

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE ANALYSIS ON THE UGLY LOVE NOVEL BY COLLEEN HOOVER

¹Arini Egi Tiarawati, ²Tri Wahyu Retno Ningsih

^{1,2}English Department, Faculty of Letters and Culture, Universitas Gunadarma
Jl. Margonda Raya No. 100, Depok 16424, Jawa Barat

¹ariniegitiara@gmail.com, ²twahyurn@gmail.com

Abstract

This study was analyzed a figurative language on the Ugly Love novel by Colleen Hoover. The aim of this study is to analyze the types of figurative language which found in Ugly Love novel by Colleen Hoover. This study used figurative language theory by Leech to analyze the data which the researcher found in the novel. The method of this study is descriptive qualitative method. There are many sentences that contain figurative language that found in the novel. The researcher was found 87 data to be analyzed in the types of figurative language. The data will be identified and classified into 8 types of figurative language by Leech. The result of this study found 6 types of figurative language in this Ugly Love novel. That are 33 data of personifications, 19 data of similes, 11 data of irony, 10 data of hyperbole, 9 data of metaphors, and 5 data of metonymy. The most of dominant type of figurative language in the Ugly Love novel by Colleen Hoover is personification.

Keywords: Colleen Hoover, figurative Language, ugly love novel

INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool of society to communicate with the other people within groups or personally. Language is one of human need and the important thing of people to convey the ideas, because people used language to interact, to make a conversation and to get information with others in daily life. In language people can share the ideas and understand each other, to express the imagination or emotion of the people. Sapir in Josiah (2016:39) said that language is communicate the ideas, emotion, desires with the other people that instinctively and purely human method by produced symbols in any situation. In language, people can be learned in any term, such as figurative language.

Figurative language means a non-literal meaning which means a style of

language that does not use an actual meaning or literal meaning. The term figurative language used language to communicate which the meaning is not straight to the point. Figurative language is used in any situation to make the meaning feel deep and it using people thought to imagine the meaning that has an ambiguous meaning. It used for the speech or writing to make it interesting. Figurative language is one of the language styles that difficult to be understood or learn, caused the meaning makes people confused about an actual meaning of figurative language. The phenomenon of figurative language can be found in society that using hyperbole or other figure of figurative language, because figurative language has many types. Leech in Dewi (2010:2) provide the term figurative language has eight types to

be classified, there are personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, litotes, metonymy, and oxymoron.

There are many forms that used figurative language in communication, such as poems, songs, novels, magazines, newspapers, or even in daily life conversations. Most of people consider that figurative language is a kind of difficult language that makes people thinking hardly about the meaning because it cannot find in any kind of dictionary. The novel is one of the forms of figurative language that has various genre, like horror, romantic, comedy, mystery, etc. One of the interesting stories in the novel is romantic genre, because love story is related and close to the human life. One of the novels that contain a love story is an *Ugly Love* novel.

Ugly Love novel is a romance genre that contain love story. This story is about Tate, Miles and Rachel who Rachel is the women of Miles's past and Tate is the women that close to Miles now. The author of this novel is Colleen Hoover that the first New York Times bestselling author and Colleen Hoover write many novels which contain a romance genre and got awards, such as Goodreads Choice Award for best Romance in 2015.

The studies that discuss about figurative language which related of this study are Saputri (2014). The objectives of her study are to describe the types of figurative language found in the novel and to identify the contextual meaning of the

figurative language. She classified the types of figurative language by using theory of Leech in. The result of her research showed that there are 93 sentences that contain of figurative language. She found 52 items of simile, 18 items of personification, 16 items of hyperbole, 6 items of metaphor, and 1 item of metonymy. The most dominant type of figurative language in the novel was simile.

Fitratunnas (2017) focused on observing the words that contained figurative language by using theory of Reask. The method of her study was descriptive qualitative method. The result of her study showed 17 sentences which contain figurative language, there are hyperbole (8 data), metaphor (3 data), metonymy (2 data), simile (2 data), alliteration (1 data). Hamdiana (2015) Her study focused on hyperbolic expressions which is the type of figurative language. She used documentation method to analyze the data. The result of her study showed 4 data that contain hyperbole expressions that used in the love song's lyrics, there are the expressions is power of love, passion of love, proof of love, and expectation of love.

Based on the description above, the researcher interested to analyze about type of figurative language that used in *Ugly Love* novel by Colleen Hoover, because there are many phrases, clauses, or sentences that contain of figurative language. The aim of this study is to analyze the types of figurative language that contain in the novel *Ugly Love* by *Colleen Hoover*.

METHODS

In arranging the data, the researcher used qualitative research method in this study. Zohrabi in Mohajan (2018) states that qualitative research is the way of people to interpret the social action, and understand about the reality of individuals in their mind. That used in interviews, diaries, journals, classroom observations and open-ended questionnaires to analyze and interpret the data from visual and textual materials, and oral history. Strauss and Corbin in Wardoyo (2011) states that descriptive studies are designed to get information that related to the phenomenon which happening now. They are

direct toward of the phenomenon. Therefore, there is no administration find in an experimental study. This study taken the data from description, narration, and dialogue in *Ugly Love* novel, which found phrases, clauses, or sentences that contain of figurative language and the researcher used documentation method to identify and analyze the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study is found 87 phrase, clause, or sentence that contain figurative language. We can see in table. 1 there are personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, and metonymy.

Table 1. The result of Figurative Language occurred in the novel

Types of Figurative Language	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personification	33	37.9
Simile	19	21.8
Metaphor	9	10.3
Hyperbole	10	11.5
Irony	11	12.6
Metonymy	5	5.7
Total	87	100

Based on the table above, it shows the result of this study which contain of figurative language that occurred in *Ugly Love* novel by *Colleen Hoover*. As it can be seen from the table above, there are 87 data that categorized as the types of figurative language, which are 33 items using personification, 19 items of

simile, 11 items of irony, 10 items of hyperbole, 5 items of metonymy, and this study cannot found the data of litotes and oxymoron. This study would discuss the six types that consist of figurative language found in *Ugly Love* novel. There are personification, simile, irony, hyperbole, metaphor, and metonymy.

A. Personification

Personification means giving a human character or animal character to an inanimate object, to make the meaning look alive.

*As soon as my heart rate begins to calm down, it starts to scream at me. My **heart** is screaming at me.*

The sentence above “My *heart* is actually *screaming* at me” is considered as personification, because the word heart is following with screaming which is a human characteristic or a living thing. In the fact, heart is the thing that does not have mouth to make a sound like screaming. Screaming is one of the human characters to express the happiness, sadness, or even anger. While heart is an organ of the body or a thing that feel the disappointment or sadness.

*He steps forward and completely ignores **unspoken elevator** etiquette by stepping too close and holding out his hand.*

The sentence above “ignores *unspoken elevator* etiquette” is considered as personification, because unspoken elevator is an inanimate object which has human character or a living thing character to clarify the meaning of the sentence. In the fact, elevator cannot be spoken or unspoken because the thing of spoken or unspoken is only humans that do. While unspoken is one of the human characteristics that using mouth

to make a sound, it can be spoken or unspoken to express and tell the feeling.

*Our **disappointment** melts to the floor and combines in a puddle of premature tears at our feet.*

The sentence above “Our *disappointment* melts to the floor” is considered as personification, because the word disappointment which human’s feeling which following with the word melts which is an inanimate thing. Disappointment is not a thing that liquidly or a solid object that can melts, but disappointment is a human expression to show the sadness or anger of something to be expected which does not fulfillment. While melts is an event of the solid object which can turn liquid due to changing temperature or weather, for example snow turns into the water due the winter turning into summer.

B. Simile

Simile is a type of figurative language that comparing two different objects or thing explicitly which using conjunction, such as “like”, “as”, “as...as” to comparing the word.

My eyes are usually as brown as my hazelnut hair, but right now, they look ten shades darker, thanks to the bags under them.

Based on the sentence above “My *eyes are usually as brown as my hazelnut*

hair” is categorized as simile, because as it can be seen that “as...as...” is a conjunction which pointing the simile. This example is comparing two different objects, that are comparing the color of the eyes and the hair that has the same color. In the society, all knows that hazelnut is kind of beans which has brown color. The meaning of this example is the eyes has the same color with the hair which is brown like the color kind of beans, that is hazelnut.

*I'd say **they were as clear blue as the waters of the Caribbean**, but I've never actually been to the Caribbean, so I wouldn't know.*

The sentence above “they were as clear blue as the waters of the Caribbean” is categorized as simile, because the word “as...as...” is pointing the term simile which is conjunction. This example comparing two different objects, there are “they” which means eyes with “the waters of the Caribbean” that has the same color. In this example, the word “blue” has the meaning of clear, then the author would like to tell the readers that the eyes is clear as the waters of the Caribbean. Within the fact that the eyes are not like the water that has blue color and clear as the sea.

*Mom used to tell us that if we put our eyes together, **they would look just like a tree.***

Based on the sentence above, that “they would look just like a tree” is categorized as simile, because there is the word “like” which is conjunction that pointing the term of simile. This example comparing two different objects, there are “they” which means eyes compare with “a tree” which has the same color. As people know that the tree is a plant or a living thing that has roots, trunk, twigs, leaves, flowers, or even fruits. Trunk is the part of tree that has a brown color, while leaves is the part of the tree that has a green color, this example show the Tate’s eyes and Corbin’s eyes which if they put together it was just like a tree. Tate’s eyes are brown just like a trunk and Corbin’s eyes are green which like a leaf.

C. Irony

Irony means the sarcasm meaning which is not an actual meaning. This type of figurative language has an opposite meaning in their phenomenon. Which express the feeling like sadness or tragic in the actual meaning. The people using the term irony to express the sadness, disappointment, or anger without judging something can be seen, which means has the differentiate between what was said and what was the meaning.

*I walk back. **The house is too damn small to fit all of my frustration and disappointment.***

The sentence above “*The house is too damn small to fit all of my frustration and disappointment*” is considered as irony, because as it can be seen that there is the feeling of Miles’s to his father. In the fact, that the house is filled with stuffs which are not with things that invisible just like feelings. The house in this example is big enough, but Miles’s disappointment and frustration bigger than the house, it bring the readers think that Miles’s frustration was very big to his father which the one and only his hope.

My eyes are usually as brown as my hazelnut hair, but right now, they look ten shades darker, thanks to the bags under them.

Based on the example above, that “*they look ten shades darker, thanks to the bags under them*” is considered as irony. In this example, the word “they” means eyes which can be read as “*the eyes look ten shades darker, thanks to the bags under them*”. This phenomenon of the term irony is to show the readers Tate’s expression about her tired eyes, even though her eyes look very tired that can be seen which has ten shades darker and there are bags under her darker eyes which look more tired with that eyes. While the word thanks is the expression of the people to appreciate a thing or people do to others. It means Tate appreciate the bags under her darker eyes, even though she looks ugly with that, it called sarcasm meaning.

Loud, deafening silence.

Based on the sentence above, that “*Loud, deafening*” is considered as the term irony. Because loud deafening silence means a very quiet or silence atmosphere in a place where there is a people who can make a sound from his mouth, because the word loud in that example is not a sound or voice that make a people can hear the voice. But it is the word to show that a place was very quiet.

D. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a figure of language that has an exaggerate meaning about size, degree, or number without intending something deceive, which means hyperbole is the figure of language that says more than the actual meaning or more than the truth. This phenomenon is often in society to says about something exaggerate in daily conversation which especially happen among teenagers.

Part of me wants to ask her a million questions until I know everything about her.

The sentence above “*a million questions*” is categorized as the term hyperbole, because it is a numerical hyperbole which can be seen of the word “million” it shows the large number. As people know that million is many of something important. Such as money, goods, or a thing. The word a million questions is an

excessive meaning which means of many questions that Miles's would to know about Rachel that he don't know before, like her birthday, which college that Rachel want to take after she graduate in her school, about their parents who want to get married soon.

That was four years and two-story sketchy complex ago.

The sentence above "that was *four years and two-story sketchy complex ago*" is considered as hyperbole, because "four years and two-story sketchy complex ago" means that Tate's mind is remembered about the situation that happened four years ago. And it is the expression how long Tate and Corbin did not see and talk with each other since Tate was graduate from her senior high school and Corbin had the first working as a pilot in his company in a year, therefore Tate feel that moment was a long time ago but she can remember the detail.

I swear this is the slowest damn elevator I've ever encountered

Based on the sentence above is "*the slowest damn elevator I've ever encountered*" considered as hyperbole. Because, in the fact that the elevator is works as usual, it is not broken that cannot be use for people. The elevator works, but the reason of Tate's feeling is because she had a conversation with stranger that bothering her, she felt less

comfortable that become an awkward situation with that stranger, even though the stranger looked nice but his questions makes Tate was uncomfortable with that and want to get the destination quickly, and Tate feel the elevator slower than other elevator caused she uncomfortable with stranger's questions.

E. Metaphor

Metaphor is the figure of language that comparing two different objects implicitly which is not using conjunction in every case. This type of figurative language is rarely in society that used in daily conversation.

My hand instinctively goes to my neck, I touch the dime-sized mark just below my ear

Based on the sentence above "the dime-sized mark" is considered as metaphor. The dime-sized mark in this example is describing a birthmark of Tate behind her ear which is people can see it. The word 'mark' means birthmark that compared to the dime size which are two different objects. In society, birthmark is a familiar term means a mark of people in their skin that they got at the time they were born, it is a permanent mark in people skin until they growing and the color mostly dark, like black, brown, and dark green. Then, the dime size means a size of dime which is coins. Coin has a round shape which is made of metal and has a flat surface, and coin is a kind of money that used

to exchange something such as a goods, a thing, or kind of food. This example means that Tate's birthmark has a round shape behind her ear like a dime size.

Brain = Liquid.

Based on the sentence above, that "Brain=Liquid" is considered as metaphor. This example comparing two different objects clearly, there are brain with liquid that people know there are has a different meaning. As people know, brain is an organ of human or animal which the function to think everything that will be done, and brain is the center system of human's body which if brain was broke the body will be unstable. While liquid means a substance which freely flows to anywhere or any place. The characteristic of liquid are freely flows, clear, and pure that can be found in waters, oil, or even all kinds of drink. It can be concluded that Tate's brain was freely flows like a liquid when she hear Miles's words.

I'm wallpaper now.

The sentence above "I'm wallpaper now" is categorized as metaphor, it can be seen that 'I'm wallpaper' means a human that looks like wallpaper. It is comparing two different object between human and wallpaper clearly. As people know, human is a living thing which can move everywhere whatever they want and they can breathe as

long as he lives. In society, wallpaper is a cover of a wall which makes the wall looks nice. It is a decorative of the room which has a good patterned with a various color. Wallpaper has an implicit meaning, which wallpaper is a thing that cannot move anywhere it wants except by human. And wallpaper is a thing that has a rigid characteristic. It can be concluded that Tate was standing in front of the wall without saying anything when Miles's left and rigidly which cannot move just like wallpaper.

F. Metonymy

Metonymy is a figure of language that replaces something by closely meaning with a truth about a thing. This type of figurative language uses another words or term to illustrate some places or situation that makes people imagine the closely meaning about that.

*I certainly wasn't anticipating a high-rise smack dab in the middle of **downtown San Francisco.***

Based on the sentence above "downtown San Francisco" is categorized as metonymy, because downtown San Francisco replace or describe a central area of the city which is San Francisco that has a lot of activities there, it replace of the main business place of the city whereby the economic movement are faster in that area compared to other areas. Downtown San Francisco

describes a closely meaning which has a skyscraper building, a restaurants, another shopping mall form any group, and peoples from different tribe. It can be concluded that Tate was not imagine there were many skyscrapers in that central area of San Francisco.

*I'd say they were as clear blue as the waters
of **The Caribbean**.*

Based on the sentence above, that “*the Caribbean*” is considered as the term metonymy, because the Caribbean is describe the area of the sea which extending surrounded by the islands from the Southern Coast of the United States until the East of Atlantic. The islands that surrounded are Cayman Island, Leeward Island, Windward Island, The Southern United States, The Bahamas, Costa Rica, and many more. The Caribbean is the term that surrounded by the islands that has a purest and clearest blue water in America.

*Stop staring at his stomach. Oh my word, he
has **the V**.*

Based on the sentence above, that “he has *the V*” is considered as metonymy. Because “the V” is describe a shape of the stomach that has a letter V. As people know that the people who has the V shape in their stomach is the people who doing workout diligently every day. The one of the ways to

create the V shape in the stomach is doing sit up every day in the morning. It can be concluded that Tate was surprised by Miles’s stomach which has a shape of the V that she did not have.

CONCLUSION

The limit of this study is the researcher only focuses on analyzing the figurative language in novel *Ugly Love*. The previous of this study by Fitriatunnas (2017) focused on observing the words that contained figurative language by using theory of Reask, while in this study the researcher using theory by Leech. The result of her study showed 17 sentences which contain figurative language, there are hyperbole (8 items), metaphor (3 items), metonymy (2 items), simile (2 items), alliteration (1 item). While in this study, the researcher found 87 figurative languages that used in novel “*Ugly Love by Colleen Hoover*”. The numbers of the figurative languages are 33 items of personification, 19 items of simile, 11 items of irony, 10 items of hyperbole, 9 items of metaphor, and 5 items of metonymy. The most dominant type of figurative language in the *Ugly Love* novel by Colleen Hoover is personification. While using, simile is to show the readers that comparing two different objects happens clearly and explicitly by using conjunction such as “like” and “as”. The term irony used when people want to express their sadness or angriness without judging the actual meaning, it called sarcasm.

In hyperbole type the word become excessive and does not use the truth about size, number, or degree. Metaphor in this novel showed the readers that there are comparing two different objects implicitly caused this term does not use conjunction. The term metonymy in novel Ugly Love is to replace or describe something by closely meaning. It can be concluded that figurative language has an important thing to the style of language in the novel Ugly Love by Colleen Hoover to make the novel entertaining and interesting. “his *hand is covered in blood*” is one of inconclusive data because the sentence is not showed the implicit meaning as the characteristic of metaphor, but there is not conjunction that the researcher convinced that is a metaphor. This study was expected can be useful as the reference for the next researcher who wants to analyze this novel to be a better version. The last, figurative language has an important thing in society to communicate and interact to convey the ideas, although figurative language is one of a difficult language in society.

REFERENCES

- Dewi, Kumala Sari. (2010). *An Analysis of Figurative Meaning in The Time's Magazine's Advertisements*. Medan: Universitas Sumatra Utara.
- Fitratunnas. (2017). *Figurative Language Analysis on Advertisement of The Jakarta Post Newspaper*. Malang: Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim.
- Hamdiana, Baiq Herina. (2015). *An Analysis of Hyperbolic Expressions Used in Love Song's Lyrics*. Mataram: Mataram University.
- Josiah, Ubong E. (2016). *Between Arbitrariness and Logic: Revisiting Universal Traits in Natural Languages*. Nigeria: International Journal of English Language and Literature.
- Mohajan, Haradhan. (2018). *Qualitative Research Methodology in Social Sciences and Related Subjects. Bangladesh: MPRA* (Munish Personal RePEc Archive).
- Saputri, Eva Ervina Widi. (2014). *An Analysis of figurative Languages Used in Rick Riordan's Novel Entitled "The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena"*. Semarang: Dian Nuswantoro University.
- Wardoyo, Novi. (2011). *The Types and Interpretation Figurative Language Used in Pirates of Caribbean on Stranger Tides Movie Manuscript*. Surakarta: Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta