

# THE USE OF METAPHOR IN ROBERT HERRICK'S POEMS

A Thesis

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## ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini adalah kajian tentang penggunaan metafora dalam puisi-puisi Robert Herrick. Penulis melihat gaya bahasa yang digunakan oleh Robert Herrick dalam karyanya. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan tipe metafora yang paling dominan digunakan oleh Robert Herrick, fungsi metafora, serta efek penggunaan metafora terhadap pembaca.

Data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan metode *non-participant observation, note making technique*. Data yang telah ditandai dianalisa dengan teori metafora yang dikemukakan oleh George Lakoff dan Johnson dan teori mengenai fungsi bahasa yang dikemukakan oleh Geoffrey Leech.

Berdasarkan hasil analisa, penulis menemukan bahwa jenis metafora yang paling dominan adalah metafora yang berdasarkan pada citra (*image schema mapping metaphor*) karena tipe ini menimbulkan efek yang positif pada pembaca. Sementara itu, tipe yang paling sedikit adalah metafora Aristotle (*Aristotle's metaphor*) karena tipe ini menimbulkan efek negatif bagi pembaca. Fungsi metafora yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah sebagai media untuk mengungkapkan ekspresi atau perasaan penulis, seperti kekaguman, dan belas kasihan. Dari penelitian ini juga ditemukan beberapa efek penggunaan metafora terhadap pembaca, antara lain: perintah (*being directed*), saran (*support*), persetujuan (*agreement*), pujian (*complement*). Hasil lain dari penelitian ini adalah bahwa metafora juga banyak digunakan dalam puisi karena perumpamaan yang digunakan lebih implisit.

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Human is a creative creature in the world and language is a rich source of creativity. Language is used to convey messages, ideas, and feelings in human social interaction. Sometimes the idea, which is sent through utterance (language), goes beyond the literal meaning of the utterance; it breaks semantic rules since a *war* does not always mean war like in *argument is war*. Here, the meaning of war is not a quarrel between two nations; it refers to the debate. We can say such sentence a metaphor in which we say one thing and mean something else. Fromkin (1993: 151) states that "Such non- literal interpretation of sentences is called metaphor".

Poetry is one of literary works that also uses metaphor as its figure of speech. For along time people have been stuck by the opinion that metaphor is used only in poetic language. Actually, metaphor has been part of everyone's ordinary speech even it has been a concept of our thought and action. Lakoff and Johnson ( 1980:3 ) state: "We have found [ ...] that metaphor is pervasive in everyday life, not just in language but in thought and action. Our ordinary conceptual system, in terms of which we both think and act, is fundamentally metaphorical in nature."

Lakoff and Johnson in their book *Metaphor We Live By* (1980) have come into the fact that people use utterance metaphorically in everyday language.

Metaphor is language creativity by which people can utter something without directly pointing to the case. It would be a safe way to express ideas which imply negative meaning.

As suggested by Searle (cited by Davis, 1995: 520) that metaphorical meaning is always speaker's utterance meaning not word or sentence meaning. He states that:

"Because the knowledge that enables people to use and understand metaphorical utterance goes beyond the knowledge of the literal meaning of words and sentences, the principle we seek are not included in, or at least not entirely included, within, a theory of semantic competence as traditionally conceived".

Related to this matter, the writer attempts to discuss metaphorical expressions in Robert Herrick's poems.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Dealing with the above topic, the writer wants to focus on the use of metaphor in poems, especially classic poems written by Robert Herrick. The research question can be written as following:

1. What types of metaphor are dominantly used by Robert Herrick's poems?
2. What are the functions of metaphor found in Robert Herrick's Poems?
3. What are the effects of using metaphor toward the reader?

## CHAPTER 4

### CONCLUSION

This writing is aimed particularly to see the existence of metaphorical expression in Robert Herrick's poem. As we know that in literary works especially poems, the poet also can use metaphor in sending the message to the reader. The result of this analysis might be the evidence of what is stated by Lakoff that metaphor is not merely linguistic expression but already been structured part of our thought and action.

From the analyzed data, the writer finds that all types of metaphor proposed by Lakoff appear. The image schema metaphor appear dominantly by the percentage 42.86%, followed by the complex schema mapping metaphor which about 35,71%. The one-shot rich-image mapping appears twice with the percentage 14.29% and the last type of metaphor, Aristotle's metaphor appears only 7.14%.

In the analysis is also found that metaphorical expressions hold some function in conveying message. Its function as expressive device in which people use it to convey feeling, emotion, and attitude appear to be dominant. Other dominant functions that appear is the informational function by which people use it to inform something or to explain new words or expression. The metaphorical expression also can be used as the tool to persuade people to do something.

The effect of using metaphorical expression in communication seems to be various. Some of the effects are that it can invite the curiosity of the reader, can make the

reader feels what the poet feels, can lead the reader to act as the poet will, and etc. By knowing the effect of using the metaphorical expression, it can increase the willingness of the reader to read the poems more.

Furthermore, the writer also found the function and the effects of the expression toward the reader/s. The expressive function tends to be the most dominant function in which the metaphor is used to show the poet's feeling, the emotions, and the attitude of the poet. The informational function appears dominantly as well in which the metaphor is used to inform something and to explain new meaning of the expression.

The use of the metaphorical expressions to convey ideas may effect to reader/s' attitude and feeling. The most dominant effect is that the readers feel curious about the thing being described by using the expression. The other effect is showing the understanding of the reader, ask the reader to do or follow what the poet means in his poems.

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