

## AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN NICOLE'S ALBUM BY NIKI

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### ABSTRACT

This research aims to determine the type of figurative language in Niki's song lyrics on Nicole's album and the type of figurative language that is most dominant in Niki's song lyrics on Nicole's album. This research has two problems, namely the first is looking for figurative language in Niki's album and looking for the most dominant figurative language in Niki's album. The method used is the Qualitative Descriptive Method. The data for this research are song lyrics that contain figurative language. The data source for this research is Nicole Albums which was released on August 11, 2022. This research data is the song lyrics of five songs taken randomly by Niki, namely "Backburner", "Anaheim", "Oceans & Engines", "Home Drive" and "Take a Chance With Me". The instruments of this research are observation and documentation. The results obtained were 8 types of Figurative Language, namely 5 Alliterations, 10 Hyperbole, 14 Metaphors, 3 Similes, 4 Symbols, 3 Personifications, 1 Metonymy, 6 Irony. And the most dominant figurative language used in Nicole's albums is metaphor, with the percentage of alliteration accounting for 11%, hyperbole 22%, **metaphor 30%**, simile 7%, symbol 9%, personification 7%, metonymy 2%, and finally 13% irony.

**Keywords:** *Figurative Language, Nicole's album, Songs.*

### INTRODUCTION

Human existence depends on language; without it, there might be no human life. According to (Sinaga, 2022), language makes it easier for someone to unite perceptions with others because whatever activities we undertake require communication using appropriate and correct language. One way to convey this language is by using songs. According to John Blacking (2023), songs are a medium where songs become a forum for conveying what the author feels. People express themselves in writing through song lyrics. To evoke an attraction or characteristic related to the lyrics, songwriters usually use beautiful expressions or language called Figurative Language. Perrine (Social, 2014) says figurative

language is another way of adding extra dimension to language. It is a branch of the study of semantics. The fourteen categories of figurative language that (Wibisono; & Widodo, 2019) identify include Metaphor, Simile, Symbol, Personification, Apostrophe, Synecdoche, Metonymy, Paradox, Hyperbole, Understatement, Irony, Alliteration, Allusion, Onomatopoeia.

Because of the divergent points of view, some listeners are drawn to the song while others are not because they need help understanding the words. There are even those who misinterpret the meaning that the songwriter wants to convey to his listeners. Some people need help interpreting the true meaning of song lyrics because there is figurative language in the song. The researcher had previously researched, so the researcher knew that Niki used figurative language in creating a song so that every lyric he wrote had a variety of language variations.

Therefore, it is necessary to research and increase the listeners' and readers' understanding of the true meaning of song lyrics by using figurative language analysis in songs on Nicole's album. It will be easier to understand through songs, so researchers are interested in adopting the title: *The Analysis of Figurative Language in Nicole's Album by Niki*.

## **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Figurative language is the use of nonliteral language to convey a thought or concept more imaginatively. The use of comparisons, similes, and unique relationships between two things that may have nothing in common. Figurative language allows writers and speakers to express themselves more freely and powerfully. According to Risdianto (2011:33) (Nasrullah, 2023), figurative language is wording that makes explicit comparisons between unlike things using figures of speech such as metaphors and similes. Perrine (Social, 2014) says figurative language is another way of adding extra dimension to language. In other words, figurative language is another way of saying something commonly. The fourteen categories of figurative language that Wibisono and Widodo (2019) identify include Metaphor, Simile, Symbol, Personification, Apostrophe,

Synecdoche, Metonymy, Paradox, Hyperbole, Understatement, Irony, Alliteration, Allusion, Onomatopoeia.

### **Metaphor**

A metaphor is a figure of speech in which the meaning of one item or idea is expressed by comparison with another that is genuinely unrelated. Metaphor translates one thing's meaning into another without using comparative terms like "like" or "as ."According to (Social, 2014), the implied comparison of two essentially distinct phenomena is known as a metaphor. For example: "The Worm and the Bird". Furthermore, we were meant to be together. "You are the bird, I am the worm" is a sentence that uses metaphorical language. Worms and birds are inextricably related, yet they are not often friends. The bird eats the worm; therefore, the bird is the worm's enemy. Usually, the adversaries have fought one another. Thus, the statement means that despite their constant arguments, they depend on one another and cannot be separated.

### **Simile**

Perrine (Noselya, 2021) says that simile also draws comparisons between fundamentally dissimilar objects. However, the comparison is conveyed using "like" or "as." For instance, the phrase "His heart was as soft as cotton balls" describes someone's kindness by comparing the person's heart with a cotton ball.

### **Symbol**

According to Wibisono, something that represents a more abstract concept could be an item, person, circumstance, or action. For example, early on in Frost's poems, a flower represents his cherished wife, Elinor.

### **Personification.**

A figure of speech known as personification assigns human characteristics to an inanimate object, animal, or other object. "Giving human characteristics to objects and non-humans" is the definition of personification. Say, "The sea is angry," for instance. This statement is a personification because the "sea" is an object, and only humans can exhibit feelings, so an object cannot display emotions.

**Apostrophe**

When speaking to an inanimate object, a living person, or death, an apostrophe addresses them as though they were alive and capable of responding to what is being said, for example, in the song "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" ('Twinkle Twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are'). In the song, a person converses with a star as though it were capable of responding.

**Synecdoche**

Lubis (2017) defines a synecdoche as a literary method when one part reflects the complete work or vice versa. To put it another way, "all eyes on me" means that she is the focus of everyone's attention.

**Metonymy**

One type of semantic shift is metonymy, a change in a word's meaning. For example, "Some want your love, so open the door." The message is that of a guy falling in love and pleading with a female to accept his love.

**Paradox**

According to (Noselya, 2021), a statement exists that, despite seeming contradictory, holds some truth. As an illustration, Alexander Popes wrote that a man could be damned by praising, saying that "literary critic of his time would damn with faint praise." Anyone who realizes that too much restrained praise can harm an author's reputation with the public just as much as reserved criticism does not find the paradox statement strange.

**Hyperbole**

When an expression is used in hyperbole, it is much larger or smaller than it is, giving the impression that the expression is dramatic or exaggerated. For example, "He ran as fast as lightning." Hyperbole is used here to show a person's running speed by comparing it to lightning, which is famous for its speed.

### **Understatement**

A figure of speech used to describe a circumstance, idea, or event is called an understatement by intentionally increasing or decreasing its importance. For example, "Just a little scratch," someone remarked following a minor accident. It is all right. This statement is an understatement since it downplays the event's seriousness by claiming that there were only minor scrapes and that everything is "okay."

### **Irony**

According to Sherman (2013), irony is using words to convey the opposite meaning from what is intended. Say, "Can you go any slower?" as an example when a speedier response is desired.

### **Alliteration**

Alliteration is a rhetorical device or figure of speech in which the first sound of each word in a line or phrase is repeated twice, usually a consonant sound. This is the most straightforward kind of repetition a poet could use. For: "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers." In this sentence, the sound "p" is repeated at the beginning of successive words.

### **Allusion**

Sherman (2013) (Noselya, 2021)allusion is a reference to a well-known individual, location, occasion, piece of art, song, character, etc. For instance, my uncle is the Dr. Phil in our family; Dr. Phil is a well-known American motivational speaker.

### **Onomatopoeia**

A figure of speech known as onomatopoeia employs words whose sounds are similar to or generate the sound of the described thing or event. In its most basic form, onomatopoeia is created by combining two words that have similar sounds: "Six burgers were sizzling on the grill." "A snake slithered through the grass."

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

The researcher used qualitative descriptive research to analyze figurative language appropriately. The data of this study were the song lyrics that underlined and contained Figurative language. The data source for this study was Nicole Albums, released on 11 August 2022. The data for this research were the song lyrics of five songs taken at random by Niki, which are "Backburner," "Anaheim," "Oceans & Engines," "On the Drive Home," and "Take a Chance with Me." In selecting songs randomly, the researchers supported Creswell's (2015) theory, stating that the researcher chose song lyrics for the object so that any song lyric had the same probability of being selected by the subject.

The researcher used observation and documentation as tools to collect data. The researcher used the library research method formulated by Zed (2004) in (Karina, 2019). The researcher used library research methods to collect data because all data was available in the text or song lyrics. The steps are as follows: 1. The researcher listens to five randomly selected songs. 2. Second, the researcher reads the song lyrics carefully while making notes about which lyrics contain figurative language. 3. Third, the researcher grouped each language contained in the song lyrics into their respective types of figurative language. The researcher employed the three-step analysis method proposed by (Miles et al., 2014) to examine the data: data condensation, data Display, and conclusion or verification drawing. The author used data triangulation in the data analysis process. Data triangulation is used to obtain high credibility and accuracy of data (Creswell, 2008).

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

This involves identifying and enumerating the various types of Figurative Language according to their respective types. Formulas and examples of analysis presented in tabular form can be referenced based on Moshinsky (1959) in (Sondang et al., 2023)

$$\mathbf{P = F / N \times 100\%}$$

Where:

P = % of Figurative Language categories

F = the number of times figurative language occurs

N = is the total number of figurative language categories

The researcher has found 46 Figurative Language data in Nicole's Album by Niki. The research results showed that the most frequently found data was metaphor, with 14 data (30%). The findings are presented in the table below:

**Table 1. Findings**

No	Types of Figurative Language	The Percentage	
		Total	Percentage (%)
1	Alliteration	5	11%
2	Hyperbole	10	22%
3	Metaphor	14	30%
4	Simile	3	7%
5	Symbol	4	9%
6	Personification	3	7%
7	Metonymy	1	2%
8	Irony	6	13%
	<b>Total</b>	46	100%

After using the formula, the researcher found 11% of alliteration, 22% of hyperbole, 30% of metaphor, 7% of simile, 9% of Symbol, 7% of personification, 2% of metonymy, and the last 1% of irony.

As stated in the first chapter, this research aims to find the types of Figurative Language in Nicole's album. According to Widodo and Wibisono (2019), there are 14 types of figurative language. However, after a deeper analysis of Niki's album, there are 8 types of figurative language, including Alliteration, Hyperbole, Metaphor, Simile, Symbol, Personification, Metonymy, and Irony.

A discussion of each type of allusion found will be discussed below:

**Alliteration** is a rhetorical or metaphorical strategy in which a word's first sound, typically a consonant sound, is repeated twice in a line or phrase as *long as we*

*keep talking (as long as we are talking)*. When the first consonant of multiple words following to or consecutive in a sentence has the same sound, this is known as alliteration. The "k" sound that starts the words "keep" and "talking" in the line "as long as we keep talking" demonstrates alliteration. Alliteration results from both terms beginning with the letter "k." The sentences have an intriguing rhythmic and repeating vibe as a result.

**Hyperbole** is a type of figure of speech that is used to dramatize a point. When someone uses hyperbole, they make a phrase appear much larger or smaller than it is, which can be dramatic or overdone. *However, I will not mind crisping up on your backburner*. This sentence is an example of hyperbole in figurative language. The expression "crisping up on your backburner" is overused to convey extreme annoyance or fury. It is probable that the songwriter made an extraordinarily nasty or aggressive threat or comment to someone because they were so irritated or upset.

A **Metaphor** compares two unrelated objects without using comparative terms like "like" or "like." When an object or notion is described as another object or concept, metaphor helps to clarify or paint a clearer picture of the original. *The Goo Goo Dolls are dead to me the way you should be*. That statement uses the word "die" to indicate that, just as dolls eventually pass away, so too will humans. "Goo Goo Dolls" are used to symbolize humans in that sentence. The simple meaning of this sentence is that, like a doll, human life likewise has an end. Thus, the metaphorical meaning of this line is implied by it.

A **simile** is a figure of speech in which two different objects are compared using comparison terms like "like" or "as." *Moreover, now you are sounding like a hurt puppy*. A simile is used in this statement to compare a person to a "you are sounding like a hurt puppy." The lyricist implies that the person he likes may seem frail, in need of assistance, going through hardships, or even suffering when he uses the term "like" to describe how the person appears or sounds like a wounded dog.

**Symbols**, or representations of an idea or concept to Communicate a more nuanced or complicated message, are known as symbolic figures of speech. *We*



*are lying on my bed on Saturday sunset with five hours to go.* Figurative meaning Symbols used in sentences. Because Saturday is often a holiday, it is a sign of free or free time. So, references to "Saturday sunsets" conjure up thoughts of free time or relaxation. This exemplifies using symbols to convey a more nuanced or complex message.

**Personification** is a metaphorical language in which human characteristics are applied to an inanimate object, animal, or abstract idea. *Moreover, he has got swirls of passion in his eyes.* Personification is a metaphorical language in which human attributes are applied to an inanimate object or abstract idea. It describes someone's eyes as having "*passion in his eyes.*" Despite being inanimate bodily components, the eyes can feel and communicate passion and emotions, just like human beings.

**Metonymy** is a type of reasoning in which a word or phrase is used to compare related or related concepts rather than the word itself. *I laugh at how we are opposites. I read him like a book; he is a clueless little kid.* Metonymy is a type of figure of speech when one term refers to something that is either notably tied to something else or related to it in some other way. "Read it like a book" is an example of metonymy in this line. Reading is substituted for or represented by the phrase "book." For instance, "book" refers to reading because it is an everyday activity involving books. Since the word "book" is strongly related to reading, it is used in the sentence to describe that action, an example of metonymy.

**Irony** is a rhetorical device where a statement's actual meaning deviates from its intended meaning. *Moreover, for once, I do not care about what you want.* According to this statement, the speaker must care more about his interlocutor's wants. The speaker genuinely cares about the person he is talking to and is paying attention to what he or she wants, which is likely the statement's true meaning. The sentence effectively uses irony to suggest something different from what is stated.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on this research, the researcher analyzed the types of Figurative Language in Nicole's album. The findings of this research are 5 Data (11%) Alliteration, 10 Data (22%) Hyperbole, 14 Data (30%) Metaphor, 3 Data (7%) Simile, 4 Data (9%) Symbols, 3 Data (7%) Personification, 1 data (2%) Metonymy, and 6 last data (13%) Irony. The research results show that metaphor is Nicole's album's most dominant type of Figurative Language. A metaphor is a figure of speech in which the meaning of one item or idea is expressed by comparison with another that is genuinely unrelated.

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