

Investigating Simile in Various Song Lyrics by Westlife Band

Puspita Sari¹

puspita.sari@widyatama.ac.id

Ervina CM Simatupang²

ervina.simatupang@widyatama.ac.id

Hero Gunawan³

hero.gunawan@widyatama.ac.id

Alvii TB Siregar⁴

alvii.siregar@widyamata.ac.id

¹Corresponding author: Email: puspita.sari@widyatama.ac.id

Abstract

This research is entitled Investigating Simile in Various Song Lyrics By Westlife Band. The object of research is the simile found in the Westlife song lyrics. The purposes of this study are to determine the types of similes, their meanings and analyze the structure of Simile markers such as "as" or "like" found in various Westlife song lyrics. The method used in this research is descriptive analysis method. This method includes several steps in research such as listening to songs, identifying the types of similes, determining the meaning and structure analysis of simile markers such as "as" or "like", collecting data, analyzing and making conclusions. The theory used in this study is the theory according to Fadaee in his journal according to From ilhague, J.N Hook in Widarso, Feng and Tarigan. The results of this study indicate that there are two types of similes in various song lyrics in the Westlife Band, namely 1. implicit simile types are 29 data (96.6%), explicit simile types are only 1 data (3.3%). 2. The meaning of positive connotation is 21 data (70%) and the meaning of negative connotation is 9 data (30%), and 3 the use of simile markers "like" appears more often in Westlife's album than "as", this is because implicit similes are more commonly found in this album.

Keywords

types of simile, implicit simile, explicit simile, meanings)

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Introduction

Language is a communication tool used by humans to convey opinions or ideas to others. In the use of a language, many speakers insert a figure of speech in their conversation. Not only in conversation, figure of speech is also often used in a song to give an imaginative feel to the listeners of the song. According to Soleimani and Dehghan (2021) a figure of speech is a way of expressing thoughts through language in a distinctive way, which shows the soul and personality of the author. Figures are often used to express feelings or expressions that create imaginative nuances for the listeners. One of the figures of speech that is often used is simile. Simile (pronounced sim--uh-lee) is a literary term where you use "like" or "as" to compare two different things and show a common quality between them. A simile is different from a simple comparison in that it usually compares two unrelated things. For example, "She looks like you" is a comparison but not a simile. On the other hand, "She smiles like the sun" is a simile, as it compares a woman with something of a different kind- the sun.

Example (1)

I believe your future is as bright as the sun light Like the example above, simile is an expression expressed by a speaker to his interlocutor which means that the speaker believes that the other person will have a promising future. The word "as" above is a comparative word so it is included in simile because it compares 'your future' with a different term 'the sun light' In the use of English patterns, there is also another pattern which is not a simile.

Example (2)

I will return your book as soon as possible The word "as" above is not used as a simile because "the book" is not compared to a different thing. "As soon as possible" is just information to show an adverb of time. This kind of pattern is not included in the figure of speech of simile. This research is trying to investigate types of simile, meanings and structural analysis of the markers in similes such as the word "as" or "like" found in various song lyrics of Westlife- a band from England. The author chose this band because the author found a lot of use of similes in every song lyric sung by this band.

Method

The method used in this research is descriptive analysis method which refers to the theory proposed by Woodbury (1960). He stated that "descriptive method is fact-finding with the right interpretation". Descriptive method is fact finding with proper interpretation. In other words, descriptive analysis is used to research or find factual and accurate data. This method provides the basis for any actual quantitative analysis of data so that the research results can be easily understood.

Research Object

The object of the research is the similes found in various song lyrics by Westlife Band. The object of this research will be to examine the types of similes contained in the lyrics of songs from the Westlife Band Group, the meanings contained in the similes and analysis of the structure of the markers on the similes such as "as" or "like".

Literature Review

Semantics

The word semantics comes from the Greek, sema (nominal) which means a sign or symbol, and the verb Samaino which can be referred to as marking or symbolizing. Semantics is the study of meaning used to understand human expression through language. According to Soleimani and Dehghan (2021) says that semantics can be used in a broad sense and in a narrow sense.

Semantics in a narrow sense can be interpreted as a study of the relationship of signs with objects which are the container for the application of these signs. Semantics in a broad sense can be interpreted as the study of meaning. Semantics examines symbols or signs that express meaning, the relationship of one meaning to another, and its influence on humans. According to (Saeed, 2011) "Semantics is a study of meaning communicated through language" which means that, semantics is one of the linguistics that studies meaning. J.W. Goźdz-Roszkowski (2021) suggests that the semantics means a theory of meaning or significance theory, namely the branch investigating systematic language meaning or significance" which means that semantics is a branch of linguistics that discusses meaning. Based on the above definitions, it can be concluded that semantics is a branch of linguistics which has the meaning or meaning of every sentence under study.

Figure of speech

As described above, one form of figure of speech is simile. To understand more deeply about figure of speech, we will describe the definitions from several experts about figure of speech. According to Griffiths (2006) "I define a figurative interpretation that involves treating one or more words as if they had meaning different from their literal ones." According to Iacobucci (2021) "compositionally involving an untruth which can be reinterpreted pragmatically to understand the intended truth" they define that the composition of figure of speech does not apply the truth, and the composition can be reinterpreted pragmatically to understand the truth. From the two definitions above, it can be concluded that figure of speech is a style of language that uses words that have no truth and require separate meanings to understand them.

Simile

According to Nielsen and Schøsler (1996) "A figure of speech in which a more less financial or unrealistic comparison is made, using "like" or "as".

Example (3)

Your lip is like a red rose.
(Your lips are red, like a rose)

The example above means that the person's lips are red like a rose. The word "lips" is compared to a different kind- "a rose". Those things perhaps have the same color which is red.

Example (4)

Life is like an onion In this sentence the word life is compared with onions, because life in this case is very different from onions or very unrealistic to compare. So that the sentence is included in simile.

Example (5)

Fleece is as white as snow The fleece is so white as snow. The word fleece and snow is an unrealistic comparison. The word "fleece" is compared to a different kind "snow" so the above phrase is included in simile. According to Fishman (2021) "Simile is a direct comparison between things which are not particularly similar in their essence. Simile is a figure of speech that literally direct comparison between two different things, but have the same essence. From the opinions of the experts above, it can be concluded that simile is a comparative figure of speech that compares two different things by using the words "like" or "as" which have the same essence.

Types of Simile

Explicit Simile

Furthermore, Fadaee (2010) in From ilhague said "in explicit similes, sense or point of similarity is stated directly. Most of the sentences with as.....as"

Example (6)

She eats as slow as a turtle The simile above describes a person who eats in a slow manner that can be likened to a slow walking turtle. This simile belongs to the explicit type because this simile has clarity in comparing the way a person (She) eats to the way an animal (a turtle) eats that is slow.

Example (7)

She has a heart as good as gold The simile above means that a good heart that is commendable can be compared to beautiful gold. Just like the similes in the first example above, that the similes in the second example are also included in the explicit type of similes because there is " a someone's heart" is compared with a different thing that has the same essence called "gold". From the two examples above, in structure analysis it can be seen that explicit similes have adjectives in these sentences with using "as adjective as" in the pattern.

Implicit Simile

On the implicit type, (Fadaee, 2010) wrote in his journal according to Fromilhague on page 23, namely "Implicit simile, however, is the one whose sense is not started directly and leave the onus of interpretation to the reader" Fromilhague explained that the similarity in implicit simile tends not to be stated directly and leaves little mark on the reader's interpretation. Most use the word "like" such as:

Example (8)

The girl has eyes like a hawk. (She has a sharp way of looking like a hawk) The example above is an implicit simile which means that the girl has sharp eyesight compared to the eyes of an eagle.

Example (9)

She sings like an angel. (She sings beautifully) The example above is a compliment to someone who sings in a soft or pleasant voice when heard. It is assumed to be like an angel who as we often hear that angels have a gentle nature. From the two examples above, in structure of analysis it can be seen that implicit similes do not have adjectives in these sentences.

Meaning

According to Lyons (1968) "Meaning are ideas or concept which can be transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer to embodying them as it were in the form of one language or another". Markowitz (2021) state that "meaning can be applied to people who use language" From the two definitions above, it can be concluded that meaning is an idea that is conveyed by someone who has meaning that is arranged through a language.

Connotative Meaning

Coleman and Kay (1981) states that "connotative meaning is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual content". Generally, it is satire and is a denotative meaning that has been added.

Example (15)

1. White has connotation of purity, peace, innocence.

The example above can be explained that white has the connotation of purity, peace and innocence. Often many people interpret white by using the connotative meaning as above.

2. Rose has connotation beauty, love, romance.

Rose is a flower that is red in color but is often interpreted into connotations of beauty, love and romance.

3. Wolf has connotation danger, courage

Wolf has the meaning of a wild animal but if it is interpreted into the connotation meaning then wolf has a different meaning, namely dangerous and courageous.

Types of Connotative Meaning

J.N Hook in Adi and Fadilah (2021) states that "Connotative meaning can be divided into two kinds, namely positive connotative and negative connotative". If a sentence has a positive meaning it will create a positive sentence, but if a sentence has a negative meaning it will create a negative sentence as well. To support the clarity of opinion from J.N Hook in Widarso and Feng above, another opinion was put forward by Soleimani and Dehghan (2021) who said that the variety connotations are divided into two types, namely good connotations and bad connotations. Good connotations are words that have good connotations and are considered by some people to have a taste that is more delicious, polite, familiar and high. Meanwhile, bad connotations are words that some people consider to be disrespectful, inappropriate, rude, and can offend other people.

Example (10)

Apple of my eyes In the example (10) above, Apple of my eyes has a denotative meaning which is a fruit that has a round shape, beautiful color and sweet taste. However, the apple of my eyes above is not denotative but has a positive connotation meaning, where apple of my eyes has the meaning of the heart, the meaning of the heart itself is connoted as a loved one, which makes the phrase has a positive value and makes you feel happy.

Example (11)

She is such a snake In the example (11) above, She is such a snake has the denotation that snakes are legless reptiles that have a slightly elongated body and scaly skin that lives on the ground or in water. However, the example in (11) she is such a snake above does not have a denotative meaning but instead leads to a negative connotation, namely a person who cannot be trusted or is dangerous. She is such a snake enters into a negative connotation where the sentence gives a bad impression and does not have a good value.

Discussion

Implicit Simile

Data 1 You're the only girl that I need Cause you're more beautiful than I have ever seen I'm gonna take this night And make it evergreen Touch Like an angel Like velvet to my skin (Albm: World of Our Own, 2001. Title: Evergreen. line: 16-22)

Analysis

Data (1)

touch like an angel is included into the implicit simile. The lyrics of touch like an angel can be assumed that the touch is so gentle like the figure of an angel who has a beautiful, gentle and loving figure. In this type, the marker that the lyric touch like an angel is an implicit simile is that the appearance of the word "like" to show that a "touch" is compared to one different thing but has the same essence, namely "an angel", something beautiful, tender and full of love. The meaning of the lyric conveyed by the singer has a positive connotation. The positive connotation of the lyric Touch like an angel means a soft touch like a touch like an angel. The word Angel means a figure who is very beautiful, good and kind; a figure who behaves well. That's why positive connotative meaning gives a high sense of positive value to be assessed.

Data 2

Hard to find a way to get through It's a tragedy Pulling at me like the stars do You're like gravity (Albm: Gravity, 2010. Title: Safe. Line: 1-4)

Analysis

Data 2 above the lyric you're like gravity is included in the implicit simile type because the phrase of the lyric does not have an adjective comparison aspect. The appearance of the word "like" shows that this type would like to show that "you" compares to a different kind word "gravity" which has the same essence in meaning. The lyric you're like gravity illustrates that someone attracts the attention like gravity. Gravity means the process of the earth's gravitational force, but in this song gravity has a positive connotation meaning as an attraction that exists in someone. So the lyric you're like gravity can be interpreted as a form of attraction to others and it is difficult for him to avoid it.

Data 3

I don't wanna face this world alone Without you by my side You're the only one That makes me it feels like home And I need you in my life (Albm: Back Home, 2007. title: When I'm With You. Line: 20-24)

Analysis

Data 3 above it feels like home is included in the implicit simile type because it does not have an adjective as an aspect in the data. The data above describes that the singer of the song can't live in this world alone without someone he likes beside him, that person who can make him feel like home and someone who is oged that he needs in his life. What the singer wants to convey is not denotative but has a connotative meaning where the word house has the meaning of warmth, tranquility, comfort and peace. The sentence it feels like home has a positive connotation because the word home means that the house is a place of refuge and full of the warmth of love that exists between the people who live in that place.

Explicit Simile

Explicit type analyzed on Westlife album only 1 data.

Data 4

If everybody knows, It's only cost it shows Because i take your love, everywhere i go I know, what it is I need, It's clear as a shallow stream (Albm: World Of Our Own, 2001. Title: To Be Loved. line: 28-30)

Analysis

In data 4, It's clear as a shallow stream is included in the explicit simile type because it has an adjective contained in the data above, namely the word clear which is compared to the phrase a shallow stream. It's clear as a shallow stream describes that the desire of the singer who is clear with what he wants can be compared to a shallow river that has clear water. The meaning contained in the sentence it's clear as a shallow stream when denoted has the meaning of a shallow river that has clear water. But the intent of the singer of the song is not denotative, it can be seen from the previous lyrics that he says that I take your love, everywhere I go. I know, what it is I need. It's clear as a shallow stream. It's clear as a shallow stream into a positive connotative meaning, which means it's clear as a shallow stream, which is an intention that already has clarity. The words a shallow stream has the meaning of not having much distance between the top or surface and the bottom. However, if connoted, the words a shallow stream has the meaning of clarity.

Conclusion

Based on the results of research contained in 10 albums of the Westlife band, the results show that:

1. There are two types of similes, namely implicit similes which consist of 29 data (96,6%) and explicit similes which consist of only 1 datum (3.3%).
2. There are two connotative meanings, namely positive and negative. The positive connotative meaning contained in the 30 data studied from the Westlife band group was only 21 data (70%) and the negative connotative meaning contained was 9 data (30%).
3. The structure analysis about the marker of simile shows that the word "like" appears more often in Westlife's album than "as", this is because implicit similes are more commonly found in this album, reaching 96.6%. In structure of analysis it can be seen that implicit similes do not have adjectives in these sentences

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