

The Study of Ten Poems Written by William Blake

Reza Rezita¹, Ira Maisarah²

^{1,2}Postgraduate Program of English Education, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Bengkulu, 38371, Indonesia

Article Info

Article history:

Received: June 2023
Revised: November 2023
Accepted: January 2024

Keywords:

Literature, Poetry, Poem

ABSTRACT

This study aims to present findings focused on the analysis of figurative language and central themes in a collection of ten poems by William Blake. Qualitative research methodology is used to conduct a comprehensive analysis. Among the ten poems, the writer discovered that the predominant use of figurative language is metaphors. Furthermore, the theme explored in the poem "Ah Sunflower" pertains to the concept of life beyond death, and the theme depicted in "The Sick Rose" revolves around desire and passion, then the theme conveyed in "A Poison Tree" revolves around anger and negative emotions. In contrast, the theme depicted in "A Dream" revolves around the narrative of an individual's life. The theme explored in "A Divine Image" pertains to the portrayal of humanity. "The Tyger" revolves around religious beliefs, portraying God as powerful and magnificent. "Infant Joy" revolves around the dialogue between a child and an adult. The central idea explored in "London" revolves around portraying the daily experiences of individuals residing in London. The poem explicitly highlights Blake's dissatisfaction with the prevailing political circumstances during his existence. The central theme of "Love Secret" revolves around emotions, feelings, and the power of imagination. The primary theme of the final poem, "The Lamb," delves into matters of spirituality, mainly focusing on the grandeur of God, His creations, the presence of peace, and the quality of gentleness. The predominant theme frequently explored by the writer centered around the relationship between humanity and the divine.

Corresponding Author:

Reza Rezita,
Email: rezarezita22@gmail.com

<https://doi.org/10.33369/espindonesia.v3i1.23971>

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a broad term encompassing various written and spoken works, including creative writing, such as poetry, fiction, drama, and non-fiction works such as essays, memoirs, and scientific literature. "Literature teaches us to examine a character, allows us to go inside his or her mind, so we understand what drives a character, what forms his or her beliefs, and how one reacts to others. Literature is a dynamic phenomenon inextricably linked to human life. Literature is an art form that describes written or spoken information, ranging from creative writing to more technical or scientific works (Mulyati, 2019). Enyimba (2020) said that literature refer to works considered more technical, such as textbooks or academic journals which employs language as a medium to express itself and is regarded as an artistic manifestation to convey concepts, feelings, and encounters to its audience. Literature serve many purposes: entertain, educate, inspire, or provoke and reflect. The beauty of literature lies in its ability to convey meaning through various literary devices, such as imagery, symbolism, metaphors, and irony, among others.

Poetry is a form of literature characterized by the expression of human emotions and ideas through the skillful use of words (Efendi, 2021). Poetry is a genre of artistic expression in literature that aims to communicate intricate ideas, sentiments, and life encounters through language that frequently exhibits musicality, cadence, and vivid imagery. The poet uses words to evoke sensations and emotions in the reader,

creating a powerful and memorable experience. Furthermore, Johnson-Laird and Oatley (2020) stated that typical poems embody metaphor, imagery, and symbolism, poets attempt to capture the essence of human experience and emotion. They often draw on their own experiences or observations of the world around them to convey a more profound truth or insight into the human condition. In this way, poetry can be seen as a powerful tool for self-expression, reflection, and connection with others. By putting feelings and thoughts that may be difficult to express in any other way, poetry offers a unique perspective on the world and our place within it.

William Blake is acknowledged as one of the preeminent poets and artists from the Romantic era. His writings are characterized by their mysterious and predictive quality, often exploring topics of belief, leadership, and the inherent essence of humanity. This analysis was focused in examining William Blake's most famous poems: "Ah Sunflower," "The Sick Rose," "A Poison Tree," "A Dream," "A Divine Image," "The Tyger," "Infant Joy," "London," "Love Secret" and "The Lamb." Every poem offers a unique perspective on the world and the human experience, unified by Blake's adept use of vivid imagery, powerful symbolism, and a melodious style that beautifully captures the essence of the Romantic period. By investigating these poems comprehensively, we can acquire a more profound comprehension of William Blake's distinctive imaginative perspective and his lasting impact as one of the foremost significant figures in literature of his era.

This study aims to present the results of a literary analysis that concentrates on three specific elements within the chosen literary works. The analysis cannot figure out the speech theme and aims to provide a deeper insight into these elements' role in the overall meaning and impact of the selected literary works. The term "figure of speech" pertains to the utilization of language in a manner that goes beyond its literal meaning, encompassing techniques like metaphors, similes, or personification. We can delve deeper into the text by analyzing the figures of speech used in the selected works. We can attain a more profound comprehension of the author's intended significance or intended message and the overall effect on the reader. And then, theme refers to the underlying message or moral that the author intends to convey through the work. By examining the themes of the selected works, we can gain a deeper understanding of the author's perspective on the human condition and the issues and ideas relevant to the work. In summary, the purpose of this study is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the selected literary works through a focus on figurative language and theme in order to deepen our understanding of the works and their impact on the reader and also the dominant figure of speech that was used in William Blake's Poem.

2. METHOD

The writer employed a qualitative research approach which allows for a detailed description of the assumptions and procedures used in the study. The qualitative approach is a research method that does not rely on statistical data but instead focuses on generating hypotheses and developing a deeper understanding of the research topic. Using this approach, the researcher can collect more detailed information and gather data more efficiently. (Cresswell, n.d.) explains that the human and social sciences utilize various qualitative methods, approaches, and traditions. These traditions may refer to different methods for collecting, analyzing, and reporting data or encompass the entire research process from start to finish. According to the definition, qualitative methods involve observing human experiences and perspectives, analyzing and collecting data, and reporting and writing findings to arrive at factual conclusions.

Then, descriptive method has been selected as the data analysis to provide a systematic and accurate description of the conditions present in a given situation. Consequently, it will facilitate the comprehension of the intended meaning, making figurative language and main themes more accessible and understandable. By interpreting, readers can derive meaning from the poems by connecting the context in which they appear. When describing figurative language and the central theme, the investigator relies on the principles of formalism theory. This implies that the data analysis will examine the various figurative language types and themes present.

In addition, the inherent elements establish a connection or bridge of the interaction between readers and the poet. Consequently, this enables the audience better to understand the poet's intended meaning within the poetry. Furthermore, it aids in comprehending the poet's intended message or what they seek to convey to the audience. It can be employed to uncover or ascertain the substance or essence of the poems by William Blake; "Ah Sunflower," "The Sick Rose," "A Poison Tree," "A Dream," "A Divine Image," "The Tyger," "Infant Joy," "London," "Love Secret" and "The Lamb."

3. RESULT(S) AND DISCUSSION

Results

In this section, the writer clarifies the evidence by utilizing a table format. This format includes a compilation of sentences featuring specific word choices and figures of speech. The analysis focuses on three poems written by William Blake; "*Ah Sunflower*", "*The Sick Rose*", "*A Poison Tree*", "*A Dream*", "*A Divine Image*", "*The Tyger*", "*Infant Joy*", "*London*", "*Love Secret*" and "*The Lamb*". The subsequent sections provide presentations of descriptions.

1) Ah Sunflower Analysys

"Ah! Sun-flower" is a poetic composition adorned with illustrations, authored by the renowned English poet, painter, and printmaker William Blake. It was encompassed in his compilation titled *Songs of Experience*. By observing the lines and overall layout, it can be inferred that this poem exhibits a tight or compact structure. It is composed of two quatrains with a structured arrangement of rhyming patterns. The rhyme scheme is ABAB, CDCD. This classic poem describes the time humans will encounter the journey of existence on Earth.

Experience." It explores various themes, such as human mortality, the fleeting nature of life, and the longing for spiritual transcendence. The poem opens with the speaker addressing a sunflower and asking if it is tired of the passing of time, which highlights the idea of the transience of life and the weariness that it brings. It can be shown in line 1: "Ah, Sunflower, Weary of time!". Sunflowers, often associated with youth and vitality, symbolize transient beauty and mortality.

The second stanza emphasizes the desire for spiritual transcendence, as the speaker asks the sunflower if it desires to escape and be at rest. This suggests that the soul seeks liberation from the limitations and burdens of the physical realm. In the final stanza, the speaker introduces the concept of rebirth and tells the sunflower that it will be born again to be itself once more, suggesting that although the body may be temporary, the spirit is eternal and continues to exist beyond death.

The poem's vivid imagery effectively portrays the beauty and fragility of life, as well as the longing for transcendence. The theme of mortality and rebirth is a recurring motif in Blake's work, and "Ah Sunflower" is a striking example of his ability to communicate complex ideas through simple yet evocative language.

Ah! Sun-Flower

By William Blake

*Ah Sun-flower! Weary of time
Who countest the steps of the Sun:
Seeking after that sweet golden clime
Where the Travellers journey is done.*

*Where the Youth pined away with desire,
And the pale Virgin shrouded in snow:
Arise from their graves and aspire,
Where my Sun-flower wishes to go*

Table 1. Figurative Language of The Poem "Ah Sunflower"

Line	Data Observations	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>Ah Sunflower, weary of time</i>	Metaphor
2	<i>Who countest the steps of the sun</i>	Metaphor
3	<i>Seeking after that sweet golden clime</i>	Metaphor
6	<i>And the pale virgin shrouded in snow</i>	Metaphor
7	<i>Arise from their graves, and aspire</i>	Metaphor
8	<i>Where my sunflower wishess to go!</i>	Personification

The main theme explored in "Ah Sunflower"

The main theme's of "Ah Sunflower" is related to the cycle of life and the human experience. The poem contemplates the transient nature of life, using the sunflower as a symbolic representation of human existence. It touches upon themes of growth, fruition, and eventual decay, reflecting the broader cycles of life and death. Additionally, the poem may be interpreted as an exploration of the human soul's journey and its connection to the natural world.

2) The Sick Rose

"The Sick Rose" is a poetic composition authored by the renowned writer William Blake which is included in his collection titled "Songs of Experience". The lines within the poetry and overall visual presentation indicate a tightly structured composition. The composition of this poem dates back to the year 1794. The poem comprises two sets of four lines each, following the rhyme structure that adheres to the pattern ABCB. Placed within the broader context of the Songs of Experience collection, it represents the destructive aspects inherent in desires and passions.

The second stanza introduces an image of an elusive creature called an "invisible worm" that soars through the air darkness and destroys the rose. This "worm" symbolises the hidden desires that often lurk within the human psyche, causing destruction and decay. The poem's imagery is striking, with the rose representing beauty and purity and the worm representing the destructive force of desire. The contrast between the two creates a sense of tension and foreboding.

The poem's structure is also significant. Two-stanza format accentuates the conciseness and intensity of the poem's message. The rhyme scheme is also noteworthy, with the use of internal rhyme (e.g., "bed" and "red") creating a sense of unease and dissonance. Overall, "The Sick Rose" is a powerful meditation on the destructive nature of desire and passion. It functions as a cautionary message against the perils of uncontrolled power and the need for moderation and restraint in matters of the heart.

The Sick Rose

By William Blake

*O Rose thou art sick.
The invisible worm,
That flies in the night
In the howling storm*

*Has found out thy bed
Of crimson joy:
And his dark secret love
Does thy life destroy*

Table 2. Figurative Language of The Poem "The Sick Rose"

Line	Data Observations	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>O Rose, thou art sick!</i>	Personification
2	<i>The invisible worm</i>	Metaphor
3	<i>That flies in the night</i>	Metaphor
6	<i>Of crimson joy</i>	Metaphor
7	<i>And his dark secret love</i>	Metaphor

The main theme explored in "The Sick Rose"

"The Sick Rose" explored the theme of desire and passion in a destructive context, symbolized by the presence of two key elements: the rose and the worm. The rose, traditionally a symbol of beauty and love, becomes infected and destroyed by an unseen worm, representing a corrupting influence. The poem delves into the darker aspects of human relationships, addressing themes of corruption, secrecy, and the consequences of unchecked desires. It serves as a commentary on the potential harm that can arise when love and passion are distorted or tainted.

3) A Poison Tree

"A Poison Tree" is a poetic composition written by the renowned poet William Blake and is featured in his anthology called "Songs of Experience". Written in 1794, the poem exhibits a tight structure composed of four quatrains, with each adhering to a rhyming pattern of AABB, CCDD. The poem delves into the darker facets of human nature, particularly exploring the domain of anger and negative emotions.

The initial stanza establishes the mood for the poem, with the speaker introducing the idea of holding anger and resentment within oneself. The speaker notes that they were angry with a friend but concealed their anger and pretended to be friendly. The second stanza introduces the idea of an enemy, with the speaker stating that they allowed their anger to grow and fester within themselves. This anger manifests as a "poison tree" growing in the speaker's garden. It is shown in the line "And I water'd it in fears", "Night and morning with my tears", "And I sunned it with my smiles", and "And with soft deceitful wiles". In this stanza, the words "water'd" and "sunned" carry connotative significance, symbolizing the progression of nurturing and cultivating the growing anger. The anger of the orator was growing. The word "tree" in "poison tree" forms something more substantial and means a hate of the speaker. The third stanza depicts the speaker's revenge, with the tree bearing fruit that

the enemy takes and dies. Using the fruit as a symbol of revenge is significant, as it suggests that the anger and resentment the speaker harbours can have deadly consequences. The final stanza concludes the poem with a warning, as the speaker notes that they watered their "tree" with fear and lies. The use of fear and lies as a metaphor for the negative emotions that fuel the speaker's anger is significant, as it suggests that holding onto these emotions can lead to destructive outcomes.

In brief, "A Poison Tree" is a cautionary tale about the risks of holding onto anger and resentment. The poem's use of vibrant visuals and rhyme fosters tension and foreboding, emphasizing the destructive power of negative emotions.

A Poison Tree

By William Blake

*I was angry with my friend:
I told my wrath, my wrath did end.
I was angry with my foe:
I told it not, my wrath did grow.*

*And I watered it in fears
Night and morning with my tears,
And I sunned it with smiles
And with soft deceitful wiles.*

*And it grew both day and night,
Till it bore an apple bright,
And my foe beheld it shine,
And he knew that it was mine,--*

*And into my garden stole
When the night had veiled the pole;
In the morning, glad, I see
My foe outstretched beneath the tree*

Table 3. Figurative Language of The Poem "A Poison Tree"

Line	Data Observations	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>I was angry with my friend:</i>	Anaphora
	<i>I told my wrath, my wrath did end.</i>	
2	<i>I told my wrath, my wrath did end</i>	Repetition
3	<i>I was angry with my foe;</i>	Anaphora
	<i>I told it not, my wrath did grow.</i>	
4	<i>I told it not, my wrath did grow</i>	Metaphor
5	<i>And I water'd it in fears</i>	Metaphor
6	<i>Night and morning with my tears</i>	Metaphor
7	<i>And I sunned it with my smiles</i>	Metaphor
7	<i>And I sunned it with my smiles</i>	Anaphora
	<i>And with soft deceitful wiles.</i>	
8	<i>And with soft deceitful wiles</i>	Metaphor
10	<i>Till it bore an apple bright</i>	Metaphor
11	<i>And my foe beheld it shine,</i>	Anaphora
	<i>And he knew that it was mine,</i>	
12	<i>And my foe beheld it shine</i>	Metaphor
14	<i>When the night had veil'd the pole</i>	Metaphor

The main theme explored in "A Poison Tree"

This literary work narrates the theme of anger and negative emotions. The poem sheds light on the sinister aspects of innate human qualities. The speaker's wrath is directed both at their friend and their foe. He experienced a disagreement with his friend, and expressing his emotions gave him a sense of relief. Additionally, the speaker had a dispute with another individual, identified as their enemy, but unlike their friend, they did not release their anger. As a result, the animosity towards their enemy intensified.

4) A Dream

"A Dream" is a poetic work authored by the renowned poet from England, William Blake. Initially

published in 1789, "The Dream" emerged as a part of William Blake's compilation of poetic works referred to as Songs of Innocence. The poem displays a tightly structured form, evident in its lines and overall appearance. It comprises five quatrains, each stanza following the AABB rhyme scheme. This poem revolves around the theme of human existence.

In the poem "A Dream" by William Blake, the transient nature of human existence is explored and contemplated, as well as how powerful imagination can be. The narrator dreams of a young girl singing a sad song about how short life is and how one should enjoy it while one can. The speaker contrasts the limitation of the physical world's rules with the unlimited possibilities of the imagination. Despite being mortal and flawed, humans can overcome their ends through the power of their dreams and imagination. Although the poem expresses a feeling of sadness and acceptance towards the inevitability of death and the impermanence of human existence, it also celebrates the ability of the human imagination to create beauty and meaning in the face of life's impermanence.

A Dream

By William Blake

*Once a dream did weave a shade
O'er my angel-guarded bed,
That an emmet lost its way
Where on grass methought I lay.*

*Troubled, wildered, and forlorn,
Dark, benighted, travel-worn,
Over many a tangled spray,
All heart-broke, I heard her say:*

*'O my children! do they cry,
Do they hear their father sigh?
Now they look abroad to see,
Now return and weep for me.'*

*Pitying, I dropped a tear:
But I saw a glow-worm near,
Who replied, 'What wailing wight
Calls the watchman of the night?'*

*'I am set to light the ground,
While the beetle goes his round:
Follow now the beetle's hum;
Little wanderer, hie thee home!'*

Table 4. Figurative Language of The Poem "A Dream"

Line	Data Findings	Category of Figurative Language
3	<i>That an Emmet lost its way</i>	Personification
4	<i>Troubled, wildered, and forlorn,</i>	Methapor
5	<i>Dark, benighted, travel-worn,</i>	Methapor
14	<i>But I saw a glow-worm near</i>	Personification
18	<i>While the beetle goes his round:</i>	Personification
19	<i>Follow now the beetle's hum;</i>	Personification

The main theme explored in "A Dream"

"A Dream" by William Blake explores the theme of the transient and illusory nature of human experiences. The poem presents a dreamlike scenario where the speaker encounters a mysterious figure who reveals profound truths about existence. As the speaker wakes, the dream's significance fades, leaving a sense of longing and uncertainty.

5) A Divine Image

"A Divine Image" is a poem written by William Blake that can be found in his collection of poems called Songs of Experience. It should not be mistaken for "The Divine Image," a separate poem in Songs of Innocence. The poem was exclusively published in the combined version's BB copy of Songs of Innocence

and Experience. Judging by its lines and visual presentation, this poem exhibits a tight structure with two quatrains. The four quatrains in this poem do not adhere to a specific rhyming scheme. This poem talks about the image of a human. It is about human nature. Each human has a different attitude—humans need to control their emotions. The poem talks about the strength and the power of humanity. Through the poem, Blake suggests that all humans possess these divine qualities and should be practiced in everyday life. He argues that when humans act with mercy, pity, peace, and love towards each other, they reflect the divine image within themselves and contribute to the betterment of society.

Overall, "The Divine Image" is a poem emphasizing the importance of recognizing the divine qualities present within all human beings and using them to build a more compassionate and just society and control their emotions.

A Divine Image

By William Blake

*Cruelty has a Human Heart
And Jealousy a Human Face
Terror the Human Form Divine
And Secrecy, the Human Dress*

*The Human Dress, is forged Iron
The Human Form, a fiery Forge.
The Human Face, a Furnace seal'd
The Human Heart, its hungry Gorge.*

Table 5. Figurative Language of The Poem "A Divine Image"

Line	Data Findings	Category of Figurative Language
5	<i>The human dress is forged iron, The human form a fiery forge,</i>	Anaphora
7	<i>The human face a furnace sealed, The human heart its hungry gorge.</i>	Anaphora
5	<i>The human dress is forged iron,</i>	Methapor
6	<i>The human form a fiery forge,</i>	Methapor
7	<i>The human face a furnace sealed,</i>	Methapor
8	<i>The human heart its hungry gorge</i>	Methapor

The main theme explored in "A Divine Image"

The poem "A Divine Image" aims to explain that cruelty, envy, horror, and secrecy are abstract conceptions that have no substance apart from human beings (Paul, 2018). This poem talks about representation of a human. It is about human nature. Each human has different attitude. Human needs to control their emotions. The poem tells about the contrasting qualities of mercy, pity, peace, and love with their darker counterparts – cruelty, jealousy, revenge, and fear.

6) The Tyger

"The Tyger" is a poetic composition created by the English poet William Blake, and it was published in 1794 as an integral part of his renowned collection, Songs of Experience. It gained significant recognition during the Romantic period. "The Tyger" is considered the companion poem to "The Lamb," which is found in Blake's "Songs of Innocence." These poems explore similar concepts from distinct viewpoints, with "The Lamb" highlighting the theme of innocence. The poem demonstrates a tightly structured form, evidenced by its lines and overall appearance. It comprises six quatrains, with each stanza adhering to the AABB rhyme scheme. This poem delves into the theme of divinity or the nature of God.

The Tyger shows a gorgeously enigmatic creature that reflects the existence of God. Tyger explains about religions in which God is a strong and magnificent producer. It is about the nature of the tiger and its creator, God. Blake employs vibrant visuals and powerful metaphors throughout the poem to convey the awe and wonder inspired by the tiger and the fear and trepidation it can boost. The tiger is described as a creature of fire and fury, with eyes that burn like the sun and a heart that beats with an almost supernatural power. The poem ultimately suggests that the tiger symbolizes the primal and savage nature of creation and that its creator must be equally powerful and mysterious.

The Tyger

By William Blake

*Tyger Tyger, burning bright,
In the forests of the night;
What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?*

*In what distant deeps or skies.
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand, dare seize the fire?*

*And what shoulder, & what art,
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?
And when thy heart began to beat,
What dread hand? & what dread feet?
What the hammer? what the chain,
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil? what dread grasp,
Dare its deadly terrors clasp!*

*When the stars threw down their spears
And water'd heaven with their tears:
Did he smile his work to see?
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?*

*Tyger Tyger burning bright,
In the forests of the night:
What immortal hand or eye,
Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?*

Table 6. Figurative Language of The Poem "The Tyger"

Line	Data Findings	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>Tyger Tyger, burning bright,</i>	Hyperbole
4	<i>Could frame thy fearful symmetry?</i>	Personification
9	<i>And what shoulder, & what art,</i>	Repetition
12	<i>What dread hand? & what dread feet?</i>	Repetition
13	<i>What the hammer? what the chain,</i>	Repetition
15	<i>What the anvil? what dread grasp,</i>	Repetition
17	<i>When the stars threw down their spears</i>	Personification
18	<i>And water'd heaven with their tears:</i>	Personification

Main theme explored in "The Tyger"

The main theme explored in "The Tyger" by William Blake is the nature of creation and the existence of both good and evil in the world. The poem raises profound questions about the origin and purpose of a powerful and fearsome creature, the tiger. Through vivid imagery and rhetorical questioning, Blake contemplates the duality of creation, considering how the same divine force that made the lamb, a symbol of innocence and gentleness, also created the fierce and predatory tiger.

7) Infant Joy

This poem was initially included in William Blake's compilation titled Songs of Innocence in 1789. "Infant Joy" is a poetic work authored by William Blake that celebrates the birth of a child and the joy and innocence it brings. It explores the theme of childhood and the purity of the human spirit. The poem is a dialogue between a mother and her newborn child. She asks the child's what name she should give it, and the child responds by saying that it does not need a word as it is full of joy and love. The young one perceives the world with untainted innocence, unburdened by the complexities and obligations of adulthood. The language used in the poem is simple and childlike, with short, declarative sentences and a repetition of the

phrase "I happy am." This repetition emphasizes the joy and contentment that the child feels and emphasizes the theme of innocence and purity. The poem can be interpreted as a homage to the splendour and wonder of new life and a rejection of the materialism and cynicism of adult life. The child is accessible from the constraints of society and the expectations of others and exists purely in the moment, experiencing the world with a sense of wonder and delight.

Overall, "Infant Joy" is a beautiful and tender poem that celebrates the beauty and innocence of childhood and reminds us of the joy and wonder we can experience if we approach the world with open hearts and minds.

Infant Joy
By William Blake

*I have no name
I am but two days old.—
What shall I call thee?
I happy am
Joy is my name,—
Sweet joy befall thee!*

*Pretty joy!
Sweet joy but two days old,
Sweet joy I call thee;
Thou dost smile.
I sing the while
Sweet joy befall thee.*

Table 7. Figurative Language of The Poem "Infant Joy"

Line	Data Findings	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>"I have no name; I am but two days old."</i>	Anaphora
8	<i>Sweet joy, but two days old. Sweet Joy I call thee:</i>	Anaphora

The main theme of "Infant Joy"

"Infant Joy" contrasts with some of Blake's other works that explore the darker and more complex aspects of human experience. In this particular poem, the theme revolves around the innate joy that accompanies the beginning of a child's life, offering a vision of innocence and unfettered happiness. The theme underscores the joyous and untroubled aspects of new life, portraying the child as a symbol of purity and delight.

8) London

The poem "London" by William Blake is a reflection on the societal and governmental conditions of London during Blake's time. He describes the stark contrast between the affluent and power of the privileged elites and the destitution and hardship experienced by the general populace. The opening line, characterized by the repetition of the word "chartered," suggests that the residents of London are subjected to control and oppression by the ruling power. The word "street" in the poem pertains to the thoroughfares of London, whereas "face" signifies the countenances of its inhabitants, who bear the marks of weakness and woe.

The second stanza emphasizes the sense of urgency and despair that pervades the poem. The repeated phrase "in every" highlights the pervasive nature of the suffering in London, from the cries of men and infants to the oppressive laws and rules that restrict their lives. The metaphor of the chimney sweeper highlights the plight of children who are forced into manual labor and the dangers to their health. The blackening church symbolizes the pollution and injustice that permeates society. The unfortunate soldier's vision and the blood running down palace walls emphasize the government's responsibility for the violence and suffering in the city.

The concluding stanza further delves into the various segments of society impacted by the societal and governmental circumstances in London. The curse of the young prostitute and the tears of the newborn child show how injustice is passed down through the generations, with sexually transmitted diseases and poverty affecting the youth and their offspring. The denotative meaning of the word "tear" emphasizes the pain and sorrow experienced by the babies born into this unjust society. In conclusion, Blake's poem "London" paints a bleak picture of the conditions in London during his time, highlighting the oppression and suffering experienced by ordinary people and the responsibility of the ruling classes and government for this state of affairs.

London
By William Blake

*I wander thro' each charter'd street,
Near where the charter'd Thames does flow,
And mark in every face I meet
Marks of weakness, marks of woe.*

*In every cry of every man,
In every Infants cry of fear,
In every voice, in every ban,
The mind-forg'd manacles I hear.*

*How the Chimney-sweeper's cry
Every blackning Church appalls;
And the hapless Soldier's sigh
Runs in blood down Palace walls.*

*But most thro' midnight streets I hear
How the youthful Harlot's curse
Blasts the new-born Infants tear,
And blights with plagues the Marriage hearse.*

Table 8. Figurative Language of The Poem "London"

Line	Data Observation	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>I wander through each chartered street</i>	Metaphor
2	<i>Near where the chartered Thames does flow</i>	Metaphor
4	<i>Marks of weakness, marks of woe</i>	Metaphor
4	<i>Marks of weakness, marks of woe.</i>	Repetition
5	<i>In every cry of every man,</i>	Anaphora
	<i>In every infant's cry of fear,</i>	
7	<i>In every voice, in every ban,</i>	Repetition
8	<i>The mind-forged manacles I hear</i>	Metaphor
9	<i>How the chimney-sweeper's cry</i>	Hyperbola
10	<i>Every blackening church appalls</i>	Metaphor
12	<i>Runs in blood down palace walls</i>	Metaphor
15	<i>Blasts the new-born infants tear</i>	Metaphor

Main theme explored in "London"

Main theme in "London" was purchase intention. Purchase intention is the opportunity for consumers to make product purchases (Gudigantala et al., 2016). Purchase intentions can be formed through expected prices, product benefits, and income (Albari & Safitri, 2018). Purchase intention is also the result of consumer experience and engagement with the brand (Akram & Kortam, 2020). Therefore, the purchase intention of a women's apparel brand is a consumer's opportunity to purchase an apparel product after recognizing experience and engagement with the brand.

9) Love Secret

"Love Secret" is a poetic composition by William Blake that explores the nature of love and its intimate connection with the human experience. The poem follows a format of two stanzas, each consisting of four lines. In the initial stanza, the narrator presents the idea that love cannot be expressed or communicated through words alone. The speaker suggests that love is a secret that can only be understood by those who experience it and that this understanding is achieved not through words but through actions and emotions.

The second stanza builds upon this idea by emphasizing love's physical and sensual nature. The speaker describes kissing as a way of sharing this secret of love and suggests that this act can create a deep and meaningful connection between two people. The speaker also suggests that this connection is not limited to romantic love but can be present in all human relationships. Throughout the poem, Blake emphasizes the importance of physicality and emotion in the experience of love. He suggests that love is not simply a rational or intellectual concept but is deeply felt and experienced through the senses. "Love Secret" can be seen as a celebration of the power and importance of love in the human experience and an exploration of how love transcends language and rationality to connect people on a deeper level.

Love's Secret
By William Blake

*NEVER seek to tell thy love,
Love that never told can be;
For the gentle wind doth move
Silently, invisibly.*

*I told my love, I told my love,
I told her all my heart,
Trembling, cold, in ghastly fears.
Ah! she did depart!*

*Soon after she was gone from me,
A traveller came by,
Silently, invisibly:
He took her with a sigh.*

Table 9. Figurative Language of The Poem "Love Secret"

Line	Data Findings	Category of Figurative Language
3	<i>For the gentle wind does move</i>	Personification
4	<i>Silently, invisibly.</i>	Metaphor
5	<i>I told my love, I told my love,</i>	Repetition
5	<i>I told my love, I told my love, I told her all my heart;</i>	Anaphora
7	<i>Trembling, cold, in ghastly fears,</i>	Hyperbole

The main theme explored in "Love Secret"

This poem talks about the secrecy and hidden emotions within the context of love. It is about love, which is pretty and invisible because we can see and feel it. It cannot be guessed when it comes and when it goes. Love can make us happy and usually can give us pain when love is gone. However, love is not everything. We can get another love if we believe.

10) The Lamb

Blake's poem "The Lamb" is a reflective composition penned in 1789. It explores themes related to spirituality and divine nature. It presents a physical entity, an animal, to convey more profound spiritual concepts and reflect on the magnificence of God and His creations. The poem directly conveys the existence of God through the overt invocation of the Divine name, as evident in phrases like "bless thee" and "gave thee life." This is accompanied by figurative language in the first line, "Little lamb, who made thee?". The gentle and innocent creature, symbolized by the lamb, represents a combination of innocence and vulnerability. The lamb can be likened to a child in its portrayal.

The term "lamb" used in this poem embodies underlying meaning. It can be perceived as lambs, which symbolize tranquility and gentleness. The lines "Gave thee clothing of delight, Softest clothing, wooly, bright" and "Gave thee such a tender voice" make it easy to perceive the soft curls of the young creature, the lamb. The lamb exudes serenity and spirituality, offering the reader a profound sense of tranquility. Then, Blake personifies the lamb by attributing human characteristics to it. The lamb and the child are presented as interchangeable symbols throughout the poem. This implies that the child is likened to a lamb and vice versa. This metaphor is consistently employed throughout the entirety of the poem. For instance, in the lines "He became a little child" and "I a child, and thou a lamb." The connotative meaning of the word "child" in this poem symbolizes the innocence and purity associated with the lamb. In contrast, the word "he" represents a deeper reference to Christ or God, carrying spiritual and divine connotations.

The word "thee" in the poem also holds a connotative meaning, pointing to the broader context of God's creations. "By the stream and o'er the mead" in the metaphor in the fourth line suggests that God grants life to His creations by providing them with abundant water and grass. This indicates that God bestows life upon His creations and fulfills their needs. It is a gesture of care and provision for their peaceful existence on Earth.

In the lines "Little lamb, who made thee?", "Little lamb I'll tell thee", and "Little lamb, God bless thee!". Using a prolonged metaphor, the poem conveys that a divine force has brought something into existence. It explores emotionally charged subjects of peace and spirituality, highlighting the profound connection between the divine and the created.

The Lamb
By William Blake

*Little Lamb who made thee
Dost thou know who made thee
Gave thee life & bid thee feed.
By the stream & o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing wooly bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice!
Little Lamb who made thee
Dost thou know who made thee*

*Little Lamb I'll tell thee,
Little Lamb I'll tell thee!
He is called by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb:
He is meek & he is mild,
He became a little child:
I a child & thou a lamb,
We are called by his name.
Little Lamb God bless thee.
Little Lamb God bless thee.*

Table 10. Figurative Language of The Poem “The Lamb”

Line	Data Findings	Category of Figurative Language
1	<i>A Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?</i>	Epiphora
1	<i>Little lamb, who made thee?</i>	Metaphor
3	<i>Gave thee life, and bid thee feed</i>	Metaphor
4	<i>By the stream and O'er the mead</i>	Metaphor
5	<i>Gave thee clothing of delight</i>	Metaphor
6	<i>clothing, wooly, bright</i>	Metaphor
7	<i>Gave thee such a tender voice</i>	Metaphor
8	<i>Making all the vales rejoice?</i>	Metaphor
11	<i>Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee.</i>	Epiphora
11	<i>Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee.</i>	Anaphora
14	<i>For he calls himself a lamb</i>	Metaphor
15	<i>He is meek, and he is mild</i>	Metaphor
15	<i>He is meek, and He is mild;</i>	Repetition
16	<i>He became a little child</i>	Metaphor
17	<i>I a child, and thou a lamb</i>	Personification
19	<i>Little Lamb, God bless thee! Little Lamb, God bless thee</i>	Epiphora
19	<i>Little Lamb, God bless thee! Little Lamb, God bless thee</i>	Anaphora
20	<i>Little lamb, God Bless thee!</i>	Metaphor

Main theme explored in “The Lamb”

The central understanding conveyed in this poem is religiousness, specifically related to God's magnificence, creations, peace, and gentleness. The poet explicitly refers to God throughout the poem to emphasize this. The poet illustrates how a divine force created something, using the lamb symbol to represent God and his creations. In essence, the lamb signifies peace and gentleness.

Discussions

A poem is a combination of spoken or written words that express thoughts or feelings in a strongly vivid and imaginative way (Meiliana, 2020). The poetry is arranged written such a manner that it can produce a

multiwatering meaning and drive the reader's heart in the form of messages, mandates, or the shape of the mood merely (Mansoben, 2023). William Blake is a truly unusual artist as he carved out his poetry alongside gorgeous paintings and had them printed using lighted paintings and copper plates etched by himself (Jose, 2015). William Blake is a celebrated poet and artist from England then widely acknowledged for his imaginative and symbol-laden poetry. It is in line with (Markos, 2010), who said Blake's work is the vivid, disjointed, symbol-laden qualities of those enigmatic works. His works are replete with figurative language, employing vivid depictions, symbolism, and metaphorical expressions to convey profound and significant concepts. His poems delve into the profound meaning of human existence, the essence of divinity, and the intricate interaction between humanity and God. In addition, Eaves (2003) said that religion was the central theme and driving force behind all of William Blake's artistic creations. While traces of personal devotion can be observed in some of his poems, and an undercurrent of piety can be sensed in his more traditional visual art, William Blake's illuminated verse primarily revolves around social themes. His work delves into the historical and psychological roots of religious faith and the impact of religion on human actions and behavior.

Furthermore, he identified misguided religious ideologies as the root cause of the social unrest and prevalent issues in England during his era. Blake firmly believed that religion profoundly impacts all facets, like political, economic, psychological, and cultural. Mellor (1974) argued that Blake's poems demonstrate a remarkable ability to confront and navigate both natural and spiritual adversities, bestowing a sense of order and profound meaning upon human existence.

In the collection of poems titled "Songs of Innocence and Experience," William Blake employs imagery, form, and language to express his beliefs regarding religion and the profound changes that occurred during the Industrial Revolution. This is in line with (Vallor, 1992) who said that the primary emphasis of eidetic imagery is a prevailing manifestation of surreal vividness distinct from its poem. Despite their initial appearance of simplicity, these poems reveal deeper layers of meaning and offer insights into the period in which they were written. By employing imagery, William Blake creates vivid and resonant visuals that profoundly impact the reader. His descriptions evoke solid emotions and effectively convey intricate concepts. Furthermore, he meticulously constructs the form and structure of his poems, deliberately selecting specific rhyme schemes and patterns to amplify the overall resonance and influence of his messages.

Language plays a crucial role in expressing Blake's beliefs. It is in line with (Piccitto, 2010), who said that William Blake consistently upholds language as the fundamental symbol and cornerstone of his artistic expression throughout his works. Blake's adept use of evocative and symbolic language in his exploration of innocence, corruption, and the ramifications of societal shifts showcases his commitment to profound expression. Through carefully selected words and phrases, he adds depth and complexity to his verses, encouraging readers to contemplate the profound implications embedded within his poetry. In essence, Blake's Songs of Innocence and Experience transcend their initial simplicity, offering profound revelations into the era's societal, religious, and personal convictions. Through the skillful use of imagery, form, and language, Blake masterfully communicates his vision of a transforming world influenced by the Industrial Revolution. He delves into timeless themes such as human nature, spirituality, and the far-reaching consequences of social and economic turmoil.

4. CONCLUSION

There was a figure of speech and themes analysis in ten poems by William Blake: In "Ah Sunflower," metaphor dominates the figure of speech, while the theme revolves around the concept of time and the eternal nature of life after death. It suggests that there is an everlasting existence beyond earthly life. In "The Sick Rose," metaphor dominates the figure of speech, and the theme explores the destructive nature of desire and passion. Symbolized by a rose and a worm, the poem depicts an unhealthy condition caused by destructive desires. In "A Poison Tree," metaphor dominates the figure of speech, while the theme delves into anger and negative emotions, representing the shadowy aspects of human character and behavior. It explores the darker side of human nature, unveiling the depths of negative emotions, impulses, and tendencies within individuals. The speaker expresses anger towards both a pal and a rival, resolving the disagreement with the friend but allowing anger to fester towards the enemy.

In "A Dream," metaphor dominates figurative language, and the theme revolves around the imperfections of human life. The speaker intends to convey the idea that humans are not timeless beings. In "A Divine Image," metaphor dominates the figure of speech. The theme explores human nature and the need for emotional control. The poem highlights the strength and power inherent in humanity. In "The Tyger," repetition dominates the figure of speech, while the theme centers around divinity. The Tyger symbolizes a beautifully enigmatic creature that reflects the nature of God. The poem explores religious themes, depicting God as a strong and magnificent creator. In "Infant Joy," anaphora dominates the figure of speech, and the theme revolves around happiness. The poem depicts a joyful conversation between a child and an adult. In "London," anaphora dominates the figure of speech. The theme explores people's lives in London, focusing on Blake's discontent

with the political situation. The poem portrays a state of unhappiness in London, characterized by atrocities, poverty, and injustice prevalent at the time.

In "Love Secret," repetition dominates the figure of speech, and the theme explores feelings, emotions, and imagination associated with love. The poem highlights the transient nature of love, its ability to bring happiness and pain, and the possibility of finding love again. In "The Lamb," metaphor dominates the figure of speech, and the theme focuses on spirituality and God's magnificence, creations, peace, and gentleness. The poet references God explicitly throughout the poem, using the lamb symbol to convey messages of peace and gentleness.

In conclusion, the writer observes that William Blake's poems predominantly employ metaphor as a figure of speech. This use of metaphor allows Blake to convey deeper meanings indirectly. The intrinsic elements used in the poems evoke inner sensations that describe various situations, conditions, and stories. Understanding these elements helps comprehend the poems' meanings and provides clear interpretations.

REFERENCES

- Akram, S., & Kortam, W. (2020). The Impact of Customer Experience in Online Brand Communities on Customer Engagement and Purchase Intentions Among Arab Internet Users: Theoretical Analysis, Conceptual Framework and Research Agenda. *Business and Management Studies*, 6(3), 26. <https://doi.org/10.11114/bms.v6i3.5021>
- Albari, & Safitri, I. (2018). The Influence of Product Price on Consumers' Purchasing Decisions. *Review of Integrative Business and Economics Research*, 7(Sup2), 328–337. http://buscompress.com/uploads/3/4/9/8/34980536/riber_7-s2_k18-165_328-337.pdf
- Cresswell, J. (n.d.). *Qualitative Research in Applied Linguistics: A Practical Introduction* (J. Heigham & R. Croker (eds.)). Palgrave Macmillan.
- Eaves, M. (2003). *The Cambridge Companion to William Blake* (M. Eaves (ed.)). Department of English University of Rochester.
- Efendi, D. (2021). Figure Of Speech Analysis On I Am Human Too Poem By Godsplan K. Ugwuja. *Jurnal Ilmiah Universitas Batanghari Jambi*, 21(3), 1031. <https://doi.org/10.33087/jiubj.v21i3.1707>
- Enyimba, M. (2020). Philosophy, Literature, Art and Reality. BookRix.
- Gudigantala, N., Bicen, P., & Eom, M. (Tae-in). (2016). An examination of antecedents of conversion rates of e-commerce retailers. *Management Research Review*.
- Jose, C.P. (2015). Skinning "The Lamb" and "The Tyger". *English Language and Literature Studies*; Vol. 5, No. 2; 2015. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/ells.v5n2p87>
- Johnson-Laird, P. N., & Oatley, K. (2022). How poetry evokes emotions. *Acta Psychologica*, 224. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actpsy.2022.103506>.
- Mansoben, K.D. (2023). A Biographical Analysis of William Blake's Poems. *LEKSIKON: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa, Sastra, & Budaya*. Volume 1, Number 2, October 2023, 1-17. <https://ejurnal-unisap.ac.id/index.php/leksikon/article/view/101>
- Markos, L. (2010). *Literature and Ethics: From The Green Knight to The Dark Knight* (S. Brie & W. T. Rossiter (eds.)). Cambridge Scholar Publishing.
- Mellor, A. K. (1974). *Blake's Human from Divine*. University of California Press.
- Mulyati, S. (2019). The Analysis of Five William Blake's Poems. *Wanastra*, 11(2), 113–120. <https://doi.org/10.31294/w.v11i2.5414>
- Meiliana, Sylvie. (2020). Poetry Analysis. Diklat Kuliah. Universitas Nasional. sylvie.meiliana@civitas.unas.ac.id.
- Paul, J.C. (2018). The Divine Image" and "A Divine Image. *Research Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* ISSN (Online) : 2395-2423 • ISSN (Print) : 2319-7889 Vol. 6, January 2018 Pp. 1-11 <http://www.arsartium.org>
- Piccitto, D. (2010). *Scholarship @ Western Dramatic Forms and Identity-Formation in the Works*.
- Vallor, H. P. (1992). *How Gothic Influences and Eidetic Imagery in Eight Color Plates and Key Poems by William Blake Figuratively Unite Body and Soul by Dramatizing the Visionary Imagination*.