

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains about background of the study, statement of research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an important thing in our life. We can communicate with other people through language. Communication has purposed to send a message to another human. In sending the message, the sender does not only use an explicit message or direct expressions but also uses an implicit message or indirect expressions, the meaning of the message is different from textual message. Such as on using figurative language, the language that has more than one meaning.

In this globalization era, people make an interaction not only with others in their own country but also with all people around the world. Making a good interaction, for example, in English needs a good communication. The speakers should provide themselves by mastering English as an international language which is used not only in spoken but also in written form. It is used in many fields, such as commerce, government, economic, education, etc.

Kennedy (2002:119) said that figurative language is a language which is not the real meaning. The figurative meaning is not fit again with the concept in the word. It is transferred from the real meaning, however there is still a relation between them, if we want to understand it deeply.

Some literatures use figurative language to make it more interesting and more beautiful, as it is used in a poem. As the imaginative literature, poems give the reader entertainment more than information. On the other hand, poems are some informative literatures that give information with literal meaning. But, most of people find difficulty when studying or reading poetry. Any difficult vocabulary in the poems is either explained or given special attention. To read poetry it is important to know and find the meaning, message, and figurative language used in poetry. Figurative language is not to make the poetry confusing, but to make it clear. According to Pradopo (2005:61) “figurative language is a language to describe the comparison, equation, and imagery”. Figurative language is crucial to get poetic meaning from a poem. It is because figurative language gives poetic senses of a poem and often provides a more effective means of saying what we mean than direct statement. In the specific sense, figurative language may take the form of figures of speech. Beside poem, figurative language is also used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, etc.

As we know that figurative language in four main reasons of effectiveness. The first, figurative language affords readers imaginative pleasure of literary works, which is created as a result of appreciation or a reflection of one's life. Second, it is a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, making the abstract concrete, making literary works more sensuous. The third, figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statements and conveying attitudes along with information. And the last, it is a way of saying much in brief compass.

Reaske (1966:33) said that language employs various figures of speech, some examples are metaphor, simile, antithesis, hyperbole, and paradox. In

general, figurative language is that kind of language which departs from the language employed in the traditional, linguistics ways of describing persons or objects. Using figurative language is making imaginative description in fresh ways. It is usually immediately obvious whether a writer is using figurative language.

Figurative language is a language style that contains deviations either from the normal construction of a sentence or from the meaning of the words in order to create particular effects (Holman, 1986). However, using figurative language in order to create the intentional effects, such as vividness and effectiveness in speaking is not easy. One must have a clear idea of the appropriate types of figurative language he wants to use. The careless use of figurative language will distort the speaker's messages conveyed in his speech because figurative language is "extraordinary and we cannot take the meaning literally" (Perrine, 1973:61). This means that there are additional meanings other than the common meanings that people usually share. Concerning this fact, it is important for people to study more about figurative language as a part of language styles to develop their communication skills.

Figurative language is crucial to get poetic meaning from a poem. According to Pradopo (2005:10) "poem can be defined as a written piece of work in which words have been arranged in such a way to provide a meaning". A poem contains musical elements and many symbols, metaphors and imagery that can be quite elaborate and ornate so as to create mental images in the reader's mind. A poem expresses the innermost feelings of the poet in a matter of few words and

these words are packed full of meaning and expression that they can set the mood of the poem to be either sad, happy, joyous, comforting, etc. A poem can be in epic, narrative, dramatic, or lyrical forms where epic poems describe great adventures derived from ancient mythology, narrative poems narrate a story and lyrical poems come forth with the innermost thoughts and feelings of a poet. In this case the writer tries to analyze figurative language in selected poems by Kahlil Gibran because they have the same theme about social, they are: How I Become a Madman, My friend, The Two Hermits, The Fox, The Wise King, The Three Ants, The Grave Digger, and Night and The Madman.

Figurative language is not intended to be interpreted in a literal sense. Appealing to the imagination, figurative language provides new ways of looking at the world. It always makes use of a comparison between different things. Figurative language compares two things that are different in enough ways so that their similarities, when pointed out, are interesting, unique and/or surprising. Figurative language can be found in literature. There are few different ways to use figurative language. Simile, metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche, personification, apostrophe are all forms of figurative language. When a describe something by comparing it with something else.

The writer uses poem *The Madman* to analyze the meaning of figurative language. The writer is motivated to observe Madman poem because it uses figurative language and it makes the language very beautiful and has a deep meaning. The writer analyze the meaning of figurative language that is used. Those are some languages the meaning to analyze figurative language that is used

in poem of *The Madman*. Through this research, the writer wants to know more about figurative language and its meaning with stylistics approach. The writer uses one of the best ways to really understand the concept of figurative language in the poem "*The Madman*" that taken from one of the collection examples in Kahlil Gibran's poem:

"HOW I BECAME A MADMAN"

"You ask me how I became a madman. It happened thus: One day, long before many gods were born, I woke from a deep sleep and found all my masks were stolen,--the seven masks I have fashioned and worn in seven lives,--I ran maskless through the crowded streets shouting, "Thieves, thieves, the cursed thieves." Men and women laughed at me and some ran to their houses in fear of me. And when I reached the market place, a youth standing on a house-top cried, "He is a madman." I looked up to behold him; the sun kissed my own naked face for the first time. For the first time the sun kissed my own naked face and my soul was inflamed with love for the sun, and I wanted my masks no more. And as if in a trance I cried, "Blessed, blessed are the thieves who stole my masks." Thus I became a madman. And I have found both freedom of loneliness and the safety from being understood, for those who understand us enslave something in us. But let me not be too proud of my safety. Even a Thief in a jail is safe from another thief." (Kahlil Gibran,1981)

In this research, the writer focuses on figurative language and meaning that are used in Kahlil Gibran poems. Kahlil Gibran, philosopher and artist, who was born in Lebanon. His fame and influence spread far away beyond the near east. He produced many famous poems in which it is very memorable. The writer takes Gibran's poems in figurative language because it is very interesting, popular, and very familiar in society, but to understand the meaning of Kahlil Gibran's poem is so difficult because it used implicit meaning or indirect expression. So we need to analyze figurative language that's used in Kahlil Gibran's poem to know the meaning in his poem. That is the reason why the writer intends to conduct a research on analyzing of poems especially Kahlil Gibran's poem.

The writer has some reasons why she chooses poems about social. The first social refers to interaction between organisms in society. Many people find it hard to open their hearts and share their feelings and problems. However, social interaction where people can talk out their problems and feel accepted and understood is very beneficial to mental health. The second good social interaction is a key part of living well. Study after study lists good friendships, family relationships, and health as the most important things to have in order to be happy and fulfilled. The last good support can help protect against the harmful effects of stress.

1.2 Statement of Research Problems

Based on the above background of study, the statement of problems are listed below:

1. What kind of figurative language used in *The Madman* by Kahlil Gibran?
2. What is the meaning of each figurative language used in *The Madman* by Kahlil Gibran?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The study has two clear important objectives, those are:

1. To explain the kind of figurative language used in *The Madman* Kahlil Gibran .
2. To explain the meaning of figurative language used in *The Madman* Kahlil Gibran.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significances of this research are supposed to give valuable contributions, both theoretically and practically.

Theoretically, the study enriches the knowledge related to the figurative language. This study also gives understanding of figurative language especially in Kahlil Gibran's poem. This study is expected to give inspiration and motivation to other writers to conduct the next research dealing with figurative language in poem.

Practically, by knowing figurative language, the reader easier to find the real meaning in poem or the other poems, so it prevent the reader to not easily be fooled by the words, sentences, and utterances in well poem.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study covers a study on figurative language that is found in Kahlil Gibran's poem. Yet, referring to the research question above the limitation of this study above is only focusing analyzing on Kahlil Gibran's poem *"The Madman."*