

EnJourMe (English Journal of Merdeka) : Culture, Language, and Teaching of English Journal homepage: http://jurnal.unmer.ac.id/index.php/enjourme/index

Figurative language in a translated children's novel

¹Lismalinda, ²Nyak Mutia Ismail

¹ English Department, Iskandarmuda University, Jl. Kampus UNIDA, Surien, Meuraxa, Kota Banda Aceh, Aceh, 23234, Indonesia ² Syiah Kuala University, Jln. Teuku Nyak Arief Darussalam, Banda Aceh, Aceh, 23111, Indonesia Corresponding email: nyakmutiaismail2010@gmail.com

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Article history:

Received 22 Agustus 2020 Revised 22 September 2020 Accepted 03 December 2020 Available online 15 December 2020

Keywords: children's literature, children's novel, translation, figurative languages, and extensive reading.

DOI: 10.26905/enjourme.v5i2.4698

How to cite this article

Lismalinda, L., & Ismail, N. (2020). Figurative language in a translated children's novel. *EnJourMe (English Journal Of Merdeka) : Culture, Language, And Teaching Of English, 5*(2), *125-133.* doi:10.26905/ enjourme.v5i2.4698 There are a lot of forms of entertainment sources, one of them is prose or novel. Apparently, novels are interesting for children, too; and these days, many of these reading forms have also been translated from other languages. This study aimed at investigating the figurative languages used in a translated children's novel. A qualitative research approach was employed in carrying out this research. The data were collected through the process of documentation from a novel originally written by Birsen Ekim Ozen and translated by Djoko Lelono. The original title of this novel was Shirin: How I became Famous. After the data were collected, a three-steps analysis was used in analyzing the data. From the result, it was obtained that the most common occurrences of figurative language is personification which is 35.5%, then it is hyperbole and simile which both consist of 29.4%, and metaphor happens the least frequently which is only 5.9%. It can be concluded that the minor use of figurative language in children's literature is seen as a decent choice because children need a context that is easy to interpret.

© 2020 EnJourMe. All rights reserved.

1. Introduction

A great many people jump at the chance to peruse books for delight, as well as for an instructive reason. A decent novel should give an instructive perspective for the perusers. Perusing a novel can be a pleasant action and to get new information. The perusers can likewise take in something from someone else's experience reflected in the novel. By perusing a novel, they would get numerous advantages. They do not read the scholarly works once, yet ordinarily with the expectation that they can understand the substance well (Subhan, 2003). These days, pupils at school read books through the encouragement that is known as the school education with the reason to expand the information

Figurative language in a translated children's novel

Lismalinda, Nyak Mutia Ismail

of the students. Subhan includes that books are additionally perused in the diverse levels since they contain various purposes as well, for example reading for delight, learning, moral esteem, involvement, and so on.

There are identic parts that can be found in a novel. A decent novel is constantly upheld by the components of plot, portrayal or perspective, character, setting, image, and topic (Beaty et al., 2002). The plot is simply the story that keeps running from the earliest starting point until the finish of the contention and determination (Abrams, 2001). Perspective is a point of view seen from the author. As indicated by Beaty et al. (2002) characters are mental characteristics to recognize one personality from another, for instance, there are characters of individuals, creatures, spirits, machines, furniture, and different articles. Portrayal or otherwise called character improvement is the stream of character from the earliest starting point of the story until its finish. Setting alludes to the time and place of the story, where and when it happens. Image is a sign of something else which implies it can be a man, question, circumstance, or activity that has another importance. For instance, white means sacral, red means courage, hail implies the nationality of a nation, a handshake implies companionship. At last, the subject is the primary thought that ties the story ongoing through the narrative.

There are four sorts of non-literal dialect for the most part utilized as a part of books, they are personification, simile, hyperbole, and metaphor (Fadaee, 2010). Initially, Fadaee clarifies that it is exemplification. This sort of metaphorical dialect is utilized when the author tended to non-human items with human attributes. Besides, the metaphorical dialect examined in this examination is a likeness. She additionally clarifies that analogy is a metaphorical dialect that looks at least two things that have normal likenesses. Thirdly, it is Hyperbole. Fadaee (2010) further depicts that this figurative language includes the misrepresenting importance connected to a specific word. Lastly, it is metaphor. Representation is more similar to symbolization. It shrouds the genuine importance behind the word or articulations which are being utilized.

Concerning the fact that children's language is mostly explicit and brief as children can hardly understand any hidden connotations in a context, this study would like to shed light on what types of figurative language are majorly used in a translated children's novel. The significance of this study is seen as an opportunity to learn about the translation adjustment for children's extensive readings as children's ability in processing language is different from that of adults; apparently, the process is also different in different languages.

Prior studies relating to studies on analysis of the sources of entertainment found. Such as Ulinuha and Parnawati (2019) who studied the intercultural communication in the movie of Memoirs of Geisha; Putra (2019) who analyzed on moral values of Shakespeare play Macbeth; Pravitha (2019) who investigated a novel about its translation procedure that used by the author; and Shalihah (2018) in her study described the term of address used by the main character of the novel *Emma*. Similar study also found in Lailiyah and Yustisia (2018) that analyzed the euphemism and dysphemism used in Indonesian novel that translated into English. Differently, this study focusses on the figurative language used in translating children's novel.

Literature Review

Literature is a craft of an inventiveness movement of individuals who can be utilized as a result of works. It is constantly indistinguishable with an ability and specialty of composing with the objectives to convey the data to the perusers. The data that is overseen into the novel shape should make the perusers intriguing, with the goal that the general population name it literature (Yelland, Jones, & Easton, 1950).

There are many forms of literature. First, it is poems. specialists see this sort of literature because it is the oldest variety of literature. This is often thus as a result of the way back before folks find out how to write down, no matter is required to be same is remembered and pit into some short lines so it is easier to recollect. However, folks today writes the short lines and name a collection of them as literary work or poetry (Lowrey, 2009). Usually, we predict that poetry ought to follow an explicit pattern. There are some poetry that has to follow an explicit pattern, however, there also are another that do not follow any actual forms, even transcend its own kinds like prose poetry that mix poetry and prose. Poems are works of art that are packed with notional and metaphors and most of the time they are created in incomplete forms. Some poetries also are written in sure forms such as within the shape of an issue mark, interjection mark, and then forth to strengthen the symbols that the poetry carries in it. this will build the poetry look uniques on the page. There are 3 forms of poetry that are sometimes instructed in English categories, they are short trendy poems, classical poems, and ancient poems.

Second, it is prose or novel. the simplest reasonably prose to seek out are novels and short stories, whereas alternative sorts embrace letters, diaries, journals, and non-fiction stories. Most of the time, prose is written in sensible paragraphs and complete sentences. Prose does not concentrate on sound and rhymes because it is usually in poetry. Prose tends to concentrate on plot, setting, and characters. There is a varied example of this type, such as *Jane Eyre, Sense and Sensibility, A Sound of Thunder, The Crucible*.

Concerning the part of a unique, generally, the elements of the novel are plot, narration or purpose of reading, character, setting, symbol, and theme. Plot refers to the arrangement of the story that derives from the action of each event within the pages and chapters that relevant to one another. The arrangement of the action ought to connect from a happening to alternative events similarly as play through the characters. Commonly, the plot is categorized into 3 elements they're starting of the story, the middle of the story, and also the finish of the story (Beaty et al., 2002). The structure of the plot is that the technique that incidents area unit organized to the readers. Plot concerned conflict, complication, flashback, foreshadowing, and resolution.

Next, another variety of literature is play or drama. Drama or plays area unit text that area unit performed, except poems as a result of sometimes poems area unit browsed with expressions, not performed. Dramas area unit is sometimes wrote within a variety of dialogue lines with some breaks between the scenes. Since dramas area unit words that ought to be acted out, students in the room sometimes perform. This cut back the meaning of drama and play that they cannot get the essence of the performance (Meyer, 1997). Thus, it is better to indicate drama in the room through theater or

Figurative language in a translated children's novel

Lismalinda, Nyak Mutia Ismail

movies in order that the watchers will focus a lot on the plot and characters instead of on some flaws of the performers that they will see directly on stage.

There is literature within the class of non-fiction. Fictions area unit texts that gift events and characters that are created up and unreal (Meyer, 1997). Indeed, there are varieties of non-fiction class that represent real characters and true stories. Non-fiction embraces personal essay, factual paper like the scientific paper, and chronicle. Most of the time, the aim of non-fiction is to tell and educate the reader concerning facts and concepts. Another genre of non-fiction are unit histories, textbooks, travel books, newspapers, assistance books, and review.

Finally, the latest variety of literature is media. This can be the latest variety of literature that has been found. This class was enclosed to classify heaps of recent and essential varieties of texts that area unit consumed in our society today like movies and films, websites, commercials, billboards, and radio programs. Media literature gives a broad purpose, besides to tell, it may also be accustomed to educate, entertain, and advertise. Since most of our new generation nowadays deal a lot with media, particularly net, it is necessary to teach them on a way to use the media sagely. Net accomplishment may be a concern that area unit paid heaps of attention today. Teaching media accomplishment is additionally a good means for educators to assist the youth to participate in culture by making lessons on websites or movies (Meyer, 1997).

Regarding to figurative language, there are four sorts of figurative language utilized as proposed by Stern (2000) and Leezenberg (2001). In this examination, they are as depicted in the accompanying. Initially, it is a personification; this non-literal dialect allots the characteristics of a human to something else that is not human (Stern, 2000; Evans & Zinken, 2009; Glucksberg & McGlone, 2001). The reason for exemplification can be as a similarity with the goal that the issue is less demanding to understand. It can likewise be utilized to accentuate an issue. In the accompanying are a few cases of exemplification. The examples are "The run down house appeared depressed", "She did not realize that opportunity was knocking at her door".

Second, it is simile. An analogy is a non-literal dialect that looks at two articles, more often than not with the utilization of the word 'like' or 'as' (Fadaee, 2010). For examples: "He is hungry like a wolf", "She sings like an angel", and so on. Then, it is metaphor. Metaphor is a figurative language that shows an implied comparison which implies that a question is not actually spoken to with its own meanings (Leezenberg, 2001). It utilizes implications. The following are a few cases: "Ocean of misery" implies that a man is tragic for constantly, "Broken heart" alludes to anguish instead of to a specific sort of a coronary illness. It implies that somebody has recently been harmed and pitiful".

Lastly, it is hyperbole. A hyperbole is a non-literal dialect that makes extraordinary misrepresentations for a specific object. There is an over the top significance in this sort of allegorical dialect (Araya, 2013). Overstatements are generally found in scholarly works and talked dialect and they are never found in scholastic works (Yeibo, 2012). Here are some basic cases of metaphors: "We are so poor; we don't have two pennies to rub together", "They ran like lubed lightning", "He is as thin as a toothpick".

2. Method

This is descriptive qualitative research using discourse analysis. Tannen (2002) additionally expresses that discourse analysis is the examination of language about the importance delivered in sentences are mobilised through what appears. Moreover, this type of approach has quickly risen and created a grounded discipline in the general public, some discourse analysis considers the bigger setting of discourse occurred with a specific and goal to comprehend the purpose presented by the composition or sentences.

The research subject of this study is a novel written by Birsen Ekim Ozen and translated by Djoko Lelono. This novel was published in its original title called *Shirin: How I became Famous*. In regards to the figurative language, there were four sorts of figurative language that were scrutinized during this investigation. They are personification, simile, metaphor, and hyperbole. Personification is tending to non-human with human qualities, the likeness is utilized in simile, and overstatement utilizes distortion when using hyperbole. In this study, the researchers employed documentation as the procedure of gathering the information. As Bogdan and Biklen (1997) suggest, there are the following steps to be carried out. In the system of information accumulation, the information of the examination is gathered by following advances: choosing the novel, perusing the novel carefully and precisely, recognizing to discover the information identified in the research question, arranging the information, choosing the important information, extricating the information, and analyzing the information. The data analysis procedure was a three-step analysis as suggested by Miles, Hubberman, and Saldana (2014), namely data reduction, data display, and data verification.

3. Results and discussion

Figurative language often appears in literary work, including in children's literature such as poetry, novel, and short story. As it is known, Indonesian language tends to employ an inductive style in paragraph development (Undayasari & Saleh, 2018). Thus, some of the figurative languages found in this novel are translated and described in the lengthy. In this research, the authors aimed to analyze figurative language used in the novel entitled Sophie 'Gara-Gara TV' written by Birsen Ekim Ozen. The writer found 17 sentences which consist of four types of figurative language (personification, hyperbole, simile, metaphor) in the novel; it contains 94 pages. The figurative language occurred in the novel Sophie 'Gara-Gara TV' is shown in the Table 1.

No	Figurative language	Frequency	Percentage
1	Personification	6	35.3%
2	Hyperbole	5	29.4%
3	Metaphor	1	5.9%
4	Simile	5	29.4%
Total		17	100%

 Table 1. Figurative language found in "Gara-gara TV" Novel

Based on Table 1, it showed that personification is the most common occurring in the novel which is about 35.5%, followed by Hyperbole and Simile which consist of 29.4%, and metaphor

Figurative language in a translated children's novel Lismalinda, Nyak Mutia Ismail

takes a minimum part which is only 5.9%. It is clear that the author used minimum figurative language in this novel regarding children book generate the reader (children) most comfort with their reading; juvenile has a limited vocabulary on their brain, thus, to make them joyful the author should use the common vocabularies and adds some new vocabularies for their new knowledge.

Personification

Personification means giving human characteristic or attribute on non-human such as a thing or an idea and animal. The result revealed that 6 or 35.5% data of personification used in the novel. The example of data analysis is as follow:

"Semua orang tahu, anak-anak harus belajar lebih giat agar mendapatkan angka-angka bodoh yang disebut nilai." (Ozen 8)

The sentence above is personification. The sentence describes students score which is called "angka-angka bodoh" or stupid number by Sophie because she and her friends refused to study a lot without commission, whereas several children in another part of the world do not need to study, yet they gain money from their work. The word "angka-angka bodoh" explains a thing which is given human characteristic. The non-human object is figured in such a way people feel that 'angka-angka' have the ability like a human being such as a brain that could think a lot; without thinking it will be stupid like creatures.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole means utilizing exaggeration which evokes strong feeling in the meaning of the sentences such as in the poetry, song lyric and novel. From Table 1, there are 5 or 29.4% data of hyperbole used in Sophie 'Gara-Gara TV' novel. The example of data analysis is as follow:

"Ya! Ayah tenggelam dalam surat kabarnya dan ibu melekat pada laptopnya." (Ozen 25)

The sentence above is hyperbole which describes Sophie's emotion regarding her parents' behavior at home; Sophie's parents always busy with their work and give little attention to her little girl. In this case, Sophie told her mother about obtaining the highest score in the school, yet her mother decided to check some email from her office, then talking about Sophie's score. In the sentence, Sophie said *"Ayah tenggelam dalam surat kabarnya"* and *"ibu melekat pada laptopnya"* because she feels lonely, other person at home only focus on their own activity without paying attention around. The phrase used by the author to dramatize the situation to attract the reader in reading the novel.

Metaphor

Metaphor means a sentence that is written implicit or hidden meaning by the writer or author. There are 1 or 5.9% data found in the novel as follow:

"Harap berhati-hati karena yang berkilau tidak selamanya emas." (Ozen 48)

The sentence above is metaphor which pictured untrue or implied meaning of the sentence. In this matter, Sophie explained how the TV reporter ends her speech in front of audiences. The phrase *"berkilau tidak selamanya emas"* has plural or has no dependent meaning. Here, Sophie would like to declare the phrase with the reporter last statement which means that a good thing does not always represent goodness. The word *'berkilau'* or shining has an obscure meaning; it should be a thing or a person, depend on the speech. The meaning of the sentence above should be ambiguous concerning metaphor never extend authentic meaning or never offer singular idea.

Simile

Simile has the same meaning as metaphor which means the writer or author write a sentence with implicit or hidden meaning and use connecting word 'like' or 'as' to compare a thing or an idea. There are 5 or 29.4% data found in the novel. The example of data analysis is as follow:

"Otak kita bekerja seperti mesin, dan selalu, seperti mesin jam yang selalu tepat waktu." (Ozen 42)

Based on the data above, the sentence is simile because the author utilizes the connecting word 'seperti' in the sentence. This sentence describes how homework burdens Sophie's mind before going to the bed; homework always appears on her mind even she refuses it frequently. She endeavors to stay awake by asking for a glass of milk from her mom, then, she considers thinking another reason. She said that the human brain works as a machine that does the same work continuously. In this case, Sophie compares the word 'otak' or brain which is the human part of the body with the word 'mesin' or engine which is a thing that has been made by humans to indicate a figure of speech.

4. Conclusion and Suggestions

After clarifying, examining, and analyzing all of the data, the researcher found that there are four types of figurative language used in the novel entitled Sophie 'Gara-Gara TV' written by Birsen Ekim Ozen, namely, personification, hyperbole, metaphor, and simile. From the data collection, it showed about 6 sentences or 35.5% of personification, 5 sentences 29.4% of hyperbole and Simile, and one sentence or 5.9%.of metaphor.

The dominant type of figurative language that appeared in Sophie 'Gara-Gara TV' novel was personification about 6 sentences. The author used personification in the novel to create an interesting reading or literature for youth; generated them to love reading a novel. Nevertheless, the minor types of figurative language found in Sophie 'Gara-Gara TV' novel is metaphor which is only one sentence. Using less metaphor in children's literature produces a simple reading and easier to comprehend concerning schoolchild need unambiguous literature and need gladness in reading to entertain themselves.

REFERENCES

- Araya, K. A. (2013). Deconstruction and figurative language: An analysis of the way language works. *Revista Comunicación*, *17*(1), 29-41.
- Abrams, M. H. (2001). *The Norton anthology of English literature: The major authors* (p. 3072). S. Greenblatt (Ed.). Norton.
- Beaty, J., Hunter, J. P., & Bain, C. E. (2002). The Norton introduction to literature. WW Norton.
- Bogdan, R., & Biklen, S. K. (1997). Qualitative research for education. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.
- Evans, V., & Zinken, J. (2009). Figurative language in a modern theory of meaning construction: a lexical concepts and cognitive models approach. *Art, body, embodiment.-Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.*
- Fadaee, E. (2010). Symbols, metaphors and similes in literature: A case study of Animal Farm. *International Journal of English and Literature*, 2(2), 19-27.
- Glucksberg, S., & McGlone, M. S. (2001). Understanding figurative language: From metaphor to idioms (No. 36). Oxford University Press on Demand.
- Lailiyah, M., & Yustisia, K. (2018). Euphemism and dysphemism expression in "The Rainbow Troops" novel by Andrea Hirata. *EnJourMe (English Journal Of Merdeka) : Culture, Language, And Teaching Of English, 3*(2), 67-74. doi:10.26905/enjourme.v3i2.3045
- Lowrey, B. (2009). The Hero as a Reflection of Culture. Sabiduria: The Honors College Journal, 1(1).
- Leezenberg, M. (2001). Contexts of metaphor. Brill.
- Meyer, Jim. 1997. What is literature?: A definition based on prototypes. Work papers of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, University of North Dakota Session 41. URL: http://www.und.edu/dept/linguistics/wp/1997.htm.
- Miles, M. B., Huberman, A. M., & Saldana, J. (2014). Qualitative data analysis: A methods sourcebook.
- ÿþPravitha, C. (2019). The procedures used by the translator in Translating Cultural Terms in the novel entitled "To All the Boys I've Loved Before" by Jenny Han to its Indonesian Translation. EnJourMe (English Journal Of Merdeka) : Culture, Language, And Teaching Of English, 4(2). doi:10.26905/enjourme.v4i2.3836
- Putra, S. (2019). A study on moral values as reflected by two main characters in William Shakespeare's Macbeth. EnJourMe (English Journal Of Merdeka): Culture, Language, And Teaching Of English, 4(1). doi:10.26905/enjourme.v4i1.3613
- Shalihah, M. (2018). A pragmatic analysis on the types and the purposes of address terms used by the main character in Jane Austen's "EMMA". EnJourMe (English Journal Of Merdeka): Culture, Language, And Teaching Of English, 3(2), 52-60. doi:10.26905/enjourme.v3i2.2747
- Stern, J. (2000). Metaphor in context. MIT Press.
- Subhan, B. (2003). A guide to Literary Criticism. Yogyakarta: LPPDMF.
- Tannen, D. (2002). Agonism in academic discourse. Journal of pragmatics, 34(10-11), 1651-1669.
- Ulinuha, A., & Parnawati, T. (2019). Language change and linguistic etiquette portrayed in the characters of the novel and movie "Memoirs of a Geisha".EnJourMe (English Journal Of Merdeka): Culture, Language, And Teaching Of English, 4(1), 19. doi:10.26905/enjourme.v4i1.3111

EnJourMe (English Journal of Merdeka): Culture, Language, and Teaching of English Vol. 5, No. 2, Desember 2020, pp. 125-133

- Undayasari, D., & Saleh, M. (2018). Comparison of Thematic Structure and Progression between English and Indonesian Exposition Texts Written by Undergraduate Students of UPI (Rhetorical Study). *English Education Journal*, *8*(1), 43-50.
- Yeibo, E. (2012). Figurative Language and Stylistic Function in JP Clark-Bekederemo's Poetry. *Journal of Language Teaching & Research*, *3*(1),180-187.
- Yelland, H.L., Jones, S.O, & Easton, K.S.W. (1950). *A Handbook of Literary Terms.* Angus and Robertson Online Publisher