# Figurative languages in novel: A comparative study between Layla Majnun and Romeo and Juliet Novels <br> Theresia Marini Simanjuntak, Fachri Yunanda, S.S., M.Hum., Rebekka Basa Natalia <br> Samosir, Katri Helen Lumban Batu, Kristiani Dewi Zai <br> English Language Education, University Prima Indonesia, Medan Indonesia <br> Email : teresiamrn@gmail.com 


#### Abstract

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Layla Majnun is one of the works of Nizami and Romeo and Juliet is one of the works of William Shakespeare. both novels are romance tradegy novels. Romance tragedy novels usually use a lot of figurative language to beautify the language. This study aims to describe some of the types of figurative language in the novel Layla Majnun, to describe some of the types of figurative language in the novel Romeo and Juliet, to describe the comparison of the types of figurative languages found in novel Layla Majnun and novel Romeo and Juliet. The data obtained for this study are qualitative data. This means, the data are not in the forms of numeric. The data were discourse, such as dialogues, descriptions, ideas or perspectives. The main data of the study are taken from the tragedy novels. The collected data are mostly in the forms of discourse and dialogues taken from the novels as the writers of the novels often apply figurative languages to express their ideas. There are several figurative languages in the discourse and dialogues obtained from the novels which could be interpreted by using Pragmatics theory to identify the meaning behind them. The results of this study indicate that there are similarities and differences in figurative languages in the two novels. The similarities between the two novels are Personification, Metaphore, Hyperbole, and Simile. The differences between the two novels are: Parable, Embodiment, Cynicism, Repetitive, and Irony.


Keywords : Figurative Language, Comparative Study, Layla Majnun Novel, Romeo and Juliet Novel.

## CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Language can be said as a means of communication in human life. Most of the people need language as a tool of communication, interaction and getting information from the other people. Language can be used to express someone's feelings or emotion and expressing their ideas, their thoughts and their imaginations, that can be speaking or writing. Written language can be found in the novel, newspaper, poem, and magazine. While, spoken language can be found in the song, speech, and conversation. As human beings, we cannot separate ourselves from social communication and interaction, which certainly makes ourselves live must have language. In linguistics, the study about meaning is called semantics. Semantics is one of linguistics branches, which explains about language meaning, or it can be said that meaning the most important thing in studying semantics term. According to what has long been the most widely accepted theory of semantics, meanings studies about ideas or concepts, that can be transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer by embodying them, as it were, in the form of one language or another. (Lyons, 1984,p.136) A part of semantic studies is literal and non-literal meaning. Literal meaning is the opposite of non-literal meaning. When the speaker says something that has natural meaning or does not have other meaning it can be defined as literal meaning. When the speaker utters something who has different meaning of what his/her words or has hidden meaning it can be said as literal and non-literal meaning. Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. Figurative language can be used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation rarely, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, etc.
Figurative language uses some words that go beyond their ordinary meaning. It requires the readers to use his/ her imagination to figure out the author's meaning.

It makes figurative meaning is difficult to understand because we cannot find the meaning of the figurative language in dictionary just like the other vocabulary words that we usually use in our daily conversation. To know about the meaning of figurative language we need to use our imagination to imagine what the words are said or what the words refer to. There are four main reasons of using figurative language (Perrine, 1982: x). First, figurative language affords readers imaginative pleasure of literary works. Second, it is a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, making the abstract concrete, making literary works more sensuous. The third, figurative is a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statements and conveying attitudes along with information. And the last, it is a way of saying much in brief compass. In this thesis, the researcher is interested in analyzing the figurative expressions that are found in novel. One of imaginative language is known as figurative language. The figurative language is usually found in some literary works such as, novel and short story. In writing a novel, a writer mostly uses figurative language. Meriam-Webster"s Encyclopedia of literature (1995,p.415) defines figurative language as: A form of expression (as simile and metaphor) used to convey meaning or heightened effect often by comparing or identifying one thing with another that has a meaning or connotation familiar to the reader or listener. It is usually found in the novel in which the writer uses it to convey exact meaning in a vivid and artistic manner. In other word, the writer tries to create an image in the readers mind. Thus, holding the attention of the reader is the writer's goal. As we all know that when we read a novel sometimes we will find some terms that are difficult to understand because there will be so many figurative expressions and some idioms that we will never find in our daily conversation. It is important for us to know the meaning of the figurative language found in a novel so we can imagine what happens in the story, and we can feel the emotion of the story in the novel. In the thesis, the researcher would analyze the figurative language from Nizami's novel entitled "Layla Majnun" and William shakespeare's novel entitled " Romeo and Juliet ". The researcher chooses these two novel because there are so many figurative
expressions found in these two novel that are sometimes difficult to understand. The researcher is also interested in finding out what the meaning of the figurative expressions found in the two novel.

### 1.2 Identification of study

1. There are some types of figurative languages in novel Layla Majnun.
2. There are some types of figurative languages in novel Romeo and Juliet.
3. There are some comparison of the types of figurative language in novel Layla Majnun and novel Romeo Juliet.
1.3 The problem of the study

Based on the identification of the above problems, it can be formulated problems in this research are as follows :

1. What types of figurative languages are found in novel Layla Majnun?
2. What types of figurative languages are found in novel Romeo and Juliet?
3. How is the comparison of the types of figurative languages found in novel Layla Majnun and novel Romeo and Juliet?

### 1.4 Purpose of study

Based on the problem formulation above, the objectives of this research are as follows :

1. To describe some of the types of figurative language in the novel Layla Majnun
2. To describe some of the types of figurative language in the novel Romeo and Juliet.
3. To describe the comparison of the types of figurative languages found in novel Layla Majnun and novel Romeo and Juliet.

### 1.5 The scope of study

In this study, the author limited the problem of research only to love relationships that occurred in Layla Majnun novels by Nizami and Romeo Juliet novels by William Shakespeare

### 1.6 Research Benefits

The benefits of research are:

- This research can increase everyone's insight and knowledge about inter textual relationships contained in Layla Majnun novel by Nizami and Romeo Juliet novel by William Shakespeare.
- This research can also benefit English teachers to be used as additional teaching materials for learners on how to see similarities, differences, comparisons of Layla Majnun novels by Nizami and Romeo Juliet novels by WilliamShakespeare.


## Chapter II

## Research Method

### 2.1 Research Design

This study uses descriptive qualitative methods in analyzing and describing the figurative language data used in the two novels. Fraenkel and Wallen (1993, p. 380) define qualitative research. Qualitative research is defined as "research studies that investigate the quality of relationships, activities, situations or materials. The purpose of this method is to describe the place, facts and characteristics of the population systematically, factually and accurately. Qualitative descriptive method used techniques to find, collect, and analyze data.

### 2.2 Research Subject

The Story of Layla Majnun from the Eastern World While Romeo Juliet from the Western World Many people say the world is divided by two major civilizations, namely East and West. In terms of story, the East has a symbol of true love, namely Qais (Majnun) and Laila, while the West has Romeo and Juliet. If the story of Layla Majnun questions the soul of love, Romeo Juliet actually presents the story of the lives of two lovers. Layla Majnun talked deeply about the soul of a lover, while Romeo Juliet talked about obstacles in realizing love.

### 2.3 Research Instrument

The data obtained for this study are qualitative data. This means, the data are not in the forms of numeric. The data were discourse, such as dialogues, descriptions, ideas or perspectives. The main data of the study are taken from the tragedy novels as follows

| NO | TITLE | YEAR | WRITER | PUBLISHING |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. | Layla Majnun | 2012 | Nizami | Ikhlas Media |
| 2. | Romeo and Juliet | 2010 | William <br> Shakespeare | Navila |

The collected data are mostly in the forms of discourse and dialogues taken from the novels as the writers of the novels often apply figurative languages to express their ideas. There are several figurative languages in the discourse and dialogues obtained from the novels which could be interpreted by using Pragmatics theory to identify the meaning behind them.

### 2.4 Data Collection Procedures

The procedure carried out in this study will be a direct technique that is a direct attention to the novels by reading and taking note as following:

- Reading the novels attentively and thoroughly
- Taking notes the required data
- Selecting the required data
- Identifying the data
- Grouping the data into the types of figurative languages

After completing the procedures, the next step will be data analysis procedure

### 2.5 Data Analysis Procedure

As the point mentioned above, this study focuses on Pragmatics theory to analyze the main data. Therefore, in this study, all the data, the figurative languages, can be interpreted to figure out the meaning. The process of analyzing data can be divided into:

1. Focusing

In this process, the researchers focused about the selected figurative languages

## 2. Displaying

It is the process of organizing the data. In this research the researchers need data to be displayed, because the data are not transcribed as a text.
3. Figuring out

In this process, the researchers will figure out the meaning of each
figurative language.
4. Analyzing

In this process, the researchers will conduct comparative study toward the data of the novels.
2.6 Credibility of Findings

Credibility is the aspect, or criterion, that must be established. It is seen as the most important aspect or criterion in establishing trustworthiness. This is because credibility essentially asks the researcher to clearly link the research study's findings with reality in order to demonstrate the truth of the research study's findings.In this study, the researchers will conduct Theoretical triangulation. This involves using multiple theoretical perspectives to analyze the data such as books, journals or any other references which are relevant to the study

## Chapter III

## Results and Discussions

### 3.1 Results

1. Types of figurative languages in Layla Majnun novel are :

- Personification : a. His burning desire for offspring had burned his soul. (Page 10) The sentence above contains personification style because it considers his desire to have burned his soul, while the soul cannot be burned and desire cannot burn. b. What was left of him was now adrift at the mercy of the waves. (Page 22) The sentence above contains personification because it considers waves to have mercy. c. He summoned the east wind and asked him to deliver a message to Laila. (Page 23) The sentence above contains personification because it thinks that the wind can be ordered to deliver the message. d. Pass your breath through the wind to let him know that you are still thinking about him. (Page 23) The sentence above contains a personification style because it considers the wind as an intermediary who can bring the deposit.
- Metaphore : Your grief is mine, completely mine, wherever it is tied up. The sentence above contains metaphore because it combines two objects briefly and densely. Namely Layla and Majnun. And whatever they feel will be felt together
- Hyperbole : a. And with a flick of his eyelash, he was able to turn the entire world into rubble. (Page 14) The sentence above contains hyperbole because it says that a flick of an eyelash can turn the world into rubble. $b$. The other male students were also mesmerized by the shimmer dazzling light.(Page 17) The sentence above contains hyperbole because it says that Laya is so beautiful that it dazzles the eyes. c. I am a man dying of thirst dreaming of cool, clear water, but when I wake up there is only sand. (Page 38). The sentence above
contains hyperbole because it says thirst so that it is dying. d. I am weak, alone, broken, and dying of thirst for water of life. (Page 76) The sentence above contains hyperbole because it says excessive thirst leads to death
- Simile : The sentence above contains a simile. Because comparing Layla's eyes are like deer eyes. Like rain drops at sunrise that fall on jasmine petals,The sentence above contains simile which is marked by prepositions and conjunctions such as like
- Cynicism : You swear to satisfy my thirst All your vows you are now dumped Why did you reveal your well If it's just a curse The sentence above contains cynicism. Because it contains satires in the form of doubtful stories, ridicule of Prince Naufal's sincerity and sincerity to help Majnun
- Repetitive : I am yours, I am yours, far or near. The sentence above contains a repetitive. Because there are words in one sentence. The purpose of repetition is more than verse content.

2. Types of figurative language in Romeo and Juliet are :

- Metaphore : "If I profane with my unworthiest hand/This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this/My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand/to smooch that rough touch with a tender kiss" metaphore, spoken by Romeo to Juliet about how he views her (holy) and how he wants to kiss her.

Romeo begins by using the sun as a metaphor for his beloved Juliet: "It is the east, and Juliet is the sun". When Romeo sees the light on in Juliet's room, he says, "It is the east, and Juliet is the sun" (II.ii.3). This is an example of metaphor: Romeo is making a direct comparison of Juliet to the sun using "is" to show that she is radiant, warm, and drives away the night/darkness.

- Simile : "Is love a tender thing? It is too rough/Too rude, too boisterous, and pricks like a thorn"simile, spoken by Romeo about his love for Rosaline. Toward the end of the scene, Juliet tries to tell Romeo how
much she loves him. She uses the sea as a simile to help him understand:"My bounty is as boundless as the sea, My love as deep; the more I give to thee, The more I have, for both are infinite. (2.2.133-136)
- Personification : Who is already sick and pale with grief That thou her maid art far more fair than she." (2.2.3-6) by using personification. He creates for us the idea that the moon is a woman who is "sick and pale with grief," seemingly jealous of Juliet's beauty. In the balcony scene, Romeo personifies Juliet's eye by saying, "Her eye discourses; I will answer it" (II.ii.13). Her eye is given human action here--it speaks or discourses. "Death is my son-in law. Death is my heir/My daughter he hath wedded" Personification, spoken by Lord Capulet. He endows "death" with the traits of a person, saying it has married Juliet because he believes she died on her wedding day.
- Hyperbole : When Juliet realizes Romeo is there, she utilizes a simile to explain her love for Romeo, saying, "My bounty is as boundless as the sea, / My love as deep". With Juliet comparing her love to something incredibly large. Love does not have mass (like water does), so this is an example of an exaggeration to emphasize how much she loves Romeo. "The brightness of that cheek would shame those stars/As daylight doth a lamp" Hyperbole, spoken by Romeo. He exaggerates to describe Juliet's beauty.
- Parable How sweet are the tongues of the lovers of the silver voice at night, Like the softest music to the ear "In this quote, Romeo explains that he loved hearing Juliet's voice because it was like beautiful music to his ears.
- Embodiment "Death is my son-in-law, Death is my heir, My daughter he married. "
- Irony "My grave is like being my wedding bed" This quote is ironic because Juliet died to be with Romeo.

3. The comparison of the types of figurative languages found in novel Layla Majnun and novel Romeo and Juliet.

There are several similarities in figurative language in the two novels, namely : Personification, Metaphore, Hyperbole, and Simile.

There are several differences in figurative language in the two novels, namely
: Parable, Embodiment, Cynicism, Repetitive, and Irony.

### 3.2 Discussions

Figurative language refers to words, and groups of words, that exaggerate or alter the usual meaning in figures of speeches of the component of words. A figure of speech may be said to occur whenever a speaker or writer, from the sake of freshness or emphasis, departs from the usual denotations of words (Kennedy, 1983,p.479). Beckson and Ganz (1975,p.80) state that Figurative language is language which makes us of certain devices called _figure of speech', most of which are techniques for comparing dissimilar objects, to achieve effects beyond the range of literal language. As stated by Crystal (1999,p.116), Figure of Speech is an expressive use of language where words are used in a non literal way to suggest illuminating comparisons and resemblances. The Webster‘s New World College Dictionary (1996,p.571) explains that figurative speech is an expression (as metaphor or euphemism) that substitutes a variation of points of view by which things or notions which is referred to as if it is different in some ways (in identify, degree, shape) from what it actually is or seems to be but so related to the expression successfully implies an intended meaning of effect either or greatly different from what is utterly said. Figurative meaning and vocabulary have a great relationship that is reciprocal relationship. Figurative meaning and semantic also have a great relationship because without the knowledge of the meaning of the word, even connotative meaning, it is difficult to understand figurative meaning, sometimes people read the newspapers, the magazines or novel, overlooked non - literal expressions and read them literally. Of course, the meaning of the expression becomes odd or not understandable. Therefore,
figurative language becomes essential in the learning of vocabularies. While, learning of vocabularies support the learning of semantics (Tarigan, 1995,p.113). Leech (1981,p.11) classifies figurative language into seven types. The figurative language would be explained which related to this study and it will be used in analyzing the findings. In the chapter, the research present the data and answer the research problems. This research shows that the use of the Figurative languages in novel: A comparative study between Layla Majnun and Romeo and Juliet Novels. Data has been analyzed from document analysis. The classification of figurative languages The classification can be divided into several types. There are : simile, metaphore, hyperbole, personification, parable, embodiment, irony, repetitive, and cynicism.

## Chapter IV

## Conclusions and Suggestions

### 4.1 Conclusions

After conducting an analysis related to the writing entitled " Figurative Languages in Layla Majnun Novel by Nizami and Romeo and Juliet novel by William Shakespeare by categorizing types and explain the meaning of figurative language, the author finally obtained the following conclusions :

1. Types of figurative languages in Layla Majnun Novel are : Personification, Metaphore, Simile, Cynicism, Repetitive and Hyperbole.
2. Types of figurative languages in Romeo and Juliet Novel are : Personification, Metaphore, Simile, Hyperbole, Parable, Embodiment, and Irony.
3. The comparison of the use of figurative language in Layla Majnun's novels and Romeo and Juliet's novels are :

- There are several similarities in figurative language in the two novels, namely : Personification, Metaphore, Hyperbole, and Simile.
- There are several differences in figurative language in the two novels, namely : Parable, Embodiment, Cynicism, and Irony.


### 4.2 Suggestions

1. In Layla Majnun's novel, there are six figurative languages found. It is suggested that novel writers can use more figurative language to make the story in the novel more interesting.
2. Similarly, in Romeo and Juliet's novel, there are seven figurative languages, it is suggested that the novelist can be more creative in adding the use of figurative language in this novel.
3. The two novels are interconnected, each has a figurative language, six figurative languages in the novel Layla Majnun and seven figurative languages in the novel Romeo and Juliet. They have the same figurative language and some are different.

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