

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some subchapters, namely background of the study, statement of the research problems, objectives of the study and scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is one of the important things in human life. It is used as a significant tool in transferring human's mind. As human beings, people cannot separate themselves from social communication and interaction that use language. According to Antilla (1972:12), language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by which the members of a speech community cooperate and communicate. In other words, communication can be built if there is an understanding between speakers and hearers. When people communicate, they transfer the message. Sometimes in using language, people do not always convey their message with the words that have literal meaning. They use the so called Figurative Language, these types of languages are the main concern of Semantics.

According to Hurford (2007), semantics is a study of meaning in language. It focuses on exploring and understanding a meaning of words. This study concerns on the relationship between signifier such as, words, phrases, signs, symbols, and what they stand for their denotation. The reason why people use

figurative languages is because they want to beautify their language. Figurative language, one with its literally in compatible terms, forces the readers to attend the connotation rather than the denotation. One of this figurative languages is that really explore connotational sides of language is hyperbole.

Hyperbole is one of figurative languages which can be a medium for people to explain their opinion or feeling. Hyperbole is an exaggeration for a specific literary effect and overstatement. This figurative language is an expression to make something looks bigger or greater than the reality. Claridge (2011:5) stated that hyperbole is an expression which exceeds the literal expression and contains more semantics attributes of expression something. Therefore, the writer chooses hyperbole to become the topic for this study because hyperbole occurs in daily life but people often do not realize it. Hyperbole becomes interesting topic since it is used by all people. People use hyperbole to express and deliver their emotion and feeling by words. So, the writer intends to know what the unique values of hyperbole are, especially in song lyrics.

Several people like listening music. Music or song is so naturally united with us that we cannot be free from it even if we desire it. Music has performed an important role to people's live with specific occasional type of music. Such as birthday songs, holiday songs, retirement songs, even death songs. We can find other types of music such as Blues, Avant-Garde, Classical, Electric, Jazz, Pop, Rock, R&B, Rap, Reggae, and many other sung in people's regular time, from all aspect of musics. The most important part that can carry people massage is the lyrics.

“The American Herritage Dictionary defines “lyric” as a category of poetry that expresses subjective thoughts and feeling. Lyric has important roles to communicate from the composers’ mind to the listeners. Lyric is a media to express and to communicate what the composer thinks or feels. In others words, lyrics is a result of any kind of emotion of its makers. Therefore, in this study, the writer analyze song lyrics of Zayn Malik whose lyrics have beautiful lines, good dictions, and interesting hyperboles.

Zayn Malik is one of popular music entertainers. He joined a boy band called One Direction when he was competing on the singing competition show in 2010 namely X Factor. It has become one of the most successful boy bands till now. After leaving the group, he released hit solo single and album in 2016. Zayn Malik has many fans from all countries in the world and many of his fans are young. Most of the songs contain hyperbole whose massages cannot be understood easily without studying them.

Here, the writer provides an example of hyperbole found in Zayn Malik’s song lyrics.

Numb on roof
Set it on fire
Just to give me proof
I’m living on a wire

The example above is taken from the verse of “Befour” lyrics. The bold word “**I’m living on a wire**” in the example of hyperbole. It exaggerates the problematic live of the “I” by saying this statement. This sentence is categorized as a clausal hyperbole.

In this field, there have been two numbers of valuable studies of hyperbole. One of them is a study that is conducted by Arinda in 2016. The other study is Kartika (2011) which analyzed hyperbole in film scripts. However, none of this study provided the hyperbole scale theory as a theory to analyze song lyrics. Therefore, the writer decides to analyze hyperbole in song lyrics of Zayn Malik.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, there are two statements of the research problems formulated. They are as follows:

- 1) What are the types of hyperbole found in selected song lyrics of Zayn Malik ?
- 2) What are the types of the scale that play roles in the realization of hyperbole in song lyrics of Zayn Malik ?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The aims of this study are related to the research problems formulated above. They are:

- 1) To explain the types of hyperbole found in selected song lyrics of Zayn Malik.
- 2) To explain the types of the scale that play roles in the realization of hyperbole in song lyrics of Zayn Malik ?

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, the result of this study is expected to give understanding on hyperbole especially on its types and the scales that play a role in the realization of hyperbole. The writer also hopes the readers get further explanation from this research about the use of hyperbole.

Practically, the result of this study is expected to help people to know more about hyperbole in song lyrics. This study can also be an alternative way for people to understand the intended meaning of song lyrics. The result of this study is expected to be used as a reference for the future composers who want to create song lyric with hyperbole.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is figurative language. This study only focuses on the types of hyperbole and the hyperbole scales. Furthermore, the limitation of this study is on Zayn Malik's song lyric taken from nine songs, *Befour*, *Let me*, *Like I Would*, *Truth*, *Borders*, *She*, *Do Something Good*, *Blue*, *Golden*. Which contain hyperbole