AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE STYLE USED IN *FRIENDS* SEASON 8 SCRIPT

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Abstract

Figurative language is a language that has non-literal meaning or other meaning. This study aims to find out the type of figurative language and the contextual meaning used in *Friends* season 8 script and the types of language style used in figurative language in *Friends* season 8 script. This study uses several theories to provide its analysis. Perrine's theory was used to analyze the type of figurative language, Lyons's theory was used to analyze the contextual meaning of the figurative language, and Joos's theory was used to analyze the type of language style from the utterance of the figurative language. A qualitative method was used in this study to analyze the data. There are 54 utterances of figurative language found in *Friends* season 8 script. There were eight metaphors, 14 similes, eight apostrophes, 13 hyperboles, two metonymy, two irony, five personifications, and two understatements. The contextual meaning of the figurative language shows the real or hidden meaning of what the character said. Then, the language style from the 54 utterances of figurative language was one consultative style, 49 casual styles, and four intimate styles. The most dominant figurative language used in *Friends'* season 8 script was simile, and the language style was casual.

Key words: *Figurative Language, Contextual Meaning, Language Style, Friends*

A. INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool that everyone uses to communicate. Every word or sentence people use has its meaning. One word could have two or more meanings based on the context. Some of the words or sentences people do not know or misinterpret the meaning of what they try to interpret. In Linguistics, Semantics is one of the linguistic branches that study the meaning of words and sentences. According to Griffiths (2006), semantics is the study of words and phrases and their

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meaning, unlike pragmatics, which examines how language and its environments interact.

Figurative language is part of semantics, a way of conveying meaning that does not rely on a term's actual or true meaning. According to Perrine (1977), Figurative language, sometimes known as figures of speech, is a technique for giving words new meanings. Figurative language is often used, but some people need to learn the meaning of that word because the word has a non-literal meaning. For example, "My blood keeps flowing like a river." That statement uses hyperbole to make it more exaggerated by describing the situation even though it's not flowing like a river.

We can know the meaning of that word, especially using figurative language. The meaning of a statement, phrase, or word is determined by its context, known as contextual meaning. According to Lyons (1984), contextual meaning is the meaning of a word in light of the contexts where it is spoken.

Figurative language can be used in everyday conversation and everyday situations. People tend to talk differently according to the situation or to whom they talk. According to Meyerohff (2006), Social behavior, attitude, and environment are all described by language style. Figurative is often used in any situation or condition. This can be a gap because we know what figurative language is used in most situations.

In this study, the researcher was interested in analyzing the type of figurative language and the meaning according to contextual meaning. To make it different, this research will analyze language style from the type of figurative language found so we know what figurative language is primarily used in what language style.

As Perrine (1977) mentions figurative language is a technique for giving words new meanings. According to Mahmood (2014) Figurative language is a form of language in which words or sentences have meanings that are not concrete. There 12 types of figurative language by Perrine: allegory, metaphor, simile, apostrophe, synecdoche, hyperbole/overstatement, metonymy, symbol, irony, personification, understatement, and paradox.

Cher (2012) stated that Contextual meaning is the interpretation which a lexeme or phrase has in a particular situation. Lyons (1984) Stated that words have a context-specific meaning when they are employed in a certain scenario. Contextual meaning is a crucial component of semantics which emphasizes the fact that the context in which words or grammatical structures are used shapes their interpretation in addition to the words or structures themselves.

Language style is the style of language used differently according to the interlocutor. In social roles, style refers to the anticipated conduct associated with a certain status. Llamas (2007) said that Language style is a linguistic feature in which speakers have an option. language styles are divided into five categories according to Joos (1967). They are frozen or oratorical style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate styles.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was a descriptive qualitative method. The descriptive qualitative method was used to analyze the types of figurative language used in

"Friends." and the language style used in "Friends." According to Creswell (2012), qualitative research is a means of examining and comprehending the interpretation that individuals or groups make of a human social circumstance Rather than emphasizing quantity, this study employed qualitative research methods. Thus, in this study, the descriptive qualitative method was the appropriate approach to pick.

The data source of this research is from the "Friends" season 8 script. "Friends" season 8 consists of 24 Episodes; each episode will be printed. The "Friends" season 8 script data were analyzed to find types of figurative language with Perrine's theory and types of language style with Joos's theory.

The main instrument of the research was the researcher himself because the researcher uses qualitative methods, so he does not need a questionnaire to analyze the data. The researcher analyzed the data using the script. A t*able of indicators* was used to identify the type of figurative language and type of language style. *Table of indicator* of figurative language and language style help the researcher to determine the relevant research data.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION
1. Research Finding (tentative)

In this study, three research questions are answered in the data analysis. The first research question was about the type of figurative language. The second research question was about the contextual meaning of the utterance of figurative language. The third question was about the type of language style used in figurative language in "Friends" season 8 script.

1. Figurative Language
Table 1. Finding Table of Figurative Language

No	Types of Figurative Language	The Number of Occurrences	Percentage (%)
1	Allegory	0	0%
2	Metaphor	8	14.8%
3	Simile	14	25,9%
4	Apostrophe	8	14,8%
5	Synecdoche	0	0%
6	Hyperbole	13	24,1%
7	Metonymy	2	3,7%
8	Symbol	0	0%
9	Irony	2	3,7%
10	Personification	5	9,3%
11	Understatement	2	3,7%
12	Paradox	0	0%
Total Data		54	100%

Based on the table above, 54 utterances of figurative language are found in the "Friends" season 8 script. There are metaphors eight times, similes 14 times, apostrophes eight times, hyperboles 13 times, metonymy two times, irony two

times, personifications five times, and understatement two times, but allegory, synecdoche, symbol, and paradox are not found in the "Friends" season 8 script. Based on the findings, the most used one is simile, and the second is hyperbole.

2. Contextual meaning

a. Metaphor

A metaphor is a rhetorical device that entails drawing a direct parallel between two dissimilar entities to imply their equivalence. A metaphor is a linguistic device that explains one thing by comparing it to another, resulting in a vivid or imaginative phrase.

Datum 7
Context:
Ross: Okay. (He sits her down in a chair.) Uh, *Ross and Rachel. Rachel and Ross*. That's been one heck of a *see-saw,* hasn't it?

Based on the datum above, Ross uses a metaphor to compare the situation with a see-saw. According to the Oxford Dictionary, "see-saw" is a situation where things keep changing from one state to another. The contextual meaning of this metaphor, "see-saw"in this statement conveys the relationship between Ross and Rachel has exhibited a consistent pattern of instability and fluctuation between two contrasting extremes.

b. Simile

A simile is a rhetorical device that compares two similar things, using "like" or "as" to accentuate their resemblances. Similes are a linguistic tool that can be employed to draw similarities between different things.

Datum 6
Context:
Phoebe: You're thinking about this way too much. Just tell him and get it over with. *It's like, it's like ripping off this Band-Aid*. (Episode 2)

Based on the statement above, Phoebe uses a simile to compare telling someone quickly with ripping a band-aid with the conjunction "like". The contextual meaning of the simile that Phoebe tries to say is that it is better to get over it quickly, even if it is painful, just like ripping a band-aid.

c. Apostrophe

An apostrophe is a rhetorical device in which a speaker or writer explicitly addresses an individual who is not present, an intangible idea, or an inanimate object as if it possesses human qualities.

Datum 2
Context:
Ross: Linda Clickclocken. (Pause) So what uh, what-what table are you at? (She shows him.) Oh, uh me too.
Mona: Oh good. Now there'll be someone there who likes my name.
Ross: (sexily) Yes there will. (Mona leaves and Ross tries to find the same table.) Oh guess what, Molly Gilbert you've just been bumped up to table one. And if it's all right with you I'm gonna take your place at table six—Martin Clickclocken.

Ross uses apostrophes because he is talking to Molly Gilbert, an absent person. The contextual meaning of this is Ross wants to sit next to Mona, so he switches his seat with Molly Gilbert but pretends to talk with her.

d. Hyperbole

A hyperbole is a literary device characterized by using exaggerated statements or claims for emphasis or dramatic effect. Its purpose is not to be interpreted literally but to highlight or amplify a situation, emotion, or characteristic for rhetorical or dramatic impact.

Datum 16

Context:

Phoebe: I'm sorry I won't be able to make it to your imaginary wedding, but I'm really busy that day. *Yeah, I already have a unicorn baptism and a leprechaun bar mitzvah.*

Rachel: I know. I know. I panicked, I panicked. I didn't want him to start yelling at me like I was some '74 Latour.

Phoebe uses hyperbole to state that she cannot come to Rachel's imaginary wedding. The contextual meaning of this is Phoebe's statement that she won't be able to attend the wedding, and she's presenting a lighter and exaggerated justification for her absence by citing a "unicorn baptism" and a "leprechaun bar mitzvah," which is not real or imaginary.

e. Metonymy

Metonymy is a literary device when a word or phrase is replaced by another that has a close, connected, or symbolic connection.In metonymy, the substitution occurs when a specific attribute or connection links the two concepts.

Datum 51

Context:

Monica: Damnit! Damnit!! Here's your fifty bucks! (Pays Phoebe.)

Phoebe: It's interesting that you lost. Now, I forget, do you like to lose? Monica: Now stop it! Double or nothing that she has it by tomorrow!

Phoebe: Fine! You're on! Monica: Okay.

Phoebe: Until then, *General Grant*, why don't you set up camp (She puts the bill in her bra) right there.

Phoebe employs metonymy by referring to the bill as "General Grant," utilizing the name of the person depicted on it to represent the bill itself. The contextual meaning of this is Phoebe just won Fifty dollars from a bet with Monica and then made another bet; until that, Phoebe says General Grant because his face in the fifty-dollar bill rests in her undergarment.

f. Irony

The irony is a literary device that contrasts what is expressed and what is intended or between what seems accurate and correct. Irony is frequently employed to convey a meaning distinct or contrary to the exact terms.

Datum 24

Context:

Rachel: You gave her a key to your apartment?!

Ross: Not just a key, I gave her the only key! I am now a homeless person in a very serious relationship.

Phoebe: (entering with some guy) Hey. Ooh Ross! How'd the conversation go?

Ross: *Oh great, I live on the street.*

Ross uses irony to express his exasperation and disillusionment with the situation. Ross asserts that he is currently involved in a profoundly committed romantic partnership with Mona, and he has entrusted her with the only access to his flat by providing her with the exclusive key. Ross is experiencing distress due to a perceived loss of domicile.

g. Personification

Personification is a literary device where human traits, qualities, or attributes are ascribed to entities, objects, or abstract concepts that are not human. Anthropomorphism attributes human characteristics, emotions, or behaviours to non-human entities, such as wildlife, lifeless things, or organic components.

Datum 4

Context:

Phoebe: Are you gonna open the presents without Chandler?

Monica: No! (Pause) But, *they're callin' out to me!* I mean this little guy (Holds up a small one) even crawled up into my lap. Oh come on, Chandler wouldn't mind if I opened just one present! What do you think it is?

Monica employs personification when she states that the presents are "calling out to me," attributing human-like qualities to the gifts and creating the impression that they anxiously entice her to unwrap them. Monica's personification conveys her amusing expression of a passionate desire to receive the presents and highlights her irresistible allure. By humanizing the gifts, the author injects fun and liveliness into the setting, creating an impression that they eagerly encourage her to open them.

h. Understatement

Understatement is a literary device where the author or speaker purposefully downplays the importance, intensity, or gravity of an event, behaviour, or feeling.

Datum 13

Context:

Phoebe: Oh my God Eric hi! Wait, how'd you get this number? Eric: Oh, I have a friend who's a cop and he got it for me.

Phoebe: Wow! *What an incredible violation—and wonderful surprise.*

Phoebe is underestimating the seriousness of the privacy violation that occurred when her phone number was obtained without her awareness. She ironically labels it as an "incredible violation" while combining it with a "wonderful surprise" to amusingly acknowledge the discomfort of the circumstance.

3. Language Style
Table 2. Finding Table Language Style

No	Types of Language Style	The Number of Occurrences	Percentage
1	Frozen Style	0	0
2	Formal Style	0	0
3	Consultative Style	1	1,9%
4	Casual style	49	90,7%
5	Intimate Style	4	7,4%
Total Data		54	100%

Based on the table above, from the types of figurative language found in the "Friends" season 8 script, there are 54 types of language styles. There, one figurative language uses a consultative style, 47 figurative languages use a casual style, and five figurative languages use intimate casual. Based on the table, the most dominant is the casual style, and the least is the consultative style. In addition, no figurative language is used in a frozen and formal style.

a. Consultative Style
Datum 51
Context:
Dr. Long: We'll do a quick check.
Rachel: Okay. (Rachel lies back.)
Dr. Long: So, eight days late huh?
Rachel: Yeah.
Dr. Long: You must be a little uncomfortable.
Rachel: Eh, *just a tad*.
Dr. Long: You're about 80 percent effaced, so you're on your way. It still could last a little while longer. If you're anxious there are a few ways to help things along.

This conversation uses a consultative style because Rachel is talking to a doctor, Dr. Long. Dr. Long also gives expert advice, which is by giving Rachel a few ways to help her reduce her anxiety.

b. Casual Style

Datum 1
Context:
Monica: (To Joey) Oh, about that. Joey, you have to change before the party. Joey: I can't! I-I don't have any other clothes here.
Monica: Find some! Please! Anything that doesn't say I-I died tragically in France. (Joey leaves to find clothes.)

In this dialogue, Monica and Joey use casual style because they use informal language such as "cannot". Also, Monica addresses Joey, which is his first name. This is indicated by the casual style between 2 friends.

Datum 15
Context:
Rachel: (To Phoebe) In case you didn't notice, that is a scary man. Phoebe: He's

right though, *the '74 is absolute piss.*

Rachel: This was such a huge mistake. I can't tell him Phoebe. I can't, I can't, I can't, I can't…

This conversation is casual because they use informal language and address using first name. They also use conversational phrases like "though" and Rachel's repetition.

c. Intimate Style

Datum 26

Context:

Ross: Hey! Oh, I'm so glad you guys are here. *I've been dying to tell* someone what happened in the Paleontology department today.

Joey: (To Rachel) Do you think he saw us or can we still sneak out?

Ross uses an intimate style when using hyperbole. It's an intimate style because he shares his news with Joey, expressing emotion and personal detail to Joey.

Datum 35

Context:

Joey: Oh, I just…I feel terrible.

Chandler: Well, it's not your fault. What are you gonna do? Not take her to the hospital? Y'know*? You're doing nothing wrong. (Pause) Except for harboring an all consuming love for the woman whose carrying his baby.* (He loses his card behind the door.) Richard? If-if you're in there, could you pass me my credit card?

In this dialogue, Chandler uses an intimate style when using metaphor. It's because Chandler gives advice to his friends and expresses emotion toward Joey.

2. Discussion

The researcher conducted research about figurative language and language style used in the "Friends" season 8 script. According to Perrine, there are twelve types of figurative language and five types of language style, according to Joos. The researcher wanted to analyze the type of figurative language and the meaning using contextual meaning by Lyons and analyze the type of language style used in the "Friends" season 8 script.

Based on the finding, there are eight types of figurative language found in"Friends" season 8 script: metaphor, simile, apostrophe, hyperbole, metonymy, irony, personification and understatement. From the twelve types of figurative language by Perrine, four types of figurative language are not found in the "Friends" season 8 script: allegory, synecdoche, symbol and paradox.

According to the findings, simile is the most frequent type of figurative language used in "Friends" season 8 script. According to Perrine (1977), a simile is a linguistic device that draws a comparison between two distinct objects by employing the words "like" or "as.". Figurative language is frequently employed in literature and various kinds of interaction to enhance the portrayal of a concept or idea by adding vividness and expressiveness. A simile is used when we compare two unlikely things with the conjunction "like" or "as". In a sitcom, similes are

often used to provide humour, accentuate character attributes, or enhance the depth of the dialogue.

The second research question is about the contextual meaning of the figurative language utterances. Based on the findings, some of the data was analyzed to show the meaning of the figurative language. The data was analyzed based on Lyon's theory and by comparing the real meaning from the dictionary and the context. So, based on that, we know the meaning of the utterances of figurative language.

The novelty of this research is the third research question is to know from the data of figurative language found in the "Friends" season 8 script, what kind of language style is used in each data. From the 54 data, there is one consultative style, 48 casual styles and four intimate styles. However, no figurative language is found in the frozen and formal style in the "Friends" season 8 script because it is rarely found in situations that use the frozen and formal style in sitcoms. There are maybe some sitcoms using it, but there is no frozen or formal style when using figurative language in "Friends" season 8.

The result of this research is quite different from Elfita's (2021) research using Perrine's theory. The researcher found ten types of figurative language in William's poem "The Little Black Boy and The Echoing Green". Based on this research, the most used type is an understatement, and the second most used type is a simile. There is no allegory and apostrophe found in Elfita's research.

Previous research by Nurmaini (2018) used Perrine and Mezo's theories to analyze figurative language in Twilight movie. Based on this research, there are eight types of figurative language used in Twilight movie: Metaphor, simile, synecdoche, personification, hyperbole, paradox, litotes, irony, and there is no metonymy appear in Twilight movie. The difference between Nurmaini's research and this research is that she analyzed litotes that were not included in this research and found paradox but not metonymy.

Lastly, Rosyda (2021) uses the same theory with this research, Joo's Theory, to identify the type of language style. Rosyda's research analyzed the language style used by the main character in "Wonder" movie. This research found four types of language styles: formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The difference between Rosyda's research and this research is that Roysda's research analyzes the language style used by the main character in the "Wonder" movie. In contrast, this research analyzes the language style used in figurative language in "Friends" season 8 script. The result is quite different from this research; Rosyda's research found a formal style, which is not found in this research.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the research findings and discussion, eight types of figurative language are used in "Friends" season 8 script: metaphor, simile, apostrophe, metonymy, hyperbole, irony, personification and understatement. However, allegory, synecdoche, symbol and understatement were not found in "Friends" season 8 script. According to the findings, 54 utterances use figurative language,

and the most used one is simile, followed by hyperbole. Similes employ the phrases "like" or "as" to establish a comparison between two dissimilar objects. It emphasized particular events or character traits, added humour, and generated vivid imagery. This research also analyzes the contextual meaning of the figurative language.

The use of contextual meaning is to know the real meaning by seeing the context of the utterance. The contextual meanings enhance our interactions by developing humour, empathy, and a more profound comprehension of our surroundings. Figurative language acts as our guide, unveiling hidden meanings and igniting our imaginations as we traverse the vibrant realm of language.

The novelty to this research is that the researcher analyzes the language style used in figurative language in "Friends" season 8 script. From 54 utterances of figurative language, there is one consultative style, 49 casual styles and four intimate styles. However, there is no figurative language using frozen and formal style.

For future research, conduct other research using the same series but different seasons or other sitcom series to find the differences. It is suggested that the same research be conducted but use another theory of figurative language types, such as alliteration, idiom, repetition, and others not in this research. It is essential to evaluate figurative language from numerous angles so we may know broadly about the significance of figurative language

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