



AN ANALYSIS OF SELECTED ED SHEERAN'S SONGS LYRIC IN PERFECT, SHAPE OF YOU, AND PHOTOGRAPH DISCOURSE ANALYSIS APPROACH

ANALISIS LIRIK LAGU PERFECT, SHAPE OF YOU, DAN PHOTOGRAPH SEBUAH PENDEKATAN ANALISIS WACANA

Edwar Kemal^{1*}, Muthia Dmayanti²

¹Universiti Malaysia Kelantan Malaysia

²Politeknik Negeri Padang, Indonesia

Received: 17.11.2020 • Accepted: 11.12.2020 • Published: 24.01.2021

Abstract: Song is a kind of literature art that expresses many aspects of life. It can provides us more than pleasure of imagination. Ed Sheeran's is a musician and a music playing guitar at a young age and soon after started writing his own songs. Since signing with Atlantic, Sheeran has sold millions of records, had a song appear in the second installment of *The Hobbit* trilogy and won Grammys. The purpose of this research is to analyze the connotative meaning in selected Ed Sheeran's songs lyric. The researcher uses content-analysis because the data that the researcher uses and takes is a song lyric. Result in this research is Ed Sheeran's uses Freenliness and Happiness connotative in his lyrics to the listener in a encouraging way, something that makes the listener easy to understand knowing what is the connotation in the lyric.

Keywords: Analysis, Selected Songs, Discourse

INTRODUCTION

Semantics is the relationship between signs linguistics with things that a marked or in other words. It is a field studies in linguistics discussing meanings contained within language. Therefore, the semantics can clearly be said to be the study of meaning. Semantics is only focused on meaning occurring in a text and utterance. Meaning is what a word, action or concept is all about thing. Meaning represents something intent or purpose. There are some types of meaning are conceptual meaning means logical, cognitive or denotative content, associative meaning an expression has to do with individual mental understandings; affective meaning is communicated of the feeling; and collocative meaning is the associated meaning a

^{1*} Corresponding Author: edwarkemal@gmail.com

²muthiadamayanti@gmail.com



word. A connotative meaning is a meaning which is not the same with the meaning of the words written. It is frequently described as either positive or negative, with regard to its pleasing or displeasing emotional connection. For example, a stubborn person may be described as being either *strong-willed* or *pig-headed*; although these have the same literal meaning (*stubborn*), *strong-willed* connotes admiration for the level of someone's will (a positive connotation), while *pig-headed* connotes frustration in dealing with someone (a negative connotation).

Song is a kind of literature art that expresses many aspects of life. It can provides us more than pleasure of imagination. Song is a rhyme like a poetry but poetry does not has a music, song is a media in expressing feelings, song can make someone feel happy, sad, and relax. In addition, song is a musical piece, everyone likes at least one kind of music, and music stabilizes mental, physical and emotional. It is unusual that some people do not like art, movies or singing. Song can improve memory, concentration, remove stress, improve a sense of community to a group, and improve motivation. Ed Sheeran's is a musician and a music playing guitar at a young age and soon after started writing his own songs. Ed Sheeran's was just a teenager, moved to London to pursue his music, and his outpouring of creativity added up to several early EPs and hundreds of live shows. Drawing attention for his online performances, Sheeran hit No. 1 on the iTunes chart before he ever signed with a record label. Since signing with Atlantic, Sheeran has sold millions of records, had a song appear in the second installment of *The Hobbit* trilogy and won Grammys for hits like "Thinking Out Loud" (2014) and "Shape of You" (2017). Based on the explanation above truly makes the researcher is more interested to analyze the connotative meaning in several songs. The researcher wants to analyze songs from Ed Sheeran's. Thus the researcher found some connotative meaning in Ed Sheeran's songs.

According to the background above, it can be seen that there some types of meaning found in Ed Sheeran songs. Those meanings need to be analyzed because the lyrics has many connotative meanings and the meanings should be analyzed in order to make the reader's understanding clearer. The result of this research will be expected to give contributions for the researcher, reader, English Program Study and other people who need the information on this thesis. For the researcher or other researchers, this finding of the research can be reference to guide another research that relate with this research. in addition, for English Program Study it can be a reference in library and reading room of English Department. For the reader, it will help them to understand the meaning of sentence that contain connotative meaning. For the other who need information about the connotative meaning in Ed Sheeran's songs lyric, it will give them knowledge about connotative meaning and references in learning about the good way on analyze about



the connotative meaning in song.

METHOD

Research design is procedures which involve and has important role in the research process such as data collection, data analysis, and report writing. It means that research design will influence the researcher to determine the proper technique in collecting, analyzing, and reporting the data. In doing this research the method used is Content-Analysis method. According to Kothari (2004:110) content analysis consist of analyzing the contents of documentary materials such as books, magazines, newspaper and the contents of all other verbal materials which can be either spoken or printed. Beside, Ary et al (2010:457) states content analysis is a research method applied to written or visual materials for the purpose of identifying specified characteristics of material. The materials analyzed can be textbooks, newspapers, web pages, speeches, television programs, advertisements, musical compositions, or any of a host of other types of documents. The researcher uses content-analysis because the data that the researcher uses and takes is a song lyric, the researcher will describe about the connotative meaning in selected Ed Sheeran's songs lyric in of "*Perfect, Shape of You, And Photograph*".

After chooses the research design, the researcher need source of data to help her in order to answer the research question of this research. Mack in Tianus (2017:29) defines thatsource of data is something that obtained in the form of textual such as audiotapes, videotapes, film/ movie, and field notes. Thus, the researcher will need source of data to help the researcher to get the data. In this research, the researcher will use a song lyrics as the main data. The data of this researcher will be taken from song lyrics of "*Perfect, Shape Of You, and Photograph*" by Ed Sheeran's songs lyric. There are many steps in collecting the data answer research question of this research. These steps are called technique of data collection, in order to collect the data from the content of communication, the researcher choose some technique from observation method in collecting the data. Sudaryanto in Zaim (2014) state that Observational Method is a kind of method which observes the use of language in order to collect the data of it. The researcher choose some technique from observation method wich proposed by Sudaryanto, such as: Non-participant observation technique is a step of collecting data when the researcher does not invoice directly and play a role. The researcher only as an observe who watches and read source of the data. In order words the researcher is not invoice in Ice Age movie (2002), but the researcher only as the person who watch the movie in order to collect the data for the research. The advanced techniques are following bellow:

1. Taping Technique

In this step, the research will invoice in watch or read source of the data. In this case, the source of data of thus research is Ed Sheeran Song, in this step the researcher will watch the lyric.

2. Note- taking

The last step is note-taking in the step when the researcher will collect the important data for the research by taking a note as source of the data. Related to this research, this researcher will write down all of blad on record strategy the foun in Ed Sheeran song. To make it easy, the researcher will write down some points as bellow :

- a. The title of the Song,such as : “*Perfect, Shape of You, And Photograph*” by Ed Sheeran’s.
- b. Type of connotative meaning in lyric Ed Sheeran’s songs.

The next step is the technique of data collection. Technique of data collection is the technique that researcher use to collect and gather the data. It will help the researcher in collect the data. According to Sudaryanto (2015:203) *observation* is kind of method which observe the use of language in order to collect the data of it.The researcher will do observation in collecting the data. The researcher will also use *non-participant* technique because the researcher will not need participant in collect the data. Thus, the researcher will use document in collecting the data. The document that researcher use is song lyrics of “*Perfect, Shape of You, And Photograph*” by Ed Sheeran’s songs lyric.

After collecting the data, the next step is analyze the data. In analyze the ata, the researcher uses technique from Sudaryanto (2015:15-18) referential method is a method which the indicator tool was not a part of the languages. However, in this research the researcher would use referential identify method because types of data was utterances or conversation from the song lyric in Ed Sheeran and the researcher wants to analyze bald on record strategy that used in their conversation related to the context. Sudaryanto (2015:15-18) said that the referential identify is the method of analyzing data where the key actors of data are defined by context outside of language itself such as : speakers, time, setting, and situation. It also used to see the fact of language itself and the main tool was the fact shown by language (referent) itself. Beside the researcher used pragmatic referential technique of referential method. In this technique, the researcher selects the expression of bald on record strategy in Ed Sheeran’s Songs. After the researcher analyzes the function of song in Ed Sheeran’s. Finally the researcher will conclude the connotative meaning in Song Ed Sheeran’s.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION



The song talk about "Perfect" tells the story of a man's love journey. after the failure of the love story as a teenager with his girlfriend, finally the man gets a second chance to meet and re-establish his love story with his girlfriend. Somehow their story ran aground and passed away, maybe before they did not know what the meaning of a love. So on this second chance, the man seemed to promise not to give up to maintain his relationship. apparently her lover has the same feelings as what men feel. Finally they met, a moment that men want. During the meeting, the man seemed to rediscover his true love that was lost. Rediscovering a lover who is like an angel, so he does not believe and seems unworthy to accept it. For this reason alone, it seems like the man wants to emphasize the seriousness of his heart with his girlfriend to get married. Share all stories, including secrets, having children, and living happily. A perfect story.

Datum 1

'Cause we were just **kids** when we fell in love

Not knowing what it was

Based on the lyric above the word "cause we were just kids when we fell in love" can be say connotative meaning because in the reality the kids never realized before that had the same feeling because the kids can not understand about love is because the kids don't know anything about live. the meaning of the lyric above it was the kids fell in love but don't know anything about love and live.

Datum 2

Baby, I'm dancing in **the dark** with you between my arms

Barefoot on the grass, listening to our favourite song

Based on the lyric above it was the word "the dark" can be say the connotative means gloomy because the man think about dancing with the woman in arms. The meaning of the lyric above it was the man fell gloomy one day he will definitely meet the woman of his choice.

Datum 3

When you said you looked **a mess**, I whispered underneath my breath

But you heard it, Darling, you look perfect tonight.

Based on the lyric above it was the word is "a mess" the meaning is not neat, dirty, and not clean. But in the lyric above the man but still say to the woman that she look perfect or beautiful and sweet to the man. The meaning of the lyric above it was the man must accept the person as he is, with all the shortcomings he has. the man who is able to complete what the woman don't have, but who can also make you a better



person, is the person should maintain.

Datum 4

Well, I found a woman, stronger than anyone I know

She shares my dreams, I hope that someday **I'll share her home**

Based on the lyric above the word is “share” can be say this man wants to share the same dream with girl choise or to wife. The man hopes that someday, they will share the roof and live together like family. The meaning above the lyric is if the man or woman had found someone this love, so the man or woman will be think to married and share together in home. Try to hold on with situation this and do not ever let go.

Datum 5

We are still **kids** but we're so in love

Fighting against all odds

I know we'll be alright this time

Based on the lyric above the word “kids” can be say is was the kids is very young to know the live. the meaning of the lyric “kids” is the kids intro knew when was little, and the woman still faithfully waiting until now as the their will share together and have children this is love.

Datum 6

Darling, just hold my hand

Be my girl, I'll be your man

I see my **future** in your eyes

Based on the lyric above the word “future” can be say the man see future in eyes woman. The means future is the lyric want to married with girl choise. and then want to wife in live. the their the live together with child together, the means is we are shoud found the right person for live together.

Datum 7

Now I know I have met an **angel** in person

And she looks perfect

Based on the lyric above the word “angel” can be say the man find perfect girl his life. A person having attributed to angel as beautiful and sweet. The meaning of the lyric it was feeling the man get perfect girls



as a angel.

Datum 8

And she looks perfect

I don't deserve this

You look **perfect** tonight

Based on the lyric above the word “perfect” it was can be say the woman is so beautiful. The man say he don’t deserve this woman because the woman look so perfect or completed. The meaning perfect is amazing, beautiful and pretty.

Song Shape of You talk about tells of closely related to a romantic relationship that lasts just one night. any people assume that a relationship between a woman and a man who starts and meets at a bar, will usually end in a room. not only that, they assume that the relationship will not last long, or just for one day.

Datum 9

The **club** isn't the best place to find a lover

So the bar is where I go (mmmm)

Me and my friends at the table doing shots

Drinking fast and then we talk slow (mmmm)

And you come over and start up a conversation with just me

And trust me I'll give it a chance now (mmmm).

Based on the lyric above the word is “club” can be say association of two or more people united by a common interest or goal. The man come the bar with friend for to have fun, then this man's attention is fixed on a woman and this man invites him to talk privately. The meaning of the lyric above the man is feel happy when meet with woman.

Datum 10



Last night you were in my room

And now my bedsheets smell like you

Every day discovering something brand new

Based on the lyric above the word is “brand new” can be say new experience or the act or process of directly perceiving events or reality in life. This person in this day, sure can use important or discovering something. The meaning of the lyric above the man find something new, it is make the man feel happy with happened.

Datum 11

One week in we let the story begin

We're going out on our first date (mmmm)

You and me are thrifty, so go all you can eat

Fill up your bag and I fill up a plate (mmmm)

We talk for hours and hours about **the sweet and the sour**

Based on the lyric above the word “sweet and sour” can be say in the lyric is good and bad thing or problem and situation. The man talk about anything about family, life, and relationship. They are able to have conversation together, but even after all that, the attraction is still there. In this lyric they only assume that the relationship is only for one day. The meaning of the lyric the man feel spirit because the man can talk and eaten with girl.

The lyric Photograph talk about LDR or long distance relationships with their partners. This song seems to see that couples who do LDR generally live it because of compulsion. Because every couple certainly wants to always be together in having love. But because of other things like work, education, etc., sometimes most couples have to undergo LDR like it or not. Simply put, Photograph can be interpreted as a person's longing for his lover because of LDR, so to treat his longing he sees a photo / Photograph of his lover.

Datum 12

Loving can **hurt**

Loving can hurt sometimes

But it's the only thing that I know

When it gets **hard**



You know it can get hard sometimes

It is the only thing that makes us feel alive

Based on the lyric above the word is “hurt and hard” can be say interpreted about how to make an LDR relationship can help those who live it. This lyric seems to be a quote for couples who have to be far apart, exchange because of miss communication. However reversed, all of these things sometimes make us come alive, because sometimes there are also some very beautiful. The meaning of the lyric above is explain that sometimes love can hurt. But when love becomes difficult, we will get used to dealing with it. This makes us still feel alive with love.

Datum 13

We keep this love in a **photograph**

We made these memories for ourselves

Where our eyes are never closing

Hearts are never broken

Times forever frozen still

Based on the lyric above the word “paragraph” can be say the picture, memories, and moment special with people love. Just a photo a trivial thing but very meaningful for every couple who do LDR. Because a photo sometimes captures the right moment, and the moment never changes. The meaning of the lyric above is xplains that his senses are lovers who are being fond of romance. Save memories for themselves in the form of photos or portraits.

Datum 14

Loving can heal

Loving can mend your soul

And it's the only thing that I know (know)

I swear it will get easier

Remember that with every piece of ya

And it's the only thing we take with us when we **die**

Based on the lyric above the word “die” is this section explains about love can heal and change the soul. This is what will require them to be compiled to death later. The song lyric in this, memories at a photo and meet in someone, but memories will to save a die. The meaning of the lyric above is explains that



love can heal and change the soul. The lover assured his partner that the LDR would be easier to live. This is what will protect them when they die. Based on the analyzing the data, the researcher discussed of the data about connotative meaning found in the song lyric by Ed Sheeran. Based on analyzing and findings in this research, the research described connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is the associations that are connected to a certain word or the emotional suggestions related to that word. Connotative used in the song lyric was to make song happiness, beautiful. It used for the singer having an imagination for the listeners. The researcher used theory it was have two types of connotative meaning by Pierce, the researcher using this theory because refers to song lyric complete. The researcher had found 14 data of connotative meaning used in song by Ed Sheeran.

Furthermore, to analyze connotative meaning the researcher involve the context in the song lyric. Based on the research finding above to find out possitive connotative and expression happy in the song Ed Sheeran's.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research problems in this first chapter more interested to analyzed in several song by Ed Sheeran's and to get information connotative meaning in the songs lyric. And the researcher findings of the data description and analyses connotative meaning in the song. The research problems in the research findings of the data description and analyses, the conclusion can be seen as follows. The writer concludes that connotative meaning only lays thirteen words in the three song lyrics of Ed Sheeran's, which is the main data of this study. From the analysis in the chapter, in the lyrics Perfect, Ed Sheeran's has convinced the relations to define and describe the love he carries for his fiancé or girlfriend. Meanwhile, in the lyrics Shape of You tell about this song gives a nice picture, carrying a strong love is not enough to be blocked with alcohol. From the finding above the writer assumes that Ed Sheeran's uses in his lyrics to girlfriend and relationship in song. Overall, the writer found connotative meaning occurs in partial of the lyric. From the finding above the writer assumes that Ed Sheeran's uses much uses word easy to understand about song. In this song Ed Sheeran's make song much about feel to people, as feel happy, romantic, memories, and stories.

REFERENCES

- Ary, et al. 2010. *Introduction to Research in Education*. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning
Hornby, A.S 2000. *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary of Current English*. New York : Oxford



-
- University Press.
- Kothari, C. R. (2004), *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*, (Second Edition), New Age International Publishers.
- Kreidler, Charles. 2002 *Introduction English Semantics*. Rout Ledge Publisher.
- Leech, G 1981. *Semantics: the study of meaning*. Second Edition. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books.
- Leech, G.N. 1974, *Connotative Meaning*. Auxland: Pengin Books.
- Leech's (1974) seven types of meaning in semantics. *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development*.
- Lyon, John (1979) *Language and Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Palmer, I.R. 1981, *Semantics*. Cambridge University Press
- Rika Wahyuni, 140203001 (2019) *An Analysis on Connotative Meaning of Yusuf Islam's Songs*. Skripsi thesis, UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh.
- Tarigan, Guntur Henry. Prof. Dr. 1986. *Pengajaran Semantik*. Penerbit Angkasa Bandung.
- Zimmermann, Thomas Ede (2013), *Semantics*, Germany Goethe University