

HYPERBOLIC EXPRESSIONS USED IN SONG LYRIC OF WESTLIFE'S COAST TO COAST ALBUM

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Abstract

This research was aimed at analysing hyperbolic expressions used in song lyric of Westlife's Coast to Coast album. This research was designed by using qualitative descriptive method. In analysing the data, the researcher used theory of Creswell. The source of data in this study was taken from the song lyric of Westlife's Coast to Coast album that was obtained from internet by downloaded the lyric from the song. The data of this study are word, phrase, and sentence in the lyrics that contained the album. Hyperbole is one kind of figure of speech that exaggerates things with overstatement. Based on the result of research is the hyperbole there are 23 expressions. There are expressions in the form of word, phrase, and sentence. It can be concluded that each song lyric Westlife's Coast to Coast album made by hyperbole to make the song interesting to hear and allows listeners to feel the emotions that convey of singers or songwriters such as deep sadness, extraordinary happiness, or various other feelings. It is suggested to use the song as media of teaching semantics, especially figure of speech.

Key Words: *hyperbole; meaning; song lyric*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis ekspresi hiperbolik yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu milik Westlife dalam album Coast to Coast. Penelitian ini dirancang dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Dalam menganalisis data, peneliti menggunakan teori Creswell. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini diambil dari lirik lagu milik Westlife dalam album Coast to Coast yang diperoleh dari internet dengan cara mendownload lirik lagu tersebut. Data penelitian ini berupa kata, frasa, dan kalimat pada lirik yang terdapat dalam album. Hiperbola merupakan salah satu jenis majas yang membesar-besarkan suatu hal dengan pernyataan yang berlebihan. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian hiperbola terdapat 23 ekspresi. Ada ekspresi yang berupa kata, frasa, dan kalimat. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa setiap lirik lagu milik Westlife dalam album Coast to Coast terdapat hiperbola agar lagu tersebut menarik untuk didengar dan memungkinkan pendengar merasakan emosi yang disampaikan oleh penyanyi atau pencipta lagu seperti kesedihan yang mendalam, kebahagiaan yang luar biasa, atau berbagai perasaan lainnya. Disarankan untuk menggunakan lagu sebagai media pengajaran semantik, khususnya majas.

Kata Kunci: *Hiperbola; makna; lirik lagu*

A. Introduction

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. It includes analysis of language form, language meaning and language context etc. Linguistics also deals with the social, cultural, historical and political factors that influence language, often defining linguistic and linguistic context. In addition, linguistics studies language as a means of communication, the purpose it serves, and how people actually use their language. Linguistics has five aspects: phonology, morphology, syntax, pragmatics and semantics.

Semantics is the study of meaning. Semantics is part of linguistics because it is a technical term used to refer to the study of meaning, and meaning is part of language. Meaning covers many aspects of language, and there is no general agreement as to which aspects of it can be included in semantics, or how they should be described. Moreover, according to Kreidler (1998:3), "Semantics is the systematic study of meaning, and linguistic semantics is the study of how languages organize and express meanings."

Furthermore, semantic meaning is divided into two parts: literal meaning and non-literal meaning. Literal means based on the actual words, non-literal meaning is the other way around. In addition to the literal meaning of the words, the speaker or the writer has other intentions, which are different from the meaning of the words

expressed by the speaker or the writer. Therefore, when a speaker or writer uses non-literal meaning in a statement or literary work, it is difficult for listeners and readers to understand what the speaker or writer is trying to convey.

Literature is a written, compact and vivid work that contains personal human experience in the form of thoughts, feelings, ideas, and interests. Literature is a form of communication that is mediated by giving the author the freedom of his creative imagination. Literature refers to written works that are considered to be of artistic or intellectual value. It encompasses various forms of written expression, including novels, poems, short story, songs, etc. Generally, in literature contain figurative language. Its purpose to entertain and give aesthetic pleasure in literary work.

Figurative language is one part from the field of language. Figurative language is used to create a special effect or feeling. According to Abrams (1999:96) "Figurative language is a conspicuous departure from what users of a language apprehend as the standard meaning of words, or else the standard order of words, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect".

Figurative language is the language of the imagination, contrived to create thought its appeal to imagination. In other words, many people express their idea through figurative expression when literal language cannot deliver what they want to

say. To attract the attention of all readers or listeners, the author of creator usually uses figurative language that attracts them such as hyperbole.

The word hyperbole is derived from Greek word, *hyperballein*, and the means to throw over or beyond. The word *hyper* itself means over and the word *ballein* means to throw. Hyperbole is extravagant exaggeration by which something is represented as much greater or less, or as involving greater intensity, than in reality, or beyond possibility.

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Whereas, Kennedy and Gioia (1995:687) defined that hyperbole is emphasize a point with a statement containing exaggeration. It means that hyperbole is kind of figurative language that contains an exaggeration of number, measurement or characteristics. According to Johnson (2011:123) "Hyperbole is international exaggeration that speakers and writers use to make a point or to emphasize an idea".

Claridge (2011:5) defined that hyperbole is an expression which exceeds the literal expression and contains more semantic attributes of expression

something. It means that hyperbole is a figure of a speech which uses exaggeration to emphasize a certain characteristic of something, and especially how it feels. It is used for as a way of making a description more creative and humorous. It is important to note that hyperbole is not mean to be taken literary, the listeners know it's exaggeration. So, hyperbole can be used to communicate all kinds of feelings and amuse or surprise people with the creativity of description.

Hyperbole is a literary technique in which a specific piece of information, emotion, or other statement is intentionally exaggerated to achieve a specific effect. In most cases, the literal interpretation of the exaggeration cannot actually be true, but the exaggeration serves to emphasize a point. Hyperbole can also be used in literature sarcastically or for the sake humor, though it must commonly used for emphasis.

Hyperbole is typically utilized in prose to emphasize a point or provide humor. If a writer wishes to emphasize a certain topic, they may exaggerate or overstate it. Hyperbole can be employed in descriptions to draw attention to character's standout quality, for instance. It can also be used to denote a noteworthy activity of some sort. Hyperbole is used in these and other similar cases to emphasize a specific action, feeling, or feature and is not meant to be taken literally.

The hyperbolic expression is one kind of figures of speech that exaggerates

things with overstatement. This expression cause something seem excessive than it really does. Hyperbole is a type of figurative speech that aims something but is done by exaggerating the original reality in order to increase the impression and power of influence of something being discussed. It is used for emphasize or as a way of making a description more creative and humorous.

In this research, researcher was analysed the hyperbolic expressions in song lyrics Coast to Coast Album by Westlife. Researcher chose this album because the songs have many hyperbolic expressions that need to be studied for their meaning.

Based on preliminary study had been done by researcher in song lyrics Coast to Coast album by Westlife, the hyperbolic expressions found in song lyric "Against All Odds".

*How can I just let you walk away?
Just let you leave without a trace
When I stand here **taking every
breath with you**, ooh
**You're the only one who really
knew me at all***

The lyric above, the researcher take expressions "taking every breath with you" and "You're the only one who really knew me at all" to analyze. The expression "taking every breath with you" is exaggerated. Because, it impossible the human taking a every breath together, they do not have the same respiratory organs, the author just want to expresses a sense of

closeness, attachment, and the importance of the presence of a loved one in his life.

The expression "You're the only one who really knew me at all" is exaggerated. Because, not always that only one person who really knew us at all, but we have several people who truly know us. This expression used to emphasize the level of understanding and depth of the relationship with the person.

Finally, the researcher conduct the research to find out that related with the explanation above, the objectives of this study is to find out the meaning of hyperbolic expressions used in song lyrics of Westlife's Album Coast to Coast. Based on the description above, the researcher conduct the research entitled "**Hyperbolic Expressions used in Song Lyric of Westlife's Coast to Coast Album**".

The objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the hyperbolic expressions used in song lyric of Westlife's Coast to Coast album.
2. To describe the meaning of hyperbolic expressions used in song lyric of Westlife's Coast to Coast album.

B. Research Method

This research was conducted by using qualitative research. The data in this research were words, phrases, and sentences in the song lyric that exist in the album, while the source of data is the song lyrics Coast to Coast Album. The data collection of this research is documentation technique. To analyzing the data in this

research is found by Creswell (2009:172-176) there are: Organize and prepare the data for analysis, read through all the data, begin detailed analysis with coding process, use the coding process to generate description of the setting or people as well as categories or themes for analysis, advance how the description and themes was represented in the qualitative descriptive, and data analysis involves making an interpretation or meaning of the data.

C. Research Finding and Discussion

This research was a study of the analysis of Hyperbolic Expressions used in Song Lyric of Westlife's Coast to Coast Album. The researcher focuses on hyperbole which are contained in the tenth songs that have been selected in the album namely Against All Odds, Puzzle of My Heart, Angels Wings, Soledad, Dreams Come True, You Make Me Feel, My Love, When You're Looking Like That, Close, What Makes a Man.

To analyzed the data in this research, this study used qualitative methods. This qualitative research is used to solve problems and answer the problems encountered in the current situation. The data collected by downloading the soft copy on the Google and print out hard copy.

Additionally, the source of the data in this research is the song lyrics Westlife's Coast to Coast Album in the selected songs. The technique of the data analysis by using

Creswell (2009:172-176) which consist of data preparation, data reading process, data coding, data description, and interpretation as the conclusion of the analysis. The aimed of this study is to describe the meaning of hyperbolic expressions contained in the lyric of the selected songs Westlife's Coast to Coast album.

Based on the data analysis it is found that 23 expressions containing hyperbolic expressions used in selected song lyric Westlife's Coast to Coast Album. The summary of expressions can be seen in the following table.

Table 1. The summary of Hyperbolic Expressions Used in the selected song

No	Song Title	Hyperbolic Expressions
1	Against All Odds	4
2	Puzzle of My Heart	3
3	Angels Wings	2
4	Soledad	3
5	Dreams Come True	1
6	You Make Me Feel	1
7	My Love	2
8	When You're Looking Like That	2
9	Close	5
10	What Makes a Man	1
Total		23

The result of this research is the data and findings by using qualitative description and focus of this research is the hyperbolic expressions that contain in the selected song lyrics Westlife's Coast to Coast Album.

Hyperbole is a type of figure of speech that aims something but is done by exaggerating the original reality in order to

increase the impression and power of influence of something being discussed. Additionally, Johnson (2011:5) state that hyperbole is international exaggeration that speaker or writers use to make a point or to emphasize an idea. The hyperbolic expressions used in the selected song lyrics of Westlife's Coast to Coast Album as follow:

➤ **When I stand here taking every breath with you** (S1, St.1, L3)

This is hyperbole because it impossible for humans to take every breath together because they do not share the same breathing organs. The author simply wishes to communicate a sense of closeness, attachment, and the value of a loved one's presence in his life.

➤ **Every little piece of her is right** (S2, St.2, L1)

The expression is hyperbole because the man is saying that the girl is perfect, which we know that no one perfect in the world. But in this case, the meaning of the expression is not just about the heart. The girl in this song has a positive attitude which makes the man love her.

➤ **I would die for you** (S3, St.1, L3)

The expression is exaggeration because the sentence doesn't mean the guy will die for a girl, but here it means that he will give his whole life willingly to take care of the girl that he loves.

➤ **In my heart you were the only** (S4, St.2, L6)

The sentence is hyperbole because this expression shows an exaggeration words. The line exaggeration because it is impossible to have just one person in our heart or mind. It is clear that this expression means only the girl he loves can make him fall in love.

➤ **Only for a minute you can make your dreams come true** (S5, St.6, L3)

The expression contains the words exaggeration, because it is impossible to make a person realize a dream in just one minute. These expressions mean that we don't have to wait long time to realize our dreams if we can work hard, so we do it as soon as we want.

➤ **Ten thousand light years away from you** (S6, St.6, L1)

This is hyperbole because it is an exaggeration. It is a literal exaggeration of the distance between two individuals. In fact, the distance is extremely long and difficult to comprehend in the context of interpersonal relationships. These words imply that the distance between a man and the woman he loves is extremely long.

➤ **And oh my love, I'm holding on forever** (S7, St.2, L2)

The sentence contains the words exaggeration. In the real meaning, the word "forever" is for all future time, for always, a very long time. There's nothing hold for all future time or very long time, the guy is really in love with a girl and wants to keep it that way forever, which means he wants to be with her and never be apart from her.

➤ **I don't want to live my life without you**
(S8, St.3, L6)

This expression is hyperbole because this sentence is exaggerating words. The person in this song is impossible to leave his life if there is no lover around him. This sentence means that he is no deeply in love without lover so the person does not want to separate with her.

➤ **I could spend my life just living this dream** (S9, St.1, L5)

This expression is exaggeration it is impossible for the person in this song to live a life where he only sleep and dream every day. It certainly means that he promises never to leave the woman he loves.

➤ **But what's the point when all I ever want is you** (S10, St.7, L2)

This expression is hyperbole because it also shows the exaggeration. This expression does not mean that the man just wants only that girl in his life, because he clearly needs another to keep survive in this life. But the man tries to explain to the girl that she is meaningful for him.

D. Conclusion and Suggestion

After analyzing the hyperbolic expressions in the selected song lyric of "Coast to Coast" album, against all odds, puzzle of my heart, angels wings, Soledad, dreams come true, you make me feel, my love, when you're looking like that, close, what makes me feel by Westlife, based on the focus of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research and

significances of the research the writer concludes, the song lyric "Coast to Coast" album, against all odds, puzzle of my heart, angels wings, Soledad, dreams come true, you make me feel, my love, when you're looking like that, close, what makes me feel by Westlife have hyperbolic expressions. Based on the result of the analysis conducted by researcher, the researcher concludes that each song lyric is made by figurative language such hyperbole to make the song interesting to hear and allows listeners to feel the emotions that convey of singers or songwriters such as deep sadness, extraordinary happiness, or various other feelings.

After concluding the research, the researcher would like to give suggestions related to this result of research.

1. It is hoped that listeners, especially students, are advised to understand the meaning of the lyric.
2. To the English teacher, researcher suggested the teacher can use the song lyric of the Westlife as a reference in teaching semantics, especially figure of speech.
3. To the next researcher, this research can be used as a basis for further research, particularly, which is concerned with semantics.

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