



ANALYSIS OF METAPHORICAL EXPRESSIONS USED IN ADELE'S SONG LYRICS OF "SOMEONE LIKE YOU"

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Abstract

Metaphorical expressions play a crucial role in music, enabling artists to communicate complex emotions and experiences through vivid and imaginative language. This research examined the metaphorical expressions used in the lyrics of Adele's famous song "Someone Like You." By analyzing the metaphorical utilization in this song, it can gain insight into Adele's poetic techniques for evoking strong emotions and establishing rapport with her audience. Using a qualitative methodology, this research begins by identifying and classifying the metaphorical expressions found in the lyrics of "Someone Like You." Examining metaphors at multiple levels, including conceptual metaphors and novel metaphors, reveals their underlying meaning and symbolism. In addition, the study explores the potential cultural, emotional, and psychological implications of these metaphors, casting light on the universal appeal of the song. The lyrics of "Someone Like You" are full of metaphors that depict emotional states, such as love as a journey, heartbreak as physical pain, and time as a healing force. Moreover, Adele's metaphors connect the audience with the songwriter's experiences, resonating with similar emotional journeys. The analysis highlights the effectiveness of metaphors in enhancing the song's lyrical impact and eliciting empathetic responses. Adele's use transforms "Someone Like You" into a universal anthem of sorrow and perseverance. This study contributes to the existing literature on metaphor analysis in music by analyzing the metaphorical expressions in Adele's "Someone Like You." It illustrates the ability of metaphors to encapsulate complex emotions and experiences, thereby enhancing the listener's comprehension and emotional engagement with the music.

Keywords: *Metaphorical Expressions, Adele' Song Lyrics*

Abstrak

Ungkapan metafora memainkan peran penting dalam musik, memungkinkan para seniman untuk mengkomunikasikan emosi dan pengalaman yang kompleks melalui bahasa yang jelas dan imajinatif. Penelitian ini meneliti ekspresi metafora yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu terkenal Adele, "Someone Like You". Dengan menganalisis penggunaan metafora dalam lagu ini, dapat diperoleh wawasan tentang teknik puitis Adele dalam membangkitkan emosi yang kuat dan membangun hubungan dengan pendengarnya. Dengan menggunakan metodologi kualitatif, penelitian ini dimulai dengan mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasikan ekspresi metaforis yang ditemukan dalam lirik "Someone Like You." Meneliti metafora pada berbagai tingkatan, termasuk metafora konseptual dan metafora baru, mengungkap makna dan simbolisme yang mendasarinya. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga

mengeksplorasi implikasi budaya, emosional, dan psikologis yang potensial dari metafora ini, yang menyoroti daya tarik universal dari lagu tersebut. Lirik "Someone Like You" penuh dengan metafora yang menggambarkan kondisi emosional, seperti cinta sebagai sebuah perjalanan, patah hati sebagai rasa sakit fisik, dan waktu sebagai kekuatan penyembuhan. Selain itu, metafora Adele menghubungkan pendengar dengan pengalaman penulis lagu, yang beresonansi dengan perjalanan emosional yang serupa. Analisis ini menyoroti keefektifan metafora dalam meningkatkan dampak lirik lagu dan memunculkan respons empati. Penggunaan metafora oleh Adele mengubah "Someone Like You" menjadi lagu universal tentang kesedihan dan ketekunan. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada literatur yang ada tentang analisis metafora.

Kata Kunci: *Ungkapan Metafora, Lirik Lagu Adele*

Introduction

Lyrics are a series or arrangement of speech that has a rhythmic strain; the sentences contained in a song are forms that can be felt utilizing both the sense of sight and the feeling of the listener; they can also be experienced concerning the expression of another person. In general, a poet or songwriter plays with language and words while conveying his or her experience to create something distinctive and appealing in the form of poetry or song lyrics. Lyrics are the words that are sung to a song, and they often contain an expression of the singer's innermost thoughts and feelings (Adventina Putranti, 2015).

The author of the song lyrics made an effort to express something that is felt, experienced, and observed within the context of the community setting through the song's lyrical content. Lyrics to songs can be considered a form of literature, namely poetry. When writing song lyrics, it is important to employ either figurative language or figurative language to produce lyrics that have artistic worth. This is because literal language cannot produce lyrics that have artistic value. In the process of making a song, a musician makes use of various language styles to develop qualities and appeals in the song's lyrics that appeal to members of the public or those who enjoy listening to music (Klitgård, 2009).

The experience of the songwriter, who writes about his own love story, is

expressed through the lyrics of the song in the same way that it is done in the song "Someone Like You." The language that is included in the song lyrics has one lyrical topic or author, and very few or none of the references to individuals are considered to be monologues or out of context. The song's lyrics are written in a style that is reminiscent of a poem. Because of differences in personality and demeanor, the contrast is not as apparent as one might expect. The lyrics of the song are given with the accompaniment of musical instruments (Yang, 2014).

This study was conducted to review the meaning or purpose in the form of metaphors that are indirectly found in one of Adel's works, specifically the song entitled "Someone Like You," along with various variations of metaphor found in the song. Based on the reasons or context stated and conveyed through the previous presentations, this study was conducted to review the meaning or purpose in the form of metaphors that are indirectly found in one of Adel's works. The lyrics of the song have metaphorical connotations that are more representative of the reality that exists in human existence (Juliana, 2020). This is consistent with what has been discovered in songs that were composed directly by Adele. For example, this song expresses a variety of emotions, such as attraction between people of different sexes, the inability to find love, disappointment, hopelessness, and so on.

In conjunction with this, the lyrics to the song "Someone Like You" are well-known and well-liked by a large number of individuals, particularly young people, since the lines presented can symbolize the emotions or feelings of those who hear them (Verity & Larson, 1986).

Nominative metaphors, often known as object or noun metaphors, attribute a property or quality of one object or noun to another. They work by equating the source domain with the target domain. Nominative metaphors use concrete imagery to conceptualize and express abstract ideas. Literature, poetry, and language employ use these metaphors (Gibbs, 1990).

Complementary Metaphors: Two or more metaphors are used to convey a deeper meaning. Different metaphors illuminate the desired topic. Complementary metaphors provide a multidimensional view of the material, improving comprehension. They are useful in abstract or complex fields like philosophy, psychology, and social sciences (J. Lakoff & Johnson, n.d.).

Sentence metaphors, sometimes called structural metaphors or metaphoric sentences, metaphorically map an entire sentence or phrase from the source domain to the destination domain. Sentence metaphors provide complex meanings and relationships without focusing on words or objects. They determine story frameworks, rhetorical techniques, and communication coherence and impact (G. Lakoff & Johnson, 1980).

This study examines nominative, complimentary, and sentence metaphors to better understand how metaphors affect language, cognition, and communication. It emphasizes the power of metaphors to explain complicated ideas and shape our perceptions and experiences. These metaphor types could be studied in specific circumstances or concerning cultural, societal, and individual characteristics.

Method

The method used descriptive qualitative method. This research focuses on the identification, description, and interpretation of metaphors and strives to provide a deep exploration of the metaphorical richness within the lyrics. The researcher chose Adele's song "Someone Like You" lyrics as the main corpus for analysis (corpus selection)(Juliana Juliana, 2019). This song's ability to evoke strong emotions provides a wealth of metaphorical metaphors for analysis. To collect the data, the researcher appropriately transcribed "*Someone Like You*" in its entirety. And then obtain further information about the song, such as its history, Adele's motivations, and any pertinent contextual information (Juliana; Fahira, 2021).

To get the data, the researcher classified the types of metaphors based on the theory of Lakoff, G., & Johnson, M. (1980). Ricoeur, 1977 and then analyzed the metaphors used in the song's lyrics to fully comprehend the ideas, sentiments, and feelings expressed. Repeatedly play the song while paying great attention to the delivery, tone, and words.

There were some procedures to Locating Metaphorical Expressions. Firstly, the researcher pay close attention to where metaphorical expressions are used in the lyrics. Secondly, the researcher conveyed deeper ideas or symbols, language that deviates from exact descriptions should be sought out. Thirdly, the researcher sorted the metaphors into categories according to their type, such as nominative, complementary and sentence metaphors. And then analyze the metaphors in the context of the song's lyrics using contextual analysis (Huberman, 1998).

To comprehend how the metaphors relate to the story, emotional tone, and overall meaning of the song, the researcher

considered the adjacent lines, verses, and stanzas to think about the metaphors' underlying ideas, life experiences, and cultural allusions. And then, Interpretation and Implications: Interpret the metaphors and consider any implications they might have. Consider the resonance and emotional impact that these metaphors elicit while keeping in mind their applicability to the experiences of the listeners and the overarching issues the song raises. And the last, Reporting and Findings: Outline the analysis's conclusions while giving a detailed overview of the metaphors employed in Adele's song "Someone Like You." Give examples to help with your analysis and illustrate the depth and importance of the metaphors you used (Juliana, 2019).

Findings and Discussion

The results of the analysis in the research that had been conducted are the review stage by employing the lyrics of a popular song in the world that includes the pop genre entitled "Someone Like You" which was written and sung directly by Adele Laurie. Adele's song is largely about love tales, life processes, and disappointments, with the phrases in the lyrics focusing on these topics. After analyzing the feelings and responses, it was discovered that the author utilized a figure of speech or language to make the lyrics of the song more lovely to hear. After evaluating the examined songs, it was discovered that there was an application of metaphorical figures of speech, although the words of the song "Someone Like You" do not contain any or only a few metaphors. Determine and identify the metaphors contained in the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You" are the steps of analysis carried out. The analysis and meaning of existing metaphors then be provided in the

discussion to clarify the classification of metaphors once again.

The lyrics of the song "Someone Like You" and the identification of the type of metaphors are in the following

In the first lyric, *I heard that you're settled down, that you found a girl and you're married now... I heard, that your dreams came true Guess she gave you things, I didn't give to you Old friend, why are you so shy? Ain't like you to hold back or hide from the light* In the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You". For the first part, there are 2 types of metaphors, namely in the form of objective nominative metaphors which can be seen in the following sentences: *I heard that your dreams came true Guess she gave you things*. Whereas in the other sentences in the song lyrics for verse 1 it is still stated in the form of a direct meaning.

In the second lyric, *I hate to turn up out of the blue uninvited, but I couldn't stay away, I couldn't fight it I had hoped you'd see my face and that you'd be reminded that for me, it isn't over* In the fragment of the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You". For the second part there are 2 types of metaphors, namely in the form of subjective complementary nominative metaphors in the second line while in the seventh line is a type of sentence metaphor which can be seen in the following lyrics: *of the blue uninvited, but I it isn't over, As for the other sentences in the lyrics of the second stanza, they are still stated in the form of direct meaning. Bait Tiga Never mind I'll find someone like you I wish nothing but the best for you... too Don't forget me, I beg, I remember you said Sometimes it lasts in love, but sometimes it hurts instead Sometimes it lasts in love, but sometimes it hurts instead* (J. Lakoff & Johnson, n.d.).

In the fragment of the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You" for the third part, there is 1 type of metaphor, namely in the form of

an objective nominative metaphor which can be seen in the following lyric: *someone like you, While* in other sentences in the song lyrics of verse 3, it is still stated in direct meaning.

The fourth lyric *"You know how the time flies, only yesterday was the time of our lives, We were born and raised in a summer haze, bound by the surprise of our glory days In the fourth stanza in the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You"* found 4 forms metaphor. The type of objective nominative metaphor found in lines 2 and 3 while in lines 5 and 6 are types of sentence metaphors, which can be seen in the following lyrics: *the time flies, only yesterday was the time of our lives, summer haze, bound by the surprise of our glory days* As for the other sentences in the song lyrics of verse 4, they are still stated in the form of direct meaning.

The fifth verse in the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You" has the same lyrics or sentences as the song lyrics contained in the second verse or repetition. As for the sixth stanza in the song lyrics, it has the same content or sentence as the song lyrics contained in the third stanza or repetition.

After analyzing and recognizing the types of metaphors found in the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You" discussed in the results section, several types of metaphors can be found in them. In the first stanza in the lyrics of the song, there are two forms of the same metaphor, namely in line 5 and line 6. The lyrics are a type of objective nominative metaphor, this is because, in the figurative symbol for song lyrics, there is an object sentence, namely *"your dreams" and "things"*. For the second lyrics itself, two different forms of metaphor are found, namely the type of subjective complementary metaphor found in line 2 which in the figurative symbol in the lyrics of the song can be found only in the complement of the sentence in question

and functions as a noun as a complement or complement.

Whereas line 7 is a type of sentence metaphor, as the figurative symbol is found throughout the sentence. The metaphor of a sentence is endless or measurable for the noun, for those who play the role of being the subject, or for those who play the role of being its complement. In the third stanza of the song "Someone Like You" one form of metaphor is found, namely the objective nominative metaphor found in line 2. This is because the figurative symbol of the song lyrics is found in the object of the sentence, namely *"you"*. Meanwhile, the other sentences in the verses of the song are still stated in a direct meaning. In the fourth stanza, there are four forms of metaphor which in line 2 and line 3 are objective nominative metaphors because the figurative symbol is found in the object. Sentences namely the words *"the time flies"* and also *"the time of our lives"*. Whereas line 5 and line 6 are types of sentence metaphors because the figurative symbols in the song lyrics are found in the whole sentence. In the seventh stanza in the lyrics of this song, two forms of metaphor are found, namely the type of complementary metaphor found in line 1 and line 2. This is because the figurative symbol is found in the entire phrase and the metaphorical expression is a form of a phrase.

After analyzing the identification of the metaphors contained in the lyrics of the song "Someone Like You", it was found that there are 11 forms of metaphors contained in the verses of the song. For other song lyrics where there is no form of metaphor, all components of the sentence are stated in a direct or precise meaning.

The lyrics of the song entitled "Someone Like You" is a work of art in the form of a song that describes the story of a woman and her former soul mate from the subject or topic of the song, in which the man has found another lover or separated

from the woman. The boy ends up marrying the new girl he has met and not with the subject of the lyrics or self-expression in the form of the word "I".

The lover of the subject of the lyrics feels that after meeting this woman and marrying her, the lover's life becomes more peaceful and colorful than before because the woman who has just become his wife can give happiness that previously could not be felt when being with the woman or the subject of this song. Under these conditions, the lyrical subject was unable to stop or walk away from the disappointment that was beyond her expectations, but the woman also realized that she could not permanently stay in that disappointment and only lamented.

The lyrical subject also conveys his wish for his former soul mate to always remember every period or event they have lived together because the lyrical subject thinks that everything is not finished yet. This can be seen in the lyrics of the song which are written and describe that many memories have been passed by the two of them. He must be able to let go of everything that has passed even though it is beyond his expectations and he must fight and get back up to achieve a new life that is better than before (Gibbs, 1990).

The lyrical subject also finally decides to open up or live a new life and look for the right person like his former soulmate, in the end even though they can't be with his ex-girlfriend anymore he wishes the best for the man. Not only that, the lyrical subject wishes that the man does not throw away every memory and time when they were together, because the lyrical subject will do the same thing, which is to keep reminiscing about the times when they were together. Sometimes something that is memorable or makes an impression on someone's memory is difficult to forget, even though when we remember it, it will hurt to

remember those times (G. Lakoff & Johnson, 1980).

Conclusion

Song is an expression of emotions that can be sensed by the listener or senses of sight or hearing. Authors and songwriters use their creativity and language skills to create poetry or songs that astonish and enthrall. Lyrics may include anomalies, word substitutions, or language shifts, such as metaphors or comparative figures of speech.

The results of the investigation, which was undertaken in the form of an analysis, allowed it to be concluded that the lyrics to Adele's song "Someone Like You" have a metaphorical significance. This is demonstrated by the song's lyrics, which contain 11 metaphors—5 nominative, 3 complimentary, and 3 phrase metaphors. The outcomes of this metaphor analysis can aid readers of literature or music in better visualizing and comprehending a song's intention or meaning.

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