

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher focused on four sub-chapters. They are background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, and the definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Song uses figurative language to make the lyric appear more beautiful and has an implicit meaning. Lyric written in order to convey the feeling and emotion contain message from the writer to the listener. Therefore, the meaning of the song can be different from each individual listener depending on how they interpret the meaning of the song based on their own feeling, experiences, and life. Employing Figurative language in lyric of song is very common for lyricist or writer since they have the power to make the words appear more interesting and beautiful. The figurative language, as states by Gibbs and Turner (1997) points to translation which cannot be directly stated and denies the adequacy of that translation, thus encouraging further interpretation. Traditionally, Glucksberg (2001) stated figurative language such as metaphors and idioms has been considered derivative from and more complex than ostensibly straightforward language.

Figurative language can also be defined as any deliberate departure from the conventional meaning, order, or construction of words. In Mark Twain's non-fictional work entitled "Old Times on the Mississippi" published in 1876 there are sentences *"I was helpless. I did not know what in the world to do. I was quaking from head to foot, and could have hung my hat on my eyes, they stuck out so far."* These sentences use figurative language which is hyperbole. Another example of figurative language is in Austin O'Malley's book entitled *Keystones of Thought*. In O'Malley's book, he wrote, *memory is a crazy woman that hoards colored rags and throws away food*. This sentence uses figurative language which is metaphor.

Most of the meanings of the figurative language found in the songs are classified into connotative meaning because they cannot be translated literally and everyone will often interpret them differently depending on many factors. Figurative language commonly found in the song, listener can be fully understanding the meaning of the song if they understand the figurative language.

Music is one of the oldest forms of entertainment and people enjoy music since a way back from this digital era. In this era, there are many songs released by many singers either soloists, bands, duos, and etc.

Every country has many singers and they release many songs as well. American and British songs are the most popular songs in the world, mostly because English is commonly used by many people as their first or second language and many people around the world are familiar with and learning English as a subject in school or university.

Adele Born in England, 5th may 1988 is an English singer and songwriter who rose to fame owing to her distinctive voice and has become one of the best-selling artists of our times. Adele released her first album *19* in 2008 which debuted at number 1 on the British album chart, and she received many praise for her unique and soulful voice. Later, her second album *21* was released which comprised several hit singles and sold over 3.4 million copies in the UK and became the biggest-selling album of the 21st century.

This *25* album was her third album and released on released on November 20, 2015, nearly 5 years after her previous LP, *21*, and also after a 3-year hiatus from her music career. *25* broke the record in three days, selling 2.433 million within the three days, and going on to sell a total of 3.378 million copies across its first tracking week in the United States. It broke the same record in the UK, Canada, and globally. *25* has gone on to receive Adele's second RIAA Diamond certification in the US, and sell a total of 20 million copies worldwide, making it the second-highest selling album of the decade, behind *21*.

The writer chooses Adele's Songs on *25* as an object of study because this album including many lyrics using figurative language that interesting to analyze. Adele is known for her emotional music and lyric. Adele's previous album *19* and *21* mostly uses figurative language and she recognized as poetic and sentimental lyricist . The writer also limits it only in *25* album because this is the latest Adele album. The writer analyzed fourteen tracks including the bonus track, there are: *Hello*, *Send My Love(To Your New Lover)*, *I Miss You*, *When We Were Young*, *Remedy*, *Water Under The Bridge*, *River Lea*, *Love In The Dark*, *Million*

Years Ago, All I Ask, Sweetest Devotion, Can't Let Go, Lay Me Down and Why Do You Love Me.

In first track of Adele's Album 25 entitled *hello*, the writer found hyperbole in the verse *and a million miles, i must've called a thousand times and it clearly doesn't tear you apart*. In the same track, there are personification as well, in the sentence *they say that time's supposed to heal*. In one song, there are two kinds figurative language. This show, the writer can found many figurative language in Adele's song lyric in 25album.

In conducting this study, the writer applied Reaske (1996) and Keraf (1991) theory about figurative language. The theory are used to analyze Adele's song lyric in 25 album. The writer also used descriptive qualitative approach by identifying Adele's song lyric in 25 album containing figurative language.

This study is dedicated for the academic purposes and expected to enrich the study of English especially in figurative language to help more understanding the meanings or messages in lyric. Furthermore, the findings of this study are expected to give valuable contributions for the next writerto research more about figurative language in song lyric, real life conversation, movie and other. This study is also expected to give an information about figurative language found in Adele's 25 album to the reader. Therefore the writer entitled this study "A Study of Figurative Language Found in Adele's Song in 25 Album.

1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the research will investigate the following problem:

1. What kinds of figurative language are used in the song lyrics of Adele album “25”?
2. What are the meanings of the songs lyrics of Adele album “25”?

1.2 Objectives of the Study

Related to the problems of the study above, the objective of this study is:

1. To find the types of figurative language used in the song lyrics of Adele album “25”.
2. To find the meanings of the song lyrics of Adele album “25”.

1.3 Definition of Key terms

a. Figurative Language

Figurative language, which employs various figures of speech on kind of language, which departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing person or objects (Reaske, 1966, p.33).

b. Songs

A piece of music, usually employing a verbal text, composed for the voice, especially one intended for performance by a soloist. (Collinsdictionary.com)

c. **25 album**

25 is the highly-anticipated third studio album by Adele. It was released on November 20, 2015 ([Genius.com](#))