

SIMILE AND HYPERBOLE FOUND IN “WIDE SARGASSO SEA” NOVEL BY JEAN RHYL

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Abstrak

Artikel ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui bentuk simile dan hiperbola yang ditemukan dalam novel *Wide Sargasso Sea* dan untuk menemukan makna simile dan hiperbola yang ditemukan dalam novel *Wide Sargasso Sea*. Data penelitian ini dipilih dari novel yang berjudul *Wide Sargasso Sea* karya Jean Rhyl sebagai sumber data. Penulis menggunakan teknik catat dalam proses pengumpulan data, sedangkan dalam menganalisis, penulis menggunakan teknik konstituen atau membaca dan menandai data yang ada. Dalam penyajian hasil analisis, penulis menggunakan metode informal. Dari 53 data yang ditemukan, diidentifikasi bahwa 32 data termasuk ke dalam majas simile dan 21 data lainnya dikategorikan ke dalam majas hiperbola. Majas yang dominan digunakan dalam novel *Wide Sargasso Sea* ini adalah majas simile.

Kata Kunci: simile, hyperbole, forms, meanings

A. Introduction

In daily activity, there are many important things that become human need. One of them is language. Language is an effective tool to make relationship and to work together. Wardhaugh (1972:3) states that “language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication”. The main function of language is a tool of communication. people use language to interact with other human beings. In daily life, language is used as a medium to communicate. In the absence of language, humans would have trouble in life. As a main tool of communication, language has a very important role in human’s life.

Language is a specific human’s characteristic that makes them different from other. By using language, people can say their intent, want, message and information to other people. Sometimes when humans talk or do small conversation to other, they do not aware the language style that they used, certainly they have used the figurative language. They just say spontaneously and

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directly what on their mind, but they do not know what style and meaning of what they utterance.

According to Keraf (1986:129) the types of figurative language based on direct and indirect meaning has two types. They are figurative language used as rectories and figurative language used as allusion. There are sixteen parts of figurative language as allusion; they are simile, methapor, allegory, parable and fable, personification, allusion, eponym, epiyhet, synecdoche. Metonymy, antonomasia, hipalase, irony, sinism and sarcasm, satire, innuendo, antiphrasis and paranomasia, but the writer just focuses in two types, they are simile and hyperbole.

Figurative language is a part of the literary works that can be found in poem, short story, novel, poetry, etc. In this paper, the writer uses a novel as a mould. Novel is one of the literary work that used by the author to pour out their imagination into that. There are many kinds of novel that can be found, such as mystery, adventure, teenagers, drama, romantic, and many others. All of that, continuously from the author skill in choosing the words or the language style. By using the right words, the reader will be interested to read the literary works. The starting point in this paper was on figurative language found in *Wide Sargasso Sea* novel, one of dramatic, exotic, psychological and mysterious story by Jean Rhyl which is using some of the expression quotation of figurative language.

There are certain reasons that make the writer choose figurative language as the focus of the study. First, the writer reads the story in *Wide Sargasso Sea* novel, which is frequently expressed in the form of figurative language, because figurative language gives interesting and differentiate features to be analyzed particularly the word meaning. By using figurative language the author always play on words in their literary works. Second, there are many types of comparison that could be found in literary works. Third, the writer as the reader will feel curious what the words with figurative language mean, because not all of the reader understand about figurative language that is found in the novel. By using figurative language in novel, it makes the story is more interesting. The writer chooses the Jean Rhyl's novel, *Wide Sargasso Sea*, because the writer finds many simile and hyperbole used as comparison in this novel; so that the writer can describe the form and meaning of them.

The topic of this paper is the study of figurative language in *Wide Sargasso Sea* novel. Figurative language is the way of people to say something other than the ordinary way different from the original one, as the result the people will get the meaning of it. In this paper, the writer would be focused in analyzing two kinds of figurative language, they are: simile and hyperbole.

This article was written to find out the forms and meanings of simile and hyperbole as found in *Wide Sargasso Sea* novel. The data are chosen from a novel as a source of the data. The writer used observation method as basic method in collecting data process. Take the written data contained in a novel, and the data are studied and observed. The writer also uses note-taking technique. There are four steps taken by the writer; first, the writer choose a novel called "*Wide Sargasso Sea*". Second, the writer reads the novel intensively to find out the figurative language then finds some quotations or sentences that are using

figurative language by reading and underlining it. Third, the writer learn and observed by collecting all the sentences and quotation that contain the figurative language; they are simile and hyperbole. The last, determining the data which are related to this paper.

In analysis this data, the writer uses distribution method. According to Sudaryanto (1993:13) “distributional technique is determining tool part of the language itself”. In this paper, the writer uses the immediate constituent technique, specifically, read-marker technique. In analyzing the data, the writer follows some ways. First, the writer makes a list of figurative language that found in novel. Second, the writer classified all the data based on the kind of figurative language, they are simile and hyperbole. Third, the writer analyzed all of the data based on theory used. The last, the writer determined two kinds meaning of figurative language; simile and hyperbole and drew the conclusion from the analysis.

B. Discussions

1. The Forms of Simile and Hyperbole

There are two forms of simile, they are similarity of two things and comparison of two things. In similarity of two things, simile shows the conceptual similarity between the two things. understanding of simile, here is equating two different things. In comparison of two things, simile is an analogy that compares two things in the same way. To help identify simile, know that the words "like" or "as" are often used.

Datum 06

But she did not come, and *as the candle burned down*. The safe peaceful feeling left me. (P:20)

The writer categorizes this phrase into simile, because there are words in sentence that describe directly the previous word. The phrase also shows the similarity of two things. The meaning is someone who has disappointed to wait Christophine. His wait for Christophine is fault like the candle burned down. The sentence describe the similarity between a man with a candle. It means that someone who disappointed because her effort is vain. Someone that does not have a spirit better that the first time. It vomes down like the candle that burned down.

Datum 07

I will not allow it. She did not answer, only fought him silently, twisting *like a cat* and showing her teeth. (P:24)

The phrase above is categorized into simile. It compares of two things, they are person and animal. The phrase shows that the woman only silent like a cat and showing her teeth. It illustrates that the woman did not answer when asked, she just silent and smiled sheepishly. ‘Twisting like a cat’ described that she did not answer because she was shy. So, it is compare like a cat showing her teeth.

In hyperbole, there are five forms of hyperbole. First, the exaggeration, Exaggeration means describing something and makes it more than it really is. The verb is to exaggerate. Overstatement is another word that means almost the same. Second, hope and proud of exaggeration, sentences that state an excessive expectations about something. Expectations expressed with exaggerated in order to emphasize and underline the meaning. The sentences that express a pride about something. Third, comparison of exaggeration, comparing one thing is often expressed in exaggerated, to make the point known as comparison of exaggeration. Fourth, connotation of exaggeration, connotation is not true meaning and refers to something else. expressed something with connotation exaggerated. Last, lower exaggeration, lower expressed with exaggerated in order to underline the meaning. Sentences are shown with other sentence that seem lower than it actually is.

Datum 41

I have sold my soul or you have sold it, and after all is it such a bad bargain? The girl is thought to be beautiful, she is beautiful. And yet. (P: 47)

The phrase above is categorized into hyperbole because the writer signs the statement which is using as an exaggeration phrase and meaning 'sold my soul'. In reality is not like that, nobody can sell the soul and it may not happen because it is impossible.. The meaning this sentence is he does not have a bargain in his life anymore, he disappointed to live, he does not have a spirit in his life.

Datum 3

But it didn't feel the same. Sass had come back and I was glad. *They can smell money. (P: 14)*

'They can smell money' is categorized into hyperbole, it kinds of hope and proud of exaggeration word 'they can smell money'. They just want to get money, they proud to smell of money. In real, money cannot smell. The Coulibri people make the money is everything. It showed by the 'smell money'. The fact, that right everyone would be assumption money is everything, but it cannot smell, because it doesn't has a scent. Commonly it just to seen.

Datum 39

Spain is hot sun on stones, France is a lady with black hair wearing a white dress because Louise was born in France fifteen years ago. (P: 36)

This phrase is hyperbole and the writer categorizes it into comparison of exaggeration. Both of the countries, Spain and France, have a comparison with other things. Spain compared with *hot sun of stone*, and France compared with *a lady with black hair wearing a white dress*. They are comparison of exaggeration. The meaning of these phrase are to describe that Spain is a powerful country like

astone and France is a wonderful and beautiful country like a lady with black hair wearing a white dress. Expressed with an exaggerated way.

2. The Meanings of Simile and Hyperbole

In this paper, there are two meanings of simile, they are explicit meanings and implicit meanings. Explicit meanings is the meaning of simile that shows the point plainly, clearly and straightforward. And the second one is implicit meanings of simile, the one whose sense is not stated directly and leave the onus of interpretation to the reader.

Datum 15

When we came out of the church I took her hand. *It was cold as ice* in the hot sun. (P: 54)

The writer categorizes this phrase into simile with explicit meaning, because the words show modality directly. It means someone who can give a peace and good feeling in hot situation, she can give a problem-solving in a complex conflict. The meaning of the sentence 'it was cold as ice', she has a calm mind even in the complicated situation, so people comfortable around her.

Datum 19

She have no money and she have no friends, for French and England *like cat and dog* in the island since long time. Shoot, Kill, Everything. (P: 71).

The writer categorizes this phrase into simile that reveals implicit meaning. It is not clearly expressed and the statement expressed implicitly. It explains the similarity of two countries with animals. 'Cat and dog' be parable of 'French and England'. They could not be a good friend, they do not want to share each other, both of them are not friendly to each other. It means, both of countries never solid and united since long time, French always have differentiated main set to England who came to the French. So that, it is describing like cat and dog, never have a good felling both of theirs.

In this paper, there are also three meanings of hyperbole. First, Connotative meaning, it is not the actual meaning. Generally, connotative is satire and hasan additional meaning. Second, metaphorical meaning, is the meaning of the sentence incurred by the comparison between two things that have characteristics similar meaning. Third, associative meaning, is the meaning of a word possessed regarding the relationship with the word circumstances beyond language

Datum 39

Spain is hot sun on stones, France is a lady with black hair wearing a white dress because Louise was born in France fifteen years ago. (P: 36)

This phrase is hyperbole with metaphorical meaning. Both of the countries, Spain and France, have a comparison with other things. Spain compared with *hot sun of stone*, and France compared with *a lady with black hair wearing a white dress*. They are comparison of exaggeration. The meaning of these sentences are to describe that Spain is a powerful country like a stone and France is a wonderful and beautiful country like a lady with black hair wearing a white dress. Expressed with an exaggerated way.

Datum 50

Christophine is an evil old woman and you know it as well as I do, I said. She won't stay here very much longer. (P: 117)

This phrase is hyperbole and the writer categorizes this phrase into connotative meaning. Christophine referred as an evil old woman and it describes the exaggeration meaning of person's behavior that is not liked by others. Actually, Christophine is not an evil, but she is a human with the nature of evil, in other word, she has a bad behaviour.

Figurative language is a part of the literary works that can be found in poem, short story, novel, poetry, etc. In this paper, the writer uses *Wide Sargasso Sea* novel as source of data. The figurative language is the way of saying something other than the ordinary way, and different from the original one. By using figurative language, the writer can find and compare the idea to something that is more concrete and familiar to the reader. It means the reader will be easy to understand about the story on the novel that they read. In other meaning, figurative language is a tool that an author used to help the reader visualize and see what is happening in a story. In this paper, the writer analyzes two kinds of figurative language, they are simile and hyperbole. Simile is a figure of speech that most often used in the novel.

In this paper, the writer uses *Wide Sargasso Sea* novel by Jean Rhys. This novel tells the story of who the crazy woman in the attic. The author has sufficient reason to give another meaning of the mad woman. The story revealed by the use of figurative language and it is much used phrases with no real meaning or by comparing a sentence with another sentence. It describes someone who grew up in Jamaica and moved to England, and he will feel strange and alienated. The way to tell the story in this novel is much used phrase with no real meaning. It shows a story about her marital status is more like a purchase than a marriage, presented with an interesting style. The spoken manner of the characters in this novel, two-thirds of them expressed haltingly. Then there is also a bit of reality, rumors and some fantasy; everything combined, the impression is created so stifling.

In the theories that have been described previously, there are two meanings of simile, implicit and explicit meaning of simile. In this paper, the writer found 22 data belong to the types of implicit meaning and 10 data have explicit meaning. In analysis of the data, the writer finds similarity of two things implicitly and compare of two things implicitly. But in compare of two things, there is no explicit meaning.

C. Conclusions and Suggestions

After analyzing the data, the writer concludes that the figurative language is not only used by the journalist in their magazine and newspaper, but it also used in literary works, for example in legend, short story, poem and even though novel. In order to make the story more exciting and interesting to read, the authors use the figurative language in their novel. It is not only used to make the story more clearly in literature term, but also used to attract and influence the reader's imagination.

Figurative language is the way to show a feeling, whether the situation of happiness, sadness, angry, formal and informal situation. By using the figurative language, people can express the idea in their mind to communicate each other and to share the information to other people.

In this paper, the writer focus on figurative language that used in Wide Sargasso Sea novel. The writer tried to describe and analyze two kinds of figurative language that found in this novel, they are simile and hyperbole. Simile is the most dominant that found in this paper.

Simile, in Wide Sargasso Sea novel, is used to refine of sending the news. It compares two different things by using the words: like, as, appear or seems. For example: She has eyes *like* zombie (Wide Sargasso Sea, P: 31). Beside compare of two things, simile also show the similarity of two things which is indicated by using 'as'. It means, both of two things that being compared are similar but the meaning is different. For example: It *cold as ice* in the hot sun. (Wide Sargasso Sea, P: 54).

Hyperbole, in Wide Sargasso Sea novel, is obvious and deliberate exaggeration, the contrary exaggeration. Based on the data that has found from the Wide Sargasso Sea novel, the writer found five forms of hyperbole, (1) the exaggeration, (2) hope and proud of exaggeration, (3) comparison of exaggeration, (4) connotation of exaggeration and (5) lower of exaggeration.

The writer concludes that the figurative language used in this novel is intended to show the deep meaning of the story and to make the story become more interesting. Additionally, figurative language is not only used to make the story more interesting and inspiring, but also used to influence the reader's imagination and mind's eyes.

In the end of this paper, the writer suggests for the next writers to carry their studies in connection to figurative language. Figurative language is interesting to be analyzed because it is completely comparing one thing to another and it used by people in Indonesia and even in the world. In daily social intercourse, in conversation, in formal or informal speech, and of course in literary works.

Finally, the writer realizes that the analysis of this paper is simple enough and still far from being perfect. Therefore, the writer expects for the readers this paper to give inputs and contribution constructively toward this paper.

Note: This article is written based on the Poppy Yunistia Indriani's paper under the supervision of Dr. Refnaldi, M.Litt.

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