

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of The Study

There is no one in this world that can live without the other. In this case they form a relationship. This proves that humans are social beings. As social creature, humans need to build a relationship with others to show their existence, opinion, ideas and feelings. So, human require language as a means of communication.

As social creature, humans need to build a relationship with others to show their existence, opinions, ideas, and their feeling, giving information, etc. So, humans require language as a means of communication. Communication is basic feature of social life, and language is a major component of it. Language is human needs; it is a system of signs (indices, icons, symbols) for encoding and decoding information. Language can combine with art in order to find various kind of communication or to entertain people with messages contain in it. Language is an inseparable part of human life to express thoughts, feeling, desires and intension both in spoken and written way. Spoken is the process of expressing ideas and feelings or giving information orally, song, speech, and conversation. Written is done in writing activity, available in short story, article, novel, newspaper, poetry letter, magazine poem, song lyrics, and etc. The word meaning is commonly found in spoken or written language.

Language is a subtle and complex instrument used to communication with an incredible number of different things, but for these purposes here people can reduce the universe of communication to four basic categories: information, direction, emotion, and ceremony. The first and the second are often considered same because they express cognitive meaning while the later two commonly express emotional meaning.

Tarigan (1990:2) written that the use of language as means of communication, both in oral and written form, varies according to the knowledge of language competence owned by the users. Language may refer either to be specifically human capacity for acquiring and using complex systems as communication, or to a specific instance of such a system of complex communication. The scientific study of language in any of its senses is called linguistics.

The study of meaning scientifically is called semantics. In our practical language sometimes people find sentence or phrases could have meaning. If people want to make the definition clear, it is, therefore, necessary for them to redefine semantics into more spesific definition, the one that limit semantics into the the study of more specific types of meaning only. simply semantics is the study of linguistics meaning. These more specific definitions have led people to an important basic assumption that meaning is the part of speaker's knowledge about their language. The speakers of a language have different types of linguistic knowledge, including how to construct sentences, and about the meaning of individual words and sentences.

Language and culture are two major things that can be separated in human life. It means that language as means of communication, which is used in human life to interest another.

Indonesia is a big country, and has many tribes as well as their languages. One of the tribes in Indonesia is Bataknese. The batak's society consists of a few sub tribes, such as Simalungun, Karo, Pak-pak, Toba, Angkola, and Mandailing. The karo language is one of the regional languages in Indonesia. They use this language for their daily activity or other culture ceremony. Karonese people mostly live in Karo high land (Berastagi, Kabanjahe, etc).

Language can be expressed into two form, they are: written and spoken. Written language can be found in the novel, newspaper, poetry, letter, magazine, and spoken language can be found in the song, speech, and conversation.

Song is a tool or media for people to show their feeling, idea, opinion, and emotion. Almost people in the world love songs, because by singing the song, people can be entertained. Songs also give people happiness and enjoyment when they listen it. A song writer may use words figuratively in his/her song in order to beautify the language, a songwriter intends to say something cynically, but indirectly so that the lyrics of the song look like beautifully and the listener more interest to hear it. A song may express happiness, disappointment, or criticism, to the government.

Douglas (2012) states that a song is a short piece of music with words that are sung. The words in a song are called lyrics that many consist of an intro, verses, choruses, bridges, and a coda. Lyric derives from the Greek

word for a word for a sung by the lyre, “Lyrikos” and came to be used for the “words of a song”.

Kempson (1977: 47) states that the meaning of a linguistic form has to be analyzed in terms of the important elements of the situation in which the speaker utters it.

There are two kinds of language that studying in semantics, they are literal and non-literal (Saeed, 2004:15). The following discussion will be about non literal uses of language are traditionally called figurative language. The meaning can be literal and figurative, this is the important thing for the writer to describe because the focus of the research is figurative meaning. Figurative language is used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, song lyrics, etc. Literature is one of arts, which has its own language. In other words, literature is writing which expresses and communicates though feeling and attitude toward life. Song is one example of literature.

According to Meyer (1997:1), literature is a term used to describe written texts marked by careful use of language, including features such as creative metaphors, well-turned phrases, elegant syntax, rhyme, alliteration, which are aesthetically read or intended by the author to be aesthetically read and are deliberately somewhat open in interpretation.

There are some similarities between a song and a poem. A song has to be rhythmic and so does a poem. Rhythm is one of the important elements in both songs and poetry. In fact, there is even a form of poetry which is made into music

called a lyric poem. They can be used in songs to express the thoughts and feelings of the author. Music without words is poetry, only not in the generalized sense.

Semantics is the study of linguistics meaning. It is concerned with what sentences and other linguistics objects express. Semantics is the scientific study of the meaning of words. While from the advanced learner's Dictionary of current English' (1972).

Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation", when a writer uses literal language, he or she is simply stating the facts as they are. Figurative language, in comparison, uses exaggerations or alterations to make a particular linguistics point. "Figurative language seeks to clarify and accentuate meaning by referencing a word or phrase in terms of something familiar to the audience, usually to achieve special meaning. The writer uses figurative language in order to beautify their language, so that the reader feels interesting to read it, and especially the reader knows about the types of figurative language such as simile, metaphor, personification, etc.

Based on the explanation above, the writer analyzed the use of figurative language in Karonese Pop Song. The writer takes some Karonese Pop Song as her sample of the study. Analyzing figurative language in song lyrics is important for some reason. First, singing a song and knowing the meaning of the lyrics is better than singing without an adequate understanding concerning the lyrics. We can also gain some lesson learning and fruitful information when we understand the non- literal meaning contained in song lyrics. Second, analyzing figurative

language provides us more practices to better understand non-literal expression. Based on the above reasons, it is interesting to analyze the use of the figurative language.

The figurative language in karonese pop songs is different from each other. Some figurative expressions contained in those songs require a deep analysis. Each song conveys different message. One is about struggle and the rests are about love in different situations. Therefore, their songs were chosen as data source in this study.

Karonese are the indigenous people of the Karo plateau in North Sumatera, Indonesia. They tend to belong the Batak people but often consider themselves as separate. They speak the Batak Karo language. There are six Bataks in North Sumatera: Batak Karo, Batak Toba, Batak Mandailing, Batak Simalungun, Batak Angkola and Batak Pak-Pak. Tanah Karo locates in one of the highlands of Northern Sumatera in Indonesia, and it is not far from Medan City. It takes two hour drives from Medan City to Tanah Karo. Karonese people are often called as *Kalak Karo*.

As a Karonese, the writer interst to analyze about Batak Karo, There are so many interesting cultures in Karonese. For example : the traditional dance, wedding ceremony, ancient calendar, funeral ceremony, songs etc. and in this paper the writer will explain about “The Figurative Language in Karonese Pop Song ”. It is very important to know, especially for Karo people, to know about the meaning of each the song.

Some previous researches have been conducted on “Figurative Speech” Sihombing (2009) studied “AnAnalysis of Figurative Speech on The Headline of

The Jakarta Post”, in his thesis, he found that Hyperbole is most dominant Sihombing, Yoko (2010) studied “Figurative Language in Michael Jackson Selected Songs’, Mariana (2010) studied “Figurative Meaning in Charles Simbolon’s Song Lyrics’.

B. The Problems of the Study

Based on the background above, the problems of the study are formulated as the followings:

- a) What types of figurative languages are used in Karonese pop songs?
- b) What type of figurative language is dominantly used in the karonese pop song?

C. The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are relations of the problems are:

- a) To describe what types of figurative language as found in Karonese pop song
- b) To derive the most dominant type of figurative language used in the karonese pop song

D. The Scope of the Study

The main concern of this research focuses on the 5 ways of the types of figurative language based on the concept proposed by Kennedy (1987) they are

simile, metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, personification. This case, the writer analyzes the figurative language in ten Karonese pop songs.

E. The significance of the Study

The findings of the study can be used to increase the knowledge of the people who are interested in figurative meaning of language in general and song lyrics, and as additional knowledge to improve the figurative speech for learners who study English. The finding will be useful for:

- 1) The readers who are interested in studying figurative language and can give them a clear and better understanding about figurative, especially for them who is not understand about Karonese song so by this findings the reader can catch the meaning of the song
- 2) The student who are majoring English in studying listening and meaning in sentences.
- 3) The students who want to get many examples of figurative language from the song lyrics.
- 4) For people who do not understand the karonese language, by reading this thesis they can understand the meaning and message of a song.