

Language Style in The Lyrics of The Song “Berita Kepada Kawan” by Ebiet G. Ade

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Abstract. This study aims to explain the style of language in the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" by Ebiet G. Ade. The study used in this research is stylistics which will reveal the style of language in poetry and song lyrics. The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative with a stylistic perspective. The data collection technique is observing and taking notes and then analyzing them using the theory of poetic structure and the theory of figurative language. The result of this study is the language style in the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" which shows a cacophony sound which is dominated by the vowel /a/ with a total of 157 and the consonants [t], [k], [n] with a total of 43, 38, and 38. The sound of cacophony is used to create an atmosphere of sadness, gloom, depression, melancholy, etc. In line with the theme raised in the song, which is about the impact of disasters. The writer of the song also uses various figures of speech, namely comparative figures of speech: personification and simile; contradiction: hyperbole and litotes; repetition: alliteration, anaphora, and polysyndeton; as well as a linking figure of speech, namely a synecdochical figure of speech.

1 Introduction

As civilization advances, human knowledge is also growing. The human mind is constantly undergoing significant transformations. Various ways are used to convey the message so that it is easily accepted by the target. Songs that have lyrics and tunes will certainly be easily embedded in the listener's memory. Songs can be used as a medium to convey messages. Various songs that exist today are not only for entertainment but also contain advice that is important to be known by the wider community.

For fifty years the name of Ebiet G. Ade has been known in the music scene. This Banjarnegara-born singer is known for her nature-themed songs and the sorrow of marginalized communities. As a singer as well as a songwriter, he feels how the sadness is in each of his songs. Ebiet is a singer whose songs are inspired by nature, society, divinity, and humanity, so, naturally, some of his songs are inspired by natural disasters. One of his songs that are familiar to the ears of the Indonesian people is "Berita Kepada Kawan".

This song, which was released in 1996, is a song that talks about natural disasters on the album *Aku Ingin Pulang*. The song was written based on the poison gas disaster that killed hundreds of people in the Dieng crater [source: ebietgade.com/pertama/]. Because the song succeeded in representing the empathy of the victims of the disaster, this song was then played as the soundtrack music in every report on natural disasters.

A literary work is a branch of art that features a unique and beautiful language style. Talking about literature can't be separated from the use of language as its main medium. Every writer—both in traditional and modern societies—plays with language and takes advantage of the possibilities and potentials of language [Teeuw, 2015: 277]. In addition to creating aesthetics, language style is carried out by poets to emphasize the meaning of a literary work.

Much research has been done on figurative language in songs. This shows that the existence of language style plays an important role in creating aesthetics. One of them is a study entitled "Language Style in the Lyrics of the Song "Corona Virus", "Disaster", and "Letters" by Rhoma Irama" by Sri Puji Astuti et. al. [2021] who examines the style of language in the form of climax, parallelism, antithesis, and anaphora based on sentence structure. Meanwhile, based on the style of language, the style of language was found in the form of asyndeton, pleonasm, rhetorical questions, and litotes. There is also research by Amin et.al. [2021] with the title "Language Styles in The Song Lyrics of "Citra Cinta", "Sifana", "Less Salt", and "Corona Virus" by Rhoma Irama. This research discusses the language style of affirmation, comparison, and

contradiction. Likewise, research by Muzakka et. al [2021] with the title "Lyrics of The Song "Corona Virus" by Rhoma Irama: Stylistic Studies" discusses word style, sentence style, and language style.

The next research was written by Iko Fauziah [2018] who studied "Gaya Bahasa Pada Lirik Lagu dalam Album Gajah Karya Tulus" which found comparative, contradictory, linking, and repetition language styles. And the last research by Nanda Siti Fadhilah Ramdan and Aliyya Humaira [2022] with the title "Analisis Gaya Bahasa dalam Lirik Lagu "Cinta Luar Biasa" Andmesh Kamaleng". This research resulted in an analysis in the form of three figurative languages, there are comparison, affirmative, and contradiction.

2 Research methods

The lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" by Ebiet G. Ade are used as a data source in this study. The technique used in this study is listening to songs vis *Spotify* and taking notes from each lyric. The results of the lyric notes were analyzed using the theory of poetic structure and stylistic theory. In the theory of poetry structure, research will be focused on sound structure. Whereas the theory of language style will be limited to the use of comparative, contradictory, repetition, and linkage language styles. Based on this description, the method used in this research is descriptive qualitative with a stylistic perspective.

3 Results and Discussion

The results were obtained from the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" by Ebiet G. Ade including sound structure, comparison, contradiction, repetition, and linkage language style.

a. Sound Structure

In the study of sound structure, known a cacophony and euphony sounds. A cacophony is a sound that describes an unpleasant, chaotic, completely disorganized, and even disgusting atmosphere [Pradopo, 2015: 30]. On the other hand, a euphony is a sound that describes the peak of joy, affection, and happiness [Pradopo, 2015: 30].

The results of the sound structure found that assonance and alliteration as a verse of the song. The highest assonance was a [a] with a total of 157. While alliteration is dominated by [t], [k], [n], with a total of 43, 38, and 38 times respectively. From these results, the dominating alliteration in [t], [k], [n] is included in the variety of cacophony sounds. A cacophony is used to create situations of depression, sadness, gloom, etc. In line with the theme raised by Ebiet G. Ade in this song which is about natural disasters.

b. Language Style in the Lyrics of the Song "Berita Kepada Kawan"

The language style in the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" will be divided into four categories. There are comparison, contradiction, repetition, and linkage.

i. Comparison

In the lyrics of this song, two types of comparative figures of speech are found. They are personification and simile.

a. Personification

Personification is used to describe objects as if they were human. In the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan", personification is used to emphasize how painful the natural disaster is. A disaster was described as a human being who can devour the parents of a small shepherd to death.

Bapak ibunya telah lama mati

Ditelan bencana tanah ini

No one can be invited to talk about the tragedy, so the poet must go to the sea to tell with the rocks, the waves, and the sun. However, all he got was silence and nothing.

Sesampainya di laut, kukabarkan semuanya

Kepada karang, kepada ombak kepada matahari

*Tetapi semua **diam**, tetapi semua **bisu***

So many disasters that have occurred, whether purely as natural disasters or as the result of human negligence, should make people aware of how to harmonize with nature. Nature is likened to humans who can be friends if humans can do good to nature. When nature takes out its anger, perhaps '... *alam mulai enggan **bersahabat** dengan kita*'.

No one can answer the question, "Whose fault for this disaster?". Humans are aware-less of what they have done with nature. God created nature and humans to coexist. When a disaster occurs, only the grass as part of nature can provide answers for what humans have done.

*Coba kita bertanya pada **rumput yang bergoyang***

This sentence at the same time gives an insinuation to humans that grass as an object cannot provide an answer to a question, because actually, the answer lies in human behavior itself which cannot act in harmony with nature.

b. Simile

A simile is a comparison of two things that are essentially different that is deliberately considered the same (Tarigan, 2009: 9). Similes are described explicitly using the words 'seperti' 'bagaikan', 'ibarat', etc. In this song contain a sentence that uses a simile. The songwriter needs to tell a journey is likened to a witness that witnessing the sadness of a little shepherd who was left by his parents to die due to a disaster.

*Perjalanan ini **seperti** jadi saksi*

Gembala kecil menangis sedih

ii. *Contradiction*

Contradiction is describing two opposite things. The things that are contested can vary, ranging from excess or reduction.

a. *Hyperbole*

Hyperbole is exaggerating an object or event to emphasize a literary work. Hyperbole figure of speech dominates every lyric. This is to emphasize how sad a catastrophic event can be that affects so many people.

Beginning on the first line with the lyrics '*perjalanan ini terasa sangat menyedihkan*'. This lyric describes how sad the poet feels when he wants to tell his friend about the disaster that happened at his residence. Followed by the lyrics '*tubuhku terguncang, dihempas batu jalanan*' which describes how sad it feels when he saw the dry grass caused by poison gas until your heart shakes with sadness which is described in the lyrics '*hati tergetar menampak kering rerumputan*'. Everyone is sad, there are no friends to talk to, all that's left is '*tinggal aku sendiri, terpaksa menatap langit*'. This lyric describes as if there was no one in this world left besides the songwriter.

Humans who live with nature should be able to maintain and care for nature properly. If humans destroy nature, nature will be angry and '*... alam mulai enggan bersahabat dengan kita*'. This lyric describes if nature is showing its anger so that it refuses to be friends with humans.

b. *Litotes*

Litotes is the opposite of hyperbole. If hyperbole is an exaggeration, then litotes is a subtraction. This figure of speech is used to humiliate by using words that are not true. As Ebiet did in describing God in the sentence ' *mungkin Tuhan mulai bosan, melihat tingkah kita; yang selalu salah dan bangga dengan dosa-dosa*'.

For all human actions and sins, God is only described as 'bored'. Even though the truth is more than that, if God wants to be angry, then He will be angry and give a more terrible disaster to humans. However, because of the great love of God, Ebiet only gave the image that God was simply 'bored'.

iii. *Repetition*

Repetition is used to emphasize something in which the context is very important.

a. *Alliteration*

Alliteration is a kind of figurative language that uses *purwakanti* or the use of words that start with the same sound [Tarigan, 1985: 197, in Tarigan, 2019: 174]. In this song, the following lyrics are applied:

Tubuhku terguncang dihempas batu jalanan

These lyrics implies that a sense of very deep sadness that emphasized in the words 'tubuhku' and the word 'terguncang'. This is also

used in the lyrics '*tinggal aku sendiri, terpaksa menatap langit*'. The repetition of consonant [t] in sound structure theory is categorized as a cacophony sound.

b. Anaphora

Anaphora is repeating the words, phrases, and clauses by repeating the same group of words as emphasis. This figure of speech is used as a form of affirming a context. As in the lyrics '*tetapi semua diam, tetapi semua bisu*'. The lyrics illustrate that no one can answer the story told by 'aku' which is addressed to the rocks, waves, and sun.

c. Polisindeton

Polisindeton is using the sequential mention of the position of something in a sentence flanked by commas which must be parallel and balanced and receive the same emphasis (Nurgiyantoro, 2018: 260). In this song, the polysyndeton style emphasizes the use of the word 'to', namely in the lyrics '*kepada karang, kepada ombak, kepada matahari*'.

iv. Linkage

In the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" there is linkage figure of speech which is synecdotal. A synecdotal is an expression by referring to certain important parts of something for the thing itself (Nurgiyantoro, 2018: 244). The synecdotical figure of speech consists of *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte*. *Pars pro toto* is used to refer to a part for the whole, while *totum pro parte* is used to refer to the whole for a part.

In this song, synecdotal figures of speech was found. Both are *pars pro toto* and *totum pro parte*. The lyrics '*ditelan bencana tanah ini*' and '*mengapa di tanahku terjadi bencana*' are included in the *pars pro toto*. The word 'tanah' represents an area that is being hit by a disaster. In this case, the focus is on the toxic gas disaster that killed hundreds of people. The *totum pro parte* also can be found in this song, especially in the lyrics '*sesampainya di laut, kukabarkan semuanya*'. The word 'semuanya' represents the disaster that occurred and the impacts caused by the disaster.

4 Conclusion

In the lyrics of the song "Berita Kepada Kawan" by Ebiel G. Ade, a sound element in the form of a cacophony is used which depicts sadness, gloom, and depression, according to the theme of this song, it is about natural disasters. The writing style of the lyrics is enhanced by playing figurative language in the form of a comparison consisting of personification and simile; contradictions are hyperbole and litotes; repetition is alliteration, anaphora, and polysyndeton; and linkage is synecdotal.

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