

**AN ANALYSIS FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE ON DIGITAL CHILDREN'S
POEMS AVAILABLE AT POETRYFOUNDATION.ORG WEBSITE**

THESIS

*Submitted As a Partial Fulfillment for Bachelor Degree Requirement of
English Department*



By :

INTAN NIRMALA SARI

20019079

Advisor:

Leni Marlina, S.S,M.A.

NIP. 19820718 200604004

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG
2025**

HALAMAN PERSETUJUAN SKRIPSI

Judul : An Analysis of Figurative Language On Digital Children's Poems
Available At Poetryfoundation.org Website

Nama : Intan Nirmala Sari

NIM/TM : 20019079/2020

Program Studi : Sastra Inggris

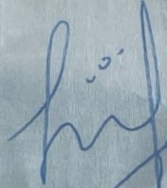
Departemen : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, 11 Februari 2025

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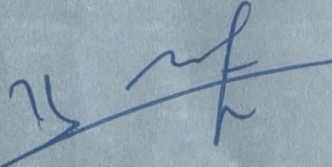


Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A

NIP.198207182006042004

Mengetahui,

Kepala Departemen Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris



Dr. Yuli Tiarina, S.Pd, M.Pd

NIP. 197707202002122002

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN LULUS UJIAN SKRIPSI

Dinyatakan lulus setelah dipertahankan di depan Tim Penguji skripsi Program Sastra Inggris
Departemen Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni Universitas Negeri Padang
dengan judul

**An Analysis of Figurative Language On Digital Children's Poems Available At
Poetryfoundation.org Website**

Nama : Intan Nirmala Sari
NIM/TM : 20019079/2020
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Departemen : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, 11 Februari 2025

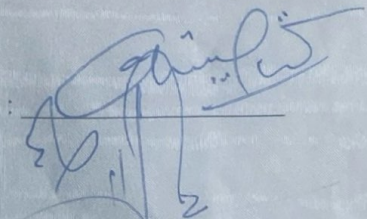
Tim Penguji

Tanda Tangan

1. Ketua : Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A



2. Sekretaris : Anisa Nurjanah, S.S., M.Hum



3. Anggota : Delvi Wahyuni, S.S., M.A





KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN TINGGI, SAINS,
DAN TEKNOLOGI

UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG

FAKULTAS BAHASA DAN SENI

DEPARTEMEN BAHASA DAN SASTRA INGGRIS

Alamat : Jl. Prof. Dr. Hamka Air Tawar, Padang 25131 Tlp. : (0751) 447347

Laman : <http://english.unp.ac.id>

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Nama : Intan Nirmala Sari
NIM/TM : 20019079/2020
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Departemen : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

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Diketahui oleh,
Kepala Departemen Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Dr. Yuli Tiarina, S.Pd, M.Pd.

NIP. 197707202002122002

Saya yang menyatakan,



Intan Nirmala Sari

NIM. 20019074

ABSTRACT

Intan, Nirmala. 2025. An Analysis of Figurative Language on Digital Children's Poems available at Poetryfoundation.org Website. Thesis. English and Literature Departement, Faculty of Language and Arts, Universitas Negeri Padang. Advisor: Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A

This study analyzes the use of figurative language in children's digital poetry available on the Poetryfoundation.org website. It aims to identify the types of figurative language used. Then classified based on Kenedy and Gioia's theory, as well as evaluating figurative language in creating aesthetic effects and supporting children's learning. Data was obtained from 25 digital poems containing five examples of figurative language. The results showed that there were 143 figurative language data grouped into three main categories: comparative (74 data), contradictory (30 data) and correlation (39 data). The most dominant type of figurative language is personification (19.4%), followed by metaphor (24.3%) and simile (8.33%). The findings show that figurative language plays a significant role in creating imaginative and emotional effects in children's poem.

Keywords: *Figurative language, Digital Children's Poems, Poetryfoundation.org, Linguistic Analysis, Children's Literature.*

ABSTRAK

Intan, Nirmala. 2025. An Analysis of Figurative Language on Digital Children's Poems available at Poetryfoundation.org Website. Thesis. English and Literature Departement, Faculty of Language and Arts, Universitas Negeri Padang. Advisor: Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A

Penelitian ini menganalisis penggunaan bahasa kiasan dalam puisi digital anak-anak yang tersedia di situs Poetryfoundation.org. Penelitian Ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan. Kemudian diklasifikasikan berdasarkan teori Kenedy dan Gioia, serta mengevaluasi bahasa kiasan dalam menciptakan efek estetis dan mendukung pembelajaran anak-anak. Data diperoleh dari 25 puisi digital yang mengandung lima contoh bahasa kiasan. Hasil penelitian menunjukan terdapat 143 data bahasa kiasan yang dikelompokkan ke dalam tiga kategori utama: komparatif (74 data), kontradiktif (30 data) dan korelasi (39 data). Jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan adalah personifikasi (19,4 %), diikuti oleh metafora (24,3%) dan simile (8,33%). Temuan ini menunjukan bahwa bahasa kiasan memainkan peran signifikan dalam menciptakan efek imajinatif dan emosional pada puisi anak-anak.

Keywords: *Figurative Language, Digital Children's Poems,*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah SWT, the most compassionate, the most Merciful.

May Allah SWT bless and Protect all of us

All gratitude is sincerely offered to Allah SWT, the Almighty, for innumerable blessings that facilitated the completion of this thesis, titled "An Analysis of Figurative Language on Digital Children's Poems Available at Poetryfoundation.org website. May peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad SAW, the guiding light for all humanity. The researcher recognizes that the efforts and assistance of many individuals greatly supported the completion of this thesis. With deep appreciation, the researcher extends heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to this achievement. This thesis is devoted to:

1. The researcher extends profound gratitude to the esteemed supervisor, Leni Marlina, S.S., M.A., for her exceptional guidance and support throughout the preparation of this thesis. Her recommendations and significant contributions have greatly facilitated the successful completion of this work.
2. The researcher extends heartfelt gratitude to Anisa Nurjanah, S.S., M.Hum., who served as the chair of the examination committee. Her extensive expertise has offered invaluable insights and assessments, greatly contributing to the improvement of this thesis.
3. The researcher expresses her deep appreciation to Delvi Wahyuni, S.S., M.A., as the deputy chief examiner as well as the chairperson of the undergraduate English language and literature study program.

who has provided valuable suggestions and evaluations that have strengthened this research.

4. The researcher sincerely thanks Dr. Yuli Triana, S.Pd., M.Pd., Head of the English Language and Literature Department, and all the departmental staff, for their unwavering support and valuable assistance.
5. The researcher conveys heartfelt appreciation to the English Language and Literature Department lecturers at Universitas Negeri Padang for their invaluable contributions to academic development and for fostering a supportive and enriching educational environment.
6. The researcher expresses her deepest gratitude to both parents, Darna and Zubir, and siblings, Putra Aprianto, Junaidi, and Yeti Davit, for providing financial support and moral support that always encourages.
7. The researcher would like to thank Melati Asri Yuri and Ellsy Ramadani, who always assisted and often treated the researcher when stressed and deprived.
8. The researcher would like to thank a special person Abi Dzar Ar-Rahman who always accompanies and also contributes both financially and time.

Padang, January
2025

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of The Study

Figurative language is a profound element in communication that serves to enrich expression, convey complex ideas, and elicit various forms of feelings. Figurative language is also a part of cultural uniqueness that can enhance interactions between people. In the world of language, there are many ways to convey deeper and more creative messages. One of the most effective ways is to use figurative language, which allows the writer or speaker to express ideas more imaginatively and figuratively. Figurative language transcends mere linguistic play; it significantly impacts individuals' emotions, perspectives, and behaviors. In literary compositions, figurative language effectively conveys ideas, concepts, responses, and feelings in a captivating manner, enhancing the work's distinctiveness. Using such language involves utilizing different linguistic elements to achieve specific effects that enhance the vibrancy of the literary creation (Grodzinsky & Amunts, 2006:5).

Figurative language serves as a means for writers to convey creative ideas, stimulate imagination, encourage thinking, and create a special sensory experience for the audience. Using figurative language, writers can convey concepts that captivate and expand the limits of the reader's imagination and intellectual abilities. In addition, figurative language is also able to evoke sensory responses from readers and listeners, so it is highly recommended to be introduced to children early on in the educational process.

According to Kenedy & Gogia (1995:995), figurative language

articulates life's nuances through the selection of words imbued with connotative implications, thus providing a sense of diversity and aesthetic appeal. The experience of writing literary works with elements such as rhythm, stanza lines, and figurative language can lead to issues in the present and the past Piscayanti et.al (2024). Figurative language is often employed to explore the deeper significance of words in literary works, thereby enriching each stanza's allure.

Comprehending figurative language enables learners to explore creating, interpreting, and crafting creative writing, such as poetry, with greater depth. Poem as one of the media is a literary work that is devoted to stimulating emotions in poetry and readers who read it. Creative writing is an ability that can be developed through artistic expression and creativity with language as a tool, which produces works of art such as scripts, poems, drama, or fiction (Marlina & Narius, 2020).

The researcher reviewed thirty articles and periodicals from the last five years, sorted them into various categories, and then classified them based on their emphasis on songs, advertisements, speeches, and poems. In these studies on figurative language in song lyrics, the songs analyzed span a wide range of genres. Villanova and Bram (2019) looked at songs in English textbooks, commonly including pop or folk genres for educational purposes. Ibrahim et al. (2019) focused on Eminem's rap, while Lubis (2019) analyzed pop-rock songs by Phil Collins. Dewi et al. (2020) explored pop ballad elements in "Lose You to Love Me," and Nursolihat and Kareviati (2020) studied the iconic Disney duet "A Whole New World." Hulu et al. (2021) reviewed the pop-R&B genre in Ariana Grande's Thank U, Next album, while Sari (2021) examined Westlife's pop ballads. Fajrin and Parmawati (2021) focused on pop in Bruno Mars's "Grenade," while Liao (2021) analyzed Taylor Swift's

country-pop style, and Amalia, Fitriasia, and Silviyanti (2021) examined Indonesian pop in Tulus's song. Asriadi and Irawan (2022) investigated Arctic Monkeys' alternative rock, while Kelbi and Marlina (2023) analyzed an Islamic song by Irfan Makki and Saif Adam. These studies demonstrate how figurative language appears across various musical genres, reflecting diverse techniques that artists use to convey emotion and meaning in their work. In essence, examining figurative language in song lyrics shows how artists use literary techniques to enrich meaning, heighten emotional resonance, and engage their audience. Each study reveals how figurative language enhances both the thematic and stylistic elements of songs, highlighting its crucial role in artistic expression.

Additionally, the study of figurative language in spoken discourse was explored through an analysis of Padang Express by Nurhaida and Marlina (2017). This was followed by a study by Susatyo and Wardhono (2019) that examined Hillary Clinton's speech. Furthermore, Handika et al., (2019) An examination of minor figurative language within stand-up comedy was undertaken. In total, four studies about speech analysis were evaluated in the research conducted by Sinurat et al.,(2021), which centers on a speech given by Joe Victory. The analysis of figurative speech encompasses the utilization of figurative language, including metaphors and various rhetorical devices, to express meaning and fulfill communicative objectives. Through an analytical framework, researchers can attain a more profound comprehension of the role that figurative language plays in oral discourse, facilitating the conveyance of intricate meanings.

The next aspect discussed is the critical analysis and interpretation of figurative language in the context of poetic works. Previous research on figurative language in poetry consists of seventeen studies. There are only three previous studies that focus

on children's poetry. There are Angelina and Marlina (2020) in Children's Poetry by Sylvia M. Vardell; Putri and Marlina (2022) in Digital Children's Poetry from the Poets.org website; Sitohang and Martina (2023) who focused on Children's Poetry with book sources from Karla Kukin. Overall, the analyses of figurative language in poetry reveal how poetry uses literary devices to enrich literature, creating layers of meaning that resonate with readers. Each study underscores the importance of these elements in enhancing the thematic and emotional impact of poetry, demonstrating the intricate relationship between language and literary expression.

Based on the previous studies, the researcher found that children's poetry is still a relatively unexplored field. Only three recent studies focused on children's literature were discovered. One digital source, poets.org, showed that hyperbole is commonly used in children's poems, with conceptual meanings being the most frequent. The findings suggest that figurative language, particularly hyperbole, significantly enhances children's poetry by stimulating their imagination and fostering a deeper connection with nature and their surroundings.

The researcher chose to study children's poems in digital formats as the focus of this research. This study aims to examine the use of figurative language in specific poems sourced from a children's poems website. Previous studies lacked detail on differences in figurative language across three specific categories: comparative, contradictory, and correlative. The research investigates the limited availability of digital children's poems and the analysis of figurative language in frequently undervalued literature. Literature is vital for fostering knowledge and understanding, but its significance is often overlooked by parents and educators. It is important to recognize that figurative language can be especially challenging for children because of its complexity

and unfamiliarity. This study aims to reveal that children's poems include rich, nonliteral meanings and nuances. Therefore, it serves as a key resource for enhancing comprehension and skill in figurative language, particularly in these poems.

This research mainly focuses on analyzing different types of figurative language found in certain poem collections available online. After this detailed analysis, the study looked at the various meanings in these poems and sorted them into three categories. The researcher used data from the website Poetry Foundation, as the main goal was to explore and explain the figurative language used in the selected poems. With these objectives, the researchers conducted a study titled "*Analysis of Figurative Language in Digital Children's Poems Available on Poetryfoundation.org*"

1.2. Identification of Research Problem

Figurative language is essential to the development and crafting of literary works like poems. Additionally, figurative language acts as a means to effectively convey the inherent beauty within these literary creations. A detailed review of existing scholarly work reveals that many studies explore the complexities of figurative language, highlighting its widespread presence in literary discussions. However, there is a specific emphasis on children's poems, where extensive analysis is performed to uncover the multiple layers of meaning in the chosen verses.

This area of research is particularly important due to the lack of thorough studies in this field. The primary goal of the researcher in this study is to highlight the importance of using figurative language in children's poems. This is considered crucial because figurative language is often employed in a selected set of poems. To build a strong basis for the study, the researcher aimed to outline the different types of figurative language typically found in each stanza of children's poems. As a result, a detailed

classification was conducted, leading to the identification of three distinct categories: comparative, contradictory, and correlative.

1.3. Limitation of Research Problem

The main goal of this research is to explore the intricacies of poems through figurative language, with a particular emphasis on enhancing reader comprehension, especially for those interested in children's poems. The study aims to foster a deep appreciation for the poems featured on *Poetryfoundation.org*. The author hopes that readers will not only find enjoyment in these poems but also understand the complexities of the figurative language used, allowing them to grasp the deeper meaning within each stanza and enrich their overall experience with the poem on the website.

Additionally, this research highlights the importance of semantic analysis in educational contexts, especially in helping students break down different types of figurative language commonly found in poems, carefully categorizing them into three distinct classifications. It is anticipated that future scholars and researchers find this study useful as a reference point for their explorations of figurative language, thereby contributing to the growing body of knowledge in this field.

1.4. Formulation of Research Problem

Considering the limitations and parameters outlined in the previous research issues, the formulation of this research project has been meticulously designed to address the question: "What are the types and classifications of figurative language used in each of the 25 selected poems from *Poetryfoundation.org*"

1.5. Research Questions

The study's issues are addressed by attempting to find answers to the following problems:

1. What are types of figurative language found in 25 selected

poems by *Poetryfoundation.org*?

2. What are classifications in figurative speech expressed in 25 selected poems by *Poetryfoundation.org*?

1.6. Purpose of the research

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

1. To find kinds of figurative language expressed in 25 poems of *Poetryfoundation.org*?
2. To analyze and categorize the figurative languages found in 25 of *Poetryfoundation.org*?

1.7. Significance of Research

The main goal of this research is to explore the intricacies of poems through figurative language, with a particular emphasis on enhancing reader comprehension, especially for those interested in children's poems. The study aims to foster a deep appreciation for the poems featured on *Poetryfoundation.org*. The author hopes that readers will not only find enjoyment in these poems but also understand the complexities of the figurative language used, allowing them to grasp the deeper meaning within each stanza and enrich their overall experience with the poem on the website.

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1.8. Definition of the Key Term

1. Figurative Language

Figurative language is a way of using words and expressions to convey meaning beyond their literal interpretation according to figurative language is a very complex way of language production that is not only related to human cognitive phenomena but also social, and emotional, motivational, and physical and builds explanations from all layers of language.

2. Poems

Poems is described as a form of language that conveys ideas more deeply and richly than ordinary speech. To truly comprehend and appreciate the meaning of poems, readers must remain focused. Without this concentration, interpreting each stanza can be challenging. One effective way to uncover the meaning of a poem is to analyze each stanza individually as its sound and structure are intentionally crafted, often with short rhyming lines (Bottigheimer, 1998)

3. Children's Literature

Children's literature is a type of literature designed to meet the interests, needs, and reading preferences of children's, capturing them as its primary audience. This category includes stories, rhymes, poems, and plays. Poems for children's are specially aimed at young readers and young people (Certo 2015: 27).

4. Digital children's Poems

Digital children's poems are poetic works created specifically for children and intended to be accessed through digital devices such as tablets or smartphones. In this research paper, digital children's poems were examined as a type of digital literary narrative that engages and educates young readers, promoting imagination, curiosity, and creativity key elements in children's learning and the development of their authorship during early childhood education (Caldin & Blattmann, 2020:27).

5. Website of *Poetryfoundation.org*

Poetryfoundation.org is a literary organization dedicated to promoting poems and poets through its website, *Poetryfoundation.org*, which serves as a comprehensive resource for global poetry. The site offers thousands of poems from various poets and eras, along with poet biographies, literary articles, essays, and poetry criticism. Additionally, users can access podcasts, media, and audio-visual content related to the world of poetry, making it a rich platform for poetry enthusiasts to explore both classic and contemporary works.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Review of Related Theories

2.1.1 Semantics

Semantics is about understanding meaning. It's essential to grasp the meaning behind texts and other readings. Yule (2010:12) defines semantics as the study of what words, phrases, and sentences mean. Semantics is also central to studying human thought processes, cognition, and conceptualization. It deals with the meaning of language. The study two primary areas, with the term semantic designating one of these domains. In this narrower

their importance in structuring the narrative and ensuring balance and coherence in the argument or story.

Finally, Contradictory devices, which ranked the lowest, with a total of 30 occurrences (21%). These devices highlight opposing or conflicting ideas within the same context, often through paradoxes, antithesis, or irony. While powerful in creating tension and drawing attention to contrasts, contradictory devices were less frequently encountered in the data. They are effective for provoking thought or emphasizing contradictions but are used more sparingly compared to the other categories.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

Based on poems on the poetryfoundation.org website for children's that use figurative language which is the main source in his research. After examining the lines containing figurative language, the researcher found that most of them were categorized as metaphor data 35 (24.3%), then 27 data (19.4%) were categorized into personification, 24 data (16.7%) were categorized into symbols, 12 data (8.33%) categorized into similes and 12 data (8.33%) categorized into hyperbole, 8 data (5.56%) categorized into paradox, 8 data (5.56%) categorized into metonymy, 6 data (4.17%) categorized into litotes, 4 data (2.78%) categorized into irony, 4 data (2.78%) categorized into allusion and the least ellipsis 1 data

(0.68%). The researcher found that the comparative classification of figurative language is the most widely used with a total of 74 data (51.7%) and correlative with 39 data (27.3%) then contradictory 30 data (21%).

The use of figurative language in digital children's poetry is an interesting subject for research because there is a wealth of figurative language found in each poem on this site. This is one of the factors that makes the poems appealing to children. Furthermore, the website serves as a platform for children, teachers, and parents to expand their knowledge of literature, especially digital children's poetry for EFL learners. Therefore, analyzing the figurative language from this website can increase interest in reading literary works and help develop knowledge in this digital age.

5.2 Suggestion

The purpose of this research is to identify one type of figurative language, particularly in digital children's poems from children's poetry websites. The findings of this research represent only a small portion of the entire study. There are limitations in this study, primarily due to the limited time available for the analysis conducted. For future researchers, it is hoped that they will be able to explore other types of figurative language. Many more poems are available on this website, which could serve as an inspiration for future studies in analyzing the figurative language present in these works.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 poems at poetryfoundation.org website