Analyzing The Figure Of Speech Found In 5 Poems By Famous Poets

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to investigate the types of figure of speech in poems and to find out what figures of speech are commonly used in poems. This research used qualitative research method and descriptive research design. Data were taken from 5 poems from 5 different famous poets. The poems used in this research are Death, be not proud by John Donne, A Farewell by William Wordsworth, Sonnet 18 by William Shakespeare, The road not taken by Robert Frost, and On his blindness by John Milton. It was found that the types of figure of speech used in the poems in this study amounted to 8 types of figure of speech. They are metaphor, personification, paradox, synedoche, simile, symbol, repetition, and parallelism. The details of the eight figure of speech found in these poems are metaphor (8 data or 27,59%), personification (10 data or 34,49%), paradox (2 data or 6,90%), synedoche (1 data or 3,44%), simile (1 data or 3,44%), symbol (2 data or 6,90%), repetition (2 data or 6,90%), and parallelism (3 data or 10,34%). In addition, this study also examines the figure of speech that is most often used in the five poems that have been studied in this research. The most frequently used figure of speech is personification and the least used figure of speech are synecdoche and simile.

Keywords: figure of speech; poems, poets

Introduction,

Lately, language has become a very important tool in communication. As stated by Peter, Benjamin, and Nicholas (2020) that language is a medium that can be used as a means of communicating with various functions. Through language, people can express opinions and feelings to understand each other. People can express and convey what they feel through a language. In this case, language can be divided into 2 forms, the first is spoken and the second is written. Submission of language through writing can be seen from various kinds of literary works, one of which is a poem.

A poem is one of the most widely used literary works to express a writer's feelings. Many emotions and feelings can be seen by readers when reading a literary work in the form of a poem. This of course cannot be separated from the way the author conveys his feelings in the written literary work. The method of delivery used by the author in writing a poem is the main attraction for the reader. One of them is the selection of language style used by the author in writing his/her poetry. Language style makes a poem more beautiful and interesting to read. A style of language can make a poem has a more beautiful aesthetic value. And one part of the style of language that is most often used by writers is figure of speech. As stated by Fauzi, Sundari and Fauzia (2018) that figure of speech is part of language style.

The figure of speech in a poem is the soul and spirit of literature that can add variety, beauty, taste and various colors and patterns to a piece of writing (Derakhshesh, 2015). Derakhshesh (2015) even adds that figure of speech in a poem can be considered as a spice in a dish. The use of figure of speech in a poem can be an attraction in itself for the readers. The figure of speech used in a poem also has many kinds. According to Irman, Prastowo and Nurdin (2008), figure of speech can be

grouped into 4 parts, namely comparative figure of speech, satire figure of speech, figure of speech of opposition, and figure of speech affirmation.

Several researchers have studied figure of speech in poetry with different objects. Asriyanti (2008) has conducted research in analyzing the figure of speech used in the poems by T.S Eliot and Emily Dickinson. Efendi (2010) has examined the figure of speech in the poems by John Donne. Then, Windyaswari (2018) also conducted research by analyzing the figure of speech found in Emily Dickinson's poetry. Furthermore, Sihite (2018) analyzes the figure of speech contained in the poem by Robert Frost. Finally, Zendrato (2021) conducted a study by analyzing poetry by William Swordworth. Some of these researchers focus on researching and analyzing figure of speech in poems written by the same author. Then, the researchers analyzed the function of the figure of speech they found in the poems.

From the explanation above, researchers can still find gaps in this study and previous research. In this study, the researcher analyzed the figure of speech used in 5 poems from 5 authors. Next, the researcher will find out the most used figure of speech and the least used figure of speech in the poems.

Research Methodology,

The research method that will be used in this study is a qualitative method. Qualitative research emphasizes investigative models that provide an in-depth understanding of complex issues and focuses on understanding the narratives and observations obtained from research results (Gonzales and Brown, 2008). Zendrato (2021) asserts that qualitative research focuses on understanding social phenomena and provides rich verbal descriptions of settings, situations and participants. There are several purposes of qualitative research, for example, for description, for explanation, for reporting, for creation of key concepts, as well as for theory generation and testing (Cohen, Manion, and Morrison, 2018). The research design that will be used in this study is descriptive qualitative design. This study chose to use a qualitative method because the data analyzed was described descriptively. The data analyzed in the form of figure of speech from several poems by famous poets. Data taken from five poems by 5 authors, they are Death, be not proud by John Donne, A farewell by William Wordsworth, Sonnet 18 by William Shakespeare, The road not taken by Robert Frost, and On His Blindness by John Milton.

The data collection method in this research is the observation method. The observation method was applied in this study by carefully observing the figure of speech used in five poems from five different authors. Qualitative observation is when the researcher makes field notes about the behavior and activities of individuals at the research site (Creswell, 2014). The data collected and used in this study is secondary data because because the data used in this study comes from the poems that have been written and the data using observation methods and note-taking techniques. In collecting data, the first step is to read the entire contents of the poems. Then, all types of figure of speech found in the poems are underlined and recorded and then taken as data for analysis. After that, the type of figure of speech obtained was classified based on the type of translation technique proposed by Irman, Prastowo, and Nurdin (2008). After the data is identified and classified, the data will be processed using statistical formulas to determine the type of figure of speech found in the poems in percentage form.

Finding And Discussion
Finding

In this session, the researcher explained the types of figure of speech found in the poems studied. In addition, the researcher also describes the most dominant type of figure of speech found in the poems studied in this study. The poems used in this study are poems from several well-known

poets such as John Donne, William Wordsworth, William Shakespeare, Robert Frost, and John Milton. This study uses the theory of Irman, Prastowo, and Nurdin (2008) in determining the types of figure of speech found in poetry. According to Irman, Prastowo, and Nurdin (2008), figure of speech is divided into four groups, namely comparative figure of speech, oppositional figure of speech, satire figure of speech, and affirmation figure of speech. Then, the four groups of figure of speech are further divided into several parts based on the groups earlier. Comparative figure of speech consists of simile, metaphor, personification, allegory, and symbol. Oppositional figure of speech consists of repetition, climax, and rhetorical. Satitre figure of speech consist of irony. Last, afirmation figure of speech consists of paradox, hyperbole, and litotes.

After analyzing the data from 5 poems from 5 different authors, the results obtained are then described by calculating the category of figure of speech for each poem and the percentage of the number. In this research, the researcher present data in the form of the frequency of figures of speech and the percentage of figures of speech found in the 5 poems from 5 different authors. For this reason, the first step taken by the researcher was to identify the existing figure of speech in the 5 poems. Then, from the data that has been obtained, it will be classified into the category of figure of speech based on Irman, Prastowo, and Nurdin (2008). After that, the researcher calculated the number of frequencies of figure of speech based on the types of figure of speech in the poems. The last step, the researcher calculates the frequency of figure of speech found in poems by using the percentage calculation formula from Bungin (2005). The percentage of types of speech figure made based on 5 poems that have been researched. The researcher uses the following formula to get the percentage of figure of speech found in poems:

Table 1. The Percentage of Figure of Speech

No	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Methapor	8	27,59%
2.	Personification	10	34,49%
3.	Paradox	2	6,90%
4.	Synedoche	1	3,44%
5.	Simile	1	3,44%
6.	Symbol	2	6,90%
7.	Repetition	2	6,90%
8.	Parallelism	3	10,34%
Total		**29**	**100%**
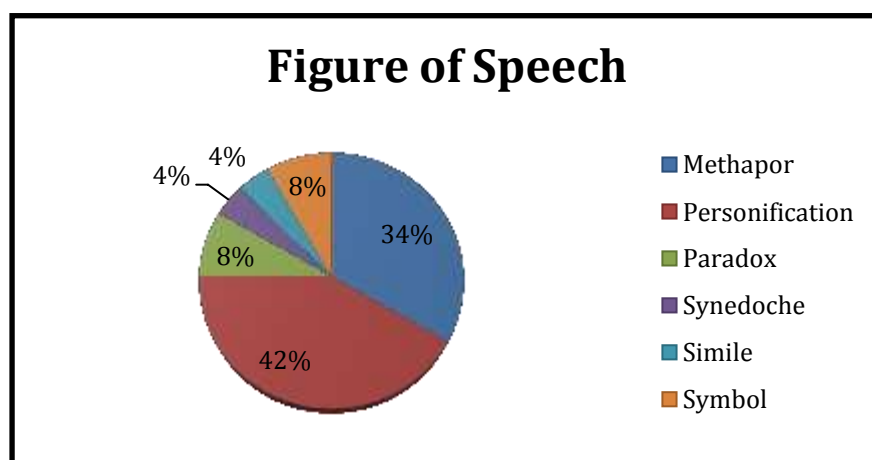
From the table above, we can see that the categories of figure of speech found in this research are divided into eight types. The eight types are metaphor (8 occurrences or 27,59%), personification (10 occurences or 34,39%), paradox (2 occurrences or 6,90%), synedoche (1 occurrence or 3,44%), simile (1 occurrence or 3,44%), symbol (2 occurrncse or 6,90%), repetition (2 occurrencse or 6,90%), and parallelism (3 occurences or 10,34%). From the data that has been obtained, it is known that the most frequently used figure of speech in poems is Personification with 10 occurences or 34,49%. While the least used figure of speech in poems are synedoche and simile with a total of 1 occurence or 3,44%. The analysis and description of translation techniques on the data above are as follows:

1. **Metaphor**

   Zendrato (2021) defines metaphor as a figure of speech that compares things that are basically different. Metaphor has the function of creating a connection in the mind between two units and usually emphasizes the similarities that exist in these units (Zendrato, 2021). Derakhshesh (2015) adds that metaphor can imply a comparison that exists between two seemingly different things by saying that one is the other. The metaphors found in the poems:

   From Death, not be proud by John Donne
   a. From rest and sleep, which but thy pictures be
   b. One short sleep past, we wake eternally
   c. And death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die

   In the poem above, there is a metaphorical figure of speech. In the poem above, there is a metaphorical figure of speech. The three examples above compare simple things like rest, sleep and death. At point a, the poet compares rest and sleep, where rest is a simple form of sleep. While in point b, the poet gives a lyric where when you rest for a moment, you will wake up forever. And at the last point, it is death itself that will disappear. Death compared to death itself.

   From A Farewell by William Wordsworth
   a. Thou for our sakes, though Nature's child indeed

   In this stanza, the poet compares 'Thou' with 'Nature's child', where the poet compares a person with a child of nature.

   From Sonneth 18 by William Shakepeare
   a. Shall I compare thee to a summer''s day?
   b. But thy eternal summer shall not fade

   In this stanza, the poet tries to compare someone with a summer day, besides that the poet also compares someone's beauty to something that is impermanent.

   From On his Blindness by John Milton
   a. Lodg''d with me useless, though my soul more bent
   b. To serve therewith my Maker, and present

   At this point, the poet tries to convey that it is useless to complain to the poet, because the poet himself feels that he himself is not an obedient servant to his creator.

2. **Personification**

   Personification figure of speech is an inanimate object or animal that is given human characteristics. It gives something nonhuman the qualities of a human being or it gives human qualities or abilities to abstract or intimate objects or it means the attribution of personal or character traits to inanimate objects or abstract ideas that make inanimate objects appear alive (Asriyati, 2008). The personification found in the poems:

From Death, not be proud:
    a.   Death, be not proud, though some have called thee

The poet seems to make death have a proud nature, which only humans have. Even the poet adds some verbs such as call, which is usually only done in humans.

From A Farewell by William Wordsworth
    a.   We leave you here in solitude to dwell
    b.   With these our latest gifts of tender thought
    c.   Thou, like the morning, in thy saffron coat
    d.   Of which I sang one song that will not die

From Sonnet 18 by William Shakepeare:
    a.   Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May
    b.   Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines

From The Road not taken by Robert Frost:
    a.   Because it was grassy and wanted wear

From On his Blindness by John Milton
    a.   I fondly ask. But Patience, to prevent
    b.   That murmur, soon replies: "God doth not need

For some of the poems above, the poet also gives the same treatment to some inanimate objects that have human-like characteristics. Like a snippet of poetry that states that sing a song that will not die. However, only living things can die. Literally, songs can never die because songs have no life.

3. **Paradox**

    Zaimar (2002) defines paradox as an opinion or argument that is contrary to public opinion, can be considered strange or extraordinary. Then, he added that this figure of speech is a proposition that is wrong but also true at the same time. The paradox found in the poems:
    From On his Blindness by John Milton
    a.   They also serve who only stand and wait

    In this poem, the use of this figure of speech like a poet emphasizes the patience that people have. Which even still serves those who even just wait and be silent.

4. **Synecdoche**

    Synecdoche is a figurative language that uses part of something to express the whole or uses the whole to express part of something (Dewi, 2019). Therefore, this figure of speech is divided into 2, pras prototo and totem proparte. The synecdoche found in the poems:
    From Death, not be proud:
    a.   Rest of their bones, and soul's delivery

    This piece of poetry has the intention of resting forever. Not only resting the bones, but all members of the body. In other words, death.

5. **Simile**

    Simpson (2011) states that simile is a figure of speech that makes an explicit connection between two concepts by using the conjunction 'like' and „as‟ (as cited in Zedrato, 2021). Simile

figure of speech is almost the same as metaphorical figure of speech, except that metaphorical figure of speech does not use conjunctions as used by simile figure of speech. The simile found in the poems:

From A farewell by William Wordsworth

a. Glittered at evening like a starry sky

For this piece of poetry, it can be seen that there is the word 'like' which is part of the simile. For his own understanding, this piece of poetry has the meaning of having a very bright light like the night sky filled with stars.

6. Symbol

Symbolic figure of speech is a figure of speech that is used to describe an intention by using symbols or symbols to describe something. The symbols used are usually symbols that are already known to the general public (Sulistianingrum, 2016). The symbol found in the poems:

From Sonnet 18:

a. Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines

From The Road not taken by Robert Frost:

a. Two roads diverged in a yellow wood

The symbols in this piece of poetry are 'the eye' which means a sun, and 'roads' which is a symbol of choice.

7. Repetition

Sulistyaningrum (2016) defines repetition figure of speech as a figure of speech about the repetition of words, phrases, or parts of sentences that are considered important to give emphasis. The repetition found in the poems:

From Sonnet 18:

a. Thou art more lovely and more temperate
b. And every fair from fair sometime declines

The repetitions found in the above passage are 'more' and 'fair'. These words are found to be used by the poet more than once.

8. Parallelism

Tarigan (2013) defines parallelism as a style of language that seeks to achieve parallels in the use of words or phrases that occupy the same function in the same grammatical form (quoted in Dewi, 2019). The parallelism found in the poems:

From The Road not Taken by Robert Frost

a. And sorry I could not travel both
b. And be one traveler, long I stood
c. And looked down one as far as I could

The parallelism used in this piece of poetry is 'and'. The parallelism used in this piece of poetry is 'and'.

Conclusion

Poetry is a collection of beautiful words that sometimes cannot be said by someone. One of the things that makes poetry look more interesting is figure of speech. Majas is able to make a poem read more interesting. The use of figure of speech in poetry makes readers feel more challenged. The use of figure of speech can even be a special attraction for readers to enjoy a poem. In this study,

figure of speech is divided into four units. Then the four units were further divided into several subunits. The results of this study are found that there are metaphors (8 occurrences or 27.59%), personification (10 occurrences or 34.39%), paradoxes (2 occurrences or 6.90%), synedoche (1 occurrences or 3.44 %), simile (1 occurrence or 3.44%), symbols (2 occurrences or 6.90%), repetition (2 occurrences or 6.90%), and parallelism (3 occurrences or 10.34%). From the data that has been obtained, it is known that the figure of speech that is most often used in poetry is Personification with 10 occurrences or 34.49%. Meanwhile, the least used figure of speech in poetry is sinedoke and simile with 1 occurrence or 3.44%.

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