AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE NOVEL “ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN” BY MARK TWAIN

Rizki Aulia Rahma
Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris STKIP PGRI Pasuruan
auliayu826@gmail.com

Abstract: Novel is one of literary works that usually has many contents which can be analyzed by the readers. Some of them are figurative language and also the meaning which will give different interpretation depend on the readers. This study is attempted to analyze the figurative language, social meaning, symbolism meaning and psychological meaning in a novel. The object of the study is a novel entitled Adventures of Huckleberry Finn written by Mark Twain which consists of 43 chapters and 265 pages. This study used Content Analysis design by analyzing a novel. The novel analysis consisted of figurative language, social meaning, symbolism meaning and psychological meaning. Some steps are done in analyzing them. The social meaning, the symbolism meaning and the psychological meaning are also mostly found in Simile, Hyperbole and Idiom.

Keywords: Analysis, Figurative Language, Novel

INTRODUCTION

Literature is used to describe anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific works, but the term is most commonly used to refer to works of the creative imagination. Some kinds of literature are poetry, diary, drama, autobiography and biography, short story, essay, journal and novel. Novel is one of familiar kind of fictional literature. Novel is an invented prose narrative of considerable length and a certain complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience, usually through a connected sequence of events involving a group of persons in a specific setting. The reader will find many things when they read a novel. They recognize the characteristic of human being, kinds of the figurative language, moral value, etc., relating to the content of novel itself. Figurative language is usually found in some literary works, especially in short story, poetry and novel. Figurative language is the way to reveal thought through specific language which shows inner feeling of the writer.

The author usually uses the figurative language to give some effects to the story. Some kinds of figurative language are allegory, alliteration, allusion, antithesis, apostrophe, assonance, euphemism, hyperbole, idiom, irony, metaphor, metonymy, onomatopeia, oxymoron, paradox, personification, pun, simile, symbolism, synecdoche, and understatement. Literature work is not only about the figurative language but also about the meanings. Every sentence that created in literature work has its own meaning implicitly or even explicitly. Some kinds of meaning are social meaning, affective
meaning, reflected meaning, psychological meaning, symbolism meaning and socioligical meaning.

This study is an analysis of figurative language in the novel “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain. Researches about literature are limited in STKIP PGRI Pasuruan so it is important to conduct this study in order to increase knowledge about literature especially in figurative language. The novel “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain is choosen because this novel is one of international best seller novel. Not only that, this novel belongs to classic novel. Because of it, this novel consists of many figuratives language. The author used many kinds of figuratives language to make the novel alive.

There are two previous studies related to this study, such as Usdy A. (2013) and Yudi (2013). Usdy A. (2013) comes with her analysis of the figure of speech in modern novel “The One and Only” by Laurie Paige. She focused on the figure of speech in the novel. She conducted that the figure of speech that are commonly used in the novel are hyperbole, metaphor and simile. The second study is done by Yudi (2013). His study is about an analysis of language style in novel “Cinta Sang Penjaga Telaga” by Azzura Dayana. He stated that there are several kinds of language styles used in the novel in order to make the story become alive. Inspired by these studies, this study is conducted to analyze the figurative language in the novel “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain.

The differences that lie between the previous studies above and this study are the object and focuses of the study. This study analyzes 14 kinds of figurative language and the social meaning, symbolism meaning and psychological meaning in the novel “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain. The purposes of this study are to know the figurative language used in novel and analyze the social meaning, the symbolism meaning and the psychological meaning of the figurative language in the novel “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain. This reserach, thus, is inteded to describe the figurative language used in the novel.

METHOD

The research design of this study is content analysis. Content analysis is the analysis of texts of various types including writing, images, recordings, and cultural artifacts. This kind of design is used because this study conducted an analysis of figurative language in the novel. This study also uses the library research. A library research contains an in-depth collection of materials on one or more subjects.

A library research supports scholarly or scientific research and generally include primary as well as secondary sources. This study is conducted only to analyze the figurative language found in the novel. Kinds of figurative language that the researcher focuses here are Alliteration, Allusion, Assonance, Hyperbole, Idiom, Irony, Metaphor, Metonymy, Onomatopeia, Paradox, Personification, Simile, Symbolism.
and Synecdoche. And this study is also conducted to analyze the social meanings, the symbolism meanings and the psychological meanings in novel.

In collecting the data, the instrument that is used is a human instrument. It means that the researcher measures and analyzes the data directly. The researcher is able to be an active reader to find out the figurative language in every chapter. The researcher as human instrument makes a table to make the analysis easier. The table aims to classify the figurative language. It consists of number, sentence, code and meaning. The researcher gives some codes in the data to make it easier. The codes are alliteration (ALT), allusion (ALL), assonance (ASN), hyperbole (HYP), idiom (IDI), irony (IRO), metaphor (MTP), metonymy (MTN), onomatopeia (ONO), paradox (PAR), personification (PER), simile (SIM), symbolism (SYM) and synecdoche (SND).

Then the researcher analyzes the social meanings, the symbolism meanings and the psychological meanings in novel. Some steps that are done in collecting the data are reading the novel carefully, selecting and underlining the figurative language that found in every sentence, giving codes to each figurative language to classify them in their types in every chapter, analyzing the meaning of the figurative language and analyzing the social meanings, symbolism meanings and psychological meanings in the figurative language that commonly used by the author in the novel.

**FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

As it has been mentioned before, figurative language is the important part in literature because it gives some colours in literature work. In analyzing the figurative language in Mark Twain’s novel, there are 100 sentences found in the novel that consist of the figurative language in almost every chapter.

In analyzing the figurative language that found in the novel, the sum of Simile is more than others. The author used Simile more than Metaphor to make the description of comparison more emphatic or vivid. The author used Simile to help to communicate a specific message more effectively and to place emphasis on a particular point. Beside that, the author used it to enhance a description of something in order to enable it to have more powerful effect on the reader.

Hyperbole also has high sum in the novel. The author used Hyperbole to make the sentence has an exaggeration effect so the reader feels like they are involved in the story. The literal interpretation of a hyperbole could not actually be true, but Mark Twain used it to give the exaggeration that served to emphasize a certain point. Same with Simile, the author used it to give some humor in the novel even though it is most commonly used for emphasis.

The last figurative language that also has high sum is idiom. Mark Twain used idiom to make the point using a word that is familiar to himself and the readers. But the idiom’s use should be infrequent, well-placed and perfect to the specific occasion. The author
composse each kind of figurative language very well so that the story that he wrote is very interesting and enjoyable.

The figurative language that has the highest sum in the social meaning is Simile because the author used this kind of figurative language to deliver the social meaning of the novel. This novel mostly tells about the social problems that happened in that time. So, Mark Twain as the author wanted to share his comments and his point of view about them by writing this novel.

The figurative language that has the highest sum in the symbolism meaning is Simile because the author delivered some symbols in the comparison of two things in Simile. Every single word or idioms in Simile were symbolized or represented something or someone. Based on the findings of the figurative language, the author mostly used Simile in his novel. He liked to compare two things in order to deliver some messages.

The figurative language that has the highest sum in the psychological meaning is also Simile. The psychological meaning in this novel was about the characters’ mind, thought and personality. That’s why the researcher found many psychological meaning in this novel. Due to the researcher’s opinion, the author used Simile to make the characters became alive by comparing them with another thing. The author used Simile than Metaphor because the author wanted to make an exact comparison between two things.

CONCLUSION

Many sentences used in the novel uses figurative language. In 43 chapters of the novel, there are 100 sentences that consist of figurative language. The result shows that the figuratives language that are mostly used are Simile, Hyperbole and Idiom. The social meaning, the symbolism meaning and the psychological meaning are also mostly found in Simile, Hyperbole and Idiom. It is concluded concluded that the author of this novel used Simile, Hyperbole and Idiom more than others to give powerful effect to the story. In relation to teaching, the teacher can use this novel to learn figurative languages, especially at Prose Subject and Poetry subject.

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