

THE CLASSIFICATION AND MEANING OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE *ENCANTO* MOVIE

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Abstract

This research aims to determine the types and meanings expressed in figurative language in the *Encanto* movie. The data are the movie script. The research employs Kennedy, Verdonk and Perrine's theory on figurative language, and Leech's theory on meaning to identify the types and meanings of figurative language in the *Encanto* movie script. The results of this research indicate that there are 10 out of 13 types of figurative language from 71 data. The type of figurative language with the highest frequency is metaphor and paradox as much as 14 frequencies (19.71%). The second is personification as much as 12 frequencies (16.90%). Then irony as much as eight frequencies (11.26%), simile and idiom are seven frequencies (9.85%), repetition and onomatopoeia are three frequencies (4.22%), and litotes is two frequencies (2.81%). The lowest frequency is euphemism with only 1 frequency (1.40%). Meanwhile, the meaning expressed is divided into seven types. Connotative meaning is the highest type of meaning that appears, as much as 29 frequencies (40.84%). The second highest is affective meaning as much as 24 frequencies (33.80%). Then, conceptual meaning is 10 frequencies (14.08%), social meaning is four frequencies (5.63%), and collocative meaning is two frequencies (2.81%). The type of meaning with the lowest frequency is reflective and thematic meaning found only one frequency (1.40%).

Keywords/Kata Kunci: *Figurative Language, Meaning, Stylistics*

INTRODUCTION

The figurative language creates an image, illusion or other effect for the audience. It is expected that the meaning of the words or expressions used could be conveyed. Kennedy and Giola (2005, p. 532) say, "figurative language is any speech from the speaker or writing from the writer who tries to deviate from the usual denotation of words". Therefore, figurative language serves to make words or sentences have different meanings. Thus, this makes sentences more beautiful and interesting. There are several kinds of figurative language: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, irony, litotes, repetition, onomatopoeia, allusion, euphemism, oxymoron, paradox, and idiom.

Figurative language is used to deliver a meaning written in another speech style (Huda, Nurhantoro & Adhitya, 2023, 2). Another style of speech is called stylistics. Stylistics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on analyzing language style. McArthur (1996, p. 914) says, "Stylistics is a branch of linguistics in which the study of style, especially in literature." It is the study of style, commonly used in literary work. Several literary works include novels, poems, songs and scripts. This research works on the *Encanto* movie script. *Encanto* is chosen because it gives the audience a sense of feeling. This movie is boomed at the end of 2021 and can present moving dialogue, thus full of meaning. The dialogue in *Encanto* contains figurative language that has hidden meaning. Without a clear understanding of the meaning, the audience could not get the movie's core message.

The characters in the movie script portray figurative language. The portrayal of figurative language creates a language sensation and triggers the audience's attention to guess its meaning (Adhitya & Hapsari, 2022, 123). To understand the meaning, people need to learn more about semantics. Semantics is indirectly related to how to classify and convey experiences through language. Saeed (1997, p. 3) says, "Semantics is a study that studies the meaning of words and sentences." It could be concluded that semantics is the study of meaning that contains in words and sentences. The

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meaning of words or sentences could be determined by understanding the content and context of the words and sentences. In addition to assessing the meaning of the words, it is also required to have complete information from the context. This comprehensive information could help the audience to understand the context. Thus, the meaning of the sentence could be created correctly. The meaning of words and sentences is divided into seven, namely connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning, collocative meaning, thematic meaning, and conceptual meaning.

The first research problem is the answer to the types of figurative language used in the *Encanto* movie. This is the first analysis of figurative language in the *Encanto* movie. While the second research problem is going to answer what is the meaning expressed by the figurative language used in *Encanto*. Therefore, the research objectives are to find out the types of figurative language used in *Encanto* and the meaning of the figurative language used in *Encanto*.

METHODOLOGY

In this research, the descriptive qualitative method is used as the research method. Kumar (2011, 10) states, "A research study classified as a descriptive study attempts to describe a situation, problem, phenomenon, service or program systematically, or provides information about, say, the living conditions of a community, or describes attitudes towards an issue." A descriptive qualitative method means the research that aims to describe phenomena, situations, events or problems systematically (Ariesita & Adhitya, 2023, 93).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Types and Meaning of Figurative Language in the Encanto Movie

The results of this research are 71 data figurative language found in the *Encanto* movie script. These data are analyzed using the theory from Kennedy (2005) and Perrine (1977). In *Encanto*, there are 10 types, out of 13 types of figurative language. The type, frequency, and percentage data of figurative language are displayed in the table below,

Table 1. Types of Figurative Language found in the *Encanto* Movie

Types of Figurative Language	Frequency	Percentage
Paradox	14	19.71%
Metaphor	14	19.71%
Personification	12	16.90%
Irony	8	11.26%
Simile	7	9.85%
Idiom	7	9.85%
Repetition	3	4.22%
Onomatopoeia	3	4.22%
Litotes	2	2.81%
Euphemism	1	1.40%
Hyperbole	0	0%
Allusion	0	0%
Oxymoron	0	0%
Total	71	100%

The total figurative language contained in the *Encanto* movie script is 71 data. The figurative language with the highest frequency is metaphor and paradox with 14 frequencies (19.71%) each. The next highest type is personification as much as 12 frequencies (16.90%), irony is eight frequencies (11.26%), simile and idiom are seven frequencies (9.85%), repetition and onomatopoeia are three frequencies (4.22%), and litotes is two frequencies (2.81%). The lowest frequency is euphemism, with only one frequency (1.40%).

The meaning of data expressed by the figurative language is the same as the finding of figurative language data. Therefore, the meaning data is analyzed using Leech's theory (1981). There are 7 types of meaning are all found. The types, frequency, and percentage of meaning data is displayed in the table below.

Table 2. Types of Meaning found in the *Encanto* Movie

Types of Meaning	Frequency	Percentage
Connotative	29	40.84%
Social	4	5.63%
Affective	24	33.80%
Reflective	1	1.40%
Collocative	2	2.81%
Thematic	1	1.40%
Conceptual	10	14.08%
Total	71	100%

The meaning that have the highest frequency is connotative meaning, found as much as 29 frequencies (40.84%). The second highest is affective meaning, 24 frequencies (33.80%). Then, conceptual meaning 10 frequencies (14.08%), social four frequencies (5.63%), and collocative two frequencies (2.81%). The lowest frequency is reflective and thematic meaning, found only one frequency (1.40%).

Discussion of the types of Figurative Language in the Encanto Movie

According to the research data found in the *Encanto* movie script, the types of figurative language in the *Encanto* movie are 10 types out of 13 types. The data were analyzed and classified using Kennedy and Perrine's theory. The types of figurative language in *Encanto* movie are as follows.

Simile expresses a comparison of two different things using conjunction words like, rather than, similar to, or like. For example, "I'm as tough as the crust of the earth is". This sentence is categorized as simile because there is a comparison of two different things using the word 'as'. Luisa compares that Luisa is as tough as the earth's crust. There is no burden that Luisa cannot lift, no matter how heavy it is. Even houses and mountains could be lifted by Luisa. Luisa's power is unquestionable.

Metaphor is a comparative figurative language that compares without using a conjunction. Metaphor expresses it by using illustrations directly. For example, "So many stars, and everybody gets to shine". The sentence compares two different things, the stars and everybody or the madrigal family. The Madrigal family is like the shining stars. It is in accordance with the meaning of the metaphor, which compares without using conjunctions.

Personification gives animate properties to inanimate objects, as if they were alive. For example, "Our house, our casita itself, came alive to shelter us". The personification in this sentence could be seen from the house that comes alive and protects the Madrigal family. A house which is an inanimate object is given the properties of an animate object, as if the house were animate. Even though in reality the house cannot move and does not live.

Irony is a satirical figurative language that is subtly conveyed by expressing the opposite of the actual fact. For example, "He's accident prone but he means well". The sentence is categorized as irony because there is an expression that contradicts the original meaning. Actually, this sentence wants to explain Agustin's efforts to be able to help his family, but he always has bad luck. In *Encanto*, Agustin always intends to do good and help but ironically often gets accidents.

Litotes is an expression that aims to belittle the true facts of something. For example, "I can't just talk about myself ... I'm only part of the amazing Madrigals". Mirabel humbled herself and felt useless for not having her own gift in those words. In fact, Mirabel is the most extraordinary gift in the Madrigal family. The litotes in this sentence are shown in the sentence I'm only part of the amazing Madrigals.

The expression of repeating words or phrases with the aim of reinforcing or creating a rhythm is called repetition. For example, "Pressure like a drip drip drip". The repetition of the word 'drip drip drip' above is included in the repetition category where repetition is repeating words to reinforce a sentence. Here, it is stated that the pressure is like "drip drip drip" or the pressure is consistent.

Onomatopoeia is a figurative language that could make the audience seem as if they could hear the natural sound of an object. For example, "Pressure like a tick tick tick till it's ready to blow," The onomatopoeia in the sentence could be seen from the word 'tick tick tick'. The word is the implementation of the sound of a bomb ready to explode. This implementation makes it seem as if the audience can hear the sound of a bomb that is ready to explode.

Euphemism replaces expressions that sound taboo or harsh with subtler or polite words. For example, "Your Abuelo was lost". The euphemism in this sentence is in the word "lost". The word "lost" is used as a substitute for the word "died", to avoid the harsh or taboo impression of dead. Because of the replacement of the word, this sentence is a euphemism category.

Statements from paradoxical expressions look contradictory, but when could become real facts. For when examined example, "Maybe your gift is being in denial". The sentence seems sarcastic and harsh, but it could be the real fact if examined through Mirabel's actions which seemed to avoid when asked about her gift. This is what makes this sentence a paradox.

Idioms cannot be understood or interpreted literally. It requires understanding the appropriate context to understand them. For example, "Hey Mariano, why so blue?" The idiom in the sentence could be seen from the word 'blue'. In a literal sense, blue means a blue color. The word blue in English idioms is interpreted as an expression of sadness. Because the sentence cannot be interpreted literally, it is called an idiom.

The Meaning Expresses by Figurative Language in the Encanto Movie

According to the research data found in the *Encanto* movie script, all the types of meaning are found in figurative language from *Encanto*. The data were analyzed and classified using theory from Leech. The meaning expresses by figurative language in *Encanto* are as follows.

Connotative meaning is based on the experiences and stories of individuals in the past. For example, "It blessed us with a refuge to live". Judging from the history of Alma's life journey, Alma's house provides the gift of protection to keep living life. During the war, Alma lost her husband and home. Then suddenly, Alma was given a house to take shelter and be able to help with daily activities. This meaning based on Alma's experience is called the connotative meaning.

Social meaning is related to an individual's social and educational background. This meaning could be seen through the dialect and vocabulary of the individual. For example, "This candle would give you your gift, mi vida". The social meaning in this sentence could be seen in the word 'mi vida'. The sentence is tucked in the word mi vida, which is Spanish. With these words, it could be concluded that the background of the person speaking comes from Latin America. The data above means that the Magic Candle Alma held would give my dear Mirabel a gift.

Affective meaning is related to meaning based on situations, conditions, and feelings that individuals implement. For example, "I feel berserk as a tightrope walker in a three-ring circus". Luisa said those words in a situation that made her very emotional. Then, it made her berserk or angry. The sentence above means that Luisa is berserk and expresses her all the emotions she had buried because Luisa couldn't hold it anymore. This situation becomes affective because it affects how Luisa expresses her feelings.

Reflective meaning aims to replace words that are considered taboo with subtler words. The choice of replacement words is based on changing the actual meaning of the replaced words. For example, "Your Abuelo was lost". The reflective meaning in this sentence lies in the word 'lost'. The word lost replaces the word dead, which seems taboo. The meaning of the sentence above is that Mirabel's grandfather had died.

Collocative meaning combines two or more words that could implement a certain meaning. For example, "She's the perfect golden child". Golden child means proud child, as Isabela is considered a proud child in the Madrigal family. The meaning of the proud child is reflected in the words the perfect golden child. Therefore, this sentence is included in the category of collocative meaning.

Thematic meaning occurs in the meaning of the grammatical structure of a sentence. Even though the structure of the sentence changes, the meaning remains the same or does not change at all. For example, "This present would self-destruct if you don't take it in three, two, one". This sentence is included in the thematic meaning because even though the sentence structure is changed, it still does not change the meaning. The sentence above could be changed to 'If you don't take it in three, two, one, this present will self-destruct'. Changing sentences without changing the meaning is called thematic meaning.

Conceptual meaning is made based on the literal or logical meaning according to the concept of the meaning of a word or sentence. For example, "The beauty and the brawn do no wrong!". The sentence is based on the concept that there is

nothing wrong with beauty and strength together. The implementation of that sentence is that Luisa's beauty and strength need not be doubted. The meaning is conceptualized logically, so that it becomes a conceptual meaning.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been done, it could be concluded that metaphor and paradox are the most common types found in the *Encanto* movie. Then, it indicates that scriptwriters use lots of direct comparisons and sarcastic expressions. These direct comparisons and sarcastic expressions emphasize the impression of fantasy comedy sarcasm from the *Encanto* movie. Personification, as the second highest data finding, shows a lot of imagination poured into the script. The euphemism with the lowest data shows that the script writer's awareness of replacing taboo words needs to be improved. While the most common type of meaning found is connotative meaning. This shows that there is a lot of figurative language whose meaning is made based on past experiences or stories of the characters in the *Encanto* movie. Then followed by affective meaning, showing many conditions, situations, and feelings that affect the meaning of figurative language. Conceptual meaning is the third highest, showing that literal meaning or according to the concept is also often used. Reflective and thematic meaning as data at least shows that data that could be interpreted reflectively and thematically is still the lowest.

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