AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE ON STUDENTS' CONVERSATION IN CLASSROOM INTERACTION OF TENTH GRADE AT SMK NEGERI 1 PEMATANG SIANTAR

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ABSTRACT

Figurative language is language that uses figures of speech (ways of saying one thing and meaning another). This research discusses the analysis of figurative language in conversation in the interaction of tenth grade students at SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar. In this research, researcher used descriptive qualitative research methods. The way researcher to collected data is that researchers make observations at school and the instrument of the researcher to collected data is audio record. In order for researchers to easily analyze the conversation, researchers must understand the meaning of the conversation. In this study, researcher found 2 types of figurative language, namely cynicism and hyperbole. From 5 conversation data, the researcher found 7 sentences of hyperbole type figurative language (21.8%) and 14 sentences of cynicism type (43.75%). From these results, it was found that students more often use these 2 types of figurative language. The benefit of this research is that by studying figurative language, students can understand the figurative language they used when communicating daily and students become more aware of where and when to use figurative language so that misunderstandings do not occur, including in the learning process.

KEYWORDS: *Figurative Language, conversation, classroom interaction*

INTRODUCTION

Communication is a way to convey messages of information, ideas, emotion by using language orally or in writing, but not everyone is able to understand the message conveyed by the sender. In receiving information, one must understand the intended purpose. According to Keyton (2011),

communication is the process of conveying information and sharing understanding from one person to another used a language (Panjaitan, Herman and Sinaga, 2020).

Language is the main communication for humans. Language is a tool of interaction or communication in society. Language is very important and becomes a primary need for society. Language is communication tool used by people to convey ideas, and certain information from one person to another. According to Hutajulu and Herman (2019) as cited in Sinaga and Hutahaean (2020), language is as a tool that has important part in making communication. Language is very important for the people in the daily life, because by language people will know each other and understand what is being said or being thought. In the world there are many languages, one of them is English

In Indonesia, English is a foreign language. English is a global language that is used as the way of communication between nations in the world. English is very important in education, the business world, politics, technology and health. Even when you want to get a job, English is one of the requirements. English not only acts as a communication tools, but also to make it easier for us to adapt to the environment and the world of work today. Learning and understanding English is an unavoidable necessity. According to Cruse (2000) as cited in Sihaloho et al. (2021), English is an international language that almost everyone in the world uses to speak. Based on the explanation above, the researcher conclude that the language is the key of communication. English has four skills, namely speaking, reading, listening and writing (Nainggolan et al., 2021). Listening and reading, which successive processes, belong to linguistic comprehension while speaking and writing, which are interrelated, belong to linguistic production. Those skills are related to each other and can't be independent. Therefore, learners need to master all of the four skills. Students can be considered as good English users if they are fluent in all 4 skills. This research only focuses on one skill, namely speaking. Speaking is a person skill to convey the meaning and be understood by other people, so that they are able to create good communication. When talking about meaning, we tell about the semantics.

The study of linguistics meaning or morphemes, words, phrases and sentences is called semantics. Semantics is the central to the study of communication. Semantics is also central to study of human mind, thought process, share our experiences through language. According to Saeed (2009) as cited in Van Thao, Sinaga and Herman (2021), semantics is the study of meaning of word and sentences. Based on the understanding above, the researchers conclude that semantic is speaker ability to understanding new word or sentences that have that contain figurative language.

Figurative language is a style of language that humans use to say something in an unusual way, namely by conveying its meaning indirectly. The use of figurative language in daily life is intended to obtain aesthetic or beauty effects, shorten conversations, evoke impression, atmosphere, and animate emotion, so that listeners will be more interested. According to Perrine (1973) as cited in Situmorang (2021) figurative language helps the speaker to describe a thought or feeling clearly than people can do by saying it directly. For the example, in the conversation in which my students describe how bad the rain outside, the speaker might say "it's raining cats and dogs.'' It's not raining cats and dogs literally, but by using figurative language, the receiver will understand that what the speaker means is a heavy rain. Based on this statement, the researcher concludes that understanding figurative language is not as easy as understanding its literal meaning.

Based on the researchers experience when teaching practice in class tenth grade at SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar, the researcher found the problem of student when they do communication. As an example:

Teacher: *Hey, jangan ribut!! contoh seperti Dandi tidak ribut.*
(Hey,don't be noisy please!!, look at Dandi. He is very diligent).
Student: *Dandi kan pick me boy*!!
(Dandi is pick me boy)

Pick Me Boy =*Jemput saya laki laki*. From that sentences, "*jemput saya laki laki"* that is not the meaning of pick me boy. Pick me boy is someone who wants to look commendable. From the statement not all students can know the meaning of the sentences. The statement makes other students ambiguous or do not understand what their friends say when speaking. This statement is included in the Cynicismtypes where the statement tries to insult subtly. From the problem above, the researcher again analyzes that there are some students who use figurative language when having conversations or talking to their friends which makes the interlocutors do not understand.

In this case, there are previous research by Situmorang (2021), she conducted the study of figurative language on student's conversation in classroom interaction. Figurative language is language using figures of speech (a way of saying one thing and meaning another). In her research, she identify the types of figurative language and to find out what type figurative language are most dominat that were used in student's conversation interaction. In analyzing the data the researcher used the descriptive qualitative method. Documentation is carried by researcher to collect the data. The finding of her research found 5 types of figurative language namely: simile (19 sentences), metaphor (4 sentences), hyperbole (14 sentences), personification (3 sentences), Irony (10 sentences). And the most dominant

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Research Design
There is a research design for every study. This research is designed as a descriptive qualitative research. According to Herdiansyah in Creswell (2009), qualitative is scientific research that aim to understand a phenomenon prioritizing the process in depth interaction between researcher and the phenomenon under study. Qualitative research also is a research method capable of producing descriptive data. This relates to the phenomena to be analyzed. The researcher uses the qualitative research methodology because the researcher want to understand in depth and detail the phenomena that occur in students who find it difficult to understand the meaning of word.

According to Siburian et al (2020), descriptive research is research method that is applied to describe exciting the phenomena or facts as accurately as possible. The purpose of descriptive method is to describe a detailed the phenomena, or something that happens accurately. The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method because is suitable to be applied in this research. This research also uses a content analysis approach because the data will analyzed need and explanation descriptively.

According to Hancock (2009), content analysis is used to find and understand messages or expressions in documents, paintings, songs, literary works, articles and other types of unstructured data. In this study, the researcher uses a content analysis model to analyze the data, because this model has the nature of discussing written information or messages contained therein. This model is suitable for this research because in this research the researcher will discuss the messages contained in the conversation. Therefore, the researcher will discuss students' difficulties in understanding the meaning of words or sentences in tenth grade RPL students of SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar.

Subject of the Research

The subjects of this study is students' tenth grade of SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar. SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar has five majors, namely: (AKL), *Akuntansi dan Keungan Lembaga* (BDP), *Bisnis Daring Dan Pemasaran* (OTKP) *Otomatisasi dan Tata Kelola Perkantoran* (RPL) *Rekayasa Perangkat Lunak* , and *Teknik Komputer Jaringan* (TKJ). The researcher only focused on the tenth grade of RPL (*Rekayasa Perangkat Lunak*). In this class consist 32 students with 15 women and 17 men. The researcher choose their class because the researcher have experience when teaching practice in their class was found several students who gave statements that had hidden meanings such as ridicule and praise that make me as a teacher and several students do not understand what they said.

Object of the Research

The object of this research is the students' conversation of tenth grade RPL using daily conversation with the topic of asking and giving opinions (regions, hobbies, personal friends). Where in the class there are 32 students with 15 women and 17 men. The researcher will record conversations between student and student about figurative language using an audio recorder and analyze them based on the types of figurative language found in the conversation.

Instrument of the Researcher

Instruments are tools or facilities used by researchers to collect data. The aim is to make work easier and achieve better results, or streamline procedures to be more careful, complete and systematic. Arikunto (2010) defines instruments as tools or facilities used by researchers in collecting data to make it more careful and systematic, so that the process is easier (Lumbantobing, Herman, and Sinurat, 2021). The instrument that researchers will use in collecting data is audio recording during observation. The researcher uses observation is because researchers want to collect data or information directly so that there is direct interaction with the respondent or the researcher

Technique of Data Collection

Technique is the most important thing in research. The purpose of the technique is to measure the extent to which the research objectives are understood by the researcher. Qualitative approaches to data collection usually involve direct interaction with individuals or groups, while in quantitative approaches, researchers must conduct questionnaire surveys. The data collection method takes time and data is collected from many people. The benefits of using this approach include richness of data and deeper insights into the phenomenon under study. Researchers used techniques to collect data, namely:

1. Making conversation

The researcher asks students to make a conversations about figurative language by using the question and answer method with the topic asking and giving opinions (areas, hobbies, preferred friends etc). It aims to let other students know the personality and preferences of their classmates.

2. Audio Recording

The researcher gathered the data from the conversations that were conducted in the classroom with Audio recording.

3. Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher will identification and classification to the types of

figurative language and describe the data, and then make a conclusion.

Techniques of Data Analysis

Sugiyono (2012), state that data analysis in qualitative research is a process of finding and arranging systematically the data found from interview, field notes, and documentation. Data analysis is the process of searching and systematically compiling data found from interviews, field notes, and documentation by organizing data into categories, describing them into units into patterns, performing synthesis, and compiling into pattern (Simarmata, Herman and Silalahi, 2021).

Data analysis is a process of processing data or finding data that aims to collect information or the truth of the phenomenon. This research is qualitative research, therefore data were analyzed in the following steps:

1. Classifying identifying based on figurative language found in conversations

2. After classifying the data, then describe the meaning of the sentences contained in the conversation.
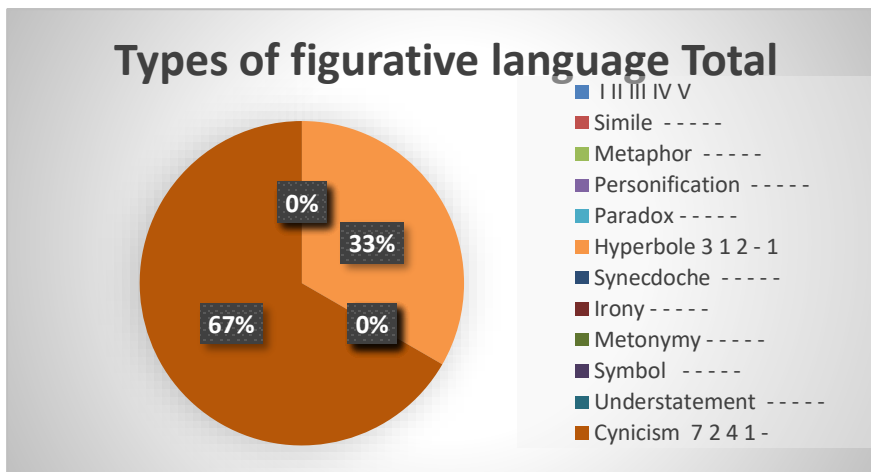
3. Then, the researcher drawing conclusions

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
A. RESULTS

After analyzing the data, the researcher found the types of figurative language on students' conversation of tenth grade at SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar as following:

Table 1. The Figurative Language Found on Students' Conversation

Data	Types of Figurative Language										
	S	M	PER	P	H	S	I	M	S	U	C
I	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	7
II	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
III	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
IV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
V	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	14

Figure 1. Types of Figurative Language Found on the Data

From the results of the picture, the conversations of X RPL class students predominantly use the figurative language types of cynicism and hyperbole in expressing their opinions. In contrast to other types of figurative language, the researcher did not find them in the conversation analysis because students more often communicate using these two types of figurative language, and also other types of figurative language are difficult for students to understand. They more often express sarcasm and excessive praise to their friends directly. This is also influenced by the language style of today's students who follow trends where these trends have excessive word meanings and are also too sarcastic. Can be seen from the data that researchers can get in data 2 in the word *Anjay*. The word Anjay is also the result of the trend of students' language style now, where Anjay is a pronoun for mentioning dogs.

B. DISCUSSION

After data was analyzed, the researcher found only 2 types of figurative language in the conversations of students in class X RPL SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar. The types of figurative language found in the conversation include, among others, cynicism and hyperbole. In addition, researcher also explain the meaning of statements containing figurative language. The first type Cynicism was used to expresses sarcasm, an insult in a harsh, straightforward, open and negative way. The researcher found that the conversation used Cynicism mostly. For example from the data "Look at her bloated, like she's 5 months pregnant". The sentences was used to insult someone's physique. The second type hyperbole was used to exaggerate the situation or statement. The researcher found that the conversation also used hyperbole in their conversation. For the example from the data "If a classmate dares to disturb her, she will slash him later" from the sentences "she will slash him" was used to exaggerate the statement or situation.

There is a new phenomenon that researcher found in conversations expressing opinions, namely students often repeat statements that have been mentioned by their friends, such as the word Anjay, when one person says the word Anjay, then other friends also say it.

Based on the research findings, researcher found previous related research conducted by Situmorang (2021) entitle An Analysis of Figurative Language on Student Conversation in Grade Students at SMA Marisi Medan. Figurative language is language that uses figures of speech (ways of

saying one thing and having different meanings). The purpose of this study is to find out the types of figurative language in student conversations and the most dominant used. The method used by the researcher is descriptive qualitative. The data were taken from conversations in class interactions of eleventh grade students at SMA Marisi Medan. The result of the researcher contained 5 types of figurative language, namely: Simile (19 sentences, 38%), Metaphor (4 sentences, 8%), Hyperbole (14 sentences, 28%), Personification (3 sentences, 6%), Irony (10 sentences, 20%). The author also finds that the most dominant of the 5 types of figurative language is Simile with (19 sentences, 38%). This is inversely proportional to the current research which only found 2 types. This research has a difference in that the first researcher analyzed students' conversations without using topics while the second researcher analyzed conversations by used topics, namely expressing opinions.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the data found by researcher in the chapter IV, the researcher can conclude the result there are eleven types of figurative language, but in the five data listed, researchers only found two types of figurative language in the conversations of students in class X RPL SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar. These types are cynicism 14 sentences (43.75%) and hyperbole 7 sentences (21.87%). figurative language of cynicism and hyperbole have almost the same position but students are more dominant in using figurative language of cynicism in conversations expressing opinions because this type aims to insult, demean others. even in any topic, not only giving opinions, when students give advice, figurative language of cynicism is often spoken. While hyperbole figurative language is below cynicism, but both are almost in the same position because they are often spoken in conversation. While other types that are not found in the data analysis, these types are very rarely used by class X RPL SMK Negeri 1 Pematang Siantar because they are a little difficult for students to understand.

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