

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes background of the study, limitation of the study, the statement of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the study

Language as a signaling system which carries out with symbolic vocal sounds is used by a group of people for the purpose of communication. Defined by Hornby (1972, p. 473), language is a human and non-intensive method of communicating ideas, feelings, and desires by means of a system of sounds and sound symbols. Hornby (1972, p. 473) states that language is a system of communication by sound, operating through the organs of speech, giving vocal conventional meaning. It means that language can be a primary necessity in human life. It has a big role for every person in making good relationships with others.

When people study about language, they will know about kinds of language. Language can be divided into two subgroups: literal language and figurative language. Matthews (1997, p. 211) said that literal language is generated by linguistic knowledge of lexical items and combined with linguistic rules. While, literature language or figurative language refers to words that do not stray from their imply meaning itself inevitably assumed a theory of literature whether explicitly recognised or admitted to be one or not.

A figurative language exists in a work such as novel, poem, and the song's lyrics. Abrams (1981) explains that figurative language is irregularities in the use of language by speakers from understanding everyday language (ordinary), deviations from standard languages, or deviations in the meaning of words, an aberration of the sequence of words in order to obtain some special meanings. In this study, the researcher discusses about a figurative language in Westlife's Album Coast to Coast lyrics.

By figurative language, people will understand the lyrics in western music and know the expression of somebody's feelings such as happiness, unhappiness for listeners. There are many types of

figurative language, such as metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, symbol, metonymy, symbol, paradox, and irony (Keraf, 2001, p. 13).

Researcher chooses Westlife's album because in Westlife there are many figurative language in the album. Westlife is a boyband from Ireland that consists of Shane Filan, Kian Egan, Nicky Byrne, and Mark Feehily. They have been formed on 3 July 1998 and disbanded on 23 June 2012. And they have gone on to sell over 45 million records worldwide which includes their studio, single, video, and compilation album (Riswanda, 2013).

Therefore, the researcher is interested in analyzing figurative language because this song lyrics of Westlife's use many figurative languages (Reaske, 1996).

B. Limitation of the Study

Based on the background of the study, this study focuses on ten selected song on Westlife's second album *Coast to Coast*. And limits to the analysis of the types of four figurative languages.

C. Statement of the Problem

Based on the description of the background above, the statement of the problem is:

What are the figurative languages used in Westlife's selected song on second album *Coast to Coast*? (2000).

D. Purpose of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the purpose of the study is to find out types of figurative language on selected Westlife's second album *Coast to Coast*.

E. Significance of the study

The results of this study are expected to provide useful information for:

1. Students

The result of the research will provide many expressions on music lyric from the singer about expressions of somebody's feelings in figurative language and

kind of figurative language used in song for the students. Students are able to arrange words grammatically, add vocabulary, improve knowledge, and work in group with friends.

2. Teachers

The research will give information about English music lyrics using figurative language and provide an alternative teaching learning materials for English teachers to help the students learn English.

3. Researchers

The result of the research is beneficial to give reference to other researchers to conduct the research in the same topic and expected to inspire other researchers.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

To get more understanding about this study, the following key terms are discussed below:

1. Figurative language is a popular sense, covers also a very considerable variety of elliptical and indirect modes of expression (Grindon, 1879, p. 1). In another statement, figurative is a language that uses words or expression with a meaning that is different from the literal expositions.
2. Lyrics are someone's expression of things they saw, heard, or experienced. In expressing experience, the poet or the creator of the song performs words and language games to create attraction and distinctiveness towards the lyrics or poetry (Hornby, 2000, p. 802).
3. Westlife is a boyband from Ireland consisting of Shane Filan, Kian Egan, Nicky Byrne, and Mark Feehily. They were formed on 3 July 1998 and disbanded on 23 June 2012. And they have gone on to sell over 45 million records worldwide which includes their studio, single, video, and compilation album (Riswanda, 2013).