

Exploring The Figurative Language Landscape In “Moana” Movie (A Semantics Analysis on Figurative Language)

Toibah Hasanah Tinambunan

Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, FKIP, Universitas Alwashliyah, Medan

Email: hasanahtoibah@gmail.com

Meida Rabia Sihite

Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, FKIP, Universitas Alwashliyah, Medan

Email: meidarabia55@gmail.com

Syafrina Prihatini

Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, FKIP, Universitas Alwashliyah, Medan

Email: syafrina.ari@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The goals of the research were to identify the many forms of symbolic language employed in the film "Moana" and to provide an analysis of the symbolic language's contextual significance. A descriptive qualitative approach was used to carry out the research in this study. The actors' and actresses' dialogues from the film Moana were analyzed using the text transcribed version of the film. Metaphor(25.66%), metonymy(12.38%), hyperbole(17.69%), personification(9.37%), simile(0.88%), irony(22.12%), symbolism(7.96%), and paradox (3.53%) were the eight forms of figurative language identified in the Moana animated film. In addition, the researchers found that the meaning of each figure of speech varied depending on the situation in which it was used.

Keywords: figurative language, movie, Moana

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi berbagai bentuk bahasa simbolik yang digunakan dalam film “Moana” dan untuk memberikan analisis makna kontekstual bahasa simbolik tersebut. Pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif digunakan untuk melaksanakan penelitian dalam penelitian ini. Dialog aktor dan aktris dari film Moana dianalisis menggunakan versi film yang ditranskrip teks. Metafora (25,66%), metonimi (12,38%), hiperbola (17,69%), personifikasi (9,37%), simile (0,88%), ironi (22,12%), simbolisme (7,96%), dan paradoks (3,53%) adalah yang paling berpengaruh. delapan bentuk bahasa kiasan yang diidentifikasi dalam film animasi Moana. Selain itu, peneliti menemukan bahwa makna setiap majas berbeda-beda tergantung pada situasi penggunaan majas tersebut.

Kata kunci: bahasa kiasan , film, Moana

A. Introduction

Everyday life depends on language because it facilitates communication between people and communities. Humans rely on language as a tool for interaction, exchange of information, and transmission of meaning. The elements that make up sentences and the rules for their correct use are symbols, words and grammatical rules that form language. Hendar and Anshari (2021) stated that for communication to run smoothly, there needs to be understanding from both parties. Thus, communication will be successful if both the speaker and listener are able to understand each other. In order for others to understand what say, language is a must-have for effective communication.

Literary language is very different from everyday speech in many ways. This can be expressed in a variety of distinctive ways. A literary work is any writing or collection of literary works. Writing that is aesthetic, creative and beautiful is the expression used to describe it. Poetry, drama, essays, and prose fiction (novels, short stories) are all forms of literary works. Because of careful consideration of syntax, style, and organization, literary works often have aesthetic attributes. Metaphor, symbolism, hyperbole, irony, and foreshadowing are literary devices that writers use to enrich their stories and reveal deeper meanings; these concepts are known in semantics as figurative language.

Semantics is the branch of linguistics that studies words and their meanings. The study of the properties of conveying meaning from each word, phrase, sentence, and discourse is the main focus of this subfield of linguistics. Analyzing the relationships between words, their meanings, and their combination to form meaning in various settings is the essence of semantic analysis. According to Siana (2017), the science that studies the meaning or significance contained in a language, code, or other representation is known as semantics, one of the subfields of linguistics. Arifah (2016) argues that figurative language is fundamentally a part of

semantics. Words and expressions used in figurative language can have multiple meanings beyond their literal translation. Because its meaning differs from that of literal words, people must make an extra effort to grasp figurative language. To employ figurative language is to use words whose meanings are broader than their literal ones. In order to grasp the author's intended meaning, readers are urged to employ their imaginations. This makes it hard to grasp the significance of figurative language since, unlike other words we frequently use in ordinary speech, their definitions are not readily available in dictionaries. The only way to understand figurative language is to put ourselves in the reader's shoes and try to picture what the words imply. According to Swaruniti (2021), figurative language is what makes a language valuable. Figurative language is a fascinating aspect of literature since it enhances and refines the characters' language and dialogue. Utilizing metaphors and similes is useful for four primary reasons. As a first point, figurative language enriches literary works by appealing to readers' imaginations. Second, ways to give greater visuals to poetry, concreteness to the abstract, and sensuality to literary works. Third, using figures of speech is a great approach to express ideas and information while also adding an emotional punch to informative words. Finally, it expresses a lot of things succinctly.

Apostrophe, Synecdoche, Hyperbole, Symbol, Allegory, Irony, Paradox, Personification, and Understatement are the various forms of figurative language listed by Perrine in Dwi Kurniawan (2014:11). At the same time, the forms of figurative language are listed by Abrams in Syafitri (2018): paradox, personification, hyperbole, simile, irony, and metaphor. This idea is

commonly employed by researchers to study literary works' figurative language. Beyond that, the public is also well-versed in these eight forms of metaphorical language.

As prospective educators, we can help ourselves and our students in the long run by studying metaphorical language. One way to illustrate an idea with figurative language is to make comparisons to other things. Using vivid language like this makes reading a real experience. As part of their education, students should learn to recognize and use many forms of figurative language. Teachers can engage students in figurative language exploration through a variety of engaging activities. When people study a language, they not only learn its varieties but also its meanings. People express themselves in different forms, including song lyrics, novels, advertisements, poems, and movies. The researchers in this study will be analyzing films. In addition to providing entertainment, movies often have important messages to teach their audiences. A film can serve as a medium for the dissemination of information and instruction in the field of education. Nurmaini (2019) states that movies are a kind of entertainment that convey stories through a continual visual illusion. Many people, particularly students, are familiar with movies these days. One kind of educational media that can be utilized in the classroom is movies. When students see films instead of books as a kind of educational media, they will be more engaged. Visual art in the form of moving pictures and sound can serve to educate or entertain an audience. A movie is a kind of visual media that is either inspired by or created from a real-life concept; as such, it is expected to incorporate elements of both amusement and meaning. The circumstances of filming provide this

entertaining and meaningful component, which can take the shape of historical documentaries or comedies. The researcher examined the metaphors and similes in the film "Moana" in this study. Moana, created and produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios, is a 2016 musical animated feature film. In Moana, a young Polynesian princess called Moana sets sail to rescue her people from a devastating disaster. After the theft of the heart of the mystical island goddess Te Fiti sent a curse sweeping throughout the sea, she sets out on a mission to locate the demigod Maui and return the heart to its rightful owner.

Moana learns more about herself and her origins as she faces many obstacles and fights mythological animals on her voyage. She befriends Maui on her journey, and the two of them work together to protect her from the dangers of the ocean. Beautiful Polynesian culture and traditions are showcased in the short, which has infectious music and lively animation. With its uplifting portrayal of a powerful female lead, the film was well-received by viewers of all ages.

The researcher chose to study figurative language in the film "Moana" for a number of reasons. To begin, figurative language diversity. Numerous instances of figurative language are present in the animated film Moana. Symbolism, metaphor, personification, comparison, and other figurative language forms are all part of it. The film provides ample opportunity to delve into various forms and applications of metaphor. Two more: well-known and respected. Everyone knows and loves the Moana movie. Figurative language study can reach a wider audience and pique their interest by focusing on a well-known film. Additionally, it facilitates the discovery of supplementary materials

and references pertaining to the film. Finally, a captivating narrative and setting. Moana provides a captivating tale set against a vibrant Pacific cultural backdrop. Story and cultural background can play a significant role in figurative language analysis. Through its songs, storytelling, and dialogue, Moana provides a fascinating look into Polynesian culture. Finally, the story's moral. An appreciation for and knowledge of nature, as well as the value of bravery and persistence, are major themes. A courageous Polynesian princess named Moana is out to save her home island and put everything back in balance. It encourages us to find our inner strength and bravery as we continue on this path of life.

B. Research Method

There is a research design for every study. This study was a descriptive qualitative study. In order to define and analyze the various forms of figurative language and contextual meaning in the film Moana, this research utilized a qualitative descriptive method to examine the topic. Problem formulation, data collection, data classification, and data analysis will constitute the research process.

The procedure for gathering information, including methods: As a preliminary step, the researcher viewed the film Moana. The researcher then reads the script multiple times to fully comprehend it, after which she downloads the script and subtitling to learn the data between SL and TL. Step two involves familiarizing oneself with the notion of figurative language and how it applies to the analysis of the Moana film script. The penultimate step is to make a list of every single word, phrase, and sentence that uses metaphor or simile.

The following stage, following data collection, was analysis through data classification according to figurative language kinds.

C. Result and Discussion

The data used in this research was taken from the film Moana as mentioned in the previous chapter. The duration of this film is 1 hour 47 minutes. All the sentences spoken by the characters in the film Moana include figurative language. The entire data set is provided in the appendix, as in the table.

The next step after data collection is data analysis through classification of types of figurative language. There is one dominant form of figurative language among the 113 sentences featured in the Moana film script. Table 4.1 below shows the final tally of the percentage and frequency of the film's figurative language.

Table 1 The Percentage of Figurative Language in Moana Movie

No	Types of Figurative language	Frequency	Percentage
1	Metaphor	29	25,66 %
2	Metonymy	14	12,38 %
3	Hyperbole	20	17,69 %
4	Personification	11	9,37 %
5	Simile	1	0,88 %
6	Irony	25	22,12 %
7	Symbolism	9	7,96 %
8	Paradox	4	3,53 %
	TOTAL	113	100%

Metaphor (25.66%), metonymy (12.38%), hyperbole (17.69%), personification (9.37%), simile (0.88%), irony (22.12%), symbolism (7.96%), and paradox (3.53%) are all present in the film Moana, as seen in Table 1. We have categorized all sentences according to various forms of metaphorical language.

Metaphor

When we talk about one thing with another thing or associate one thing with another thing, we imply that the two things are related metaphorically.

Gramma Tala: Hikonga Ora. There was unimaginable power in him. Life itself can be created by it.

Here, the power to generate life itself is metaphorically linked to the heart of Te Fiti. The absence of the prepositions "like" and "as" forms the basis of the metaphorical comparison between the heart and the infinitely powerful force.

Metonymy

Metonymy refers to the practice of describing an object using the name of another object that is closely related to it. Renaming of items, people, or qualities.

Gramma Tala: Except for one, have heard every story about our people.

"As a metonymy for the culture and traditions of Moana's people, "the story of our people" implies that there is one story that Moana has never heard.

Hyperbole

Excessive figure of speech is hyperbole. It accurately describes the size, quantity, or degree of something without intentionally misleading.

Maui: No, yes, yes, yes. I am not afraid. Otherwise, will sleep under my arm.

To emphasize how strong his feelings are for the heart, Maui uses hyperbole, stating that he would do anything to avoid it.

Personification

The practice of imbuing inanimate objects, ideas, or animals with human characteristics is known as personification. In this particular metaphorical subtype, the metaphorical comparison phrase is always a person.

Gramma Tala: "*The ocean chose.*"

Like humans, the ocean seems to have freedom of choice. This symbolizes Moana's unique role in re-establishing harmony and her ultimate mission in life.

Simile

A simile is a comparison that uses two or more different things to convey the same idea.

Maui: "*Waves like mountains.*"

The metaphorical power of ocean waves and the inflexibility of mountains are two different but related concepts. The point is to show how risky and challenging it is to traverse the reef this way.

Irony

When say one thing but mean another, irony in speech or writing. In this context, what is meant by "actuality" is something different from what first appears. When words or sentences imply contrasting or opposing meanings, that happens.

Chief Tui: " Outside the coral reef, no one dares to dare. Here, we are safe. Darkness does not exist. There are no magical creatures."

The audience is aware that danger lies beyond the reef, and this is paradoxical considering Chief Tui's efforts to reassure everyone of their safety.

Symbolism

Only words or phrases that represent something greater than themselves can be considered symbolic.

Chief Tui: "*If place stone on that day, the whole island will be lifted.*"

Placing the stone on the mountain symbolizes the chief's responsibility to lead and inspire the people.

Paradox

A contradiction or absurdity that, upon closer examination, reveals a reasonable interpretation is known as a paradox.

Gramma Tala: "*I'm the village crazy lady. That's my job.*"

Gramma Tala's statement is contradictory because it implies that being a "crazy woman" is her job or role, regardless of how illogical it may seem. The film Moana uses eight types of figurative language: metaphor, personification, hyperbole, simile, irony, symbolism, and paradox. The total number of sentences is 118 sentences, with details of 29 sentences using metaphor, 14 sentences using metonymy, 20 sentences using hyperbole, 11 sentences using personification, 1 sentence using simile, 25 sentences using irony, 9 sentences using symbolism, and 4 sentences using paradox.

Metaphor (25.66%), metonymy (12.38%), hyperbole (17.69%), personification (9.37%), simile (0.88%), irony (22.12%), symbolism (7, 96%), and paradox (3.53%) are all forms of figurative language used in the Moana film. Each sentence has been categorized according to metaphorical language categories. In this film, metaphor plays an important role. Figurative Metaphors Without conjunctions like "like" or verbs like "appears," metaphors claim the identity of grammatically inappropriate words.

D. Conclusion and Suggestion

The following are some research conclusions obtained from previously analyzed data:

1. The film Moana uses eight different forms of figurative language. There are parado, irony, metonymy, personification, simile, and metaphor. In the film Moana, metaphors account for 25.66 percent of all metaphorical language.
2. Apart from that, researchers also determine the situational and contextual meaning of each figure of speech.

After reviewing the findings, the researcher has several suggestions for future research on figurative language that may be useful.

1. The researcher suggests that other researchers can continue this research by exploring further the use of metaphorical language and investigating alternative perspectives on the topic.
2. Readers should be careful when interpreting the use of metaphors and similes in the film. To decipher the dialogue of the players on the screen and avoid it

E. Reference

Arifah, K. (2016). *Figurative Language Analysis in Five John Legend's Song*. Malang: Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang.

Dewi, Kumala Sari. 2010. *An Analysis of Figurative Meaning in The Time's Magazine's Advertisement*. Medan: Universitas Sumatra Utara

Hendar&Anshari, M., M.,S. (2021). *Pragmatics Analysis on Refusal and Politeness Strategies in Home Alone Movie by John Hughes*. 3(2), 6.

Siagian, Y. E. B., & Englishtina, I. (2022). an Analysis of Figurative Language Used in the Song Lyrics in the Moana Movie. *LINGUAMEDIA Journal*, 3(01), 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.56444/lime.v3i01.2903>

Syafitri, D., & Marlinton, M. (2018). An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Edgar Allan Poe's Poems. *Linguistic, English Education and Art (LEEA) Journal*, 2(1), 43–59. <https://doi.org/10.31539/leea.v2i1.453>

<https://moana.fandom.com/wiki/Moana/Transcript> (on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 2.05 p.m.).