anyone that when someone wins it is their turn, not other people's loss.

The emotions in the lyrics of the song convey a deep feeling of sorrow and regret. meanwhile the themes of social comparison utilize emotion to challenge the curated "highlight reels" often seen on social media. In this framework, jealousy suggests feelings of inferiority, the dangers of perpetual comparison, and the ensuing self-loathing when an individual perceives they fall short of the idealized lifestyles of others. The connections with previous studies, which both analyze figurative language and find the meaning of the song lyrics.

Conclusion

Based on the result of the analysis, the author found types of figurative language in the song lyric 'jealously' namely simile, overstatement, personification, irony, and paradox. It found five data of figurative language, there is one sentence identified as a simile, one sentence as an overstatement, 2 sentences as a personification, one sentence as irony, and one sentence as a paradox. The author hopes that the searcher can understood the meaning of the lyrics of the song. Figurative language has been used in everyday conversation to help convey messages and this research help and motivate others who want to study more how figurative language is used and understood.

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