

# Diction based on Meaning in Indonesian Pop Songs with Environmental Theme by Ebiyet G Ade

**Genisti Arselia Gusmiarnum<sup>1</sup>, Mujid Farihul Amin<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University, Indonesia

**Abstract.** This research aims to describe the use of word choice or diction in Indonesian pop songs with environmental themes by Ebiyet G Ade. This research is a descriptive qualitative research with listening and recording techniques. To limit the scope of the research, five Ebiyet G Ade songs with environmental themes were selected, namely *Menjaring Matahari*, *Berita Kepada Kawan*, *Do'a Sepasang Petani Muda*, *Untuk Kita Renungkan*, and *Masih Ada Waktu*. The results show the use of diction that contains conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, stylistic and affective meaning, reflection meaning and collocative meaning, associative meaning, and thematic meaning. Diction that contains conceptual meaning is used to describe the story contained in the song. Diction that contains connotative meaning is used to embellish expressions in song lyrics. Diction that contains stylistic and affective meaning is used to show the author's background. Diction that contains reflection meaning, collocative meaning, and associative meaning is used to abstract the situation and conditions in the story more deeply. The use of diction that contains thematic meaning is used to emphasize the message that the author wants to convey. Some diction that is often used is "tanah", "rumput", "batu", "laut", "mendung", "hujan", "matahari", "ilalang", "debu", and "api".

## 1 Introduction

Language is a human communication tool that has a big role in everyday life to convey messages based on thoughts and feelings [1]. This is in line with the formulation of Chaer which states that language is a system of arbitrary sound symbols used by social groups to communicate and cooperate [2]. In line with that, the definition of language as a form of speech content and a tool of the thinking process [3]. As a communication

tool, language can be found in conversations, lectures, radio broadcasts, advertisements, and songs. This research will focus on the use of diction based on the meaning in five songs by Ebiet G Ade with environmental themes, namely *Masih Ada Waktu*, *Berita Kepada Kawan*, *Untuk Kita Renungkan*, *Menjaring Matahari*, and *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda*.

Songs are one of the genres of literary works that have aesthetic value in form and content. The aesthetic value in songs can be seen from the use of diction, figure of speech, and the content of the message [4]. This research will be conducted to describe the use of diction that contains certain types of meaning in abstracting the message that the author wants to convey. The definition of diction is the choice of words that includes the understanding of the words used to convey an idea, how to group words and use appropriate expressions in various situations [5]. This shows that every diction contains meaning. According to the Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, meaning is (1) meaning, (2) the intention of the speaker or writer, (3) the meaning given to a form of language, (4) the relationship between the symbol (symbol) and the reference or referent [6]. The types of meaning according to Leech (1997) are divided into seven, namely conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, stylistic and affective meaning, reflection meaning and collocative meaning, associative meaning, and thematic meaning [7]. The use of diction in relation to songs serves to embellish and deepen the meaning to be conveyed to the listener. To understand a meaning more deeply, an analysis of the use of diction is needed.

This research has relevance to previous research entitled *Makna Tematik dalam Lirik Lagu Karya Ebiet G Ade Sebuah Tinjauan Stilistika* conducted by Idham in 2020. The research used a descriptive approach method with heuristic analysis to obtain an in-depth analysis. The results showed that there is a choice of words that contain the meaning of figurative words in Ebiet G Ade's song lyrics. In addition, the choice of words used has figurative meanings that include religious themes, social themes, love, and the environment. This shows that the song has a close relationship with the reality of human society [8]. In contrast to these studies, this research will focus on the use of diction in Ebiet G Ade's songs with environmental themes.

## 2 Research Methods

This research is one of the studies that uses a qualitative descriptive approach. This means that all data found will be described. Described means that the data will be classified, taxonomized, and explained based on the research limitations that have been made. The techniques used are listening and note-taking techniques. The steps taken are to collect data after listening to five environmental-themed song lyrics by Ebiet G Ade. The next step is to record the choice of words (diction) used in the preparation of song lyrics. The data found will then be identified and classified using semantic theory of word meaning types, namely conceptual, connotative, stylistic and affective, reflective and collocative, thematic meanings. The data that has been analyzed will be drawn conclusions.

## 3 Result and Discussion

### Use of Diction that Contains Conceptual Meaning

Word choice or diction that contains conceptual meaning is found in each of Ebiet G Ade's five songs. Some of these diction include "matahari", "rumput ilalang", and "bintang" (*Masih Ada Waktu*). Diction "bencana", "tanah", "kering", "bebatuan", "batu jalanan", "rerumputan", "gembala", "laut", "karang", "langit", "rumput" (*Berita Kepada Kawan*). Diction "panas", "lahar", "badai", "debu" (*Untuk Kita Renungkan*). Diction "kabut", "matahari", "mendung", "hujan", "basah", "muka bumi" (*Menjaring Matahari*). Diction "hujan", "pelataran", "mendung", "langit", "ilalang", "terbakar", "ladang", "sawah", "kekeringannya", "kemarau" (*Doa Sepasang Petani Muda*). The diction found is a form of abstraction from songs with environmental themes. The use of diction that uses conceptual meaning in this case means the choice of words whose meaning is in accordance with the referent or concept and has the freedom to stand alone. The conceptual meaning of the diction used has a meaning that is in accordance with the meaning in the dictionary [9]. The use of the diction "rumput" in the lyrics of the song *Masih Ada Waktu* "kepada rumput ilalang, kepada bintang gemintang" means a type of weed plant with small stems, many types, stems with brushes, long narrow leaves. This describes the author's setting which is in a place where there is thatch grass. The author mentions the diction "thatch grass" as an object in writing the lyrics of the song. The use of the diction "bencana" (disaster) in the lyrics of the song *Berita Kepada Kawan* "Mengapa di tanahku

terjadi bencana” means something that causes or causes distress, loss or suffering. In this context, the choice of the word disaster is a conceptual meaning used as the object of the expression of the question conveyed by the author. The use of the diction "matahari" (sun) in the lyrics of *Menjaring Matahari's* song “pekat hitam peralat menyelimuti matahari” contains the conceptual meaning of a star that is the center of the solar system, radiating heat and light to Earth and other planets that surround it. The choice of the word sun indicates something luminous or instructive. In this context, the enveloped sun means a hidden clue. The use of the diction "pelataran” (courtyard) in the lyrics of the song *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda* “duduk bersanding di pelataran” contains a conceptual meaning, namely the yard of a house, land that has been leveled. This means that the diction is used to explain the description of the place desired by the author.

### **Use of Diction that Contains Connotative Meaning**

The use of word choices that contain connotative meanings in Ebiet G Ade's five songs is used to give both positive and negative taste values and bring out the reader's imagination. The diction in the song lyrics serves to create aesthetic value. The choice of words used can also have good or bad connotations [10]. Some diction that contains connotative meanings are “perjalanan abadi” and “bintang gemintang” (*Masih Ada Waktu*). Diction “terguncang”, “bosan”, “bersahabat”, “rumput yang bergoyang”(Berita Kepada Kawan). Diction “bersih”, “cambuk kecil”, “menyapu bersih”, “banyak tangan”, (*Untuk Kita Renungkan*). Diction “kabut”, “pekat hitam”, “kelam”, “siramlah”, “diburu” (*Menjaring Matahari*). Diction “jeritan ilalang”, “jeritan di langit”, “luruh jatuh”, “basahi jiwa”, and “mencekam” (*Do'a Sepasang Petani Muda*). The use of the diction "bergoyang” (swaying in the lyrics of the song *Berita Kepada Kawan* “coba kita bertanya pada rumput yang bergoyang” contains connotative meaning, namely grass that is exposed to the wind and moves naturally. This connotes the law of nature that grass is a plant that cannot answer questions from humans, so humans cannot ask the grass what happened because those who can answer are themselves or other fellow humans. The diction “jeritan ilalang” (the cry of the weeds) in the lyrics of the song *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda* “kau dengar ada jeritan ilalang yang terbakar dan musnah” has a connotative meaning of the destruction of nature. The use of the diction “jeritan” (screams) connotes the non-acceptance of something, while the diction “ilalang” (weeds) describes one of the

ecosystems that exist in nature. In this context, the diction “jeritan ilalang” (screams of weeds) abstracts the existence of a fire disaster.

### **Use of Diction that Contains Stylistic and Affective Meanings**

The choice of words or diction that contains stylistic and affective meaning functions to give an effect or reaction to the reader [11]. This shows the use of language styles in songs. The use of stylistic and affective diction can make the song more beautiful than using ordinary words. Some of the diction used are “petik” and “bertemu matahari” (*Masih Ada Waktu*). Diction “dihempas”, “ditelan”, “bisu”, “bergoyang” (*Berita Kepada Kawan*). “menyapu bersih” (*Untuk Kita Renungkan*). Diction “kabut” (*Menjaring Matahari*). Diction “menjaga”, and “jeritan” (*Doa Sepasang Petani Muda*). The choice of the word “dihempas” (slammed) in the lyrics of the song *Berita Kepada Kawan* “Tubuhku terguncang dihempas batu jalanan” contains stylistic and affective meanings, namely being deliberately thrown at something with the victim's weak condition. This can give the impression of a person's helplessness. The use of the diction “menyapu bersih” (wiped out) in the lyrics of the song *Untuk Kita Renungkan* “lahar dan badai menyapu bersih” has a stylistic meaning with the meaning of eradicating everything that exists. The diction contains a personification style or majas which animates something lifeless, namely lava and storms. This serves to provide an aesthetic effect in the song lyrics. The diction of “jeritan” (scream) in the lyrics of the song *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda* “kau dengar ada jeritan ilalang” shows the existence of a stylistic meaning in the form of personification majas, which gives an idea of the weeds that can scream.

### **Use of Reflective and Colloquial Diction**

The use of diction that contains reflective and collocative meanings is used to provide a more detailed description related to the situation and conditions in the song [12]. The use of diction includes (“matahari” and “bintang gemintang”), (“tanah”, “bebatuan”), (“laut”, “karang”, “ombak”), (“langit”, “matahari”) in the lyrics of the song *Berita Kepada Kawan*. Diction (“anugrah”, “bencana”), (“asap”, “panas”, “lahar”, “badai”) in the lyrics of the song *Untuk Kita Renungkan*. Word choice (“kabut”, “pekat”, “hitam”, “kelam”), (“mendung”, “hujan”, “basah”, “deras”, “siram”) in the lyrics of *Menjaring Matahari*. Diction (“hujan”, “mendung”, “langit”), (“terbakar”, “musnah”), (“ladang”, “sawah”,

“minum”, “kekeringan”, “kemarau”) in the lyrics of the song *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda*. The use of several dictionaries that contain reflective and collocative meanings are the sun and the stars. The two dictionaries are interconnected with each other and are in the same field of meaning, namely celestial objects. The diction of “laut”, “karang”, and “ombak” contain reflective and collocative meanings with the same field of meaning, namely the ocean. The use of the diction of “asap”, “panas”, “lahar”, and “badai” contains reflective and collocative meanings that have the same field of meaning, namely the impact of volcanic eruptions. The word choices “mendung”, “hujan”, “basah”, “deras”, and “siram” contain reflective and collocative meanings that have the same field of meaning, namely water. The use of the diction of “ladang”, “sawah”, “kekeringan”, and “kemarau” have the same field of meaning, namely fields.

### **Use of Diction that Contains Thematic Meaning**

Word choice or diction that contains thematic meaning is used to abstract the core content of the message that the author wants to convey [13]. The use of this diction usually involves diction that contains associative meaning, which is the meaning of using diction with circumstances outside the language. The diction used contains thematic meaning, namely religious and environmental themes. This can be seen in the words “batin”, “jiwa”, “hati”, “tulus”, “ikhlas”, “perjalanan abadi”, “hikmah”, “bersyukur”, “waktu”, “kasih-Nya”, “kehendak-Nya”, “catatan-Nya”, “bersujud” in the lyrics of the song *Masih Ada Waktu*. The use of diction “menyedihkan”, “menangis”, “sedih”, “mati”, “tuhan”, “dosa”, “tanah”, “kering”, “bebatuan”, “batu jalanan”, “kering rerumputan”, “gembala kecil”, “bencana”, “laut”, “karang”, “ombak”, “matahari”, “langit”, “alam”, “rumput” in the lyrics of the song *Berita Kepada Kawan*. The use of diction “bersih”, “suci”, “lahir”, “batin”, “debu”, “anugrah”, “bencana”, “cambuk kecil”, “sadar”, “asap”, “panas”, “lahar”, “badai”, “hukuman”, “isyarat”, “kekalutan”, “tega”, “nista”, “amal”, “dosa”, “kepada-Nya”, and “sujud” in the lyrics of the song *Untuk Kita Renungkan*. The use of the words “kabut”, “matahari”, “mendung”, “hujan”, “deras”, “basah”, “bumi”, “siramilah”, “jiwa”, “kegalauan”, “terseret”, and “terlatih-tatih” in the lyrics of *Menjaring Matahari*. The diction of “hujan”, “pelataran”, “mendung”, “langit”, “ingkar”, “tegar”, “memohon”, “basahi”,

“bumi”, “ilalang”, “terbakar”, “musnah”, “menangis”, “ladang”, “sawah”, “kekeringan”, “jiwa”, “putus asa”, “kemarau” in the lyrics of the song *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda*. In the five Ebiet G Ade songs that have been selected, it can be analyzed that each song contains environmental and religious themes. This shows the use of thematic meaning in word choice.

## 5 Conclusion

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded that there the use of word choice or diction in Ebiet G Ade's environmental-themed Indonesian pop songs. Some diction that is often used are “tanah”, “rumput”, “batu”, “laut”, “mendung”, “hujan”, “matahari”, “ilalang”, “debu”, and “api” in five songs, namely *Masih Ada Waktu*, *Berita Kepada Kawan*, *Untuk Kita Renungkan*, *Menjaring Matahari*, and *Doa Sepasang Petani Muda*. Diction that contains conceptual meaning is used to describe the story contained in the song. Diction that contains connotative meaning is used to embellish expressions in song lyrics. Diction that contains stylistic and affective meaning is used to show the author's background. Diction that contains reflection meaning, collocative meaning, and associative meaning is used to abstract the situation and conditions in the story more deeply. The use of diction that contains thematic meaning is used to emphasize the message that the author wants to convey.

## References

1. M. S. Hawari, *Analisis Pemilihan Kata pada Lirik Lagu dalam Album Aku Ingin Pulang Karya Ebiet G*, Sinastra Prosiding Seminar Nasional Bahasa, Seni, dan Sastra, 1 (2022)
2. A. Chaer, *Linguistik umum edisi revisi cetakan keempat*, (Rineka Cipta Jakarta, 2014)
3. K. Djojuroto, *Filsafat bahasa*, (Pustaka Book Publisher Yogyakarta, 2007)
4. I. R. Julianto, *Diksi, Gaya Bahasa, Dan Citraan Lirik Lagu Para Pencari-Mu Karya Ungu (Kajian Stilistika)*, LINEA: Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, dan Pengajaran 3(1), 56-63 (2023)
5. G. Keraf, *Diksi dan gaya bahasa*, (PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama Jakarta, 2010)
6. *KBBI (Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia) Edisi Keenam*. Online version of the dictionary, accessed on July 9, 2023, <https://kbbi.web.id/didik>
7. G. Leech, *Prinsip-Prinsip pragmatik*. (Penerbit Universitas

- Indonesia Jakarta, 1997)
8. Idham, *Makna Tematik dalam Lirik Lagu Karya Ebiet G Ade Sebuah Tinjauan Stilisika Widyabastra*, 8, 2 (2020)
  9. G. Nurhidayah, W. Tardini, *Analisis Makna Asosiatif dalam Album Tutur Batin Karya Yunita Rachman*, Silampari Bisa: Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Bahasa Indonesia, Daerah, dan Asing 6(1), 176-187 (2023)
  10. Q. N. Cahyaningrum, S. Rejeki, *Makna Konotasi (Makna Afektif dan Asosiatif Slogan Kabupaten Bogor The City of Sport And Tourism*, Edutourism Journal Of Tourism Research, 3(02), 206–220 (2022)
  11. B. Tinambunan, *Lirik Lagu “Hanya Rindu” : Analisis Stilistika Dan Pemaknaannya*, Maret : Jurnal Pendidikan Kewarganegaraan dan Filsafat 1(1) (2023)
  12. S. Triastuti, *Ragam Makna Semantik pada Lirik Lagu Dunia Tipu-Tipu Karya Yura Yunita*, Lingua Rima: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra Indonesia 12(1) (2023).
  13. W. Nafrayuni, *Analisis Gaya Bahasa dan Makna dalam Lirik lagu Seven Oops*, e- Skripsi Universitas Andalas (2022).