



**AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGES USED IN RICK
RIORDAN'S NOVEL ENTITLED "THE HEROES OF OLYMPICS, BOOK
THREE: THE MARK OF ATHENA"**

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ABSTRACT

The title of this study is, "An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Rick Riordan's Novel Entitled "The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena". The objectives of the study are to describe the types of the figurative language found in the novel and to identify the description of contextual meaning of each figurative language. The method used in collecting the data related to the subject of this research is documentation method because the researcher collected the data from novel. This study was conducted by collecting any relevant data and information about the topic or problem of the study from books and internet that are available for the analysis. The data collection used the following steps: reading the full novel, and then selecting the sentences that used figurative language. While the steps to analyze the data are selecting the sentences that used the types of figurative language according to Leech, describing the contextual meaning of the figurative language, and the last is interpreting the data. The result shows that they are 93 sentences that have figurative language. From 93 sentences, there are 52 items or 55.9% of simile, 18 items or 19.4% of personification, 16 items or 17.2% of hyperbole, 6 items or 6.4% of metaphor, and 1 item or 1.1% of metonymy. It can be indicated that the dominant type of figurative language in the novel is simile. The author uses simile to explain circumstances, to describe the characters, to express emotion of the characters, and to make his writing more vivid and entertaining. It can be concluded that figurative language has important roles in this novel. That's why the author used so many sentences that have figurative language in the novel. Using figurative language makes the novel more interesting to read, and helps the readers to imagine the story, the character based on the illustration that the author has already given in the story. So that the imagination created by the reader is still in context of the story.

Keywords : *contextual meaning, figurative language, hyperbole, metaphor, metonymy, personification, semantics, sentence, simile*

Judul penelitian ini adalah, "Analisis Makna Kiasan yang Digunakan dalam Novel Berjudul "The Heroes of Olympics, Buku Ke Tiga: The Mark of Athena" Karya Rick Riordan". Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menjelaskan

jenis-jenis makna kiasan yang terdapat di dalam novel, dan juga untuk mengidentifikasi penggambaran makna kontekstual dari masing-masing makna kiasan tersebut. Metode yang digunakan dalam penyusunan data yang terkait dengan subjek penelitian ini adalah metode dokumentasi karena peneliti mengumpulkan data dari novel. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan mengumpulkan data dan informasi yang relevan yang berkaitan dengan topik penelitian ini dari internet dan buku-buku yang tersedia untuk analisis. Pengumpulan data menggunakan langkah-langkah berikut: membaca novel secara keseluruhan kemudian mengumpulkan kalimat-kalimat yang menggunakan makna kiasan. Sedangkan langkah-langkah untuk menganalisis data yaitu, memilah data dengan menggunakan jenis-jenis makna kiasan menurut Leech, kemudian menganalisis makna kontekstual dari masing-masing makna kiasan tersebut dan yang terakhir adalah menafsirkan data. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa 93 kalimat yang ditemukan menggunakan makna kiasan. Dari 93 kalimat, ada 52 item atau 55,9 % dari simile, 18 item atau 19,4 % dari personifikasi, 16 item atau 17,2 % dari hiperbola, 6 item atau 6,4 % dari metafora, dan 1 item atau 1,1 % dari metonim. Hal ini mengindikasikan bahwa jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling dominan dalam novel adalah simile. Penulis menggunakan simile untuk menjelaskan keadaan, untuk menggambarkan karakter, untuk mengekspresikan emosi karakter, dan untuk membuat tulisan mereka lebih hidup dan menghibur. Dengan demikian dapat disimpulkan bahwa makna kiasan memiliki peran penting dalam novel ini. Itu sebabnya penulis menggunakan kalimat yang memiliki makna kiasan dalam novel. Menggunakan makna kiasan membuat novel lebih menarik untuk dibaca, dan membantu pembaca untuk membayangkan cerita dan karakter berdasarkan ilustrasi yang sudah penulis berikan dalam cerita. Sehingga imajinasi yang diciptakan oleh pembaca masih dalam konteks cerita yang ada.

Kata Kunci: *hiperbola, kalimat, makna kiasan, makna kontekstual, metafora, metonim, personifikasi, semantik, simile.*

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Language can be defined as a means of communication of human life. People need language to communicate, to interact and to get information from the other people. Language is also used to express someone's feelings or emotion and also to express their ideas, their thoughts and their imaginations, it can be spoken or written. Written language can be found in the novel, newspaper, poem, and magazine. Spoken language can be found in the song, speech, and conversation. As human beings, we

cannot separate ourselves from involvement of social communication and interaction, which certainly makes ourselves impossible to live without language.

In linguistics, the study that relates to meaning is called semantics. Semantics is one of linguistics branches, which studies about language meaning, or it can be said that meaning as the main study in semantics term. According to what has long been the most widely accepted theory of semantics, meanings are ideas or concepts, that can be transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer by embodying them, as it were, in the form of one language or another. (Lyons, 1984: 136)

Literal and non-literal meaning is a part of semantic studies. Literal meaning is the opposite of non-literal meaning. Literal meaning is when the speaker says something that has natural meaning or does not have other meaning. While, non-literal meaning is when the speaker says something that has different meaning of what his/her words or has hidden meaning.

Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. Figurative language is used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation rarely, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, etc. Figurative language is the use of words that go beyond their ordinary meaning. It requires the readers to use his/ her imagination to figure out the author's meaning. It makes figurative meaning is difficult to understand because we cannot find the meaning of the figurative language in dictionary just like the other vocabulary words that we usually use in our daily conversation. To know the meaning of figurative language we need to use our imagination to imagine what the words are said or what the words refer to.

There are four main reasons of using figurative language (Perrine, 1982: x). First, figurative language affords readers imaginative pleasure of literary works. Second, it is a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, making the abstract concrete, making literary works more sensuous. The third, figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statements and conveying attitudes along with information. And the last, it is a way of saying much in brief compass.

In this thesis, the researcher is interested in analyzing the figurative expressions that are found in novel. As we all know that when we read a novel sometimes we will find some terms that are difficult to understand because there will be so many figurative expressions and some idioms that we will never find in our daily conversation. It is important for us to know the meaning of the figurative language found in a novel so we can imagine what happens in the story, and we can feel the emotion of the story in the novel.

In this thesis, the researcher would analyze the figurative language from Rick Riordan's novel entitled "The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena". The researcher chooses this novel because there are so many figurative expressions found in this novel that are sometimes difficult to understand. The

researcher is also interested in finding out what the meaning of the figurative expressions found in that novel.

METHOD

Research Design

This research deals with two main problems to find out the types of figurative language used in the novel and to describe the contextual meaning of each figurative language. The researcher used descriptive research method, in which the data were described systematically to get an accurate and factual result. Isaac and Michael (1981: 46) state: The purpose of descriptive research is to describe systematically the facts and characteristics of a given population or area of interest, factually, and accurately. One of the characteristics of descriptive research is used in the literal sense of describing situations or events.

Source of the Data

The researcher was taken the data from the novel entitled "*The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena*" written by Rick Riordan which was published by Disney, Hyperion Books, New York in 2012. It is the third book of The Heroes of Olympics series. The length of the book is 604 pages (contains the covers and glossary).

Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis of the study is the sentences from the novel entitled "The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena" by Rick Riordan. The researcher focuses on sentences that used the figurative language according to Leech's theory to be analyzed.

Techniques of Data Collection and Analysis

The method used in preparing the data related to the subject of this research is documentation method because the researcher collected the data from a novel. The data were collected by using the following steps, they are : reading the full novel, and then selecting the sentences that used figurative language.

The data were analyzed by using the following steps, they are : selecting the sentences that used the types of figurative language according to Leech, describing the contextual meaning of the figurative language, and the last is interpreting the data.

FINDING & DISCUSSION

Figurative language is the part of Semantics. “Figure of Speech is an expressive use of language where words are used in a non literal way to suggest illuminating comparisons and resemblances.” (Crystal, 1999:116)

Figurative language refers to words, and groups of words, that exaggerate or alter the usual meaning in figures of speeches of the component of words. A figure of speech may be said to occur whenever a speaker or writer, from the sake of freshness or emphasis, departs from the usual denotations of words (Kennedy, 1983: 479).

Leech in Dewi (2010:2) has classified figurative meaning into eight types. They are: personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, litotes, metonymy and oxymoron.

Finding

Table 1
Summary of Figurative Language occurred in the novel

Types of Figurative Language	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personification	18	19.4
Simile	52	55.9
Metaphor	6	6.4
Hyperbole	16	17.2
Metonymy	1	1.1
Total	93	100

Discussion

Figurative Language

Personification

Annabeth’s **heart did a gymnastics routine.** (Data #7, p.11, line 15)

From the situation based on the novel, Annabeth and friends is in journey to Rome. When the Argo II arrives at Camp Jupiter, Annabeth looks down in the valley where the legion reinforcements are half-way to the city and she scan someone’s face. She is so surprised that it is Percy. She sees that Percy is walking towards the ship with his arms around two other kids like they were best buddies—a stout boy with a black buzz cut, and a girl wearing a Roman cavalry helmet. Percy looked so at ease,

so happy. He wore a purple cape just like Jason's—the mark of a praetor. Then she asks Leo to stop the ship.

The sentence above is considered as personification because it considers heart as an inanimate thing which can do human activity like a gymnastics routine. The author personifies the object “heart” by giving it human activity which makes heart seem alive. Heart is the vital organ in the left chest that sends blood around the body. Gymnastic routine is a routine relating to gymnastics, such as running, jumping and many more. When someone does gymnastic routine, commonly his/ her heart will beat faster than usual. It just like what Annabeth feels in her heart.

The author uses this personification to describe Annabeth's feeling when she saw Percy again after eight month being apart. The author wants to show how happy Annabeth was to see Percy again, but she is also worried about what if he did not remember her because he's losing his memory.

In the context, why the author chooses “gymnastic routine” to explain Annabeth's heart can be explained, as we know that the heart is located on the inside of the human body so that we cannot see the shape or the activity inside our body, except using an X-ray tool. We can only feel the heartbeat by putting our hands to the upper left chest. That is why the authors describe the heart by comparing it to gymnastic routines in which the activities can be seen clearly with our eyes. So that the reader can imagine the visual about what the effect of Annabeth's feeling to her heart when she was so happy to see Percy again. Gymnastic routines also consist of various kinds of movements changing, it describes that Annabeth's heart beats fast when she met Percy.

Simile

Again, Annabeth got the feeling it wasn't really a request. **She noted that the greyhounds had teeth like steel arrowheads.** Maybe weapons weren't allowed inside the city, but Reyna's pets could still tear her to pieces if they chose. (Data #17, p.34, lines 16-17)

In the novel, Reyna invites Annabeth to take a walk together and have a conversation with her. Reyna also brings her pets, two metal dogs named Aurum and Argentum. They have teeth like steel arrowheads.

The sentence “*She noted that the greyhounds had teeth like steel arrowheads*” above is categorized as simile. The word “like” at the sentence is pointing a simile. The author compares two different objects, greyhounds' teeth to the arrowheads to describe what the greyhounds look like. From the dictionary, we know that teeth are a set of hard, bony enamel-coated structures in the jaws of most vertebrates, used for biting and chewing. Steel arrowheads are the pointed end of an arrow, typically wedge-shaped, made from steel, sharp. Both greyhounds' teeth and arrowheads have certain features in common, such as the shape (triangle shape) and sharp. The author

wants to tell that the reader that what the greyhounds look like terrified Annabeth. It makes her scared.

In the context, the author uses the phrase “steel arrowheads” because steel is strong, sharp, and it can pierce a thick material. It is to show the readers that the greyhounds have strong-sharp teeth that can rip their victim into pieces.

Metaphor

“I know!” another nymph shrieked. “Like, who could stand that? Just the other day, I told Cleopeia—you know she lives in the boulder next to me?—I said: *Stop gossiping or you’ll end up like Echo. **Cleopeia is such a big mouth!*** Did you hear what she said about that cloud nymph and the satyr?” (Data #35, p.86, line 10)

From the novel, when Hazel Levesque and Leo Valdez run into a group of nymphs, one comes forward and explains how Echo got cursed and says that Cleopeia is a nymph that lives in the boulder next to her and gossips a lot. She states that if Cleopeia keeps gossiping she will end up like Echo.

The sentence “*Cleopeia is such a big mouth!*” above is categorized as metaphor because the author is describing Cleopeia’s characteristic. Literally, “Cleopeia” is not “a big mouth”. “Cleopeia” is a person and a “big mouth” is a part of the speech organ whose size is big. The author tries to compare someone to a big mouth to convey understanding about what kind of nymph Cleopeia is.

The tenor of the metaphor is “Cleopeia” and the vehicle is “big mouth”. The common association of Cleopeia is nymph, and like gossiping. The common association of big mouth is one who talks a lot, is untrustworthy, and cannot keep secret. From the explanation above, we know that the common ground (the similarities that can be shared) between two items is both like gossiping.

In the novel, the author wants to tell what kind of nymphs Cleopeia is. Cleopeia is a nymph who likes gossiping and what she told is lie.

The author chooses to use the noun phrase “big mouth” not to tell the readers that Cleopeia really has a big mouth which makes her looks terrible. But it has an implicit meaning that big mouth means that she likes gossiping, likes to spread bad news to the others, and lies to everyone.

Hyperbole

Piper had heard tons of stories about Hercules. She’d seen several cheesy movies and cartoons. Before today, if she had thought about him at all, she’d just roll her eyes and imagine some stupid hairy dude in his thirties with a barrel chest and a gross hippie beard, with a lion skin over his head and a big

club, like a caveman. She imagined he would smell bad, belch, and scratch himself a lot, and speak mostly in grunts. (Data #74, p.324, line 17)

For the novel, we know that Hercules looked different from the movies or cartoons she's already watched. She imagined some stupid hairy dude in his thirties with a barrel chest and a gross hippie beard, with a lion skin over his head and a big club, like a caveman. He also would smell bad, belch, and scratch himself a lot, and speak mostly in grunts. She was not expecting that his feet were bare, covered in white sand. His robes made him look like a priest, though Piper couldn't remember which rank of priest wore purple. His beard was fashionably scruffy. He was well built, but not too stocky. His ebony hair was close-cropped, Roman style. He had startling blue eyes like Jason's, but his skin was coppery, as if he'd spent his entire life on a tanning bed. The most surprising thing: he looked about twenty. He was handsome in a rugged but not-at-all-caveman way.

The sentence "*Piper had heard tons of stories about Hercules*" above is categorized as hyperbole. A phrase *tons of stories* is a numerical hyperbole form. This phrase exaggerates the statement to emphasize the character, Hercules. The author wants to show that Hercules is a famous Greek hero. There are so many versions of Hercules stories. This can be found in books, movies, cartoons, etc.

In context, the author chooses the phrase "tons of stories" not only to explain the explicit meaning to exaggerate the statement, but it also explains the implicit meaning about the popularity of Hercules indirectly. Because he is so popular, He is easy to be found everywhere. Hercules stories have been made into so many versions of book, novel, movies, comic, etc. It is proved by the next sentence which states Hercules appearance.

Metonymy

The Argo II definitely did not look friendly. Two hundred feet long, with a bronze-plated hull, mounted repeating crossbows fore and aft, a flaming metal dragon for a figurehead, and two rotating ballistae amidships that could fire explosive bolts powerful enough to blast through concrete...well, it wasn't the most appropriate ride for a meet-and-greet with the neighbors. (Data #1, p.4, line 7)

In the novel, the Argo II was a fantastical ship with one sail and a few banks of oars built by Leo, which can both sail and fly. It is 200 feet long (61 meters). It has Festus's bronze dragon head as its figurehead for the journey of the seven demigods of the second Great Prophecy. The ship is decorated with flames and its masthead was the head of the metal dragon, Festus. Leo built the ship with eight cabins—seven for the demigods of the prophecy, they are Percy Jackson (Son of Poseidon), Annabeth Chase (Daughter of Athena), Leo Valdez (Son of Hephaestus), Jason Grace

(Son of Jupiter), Piper McLean (Daughter of Aphrodite), Hazel Levesque (Daughter of Pluto), and Frank Zhang (Son of Mars and legacy of Poseidon), and a room for Coach Hedge, living room, etc. It also has weapons.

The sentence “*The Argo II definitely did not look friendly*” above is categorized as metonymy. In that sentence the author used the label “Argo II” to describe or to replace the original term “warship”. The Argo II was the name given by Leo to his warship.

In the context, the ship was named The Argo II, because it symbolizes the strength and the size of the ship. It has the head of the metal dragon that means the ship is very strong.

CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

Conclusion

After the analysis has been done, the researcher concludes that the novel entitled *The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena* written by Rick Riordan consists of 94 sentences that used figurative language. The analysis has two objectives; the first is to identify the types of figurative language that occurs in the novel, and the last is to explain the meaning of figurative language that occur in the novel.

The sentence that has figurative language in the novel entitled *The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena* written by Rick Riordan are 52 or 55.9% of simile, 18 or 19.4% of personification, 16 or 17.2% of hyperbole, 6 or 6.4% of metaphor, and 1 or 1.1% of metonymy.

It can be indicated that the dominant types of figurative language in the novel is simile. By using simile in the novel, it means that the novel entitled *The Heroes of Olympics, Book Three: The Mark of Athena* written by Rick Riordan contains of delineation to the objects or circumstances. The author tries to describe something by comparing the objects to the something that we have already known. The author uses simile to explain circumstances, to describe the characters, to express emotion of the characters, and to make their writing more vivid and entertaining. The second dominant clause is personification, the novel also uses hyperbole metaphor and metonymy. In the novel, the author mostly used figurative language to describe what the character looks, the character’s feeling, the character’s actions, and to describe internal conflict that happens to the characters.

From the analysis, it can be concluded that figurative language has important roles in this novel. That is why the author used sentences that have figurative language in the novel. It makes the novel more interesting to read, and also helps the readers to imagine the story, to imagine the character based on the illustration that the author has already given in the story. So that the imagination created by the reader is still in context of the story.

Suggestion

Based on research that has been done, it is known that in the novel, there are many sentences that used figurative language. In this study, the researcher is limited by theory that the researcher used to analyze the novel so there is only a few types of figurative language that can be discussed in this thesis. Whereas there are also other types of figurative meaning found in the novel such as onomatopoeia, symbolism, imagery and idiom which are not found in the theory that the researcher used.

From the explanation above, the researcher can suggest for future research that researchers can use different theories with the same data so that all types of figurative meanings found in the novel can be discussed totally. Researchers can also conduct research on different data with different theories so that readers know the difference of the roles of figurative language in a literary work such as a novel, to the figurative language used in advertisements, songs, etc. So, the readers can understand the figurative language, the types of figurative language and understand the function and the roles in a literary work well. Furthermore the readers will no longer have difficulty to interpret the meaning of the sentences that used figurative language.

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