Imagery analysis in Lang Leav`s six selected poems

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Abstract

This research was intended to analyze the imagery types in six selected poems by Lang Leav. The six selected poems of Lang Leav were as follows: "A Toast, The Wanderer, Circus Town, Swan Song, First Love, and A Time Capsule". The method used in this research was a descriptive qualitative method to find out what types of imagery that was used in six selected poems by Lang Leav. Then, the researcher collected the data from the six selected poems mentioned. The technique of analyzing data was implemented by reading the poem and using the structural approach to find out the types of the imagery that are used in poems "A Toast, The Wanderer, Circus Town, Swan Song, First Love, and A Time Capsule". Through this research on imagery analysis in six selected poems by Lang Leav, the researcher had found four types of imagery. The result of the research found 10 (40%) words of visual imagery, 4 (16%) words of auditory imagery, 4 (16%) words of kinesthetic imagery, and 7 (28%) words of organic imagery. The conclusion was that the most dominant type of imagery used in the six selected poems by Lang Leav was visual imagery.

Keywords: Imagery; Lang Leav; Poem.

Introduction,

Poetry is one of literary works in which the author expresses his or her imaginative knowledge of reality through the use of meaning, sound, and rhythmic language choices to elicit an emotional reaction. Poetry, according to Cuddon in Sulaiman (2017) is a language harmony in which words are read in the pattern with rhythm and tempo. On the other hand, George and Sunitha (2021) claimed that poetry is the language of human feelings and emotions. Rosmaidar and Wijayanti (2012) also added that poetry is an expression of what is thought and felt, and poetry is frequently expressed through our imagination. The important thing is that an image is a tool that a poet can use to express his or her intention or feeling. As a result, understanding the poem`s core meaning requires the use of images.

A good image immerses the reader in the scene. Suyudi (2021) defined an image as a concrete representation of a sense impression, feeling, or idea, and an image is an appeal to one or more of our senses. Images can be visual (something seen), auditory (something heard), tactile (something felt), olfactory (something smelled), or gustatory (something tasted) (Sulaiman, 2017; Levi, 2020). Arbi also (2018) stated that imagery includes seven type of imagery; 1) visual (sight), 2) auditory (sound), 3) tactile (touch), 4) olfactory (smell), 5) gustatory (taste), 6) kinesthetic (movement), and 7) organic (internal sensation). In addition, Imagery words are sometimes used by poems to refer to a pattern of

linked aspects in it (Rosu, 2016; Leveen, 2019). Therefore, imagery might be viewed as a requirement for the reader to be able to see, hear, smell, taste, and touch what is represented in the poems.

Furthermore, imagery is the heart of literature, which allows the readers to immerse themselves in the poem. It has a human feel to it, and it also gives the reader a better understanding of the poem`s meaning (Khairi, 2020; Darlie & Samanik, 2021). The idea of the poem is easier to be identified inside imagery since it employs words to depict our sense, which is one of the reasons why the reader remember and enjoy the poems (Farasati & Kazzazi, 2016; Gates, 2021).Without imagery, idea in poetry could be the difficult part to be understood and make the readers confused (Andini, 2016; Chukwueloka, 2021)). Thus, using good imagery will help the readers be able to interpret the poetry easily.

In this research, the researcher did the analysis in six selected poems by Lang Leav in her book "Love and Misadventure". Lang Leav is an internationally bestselling New Zealand novelist and poet. She had written many books and her first book is "Love and Misadventure" book. The book is about a collection of poems that contains friendship, love, fear and jealousy, moments of joy and happiness that is delivered by the simple language style.

From the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the type of imagery that is used in six selected poems by Lang Leav entitled "**Imagery Analysis in Lang Leav`s Six Selected Poems".**

Research Methodology,

The design of this research was a descriptive qualitative method and the data in this study were described descriptively. According to Donald (2010, p.440), descriptive method is a used to describe events as they naturally occur. Creswell (2014) added that qualitative research focuses on interpretation of phenomena in their natural settings to make sense in terms of the meanings people bring to these settings. Hence, descriptive qualitative research involves collecting information about personal experiences, introspection, life story, interviews, observations, historical, interactions and visual text which are significant moments and meaningful in peoples' lives.

In this case, the researcher conducted and collected the data using six selected poems by Lang Leav in her book"Love and Misadventure". The poems were as follows: A Toast, The Wanderer, Circus Town, Swan Song, First Love, and A Time Capsule. So, by using a descriptive qualitative method, the researcher wanted to figure out the imagery type that was used in Lang Leav's six selected poems.

Additionally, the researcher used some steps mentioned by Mile and Huberman (2014) to analyze imagery in Lang Leav's poems. It was started by identifying the data by reading the poems several times. Second step was the coding process in which the researcher coded the words one by one which was considered as one of the imagery types. Next, the researcher classified the data into each of their types and tabulated them to make the data easy to read. Then, the researcher calculated the

number of each type of imagery into percentages. Last step was the conclusion; the researcher interpreted the result to answer the research question in this research.

Findings and Discussion,

Findings

The researcher found 4 types of imagery in six selected poems by Lang Leav in "Love and Misadventure" book. The imagery found in the poems consists of visual (sight) type 40%, auditory (sound) 16%, and kinesthetic (movement) 16%, and kinesthetic (movement) 28%. Moreover, the table also showed that the most type of imagery used in six selected poems by lang leav in "love and miserable book" was the visual imagery with the total of percentage 40%. The occurrence of imagery in six selected poems by Lang Leav is presented in table 1.

Table 1: Recapitulation of imagery type found in six selected poem by Lang Leav

Type of Imagery	Frequency	Percentage
Visual (Sight)	10	40%
Auditory (Sound)	4	16%
Tactile (Touch)	0	0%
Olfactory (Smell)	0	0%
Gustatory (Taste)	0	0%
Kinesthetic (Movement)	4	16%
Organic (Internal Sensation)	7	28%

Discussion

Based on the result above, the researcher found some type of imagery used in six selected poems by Lang Leav in her book "Love and Misadventure". Imagery is used to create an imagination for the reader. Therefore, the reader is not only reading the poems, but they also feel the sensation of what the author as the speaker delivers through the poem itself.

Visual Imagery

Based on the data which had been collected, visual imagery was the type of imagery that was mostly used in six selected poems by Lang Leav with the total 10 frequencies (40%). However, the visual imagery was not found in the first and the sixth poems, which mean the rest of poems, have the visual imagery. For instance, in the second poem "The wanderer", the speaker is Lang Leav, and she wants the reader to be able to imagine something into shape based on the words described through her poems.

In the third stanza:

Line 8 – A *star* when dimmed

Line 11 – A *candle* blown

In these lines, the speaker tells about *a star when dimmed,* which means the star which is usually seen by the reader in the sky when it's dark. According to Khairi (2020) visual imagery is imagery that appeals to the sense of sight by describing something the speaker of the poem sees. Thus, by using this imagery, the speaker wants the reader to imagine the situation by describing something into their imagination.

Auditory Imagery

Poets can also describe sounds that are heard, which is called auditory imagery. Auditory Imagery is defined as the mental representation of any sound and its vitality in imagining situations (Arbi, 2018; Khairi, 2020). It can be defined as language that represents a sound or sounds (Suyudi, 2021). Based on the results, there are four (16%) words found which is considered as auditory imagery. For instance, the fifth poem "First Love" has an example of auditory imagery.
In the first stanza:

Line 4 – and *singing* bird

The speaker tells how the *singing bird sings* before she fell in love. She explained how happy she is when she feels in love with. She used the singing bird to describe her happiness and her feelings as well.

Kinesthetic Imagery

Kinesthetic imagery represents something that is not moving or, in general, a motion picture. In addition, kinesthetic imagery is a sense impression that depicts movement on people, animals, and objects using poetic imagery in a given situation (Arbi, 2018; Khairi, 2020; Suyudi, 2021). It also refers to a sense of movement. Based on the finding, there are four (16%) words which were used in the six selected poems by Lang Leav in her book "Love and Misadventure". For example is the fourth poem "Swan Song".
In the first stanza:

Line 1 – Her heart is *played*

Like in the visual imagery discussion above, in this line, the speaker tells about her feeling that her heart is *played*. However, the word *played* was considered as kinesthetic imagery because the word has the movement which explains that something has already changed.

Organic Imagery

In the result found that there are seven (28%) words as thought as this type of imagery. It refers to the poem`s ability to communicate internal sensation such as drowsy as well as internal emotions such as brave, and hate. For example, in the first poem "A Toast" has two examples of this imagery type.

In the first stanza:

  Line 2 – in *fear* and *faith*

In the second stanza:

  Line 5 – to love is a *dare*

  In these two lines, the speaker wants the reader to catch the sensation through organic type of imagery. Khairi (2020) interpreted that organic imagery is a mental sensation that represents an internal organic feeling such as hungry, thirsty, drowsy, or even the emotion namely love, despair, or fear. So, the reader is not only able to imagine the form such as the visual imagery, but the feeling in the internal sensation as well.

Conclusion and Suggestion

  From the data which had been analyzed, the researcher found that there are four types of imagery used in six selected poems by Lang Leav in "love and misadventure" book. They are Visual Imagery, Auditory Imagery, Kinesthetic Imagery, and Organic Imagery. The dominant type of imagery that appears in six selected poems was visual imagery type which the frequency is 10 with the highest percentage 40%. The researcher suggests to the other researchers to conduct an ongoing deep research in accordance with literature, especially in a poem which has something to do with this research topic in order to make a better one.

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