AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE STYLE USED IN *FRIENDS* SEASON 8 SCRIPT

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ABSTRACT

Riyuda, Muhammad. (2023). An Analysis of Figurative Language and Language Style Used in *Friends* Season 8 Script. Thesis. Padang: English Department. Faculty of Language and Arts. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Figurative language is a language that has non-literal meaning or other meaning. This study aims to find out the type of figurative language and the contextual meaning used in *Friends* season 8 script and the types of language style used in figurative language in *Friends* season 8 script. This study uses several theories to provide its analysis. Perrine's theory was used to analyze the type of figurative language, Lyons's theory was used to analyze the contextual meaning of the figurative language, and Joos's theory was used to analyze the type of language style from the utterance of the figurative language. A qualitative method was used in this study to analyze the data. There are 54 utterances of figurative language found in *Friends* season 8 script. There were eight metaphors, 14 similes, eight apostrophes, 13 hyperboles, two metonymy, two irony, five personifications, and two understatements. The contextual meaning of the figurative language shows the real or hidden meaning of what the character said. Then, the language style from the 54 utterances of figurative language was one consultative style, 49 casual styles, and four intimate styles. The most dominant figurative language used in *Friends'* season 8 script was simile, and the language style was casual.

Key words: Figurative Language, Contextual meaning, Language style, *Friends*

ABSTRAK

Riyuda, Muhammad. (2023). An Analysis of Figurative Language and Language Style Used in *Friends* Season 8 Script. Thesis. Padang: English Department. Faculty of Language and Arts. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Bahasa kiasan adalah bahasa yang memiliki makna non-literal atau makna lain. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui jenis bahasa kiasan dan makna kontekstual yang digunakan dalam naskah *Friends* season 8 dan jenis gaya bahasa yang digunakan dalam bahasa kiasan dalam naskah *Friends* season 8. Penelitian ini menggunakan beberapa teori untuk memberikan analisisnya. Teori Perrine digunakan untuk menganalisis jenis bahasa kiasan, teori Lyons digunakan untuk menganalisis makna kontekstual dari bahasa kiasan, dan teori Joos digunakan untuk menganalisis jenis gaya bahasa dari ujaran bahasa kiasan. Metode kualitatif digunakan dalam penelitian ini untuk menganalisis data. Terdapat 54 ujaran bahasa kiasan yang ditemukan dalam naskah *Friends* season 8. Terdapat delapan metafora, 14 simile, delapan apostrof, 13 hiperbola, dua metonimia, dua ironi, lima personifikasi, dan dua pernyataan yang meremehkan. Makna kontekstual dari bahasa kiasan tersebut menunjukkan makna sebenarnya atau makna tersembunyi dari apa yang dikatakan oleh karakter. Kemudian, gaya bahasa dari 54 ujaran bahasa kiasan tersebut adalah satu gaya konsultatif, 49 gaya santai, dan empat gaya akrab. Bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan digunakan dalam naskah Friends season 8 adalah simile, dan gaya bahasanya adalah gaya bahasa kasual.

Kata Kunci: Bahasa Kiasan, Makna Kontekstual, Gaya Bahasa, *Friends.*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Language is a tool that everyone uses to communicate. Every word or sentence people used has its meaning. One word could have two or more meanings based on the context. Some of the words or sentences people do not know or misinterpret the meaning of what they try to interpret. In Linguistics, Semantics is one of the linguistic branches that study the meaning of words and sentences. According to Griffiths (2006), semantics is the study of words and phrases and their meaning, unlike pragmatics, which examines how language and its environments interact. Semantics is to provide unambiguous explanations for phrases and words that eliminate any ambiguity that might lead readers to believe a term has several meanings.

In everyday conversation or in literary works, movies, and TV shows, often using figurative language. The purpose of figurative language is to make it more fun or imaginary. Figurative language is part of semantics, a way of conveying meaning that does not rely on a term's actual or true meaning. It uses everyday language to state something without actually saying it. According to Perrine (1977), Figurative language, sometimes known as figures of speech, is a technique for giving words new meanings. Figurative language is often used, but some people need to learn the meaning of that word because the word has a non-literal meaning. For example, “My blood keeps flowing like a river”. That statement uses hyperbole to make it more exaggerated by describing the situation even though it’s not flowing like a river.

We can know the meaning of the figurative language utterance based on the context. The meaning of a statement, phrase, or word is determined by its context, known as contextual meaning. According to Lyons (1984), contextual meaning is the meaning of a word in light of the contexts where it is spoken. Various contexts may give a phrase a variety of meanings. For example, “The rain stops when you smile”, the word “rain” refers to a person who is crying but stops because of a smile.

The usage of figurative language is heavily influenced by the context of communication. The usage of certain figures of speech may be encouraged or discouraged in different circumstances, such as official or casual ones. People tend to talk differently according to the situation or to whom they talk. When we speak to a professor or friend, we often use words that suit them. It is called Language Style. According to Meyerohff (2006), Social behaviour, attitude, and environment are all described by language style. The circumstances and addresses impact the language selection (Holmes, 2008). Figurative is often used in any situation or condition. The way that each style communicates implies that there may be differences in the frequency and kind of metaphorical language. Figurative language usage or avoidance depends on a number of criteria, including formality, comfort level, and the particular communication objectives of each style. The usage of figurative language and the general linguistic style are greatly influenced by the context of the conversation. This can be a gap because we know most figurative language used in what situation.

Many people watch video streaming lately. According to App Annie in *State of Mobile 2022*, Indonesians became the world's top streamers of video in 2021, with a

140% rise in total time from 2019 to 2021. In movies or series that everyone watchs often found any type of figurative language. In these TV shows, we can hear various kinds of figurative language used when speaking. Many kinds of TV shows add figurative language to their dialogue. By adding figurative language in the movie or series, some of the audience often misinterpret the meaning of it.

From of all movies or series that have been aired, “Friends” is one of America's most popular television series. It aired on NBC for ten seasons from 1995 to 2004 and is currently available in broadcast on a few additional stations in the US and internationally. Seasons 8 to 10 is the recent season aired. Season 8 aired in 2001-2002, season 9 aired in 2002-2003, season 10 aired in 2003-2004. According to Watch Mojo, season 8 is the most popular of these three seasons. “Friends” is one of the TV shows that often use figurative language to make it more fun and imaginary and sometimes make people laugh.

In previous studies, many researchers analyze figurative language in literary works such as poems, novels, or songs like Analysis of Figurative Language in Western song on Tiktok Viral by Jumaiti (2022) and An Analysis of Figurative Language in Songs Lyric “One” Album by Maher Zain by Ardalinda (2022). Some studies analyze movies or TV shows but less than poems, novels or songs. Many of them analyze the figurative language type and focus on which one is the most used. In this study, the researcher was interested in analyzing the type of figurative language in TV shows especially genre sitcom, is it often using figurative language or not. The researcher wants to analyze figurative language used in “Friends” season 8 script and the meaning

according to contextual meaning. To set it apart, this study will examine the language styles used in figurative language. This is to identify the predominant figurative language in each language style. This is because some language styles may employ figurative language more often than others.

1.2 Focus of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher can identify the research's focus. “Friends” is a famous TV series that uses figurative language in their dialogue. Some people do not know what type of figurative language and its meaning. Therefore, the researcher will analyze the figurative language used in “Friends” and the contextual meaning of the types of figurative language found in “Friends”. For the novelty, the researcher also analyzes the language style from the data of figurative language found in “Friends” to know which language style is often used when people use figurative language.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the focus above, the researcher limits the research to only focus on figurative language and language style. This research topic is to analyze the type of figurative language and language style used in “Friends”. The researcher will use Perrine’s (1977) theory for the types of figurative language. Besides that, the researcher will analyze the contextual meaning of the type of figurative language found in “Friends” using Lyon’s (1984) theory and also analyze the type of language style from the data of figurative language found in “Friends” using Joos’s (1967) theory. “Friends” has ten seasons, but the researcher only used the script “Friends” season 8,

which contains 24 Episodes.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation above, Formulation of the problem of this research is "What are types of figurative language and its contextual meaning and also type of language style of the data used in "Friends" Season 8?"

1.5 Research Question

Based on the formulation above, the research questions of this researcher are:

1. What are types of figurative language commonly used in "Friends" season 8?
2. What is the contextual meaning figurative language found in "Friends" season 8?
3. What are types of language style from the types of figurative language found in "Friends" season 8?

1.6 Purpose of the research

Based on the research question above, the purposes of the research are:

1. To find out types of figurative language commonly used in "Friends" season 8
2. To find out the contextual meaning of the types of figurative language commonly used in "Friends Season 8
3. To find out types of language style from the types of figurative language found in "Friends" season 8

1.7 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical

This research can be reference for student or other researcher about figurative language and language style. This research expects to boost up student knowledge about figurative language and language style.

2. Practical

This research takes the topic of the problem that is figurative language. In everyday situations, many used figurative languages are used in their daily conversations. Of all the examples of figurative language, the meaning is still unknown, there are even new words that we hear that are difficult to understand. That's why this research expects people know how to used figurative language and language style in everyday situation or to make any literary works.

1.8 Definition of the Key Terms

1. Semantics

   Semantics is the study of meaning in word or sentence.

2. Figurative language

   Figurative language describes the usage of words that are not used in their literal sense.

3. Contextual Meaning

   Contextual meaning is words and phrases that enclose any part of a speech and help define what it means

4. Language style

Language style is variation of communication used based to who we speak to.

5. *FRIENDS*

   Friend is American sitcom series created by David Crane and Marta Kauffman aired from September 1994 to May 2004