

Figurative Language in the Lyrics of Animation Film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure' Soundtrack

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ABSTRACT

Figurative language relates to the use of words outside of their usual context and meaning to express complex ideas. Figurative language is commonly found in the work of literature including song lyrics. This research purpose is to investigate the type of figurative language presented in the Original Soundtrack of the animation Film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure' and the type of figurative language that is the most dominant found in the Original Soundtrack of the animation Film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure'. The mixed method design of the research was used to analyze the data by using a document checklist as the instrument of the study. 8 song lyrics were analyzed and the result showed that the figurative languages found in the Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure Original Soundtrack were (1) Metaphor, (2) Personification, (3) Metonymy, (4) Allegory, (5) Symbol, (6) Paradox, and (7) Hyperbole. While in the figurative language which is dominantly presented in the Original Soundtrack of Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure is figurative language of symbol. Songwriters usually use figurative language to make the lyrics more beautiful. Analyzing figurative language presented in the song lyric is important to understand what the song lyric means behind the figurative language used.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The primary role of language in human interaction is as a means of communication, serving as a conduit for the exchange of information, ideas, messages, and feelings. Language serves the purpose of conveying a message from the speaker to the hearer or audience. Through language, a message can be passed from one person to another, whether it is spoken or written. As stated by Fajrin & Parmawati (2021) people can better connect and convey their thoughts and feelings by using language.

Language may have a variety of specific characteristics and features that are connected to sentence structure and the meaning of the sentence. One of the unique features of language is figurative language. As stated by Swarniti (2022) figurative language is a feature of language learning that enhances a language's distinctiveness. Figurative language is a very common thing in human daily life when they use a language to express their idea or feeling. Figurative language can be found in every language and many genres of text including literature works such as poems, plays, and poetry. Literature authors frequently employ figurative language to convey the words' true meanings to make their writing more appealing and attractive. As mentioned by Avillanova & Bram in 2019 a poem is interesting to read because of how it is written and because of the gorgeous and appropriate words it uses. A poem generally becomes more engaging as it employs more figurative language.

Figurative language refers to when words are used to express complex ideas outside of their normal context and meaning. It relates to something without mentioning it directly by using a regular sentence. Atmaja (2022) stated that figurative language is the use of words or phrases that deviate from their usual definitions to convey

intricate ideas and create lovely images that reinforce and breathe new life into inanimate objects. It is a technique used to convey a feeling and idea by contrasting two unrelated things, using similes to compare two things that have absolutely nothing in common, or treating inanimate objects as though they were living things (Siahaan, 2018). Furthermore, figurative language is defined as words or phrases usage that do not relate to their most fundamental or concrete meanings (Avillanova & Bram, 2019).

There are two kinds of language related to the meaning. They are literal language and figurative language. Like Yuri and Rosa (2013) stated the literal language is spoken with meaning or without any exaggeration or change of the subject, literal language speaks of facts although it's possible to claim that figurative language's meaning depends on its context or that it has an implied meaning. Figurative language is often known as the language that uses ways to say one thing while meaning another. Perrine in Ketaren, et al. (2021), figurative language can be used to convey ideas that aren't typically expressed. According to Perrine, 12 different categories of metaphorical language are simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole, understatement, and irony.

According to Keraf in Ketaren, et al. (2021), the simile is a language style that uses indirect comparison words to equate one thing to another. Then, metaphors and similes or other literary comparisons almost have the same meaning but in metaphorical figurative language does not require conjunctions and is employed directly. While figurative language of personification transfers traits from humans to objects, concepts, or other living things. The speech symbol of apostrophe appears when the speaker shifts his focus from the audience to a different party, such as the litigant or another person who is occasionally not present in the situation such as in a play.

Jones and McKenzie in Ketaren, et al. (2021) stated that synecdoche is a Greek word meaning "simultaneous." Synecdoche utilizes a partial name or phrase to symbolize a full one. Because metonymy has a very tight relationship to another word, it might be used to express something else. The symbol is figurative language that stresses something with a secondary meaning in addition to the primary meaning. Allegory is then a literary device that explains a concept via the use of metaphors or figures of speech. Paradox is then a form of language that expresses something opposed. Hyperbole is an exaggeration that doesn't take away from the truth of its intended meaning. Ironically, metaphorical language connotes something different, occasionally even the opposite of what is expressed.

Figurative language is used to deepen, widen, or introduce new ideas by omitting the literal meaning perspectives on a word or phrase. Figurative language is a style of writing that invokes the reader's imagination and conjures up images in the reader's mind to illustrate the meaning of what is being said (Siahaan, 2018). In addition, Kusmirayanti, et al., (2021) defined figurative language is more clearly defined as a way to assert one thing while understanding another. It is widely defined as any method of saying something other than the customary way. Since figurative sentences lay another meaning behind sometimes people get misunderstand the true meaning of the phrase or sentence.

To make their songs more engaging to sing, songwriters frequently utilize metaphorical language, indirectly transferring the meaning of the music to the lyrics. Ibrahim, et al. (2019, p. 119) in Yunanda, et al. (2021), claimed speech symbol is essential in song lyrics because song lyric authors can convey messages that show the beauty and uniqueness of the song to people who hear or read it. Figurative language in the song lyrics gives a unique color or impression to the listener. However, people sometimes may find difficulties comprehending it because is not easy to understand the meanings which are different from the literal meanings. If someone doesn't comprehend the meaning well, it could lead to misunderstandings, and if the songs' meanings are lost on the listeners, the songs lose all of their significance (Avillanova & Bram, 2019).

Figurative language is sometimes employed in literature to make it more intriguing, such as in song lyrics (Yastanti, 2018). Figurative language also can be found in a movie soundtrack. A movie soundtrack is the complete music or song contained in a movie. Soundtracks are usually found at the beginning or end of a movie, but it is not uncommon for directors to put soundtracks in the middle of a movie. A soundtrack is one of the important elements in making a movie. Some of the most famous soundtracks to date are Celine Dion's *My Heart Will Go On* which became the soundtrack of the movie *Titanic*. Likewise, Peabo Bryson feat Regina Belle's song entitled *A Whole New World* for the popular animated film *Aladdin* and a song entitled *Let It Go* by Idina Menzel became the soundtrack of another famous animated film entitled *Frozen*. Soundtracks are not always made specifically for a movie, they can also be old/new/popular songs that already exist but are felt to fit the theme of the movie/scene. A soundtrack is the icon music of a movie, or can also be called the main music or theme song which describes the theme of the movie in general including animation movies.

According to Dwimursito, et al. (2022), animation is a type of movie that is the result of image processing so that it becomes a moving that moves. Meanwhile, Risata & Maulana (2016) stated that animation comes from the Greek *Anima* means to give life animation itself is a movie of objects as if alive, made of photography,

drawings, puppets, or writing, with thin differences between frames or writing, with thin differences between frames, to give the impression of movement when projected.

Nowadays animated movies have become one of the movies that can be enjoyed by various groups of children, teenagers even adults. The second entry in the Disney Fairies series, *Tinker Bell and the Lost Treasure* is a 2009 American computer-animated adventure film directed by Klay Hall. Tinker Bell, a fairy figure created by J. M. Barrie in his 1904 play *Peter Pan, or The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, is the focus of this Disney animated production, which was produced by Disney Toon Studios and animated by Prana Studios. On October 27, 2009, Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment published it on Blu-ray and DVD, and it quickly gained popularity as an animation movie with a fairy theme. Tinkerbell is described by Barrie as a little fairy who can fix pots and kettles and enjoys playing games with her fellow fairies. Her dialog involves the tinkling sound of a bell that is only understood by those who know fairy language (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tinker_Bell_and_the_Lost_Treasure).

A previous study by Ketaren et al. (2021) which uses a qualitative method as research design and documentation as the instrument found four types of figurative language they are: metaphor, simile, hyperbole, and metonymy. Hyperbole is the figurative language mostly found in the song lyrics in English textbooks for senior high school 'Pathway to English'. A study by Kusmirayanti, et al., (2021) found four figurative languages mostly presented in the *Frozen Movie's* Original soundtrack personification, apostrophe, overstatement, and simile.

In terms of the language styles used, music lyrics and poems are largely comparable. The song lyric is categorized similarly to poems in the literature works. Songs are literary works that are highly distinct since they are written with few phrases and musical accompaniment. The majority of people find listening to music is a fun and interesting activity, especially young ones. For some people, listening to songs can calm the heart and release stress, so no wonder many people make it a hobby. It also can be used by the teacher at school as an alternative way to teach English in the classroom. Avillanova & Bram, 2019 claimed that in English teaching music and song are widely used by teachers in the classroom. It creates a different atmosphere in the class that helps students improve their English skills. Through listening to the song students can practice their pronunciation and enrich their vocabulary from the lyrics.

Teachers can facilitate students to learn English from songs by choosing songs that are suitable for teaching the language. Some kinds of songs that can be used by teachers to teach English to students are the songs from animated films. It is because this type of song is enjoyable to listen to and the lyrics are easy to learn. One of them is songs from Disney animation films. Disney is an old and popular movie company which is established in 1923 and still exists in the present. It is one of the biggest movie companies in the world which always succeed in producing not only many great movies but also animation movie with many great songs. Because of that, this research aims to investigate the figurative language found in one of the popular animation films from Disney titled: '*Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure*'. Therefore, the research questions of this study are:

1. What types of figurative language are used in the original soundtrack of the animated film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure'?
2. What is the most dominant type of figurative language used in the original soundtrack of the animation film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure'?

2. METHOD

This study aims to analyze the kinds of figurative language which are mostly used in the lyrics of the soundtracks of '*Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure*', a Disney animation film. This study used mixed methods research designs to analyze the data. In a research study, mixed methods entail blending or integrating qualitative and quantitative research and data, according to Creswell (2014). In qualitative research, non-numerical data are gathered and analyzed such as text documents, video, or audio to understand concepts, opinions, or experiences. It is also used to gather deep insight into a problem or generate new ideas. Utilizing qualitative research techniques allows for the examination of human behavior and the exploration of underlying meanings, which transforms both the researcher and the participants (Wang, 2018).

Bowen (2009) stated that mixed-methods studies (which combine quantitative and qualitative research techniques) sometimes include document analysis. This study included a content analysis study to reveal the figurative language which involved in the song lyrics. Content analysis is qualitative research that focuses on analyzing and interpreting recorded material (Ary, Jacobs, Irvine, & Walker, 2010) in Utami, Nurkamto & Marmanto, 2019. However, this research also uses quantitative ways in the form of how the data are recorded in percentages and then illustrated by table to make it more comprehensible.

The object of this study was song lyrics from the original soundtrack of an animation film by Disney entitled *Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure*. It consisted of 8 songs that will be analyzed lyrics, are (1) *The Gift of a*

Friend performed by Demi Lovato, (2) *If You Believe* performed by Lisa Kelly, (3) *Fly to Your Heart* performed by Selena Gomez, (4) *Take to the Sky* performed by Jordan Pruitt, (5) *Where The Sunbeams Play* performed by Meav Ni Mhaolchatha (6) *Magic Mirror* performed by Tiffany Thornton, (7) *Pixie Dust* performed by Ruby Summer and last was (8) *Fly Away Home* performed by Alyson Stoner.

The instrument that would be used in this study was a document checklist. According to Bowen (2009), document analysis is a record of events that have occurred, usually in the form of writing, pictures, or the work of someone. The theory from Perrine (1969) is used to determine the type of figurative language contained in the song lyrics. According to Perrine in his book entitled *Poetry: Sound and Sense* (1969), there are several sorts of figurative language, they are: (1) Simile, (2) Metaphor, (3) Personification, (4) Apostrophe, (5) Metonymy, (6) Allegory, (7) Symbol, (8) Paradox, (9) Hyperbole, (10) Understatement, and (11) Irony.

The research's data collection procedures were as follows: first of all, the song lyrics from the internet were gathered by the researchers. To determine if the song was correct or not, the researchers then searched the music audio and listened to the songs. The final phase involved classifying each sort of metaphorical language used in the songs individually. The researchers calculated the percentage of figurative language present in the music lyrics for additional data analysis before arriving at their results.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Result

Eight song lyrics from the original soundtrack of an animation film of Disney entitled *Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure* were analyzed its lyrics: (1) *The Gift of a Friend* performed by Demi Lovato, (2) *If You Believe* performed by Lisa Kelly, (3) *Fly to Your Heart* performed by Selena Gomez, (4) *Take to the Sky* performed by Jordan Pruitt, (5) *Where The Sunbeams Play* performed by Meav Ni Mhaolchatha (6) *Magic Mirror* performed by Tiffany Thornton, (7) *Pixie Dust* performed by Ruby Summer and last was (8) *Fly Away Home* performed by Alyson Stoner.

The song's lyrics were examined based on the theory from Perrine (1969) of figurative language by using a document checklist as the instrument to find out the types of figurative language used in the soundtrack of animation film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure' and what the most dominant type of figurative languages used in soundtrack of animation film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure'.

After analyzing the data it was found that the figurative languages found in *Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure* Ost were (1) Metaphor, (2) Personification, (3) Metonymy, (4) Allegory, (5) Symbol, (6) Paradox, and (7) Hyperbole. While in the figurative language which is dominantly presented in the soundtrack of *Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure* is the figurative language of symbol. To be more detailed is described in Table 1 below:

Table 1. The Distribution of Figurative Languages in *Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure* Ost

Figurative languages	Song 1		Song 2		Song 3		Song 4		Song 5		Song 6		Song 7		Song 8	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Simile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Metaphor	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	27
Personification	2	18	3	30	5	31	2	20	8	73	3	20	-	-	4	37
Apostrophe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Metonymy	1	9	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6.7	-	-	-	-
Allegory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	20	-	-	1	9
Symbol	5	46	5	50	6	38	5	50	2	18	6	40	3	60	1	9
Paradox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyperbole	2	18	1	10	5	31	3	30	-	-	2	13	2	40	2	18
Understatement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Irony	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11	100	10	100	16	100	10	100	11	100	15	100	5	100	11	100

Note:

* n = number of figurative language item

** % = percentage

Based on Table 1, the result showed in the first song lyric *The Gift of a Friend* performed by Demi Lovato that figurative language which is mostly presented in the lyric was, first symbol got the highest percentage of 46%. The second highest percentage was personification and hyperbole where both of these figurative languages got

the same percentage of 18%. While for the third place was metaphor and metonymy which also got the same percentage of 9%. Overall, there are only 5 figurative languages found in the first song.

The second song lyric *If You Believe* performed by Lisa Kelly found only 4 figurative languages while the highest percentage was also the same as the first song was a symbol with a percentage was 50%. The second highest percentage was personification with a percentage of 30%. While third place was hyperbole and metonymy which got the same percentage of 10%.

Fly to Your Heart performed by Selena Gomez was the third song that is analyzed. Figurative languages found in this song lyric that the highest percentage was 38% while the second and the third high percentage were personification and hyperbole with the same percentage of 31%. Only 3 figurative languages are found in the song.

The fourth song was *Take to the Sky* performed by Jordan Pruitt. In this song, the figurative language mostly found was symbols with 50% in percentage. The second highest percentage was hyperbole with 30% in percentage. While for the third place was personification which also got a percentage of 20%. Overall, there are only 3 figurative languages found in the first song.

Where The Sunbeams Play performed by Meav Ni Mhaolchath was the fifth song to be analyzed. It was found that personification became the highest percentage of figurative language presented in the song with a percentage of 73%. The second high percentage was a symbol with 18% in percentage and the third place was a paradox with 9% in percentage. Overall, it found only 3 figurative languages.

The sixth song was *Magic Mirror* performed by Tiffany Thornton. This song found that the highest percentage of figurative language presented in the song was symbol with 40% in percentage. The second and the third high percentage were personification and allegory which both had the same percentage of 20%. The fourth highest percentage was hyperbole with 13% in percentage. While for the fifth place was metonymy with 6.7% in percentage. A total of 5 figurative languages are found in the song.

Pixie Dust performed by Ruby Summer was the seventh song to be analyzed. In this song, lyrics found 2 figurative languages only. Personification was found about 60% in percentage and hyperbole was about 40% in percentage. The last song, *Fly Away Home* performed by Alyson Stoner found 5 figurative languages. It was found that personification became the highest percentage of 37%. The second highest percentage was metaphor with 27% in percentage. The third high in percentage was hyperbole with 18% in percentage. The fourth and the fifth place were allegory and symbol with the same percentage of 9%.

3.2 Discussion

Perrine's theory suggested 11 types of figurative language, they are Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Apostrophe, Metonymy, Allegory, Symbol, Paradox, Hyperbole, Understatement, and Irony. From the eleventh of the figurative languages only seven figurative languages were presented in the soundtrack of the animation film: 'Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure'. The seven figurative languages consist of Metaphor, Personification, Metonymy, Allegory, Symbol, Paradox, and Hyperbole. While in the figurative language which is dominantly presented in the soundtrack of Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure is the figurative language of symbol. The analysis of the song lyric the meaning behind the song's lyrics was done by describing it as follows:

Metaphor

A metaphor is figurative language which is a comparison of two different things, without "like" or "as." This figurative language was found in song 1, *The Gift of a Friend*, and song 8, *Fly Away Home*. For example: Song 1: *Cause a dream is a wish that you make all alone*

The song's lyrics are organized by category into metaphor because it compares between dream with a wish.

Song 8: *Rose petal gown, Buttercup crown, Lavender blooming wear Upon your feet*

While song's lyrics are organized by category into metaphor because it compares between a rose petal with a gown, a buttercup with a crown, and lavender blooming and cloth.

Personification

When anything that is not human, such as an object or an animal, is given a human characteristic, this is known as personification. Typically, authors personify objects to create accurate descriptions. This figurative language was found in almost all songs except Song 7. For example:

Song 1: *The world comes to life and everything's bright*

The song's lyrics are organized by category into personification because it describes the world as a living creature.

Song 2: *Watch the flowers dance with the wind*

The song's lyrics are organized by category into personification because it describes flowers behaving like humans who like to dance.

Metonymy

The usage of a term that is closely related to the meaning intended is known as a metaphor (Perrine, 1977). Metonymy can be defined as the substitution of a word naming a thing for another word that is closely related to it. It can be found in only the songs 1,2 and 6. For example:

Song 1: *When you open your heart and believe in the gift of a friend*

Song 6: *I come with open arms*

The two lyrics are organized by category into metonymy because they use only the words *heart* and *arm* to represent the overall human body.

Allegory

Allegory is a figurative language with a description that has another meaning. The meaning beneath is different from its description. It can be found in only the song 6 and song 8. For example:

Song 6: *All the treasure hidden Underneath your feet*

Song 8: *Through misty air Dancing the waltz*

The two lyrics are organized by category into allegory because they used *treasure* and *dancing the waltz* to describe something that has another meaning. Treasure may describe someone's ability while dancing the waltz may describe doing something good.

Symbol

The symbol is figurative language which is defined as something that means more than what it is (Perrine, 1977). This figurative language is the most dominant presented in the soundtrack of Tinker Bell and the Lost Treasure because it appears in all songs. For example:

Song 2: *You believe you'll find your wings*

The song's lyrics are organized by category as a symbol because it uses the phrase you will find your wings to describe someone's strength or ability.

Song 4: *Go and discover your treasure*

The song's lyrics are organized by category and also as symbol because it uses the word discover your treasure means that you can do something to achieve success

Paradox

A paradox is a perceived contradiction that still reveals a truth. Either the scenario or the statement may apply. (Perrine, 1977). A paradox is a statement that appears to contradict itself or to be in opposition to what is widely believed to be true, yet nonetheless includes truth. This figurative language wasn't many find on this soundtrack. it only appears in the song 5.

Song: *My foolish pride drove you away*

The song's lyrics are organized by category as a paradox because it describes two things that are contradictory like foolish and pride

Hyperbole

A hyperbole is a clear example of metaphorical language being exaggerated. Usually employed to convey a point, hyperbole should not be taken literally. This figurative language also appeared in this soundtrack. For example:

Song 2: *Fly to who you are, Climb upon your star*

The song's lyrics are organized by category as hyperbole because it exaggerates that as if we can fly and climb into the sky where the star is while it is impossible to do by humans.

The second finding of this study is the figurative language which is dominantly presented in the soundtrack of Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure symbol. This finding is quite different from the finding of a previous study from Ketaren et al. (2021) which found that hyperbole is the figurative language mostly found in the song lyrics in English textbooks for senior high school. A study by Kusmirayanti, et al., (2021) found four figurative languages mostly presented in the Frozen Movie's Original soundtrack personification, apostrophe, overstatement, and simile. This finding happened because most of the soundtrack of Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure describes the beauty of nature of fairyland so most of the symbol refers to natural things that appear in the songs.

4. CONCLUSION

The song's lyrics contain figurative language because they also reference a piece of literature. The advantage of this study is that it will help the reader understand the figure of speech better, especially the one that can be found in the original soundtrack of an animation film by Disney entitled Tinker Bell and The Lost Treasure. Every song has a different message, thus it's important to assess each one to understand the song's meaning. The researcher hopes that it will be helpful to other scholars, particularly those working in the area of figurative language as a source for more investigation. Researchers also anticipate that many individuals will be better at evaluating a song after reading this article and will be able to comprehend the significance of the music. Furthermore, song lyrics can be a medium of learning English for students both in junior and senior high school in the skill of vocabulary and practice pronunciation.

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