

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, scope of the research, and operational definition.

1.1 Background of the Research

One of the literary works which has a unique form is poem. It is so unique and charming that can make people easier to differ it from any other literary works. Its charms can attract and even amuse the readers. Within a poem, there are many charms, such as: stanza, theme, rhyme, rhythm, imagery, and figurative languages. Every poem has more than one stanza which contains a theme to build the main idea of the poem. Besides that, each stanza also contains rhyme, rhythm, and imagery to produce the attractive word sounds within a poem and also to express its message.

Moreover, poem has a beautiful form of language known as a figurative language. Figurative language is one of the important elements to write a beautiful poetry (Tjahjono, 2010). It is used to add more sensation, fantasy, and other kinds of feelings within a poem. Every word is chosen in “extravagant” languages to make something unreal become real, sensible, and so on based on the exact situations and mood drawn by the poet. If we do not get the meaning of some words, then it will be more difficult to understand the poem and its meaning. It becomes one of the reasons why many readers find it so hard to understand this beautiful piece of literary work. In the end, they must work harder to figure out the poet’s mind by reading the poem thoroughly.

Speaking of figurative language, there is a famous English poet named William Wordsworth. He has written a lot of romantic poetry, including lyrical ballads. According to Wordsworth (in Beaty, 1922: 1), “Poetry is as immortal as the heart of man”. He likes to write anything related to human emotion and also inspired by the beauty of nature, but the researcher will only choose 5 poems

entitled: “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”, “The World Is Too Much with Us”, “My Heart Leaps Up”, “To a Snowdrop”, and “Lines Written in Early Spring”.

In education, students may know that there is a literary work called poem. But, in reality, they just know the word “poem” without having further understandings about it, which can lead them to face some difficulties during learning process in the class. One of the common difficulties is related to figurative language and diction used in the poem. The students find out that poem tends to use a lot of “unfamiliar and strange” words which they can hardly understand. The words are so different compared to daily conversation and textbooks. It makes them have no idea about the meaning of the whole poem.

The researcher also found that kind of problem during PLP program back in August 2018. As a student teacher, the researcher once taught the eleventh grade students of SMA N 2 Pati about one of William Wordsworth’s selected poems entitled “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud” according to the syllabus of eleventh grade, there is a topic of learning material about poem. The students spent some time to learn and understand about poem, including the types, elements, meaning, and especially figurative languages. Although they thought that it would be so hard to learn about poem in the first meeting, but they actually showed a better understanding in the next meetings through the student teacher’s guidelines. Not only understanding several poems written on the textbook, but the students could also write their own poems using figurative languages in the last meeting.

Since then, the researcher developed an interest in teaching about poem. As one of the students of English Education Department, the researcher has studied about poem and figurative language during literature and vocabulary classes, but not in details. So, it makes this research relates both of the literature and English Education Department. It can give more benefits not only for the researcher, but also for the teacher and students. From the description above, the researcher has an interest to analyze and explore the figurative language used in William Wordsworth’s selected poems. So, the researcher intends to conduct a research entitled: Figurative Language Used in William Wordsworth’s Selected Poems.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher states the statement of the problem as follows:

1. What are the types of figurative language used in William Wordsworth's selected poems?
2. What are the lexical meanings in the William Wordsworth's selected poems?

1.3 Objective of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem above, the researcher states the objective of the research as follows:

1. To know the types of figurative languages in used in William Wordsworth's selected poems.
2. To know the lexical meanings in the William Wordsworth's selected poems.

1.4 Significance of the Research

This research is expected to offer a new contribution in linguistic study, especially in analyzing figurative language in a poem.

1. Theoretical use, this research can provide more information for teaching language and literature learning, especially teaching and learning about figurative language and poetry.
2. Practical use, this research can give these following benefits for:
 - a. Teacher

This research can provide an overview of guidelines in teaching literature related to figurative languages within a poem.
 - b. Reader

This research can help the reader to understand better about figurative languages used in the William Wordsworth's selected poems.
 - c. Other researcher

This research is expected help the other researcher to conduct a more in-depth research.

1.5 Scope of the Research

The scope of this research is to focus on the analysis of the figurative language's types and lexical meanings in the William Wordsworth selected poems. Then, the researcher will only choose 5 poems of William Wordsworth, entitled: "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud", "The World Is Too Much with Us", "My Heart Leaps Up", "To a Snowdrop", and "Lines Written in Early Spring". The researcher only chooses those selected poems because she was attracted by the theme which is related to nature.

1.6 Operational Definition

The researcher defines the terms as follows:

1. **Poem** : Poem is a piece of writing which has certain structures and elements, rhythmical, and written in beautiful language.
2. **Figurative language** : Figurative language is a beautiful form of language (different from daily speech) to add more sensation, fantasy, and other kinds of feelings within a literary work.
3. **Lexical meaning** : Lexical meaning is a short and simple version of meaning for a certain word which often been found in the dictionary.