

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literature is the imaginative work that pictures the human life in a society that can be enjoyed by the society and understandable. The author will write the result of this imagination in the form of literary works. The form of those literary works such as drama, poem, short story, and novel. However, literature is a form of human expression and view towards life that is always changing related to time. Angelo Lorenzo (2014) acknowledges that “Literature is the foundation of humanity’s culture, beliefs, and traditions in which it serves as a mirror of reality, a product of art or a window of an ideology”.

Poetry is one of the literary works that experienced development both in terms of its structure and in terms of meaning. Nevertheless, poetry itself is an expression of the author in conveying something. A poem is composed of beautiful language and structure, which can lead us to a feeling and intent of a poem itself. Most of the readers who like to read a poem are those who indeed basically liked the poem because of the beauty of its language or the poem describes their moods at the time.

Knickerbockers and Willard (1963:310) state :

Poetry is the fusion of sound and sense or a melting together of sound and sense. A poem might be defined as a kind of language that says it more intensely than does ordinary language. A special way of using words in a poem is by using figurative language that is usually used by the poet to attract the reader's attention, coloring the poem and making the poem interesting to read.

According to Rifaterre (in Pradopo, 2007:77), “poetry is an indirect expression, meaning that describes something by using connotative meaning. The indirect expression caused by displacing of meaning, distorting of meaning, and creating of meaning” Because poetry is full of meaning, understanding figurative language is important and Figurative Language is often found in poetry. Language is an important tool of communication (Amelia, 2016). Language is also an important tool to deliver an idea and desire (Rido, 2020). There are two kinds of language. They are literal language and figurative language. The literal language has meaning as it is uttered. Literal language refers to facts without any exaggerations or alterations of the subject. The figurative language has the implied meaning or we can say that the meaning of the figurative language is based on the context. Figurative language is a term of language which is used by people to convey the expression, feeling, experience and emotion through the poems. Learning a figurative language means that we try to find out the meaning of a word, phrase, or sentence. Because figurative language is a language that uses figures of speech or a way of saying one thing and meaning another.

The researcher agrees with Tjahjono about the importance of Figurative Language in Literary work, especially in poetry. According to Tjahjono (2004:54),” Figurative Language is one of the important elements to writing poetry. Because in writing a poem the poet must choose the appropriate word that is able to describe something clearly in the mind of the reader”.

Therefore, to strengthen imagination to achieve the desired effect, the poet must choose the specific words, the words that have to mention the details of the characteristics in order to make the reader clearly and concretely see things that are not visible. Figurative Language implies much meaning by using words. The poet used Figurative Language to describe and express their feelings. Figurative Language is important for a poet to create a poem. Welleck (in Walidain, 2012:14) states that “A poet is a literary artist and language is the material painting”.

The researcher chooses three poems that use figurative language written by Percy Bysshe Shelley. Percy Bysshe Shelley was the most popular English Romantic Poet, and he was regarded as a great lyrical poet in the English Language. He was born on the 4th of August 1792 in England. His poems have deep meaning and figurative language to give poetic sense. Poetry has many aspects that can be analyzed. Figurative language is one of the things that is interesting to be analyzed. The researcher is interested in analyzing Percy Shelley’s poems. Shelley was a famous English romantic poet whose poetry reflects passion, beauty, imagination, love, creativity, political liberty, and nature. Shelley strongly believed in the realization of human happiness. Being very sensitive and possessing distinctive qualities of hope, love, joy, and imagination.

In this research, the researcher wants to know deeply about the meaning of figurative language and the dominant figurative language used in Percy Shelley’s poem especially in his best-known classic poems and constructed by various figurative languages than other poems. The researcher takes three classic poems written by Percy Shelley, which

are *The Cloud*, *Ozymandias*, and *Ode to the West Wind*. *The Cloud* tells about the wonders of nature and its connection to life. *Ozymandias* tells about ruined statues, the fun of art, and beauty in the natural world, and *Ode to the West Wind* tells about power, human limitations and the natural world.

The researcher wants to increase knowledge about figurative language in Percy Shelley's poems. The researcher uses Tjahjono's theory in analyzing figurative language. Tjahjono's perception is appropriate to help the researcher to finish this study based on the research question of the study. There are thirty-seven types of figurative language. They are (Comparison) Personification, metaphor, simile, metonymy, symbol, litotes, euphemism, hyperbole, synecdoche, allusion, periphrasis, antonomasia, allegory. (Affirmation) Pleonasm, Parallelism, Repetition, tautology, symmetry, climax, anticlimax, asyndeton, polysyndeton, inversion, rhetoric, correction, enumeration, ellipsis, interruption, exclamation. (Contradiction) Paradox, contradiction in terminis, antithesis, occupational, anachronism. (Satire) irony, cynicism, sarcasm.

1.1 Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates the research question

1. What are the Figurative Languages found in Percy Bysshe Shelley's selected poems?
2. How does he use the most figurative language in his poems?

3. What is the dominant figurative language used in Percy Bysshe Shelley's selected poems?

1.2 Research Objectives

Considering the research questions, the purpose of this research is:

1. To find out the types of figurative languages used in Percy Bysshe Shelley's selected poems.
2. To reveal the function of figurative language used in Percy Bysshe Shelley's selected poems.
3. To find out the dominant figurative language used in Percy Bysshe Shelley's selected poems.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research is aimed to give theoretical and practical contributions. Theoretically, this research is expected to broaden figurative language in literary work in poems especially for those who are interested in discussing figurative language in literary works. This research provides much information about kinds of figurative language, Percy Bysshe Shelley's life, and Tjahjono's Theory of figurative language. Besides, this research also aims to introduce Indonesian man of letters to other researchers who would like to discuss figurative language as their research.

In practice, this research is expected to increase significant information and knowledge for the readers and the next researcher who wants to analyze figurative language in

poems deeper. In this research, the researcher chose Percy Bysshe Shelley as the object of the analysis to broaden the research examples using Tjahjono's Theory that will help the next researcher to support their analysis.

1.5 Scope of Limitation

The scope of this study focuses on figurative language using Tjahjono's perception. Furthermore, the researcher restricted the analysis to three poems: "*The Cloud*," "*Ozymandias*", and "*Ode to the West Wind*" by Percy Shelley. These poems are chosen because the poems are the best-known classic poems and constructed by various figurative languages.

