



## Stylistic Analysis of the Song Lyrics at the Album “30” by Adele

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### Abstrak

Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk menganalisis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu album Adele “30”. Penulis lagu bermain dengan kata-kata dan bahasa untuk menciptakan kekuatan sebagai daya tarik dan keunikan lirik lagu. Bahasa kiasan memiliki kemampuan untuk memberikan dampak yang lebih kepada pembaca. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjawab dua masalah, yaitu: (1) Untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu album “30” milik Adele. (2) Menganalisis makna kiasan yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu album Adele “30”. Data dianalisis berdasarkan teori bahasa kiasan yang dikemukakan oleh Xu Youzhi (2005) dan teori makna yang dikemukakan oleh Rozakis (1995). Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ada 5 jenis bahasa kiasan yang ditemukan dalam album “30” milik Adele. album “30”. Mereka adalah simile, personifikasi, metafora, hiperbola, ironi, dan. Penelitian ini menemukan (1 simile, 10 personifikasi, 4 metafora, 7 hiperbola, 1 ironi). Dan sebaliknya dalam menganalisis makna penelitian kontekstual menemukan beberapa jenis makna yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu, yaitu gaya bahasa kiasan.

*Abstract*

This study analysis the figurative language used in the album's song lyrics Adele “30”. The songwriter plays with words and language to create power attractiveness and uniqueness of the song lyrics. Figurative language has the ability to more impact on readers. This study aims to answer two research problems, namely: (1) To identify the types of figurative language used in the lyrics of Adele's album track "30". (2) Analysis the meaning of language allusion contained in the lyrics of Adele's album song “30”. Data analysis based on figurative language theory put forward by Xu Youzhi (2005) and the theory of meaning put forward by Rozakis (1995). The results of this study shows that there are 5 types of figurative language found in Adele's album “30”. They are simile, personification, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, and. This study found (1 simile, 10 personifications, 4 metaphors, 7 hyperboles, 1 irony). And vice versa in analysing the meaning contextual research found several types of meaning used in song lyrics, namely the stylistic figurative language.

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## INTRODUCTION

Linguistic and literary texts can be interpreted by using different stylistics methods based on Semino and Culpeper (2011: 14). They divided stylistics into two; *General stylistics* which is used to analyse the linguistic texts such as advertising, newspaper reporting, or everyday conversation. Meanwhile, *literary stylistics* focuses on analysing the literary works such as short story, novel, and poem.

Song lyrics are included in the literary genre because lyrics are literary works (poetry) that contain an outpouring of personal feelings, the wording of a song. So, as poetry but are presented in the form of singing which belongs to the imaginative literary genre. Lyrics are literary works (poems) that contain an outpouring of personal feelings, the wording of a song. Songs are various rhythms which include the sound of instruments and singing and so on, singing, behavior, manners. Song is a variety of rhythmic sounds, songs, variety, singing, and behavior. A song is a musical unit consisting of a sequence of various tones.

The album was written by Adele and sung by herself and Greg Kurstin. This album is Adele's 30th album. They are "Easy on Me, To be Loved, Strangers by Nature, Cry Your Heart Out, Love is Game, My Little Love, Oh my God, Can I Get It, I Drink Wine, All Night Parking, Woman Like Me, Hold On, Wild Wild West, Can't be Together" was released on October 15, 2021 after some time before Adele released a teaser video and put up a billboard with the number 30. Exactly three years after Adele and her husband's divorce.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Theoretical Basis

According to Xu, You Zhi (2005) there are three aspects of stylistic study; stylistic study can help cultivate a sense of appropriateness (we should develop a sense of appropriateness in order to choose the suitable speeches in such situations), stylistic study

The song belongs to the pop genre, and was nominated for a BRIT Award for British single, People's Choice Award for most popular song of the year. People's choice's award for favorite music video. The song "Easy on Me, To be Loved, Strangers by Nature, Cry Your Heart Out, Love is Game, My Little Love, Oh my God, Can I Get It, I Drink Wine, All Night Parking, Woman Like Me, Hold On, Wild Wild West, Can't be Together" sung by Adele, a British singer is still trending on Indonesian You Tube. In fact, the song has been released since November 19, 2021. After just 10 hours of uploading, the video clip of the song inspired by the divorce story has already been played 19 million times on the video sharing platform You Tube. The number of viewers of this video continues to increase from time to time. In addition, the video clip easy on me received 1,5 million likes, 'only' 6,800 users pressed the dislike button.

Each song must be has a specific purpose to be conveyed to the public as listeners. The song contains a line of well-crafted words in an attractive language style by the author and delivered in a beautiful voice by the singer. This study analyzes the song lyrics of a famous songwriter and singer and this song is based on a true story and the meaning contained in this song is also very deeply contained in each of the song's lyric song and the message contained in it is very useful for listeners. we can analyze the above through the lyrics of the song of the album "30" by Adele.

sharpens the understanding and appreciation of literary works, and stylistic study also helps achieve adaptation in translation. Literary stylistic connects linguistics and literature because instead of describes the process of language in literary work and explores the creativity of language, it is also explaining the reason of language use by the author.

According to Rozaklis (1995: 28) said that "Figurative language – saying one thing in terms of another". It means that figurative language is an expression used by person or the author indirectly by using the comparison.

### Types of Figurative Meaning

According to Xu, You Zhi (2005) there are several figurative languages that are used in its use. They are :

Simile is the comparison of two distinctly different things but it is considered the same as helped by the connective words "like" and "as". For example: *Brave as a lion, they fought like cats and dogs.*

A metaphor is the comparison of two unlike things as if they are one. Metaphor does not have connective words such as like, as, than, similar to and seems determining them as figurative. Metaphor and simile have close relation because comparing the different things. If the concept of simile is A is like B, then the concept of metaphor is A is B. For example: Time is money

Personification is the style of language that gives the characteristics of human to inanimate objects. So, this kind of figurative language makes inanimate object can act, speak, and has emotional feeling like human. For example: *The sun greeted me this morning, the sky was full of dancing stars.*

Irony is the style of language to express something captured by the reader that should be opposite from the literal meaning. For example: "Oh! What fine luck I have!" the sentence on the surface conveys that the speaker is happy with their luck but actually what they mean is that they are extremely unhappy and dissatisfied.

Hyperbole is the style of language in expressing something exaggeratedly. It is used to cause the effect and reaction from the reader such as serious, ironic, and humorous. For example: *You snore louder than a freight train.*

But in this study only discusses the figurative language in the lyrics of the song. This analysis is reviewed by Mulyarti Baiq Rahayu (2014) analysis of the song figurative language in Adele's song lyric. But in this article using a different theory from theory studied or analysis this time, even though it used the same song lyrics

So the conclusion is this time the researcher uses the types of meanings and theories that examine meaning (semantics) to analyze the stylistic figurative language of the lyrics of the song album "30" by Adele.

### RESEARCH METHOD

This research is the formal and systematic application of the scientific method to the study of problems. The purpose of a study is to obtain data related to the problem that the researcher is trying to identify and solve. The idea above, directs the researcher to use a qualitative descriptive method to collect detailed information about his research from informants. This method is suitable for describing the stylistic figurative language of the lyrics of the song " Easy on Me, to be Loved, Strangers by Nature, Cry Your Heart Out " by Adele.

### Data Source

The source of the data obtained by the researcher is through YouTube, Google, articles, as a source or basis for a researcher in researching the case being studied.

### Research Procedure

There are some procedures used by the writer in order to carry out this research, namely: The writer chose the selected Adele song lyricThe writer collected the data by downloading the song and the lyrics The writer listen the song to find the figurative language of the song lyrics.The writer read carefully the selected lyrics in order to understand its whole figurative language.

## Data Collection

To get the desired data, the researcher did the following things: Retype Data; In this step, the writer retyped the data got from the lyric.

Identification; After transcribing the data, the writer identified and classified the forms of connotation.

Describing ; Finally, the writer described the data in order to answer the problem of the research.

## Data Analysis

The data is analyzed inductively. Meaning that the analysis is based on collecting data on theories or concepts by using the following procedures: (1). Data Collection. (2). Transcription. (3). Data selection. (4). Data Classification, and Data Analysis. (5).

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Finding

In this part the research presents the data which are taken from the selected lyrics of Adele songs. They are four songs that were analysis as the corpuses of this research, namely: "Easy on Me, stranger by nature, to be loved,Cry Your Heart Out". The following are the data of stylistic figurative language found in the selected lyrics of Adele songs.

#### 1. Easy on Me.

Data songs	Figurative Language
1. (I know there is hope in these waters)	1. personification 2. personification
2. (There ain't no "room for our things to change)	3. personification 4. hyperbole 5. hyperbole
3. (When we are both so deeply stuck in our ways)	6. hyperbole 7. metaphor

4. (There ain't no gold in this river)	
5. (That I've been washin' my hands in forever)	
6. (Feel the world around me)	
7. (When I am drownin' in the silence)	

#### 2. Strangers by Nature.

Data songs	Figurative Language
1.(I'll be taking flowers to the cemetery of my heart)	1.Personification 2.Personification 3.Irony 4.Hyperbole
2.(i've never seen the sky this color before)	5.Metaphor
3.(every anniversary, i'll pay respects and say i'm sorry)	
4.(now that all the dust has settled)	
5.(for all my lovers in the present snd in the dark)	

#### 3.to be Loved.

Data songs	Figurative Language
1.(i built a house for love to grow)	-personification -personification
2.(all i do is bleed into someone else)	-personification -metaphor
3.(filling rooms with all my hopes fears)	-hyperbole -hyperbole

4.(i'm as lost now as i was back them)	
5.(painting walls with all my secret tears)	
6.(ain't it funny how the mighty fall)	

#### 4. Cry Your Heart Out

Data songs	Figurative Language
1.(when i walk in a room, i'm invisible)	1.Personification
2.(i'm hanging by a thread)	2.Personification
3.(my skin's paper thin, i can't stop wavering)	3.Metaphor
4.(i feel like a ghost)	4.Simile
5.(i created this storm, it's only fair i have to sit it its rain)	5.Hyperbole

## Discussion

In the song (Easy on Me) by Adele, there are sentences that contain meaning (**personification**) in them. Emotionally this sentence refers to something that is not human but describes the emotional or human nature of its feelings, related to something that happens or is experienced. The data and the analysis as follow:

**Data 1 (I know there is hope in these waters)** In data 1, based on the data above, the sentences contained in the lyrics of the line 3rd songs (easy on me) explain the phrase “hope in these waters” was indicated as personification. This phrase means about hope something, but it used the word “waters” as the things that can be hoped. This phrase used the connotative meaning in the word “waters”.

**Data 2 (There ain't no “room for our things to change)** From the data 2, based on the data above, the sentences contained in the lyrics of the line 14th songs (easy on me) explain no room for our things to change is one of the song’s lyric “Easy on Me” by Adele. This phrase was classified as personification. The word room in this phrase was indicated or means as opportunity. So in this phrase, we change our things by using room. It is described as if it were human.

**Data 3 (When we are both so deeply stuck in our ways)** In the last data above based on the data above, the sentences contained in the lyrics of the line 15th songs (easy on me) explain, data 3 was also indicated as personification. Personification was found in phrase stuck in our ways. Actually, we can stuck just in road or way that we never know before. But, in our ways, certainly we know very well about the ways

In the song entitled (Easy on Me) there are sentences that contain **hyperbole** in them. This data includes the style of language in expressing something exaggerated from the actual word. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyrics:

**Data 1 (There ain't no gold in this river)** In data 1, this sentence which is contained in the fragment of the 1th lyric of the song (Easy on Me) explains that the phrase no gold in this river is too exaggeration. The word gold means the precious thing. So, the word gold here is overstatement. This phrase was classified as **hyperbole**.

**Data 2 (That I've been washin' my hands in forever)** From data 2 above, This sentence which is contained in the fragment of the 2th lyric of the song (Easy on Me) explains that the sentence That I've been washin' my hands in forever has **hyperbole**. The phrase washin' my hands in forever contains hyperbole in figurative language. The word forever in this phrase is exaggeration. In daily life, it is impossible to wash our hand forever.

So, this phrase was indicated as hyperbole. The meaning of washin' my hands in forever in this phrase was letting go of engagement forever.

***Data 3 (Feel the world around me)***

Based on the last data, this sentence which is contained in the fragment of the 10th lyric of the song (Easy on Me) explains that data 3 above was classified as **hyperbole** too. This phrase Feel the world around me contains exaggeration. Actually, we can feel the things around us. It is like water, air, and anything, but not the world. The world is large to feel.

In the song entitled (Easy on Me), by Adele, there is a sentence that contains "**metaphor**" in it. which describes explaining two different things as if they were one. The meaning of this sentence is contained in the following fragment of the song lyrics:

***Data 1 (When I am drownin' in the silence)*** Based on data 2, the sentence contained in the lyrics of the song "Easy on Me" by Adele, the 5th lyric of this song, explains metaphor was found in the phrase drownin' in the silence. Impossible for human drives in silence. This phrase used the things about human being in the word silence. Then, this phrase classified as metaphor

In the song (Strangers by Nature) by Adele, there are sentences that contain meaning (**personification**) in them. Emotionally this sentence refers to something that is not human but describes the emotional or human nature of its feelings, related to something that happens or is experienced. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyrics:

***Data 1 (I'll be taking flowers to the cemetery of my heart)*** From data 1, (I'll be taking flowers to the cemetery of my heart) is one of the lyrics to Adele's song "Strangers by Nature". This phrase is classified as personification. The word "cemetery" in this phrase is indicated or interpreted as a final resting place in real life, and there are many resting places in this world such as beds,

chairs, floors, and so on. but what is meant here is dead feelings for dead people. So in this phrase, it describes someone with a feeling that has died because of the circumstances that are experienced.

***Data 2. (I've never seen the sky this color before)*** The sentence contained in the lyrics of the 6th song (strangers by nature) by Adele, explains that emotionally humans use the words (sky) and (color) as two things that become references in feeling. The word " sky " in this phrase is defined as a " freedom " and " color " in this phrase is defined as " color ". So in this case it means "colorful freedom" which is an expression of desire and hope.

In the song (strangers by nature) there is a sentence that contains (**irony**) in it. With a happy feeling but actually not. The meaning of this sentence is contained in the following lyrics:

***Data 1 (Every anniversary, I'll pay respects and say I'm sorry)***. The sentence contained in the lyrics of the song (strangers by nature) the lyrics of the "3<sup>rd</sup>" song, explains that every happy feeling is described in the sentence "every anniversary" is happy but on the other hand there are feelings that are not happy also contained in the sentence "I'll pay respect and say I'm sorry ".

There are many figures of speech used in this song, but there are several figures of speech used in the song (strangers by nature), one of which is hyperbole. **Hyperbole** is a style of language in exaggerating something. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyrics:

***Data 1 (Now that all the dust has settled)***. This sentence which is contained in the fragment of the 8th lyric of the song (strangers by nature) explains that, why is it said to be hyperbole because this sentence describes or refers to people who are already "dead" by using the word "dust" replacing the word that should be, likening someone who is no longer There's more to the word "dust".

In the song entitled (strangers by nature) there is a sentence that contains (**metaphor**) in it. which describes the comparison of two different things as if they were one. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyrics

**Data 1 (For all my lovers in the present and in the dark)** According to this data, in the sentence contained in the lyrics of the "2<sup>nd</sup>" song "strangers by nature" explains that this phrase uses the sentence "present and past lovers" because this expression describes the expression of feelings for people in the present and also and also people who have died, this phrase uses humans as objects.

In the song entitled (to be loved), by Adele, there is a sentence that contains "**metaphor**" in it. which describes explaining two different things as if they were one. The meaning of this sentence is contained in the following fragment of the song lyrics:

**Data 1 (I'm as lost now as I was back them)** The sentence contained in the lyrics of the song "to be loved" by Adele, the 3rd lyric of this song, explains why this sentence is called a "metaphor"? because this sentence describes a fact or fact that often occurs in human life in general. always experience the same thing in life.

In the lyrics (I'm lost now as I was back them) the word "now" and the word "back them" have different meanings but have similarities. something that happens in the present is inseparable from the past and this lyric explains that Adele is still lost in the same feelings and ways whether in the present or in the past.

In the song entitled (to be Loved) by Adele, there are sentences containing personification in them. Emotionally this sentence refers to something that is not human but describes the emotionality of a human being towards his feelings, which is related to something that has happened or experienced.

The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyric:

**Data 1 (I built a house for love to grow)** The sentence contained in the 1st lyrics of the song "To be loved" explains that emotionally humans use the word "house" as a reference in feeling. home is often used as or the main thing in human life. home is likened to a place, space, to build the beginning in any case. in this context the lyrics above explain that the house is a container or place of origin. Every human being has a home in any case. but in this case it is meant that the house is a container or a place to build love. every love must have a place to build, grow love. This songwriter (Adele) likens the house to a space to build a new love like human life in general.

**Data 2 (All I do is bleed into someone else)** In the song (To be loved) in the lyrics of the 6th song, explains that Adele uses the word "bleed" to describe feelings about extraordinary sacrifices. "bleed" here means to say (great struggle, great struggle, tireless, not tired, and time). but in this explanation of the lyrics, Adele explains that as bloody as the struggle that Adele is doing is just a struggle that is in vain. Adele only does what hurts others from what Adele has tried, everything is very painful.

**Data 3 (Filling rooms with all my hopes fears)** In the lyrics this time in the song (To be Loved) in the lyrics to the 8th song, explaining that for the second time Adele describes her feelings in the word "rooms". In general the room is the most comfortable and good place in any case. but the meaning of these lyrics is that the room is a place to tell stories, to vent anything that is an obstacle in feelings.

Adele explained that the room is a place where Adele puts her hopes and fears that Adele experiences, and a place to tell stories or vent all feelings, live everything in life that is very heavy and complicated and

there are no friends to tell stories and share feelings and Adele fills all of that when Adele sits alone in her room.

In the song entitled (to be loved) there are sentences that contain **hyperbole** in them. This data includes the style of language in expressing something exaggerated from the actual word. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyrics:

**Data 1 (painting walls with all my secret tears)** Based on the data above, the sentences contained in the lyrics of the 7th song (to be loved) are said to be hyperbole because they explain another meaning than the true meaning. what is meant here is that there is no right place to vent heavy feelings and nothing to share. something like this often happens with humans in general. there is no place or space to talk and share feelings, then harbor and choose silence over all those feelings and a choice like that is the choice to bear it all alone. And in this lyric "painting walls with all my secret tears" in the song (to be loved) by Adele explains that all the feelings, burdens and problems whatever they are, Adele bears them all alone. it's an impossible choice for most people to make, and the "wall" in these lyrics means to explain that Adele doesn't have the right place to channel those feelings, so Adele silently hangs them up on the bedroom wall as if they were a human being, always there listening to her stories and secrets.

**Data 2 (Ain't it funny how the mighty fall)** In the song (to be loved) on the 20th lyric "Ain't it funny how the mighty fall" explains that Adele uses the word "mighty" to describe that no matter how great and strong someone is, they will definitely fall in time. although it is something that does not make sense to some people but most people experience it. Like Adele, she uses the word "mighty" to describe Adele herself. whatever power she has will surely fall in time.

In the song entitled (Cry Your Heart Out), there is a sentence that contains "personification" in it. Emotionally this sentence refers to something that is not human but describes the emotion of a human being as something about his feelings. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following sentence:

**Data 1 (When I walk in a room, I'm invisible)** Thus it can be seen that the sentence contained in the lyrics of the 5th song (Cry Your Heart Out) explains that in personification this sentence means that silence is real. Adele uses the word "room" to describe her feelings. in this lyric the word "room" is defined as a space, container, or place. Adele explains that Adele feels lonely and even though Adele lives her life, Adele still feels that loneliness exists. in the lyrics (When I walk in a room, I'm invisible), explained that even though Adele lives life, Adele always feels alone in her daily life and there is space that limits that feeling, even though people are around her, Adele feels invisible.

**Data 2 (I'm hanging by a thread)** Based on the data above, it is known that the sentence contained in the lyrics of the 13th song (cry your heart out) explains that in general the word "thread" is usually used to sew or repair torn clothes or fabrics. "thread" is also a material that breaks easily, thin, and range to burn. but the meaning of the lyrics "I'm hanging by a thread" in the song (cry your heart out) explains that Adele is a weak person and has weak feelings, Adele has a soft heart so once hurt Adele will be completely broken and separated. Adele is also not strong with what Adele is going through in her life and how her feelings and heart accept all those things in Adele's life because everything will soon be destroyed like a thread.

In the song entitled (Cry Your Heart Out), by Adele, there is a sentence that contains "**Metaphor**" in it. which describes

explaining two different things as if they were one. The meaning of this sentence is contained in the following fragment of the song lyrics:

**Data 1 (My skin's paper thin, I can't stop wavering)** Based on the data above, it can be seen that the data contained in the lyrics of the 14 songs (cry your heart out) explains that Adele uses the word "paper" in feelings. In general "paper" is used for writing, drawing, and so forth. Paper is also a thin object, easily crushed, and easily burned and easily torn. in explaining the lyrics this time, Adele explained that she is like paper. Her body and skin fear violence. The "paper" in these lyrics explains that Adele is very afraid of violence and unfair treatment. Like people in general, anyone must be afraid of being treated with violence, as well as Adele so that doubts arise so that it is difficult to accept something good and Adele is nervous about it.

In the data analysis this time, in the song (Cry Your Heart Out) there are sentences that contain (Simile) in them. a sentence that compares two things that are different but considered the same. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyric:

**Data 1 (I feel like a ghost)** Based on the data above, the sentence contained in the lyrics of the 5th song (cry your heart out) explains that "Ghosts" are scary things for humans, and ghosts are invisible. So the singer Adele explains herself in the lyrics of this song that the word "ghost" is Adele itself, where Adele feels herself as scary as a ghost, so that like Adele exists but like a ghost so that Adele is not considered.

In the song entitled (Cry Your Heart Out) there are sentences that contain hyperbole in them. This data includes the style of language in expressing something exaggerated from the actual word. The meaning of the sentence above is contained in the following lyrics:

**Data 1 (I created this storm, it's only fair I have to sit it its rain)** Based on the data above, the sentence contained in the 26th song lyric (cry your heart out) explains that everyone must have made mistakes, both big and small, and of course there is fear, worry, guilt about it. Like with Adele in the lyrics above explaining Adele using the word "storm" to describe the big mistake Adele made before. and the word " rain" to describe how sad and sorry Adele is for what she has done. Adele was scared and worried so Adele regretted and cried with everything that had happened.

## CONCLUSION

From the data analysis, the writer found Figurative language in almost every lyric of Adele's songs. Based on research data chapter four, the writer found types of stylistic figurative language in song lyric of the album "30" by Adele is (personification, simile, metaphor, irony, and hyperbole). The most prominent of the five figurative language meaning was in the form of ( personification ) the most of the four songs analysis

## SUGGESTION

The author suggests giving the following suggestion to anyone interested in the study of figurative language. The other researchers can reach a wider range than the author's research. The other researchers can analyze the deep meaning in Adele's song lyrics, and other researchers can also analyze song lyrics with personification analysis.

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