

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

Language is an important component in communicating to others in the world. Language makes it easy for us to interact with others. Without language, we can not convey our minds such as opinions, knowledge, information, ideas, etc. Johnston (2008), states that language is the process or set of processes used to ensure there is agreement between the sender and receiver for meanings assigned to the symbols and the schema for combining them used for each communication.

There are many different languages in the world. As stated in one of the Qur'an (*Ar-Ruum: 22*):

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَالاخْتِلاَفُ اَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَالْوَاوِنُكُمۡ اِنَّ فِي ذٰلِكَ لآيٰتٍ  
لِّلْعٰلَمِيۡنَ

This verse means “and among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in your languages and your colours: verily in that are Signs for those who know”. It describes that one of His signs of power is that He created various languages of the world. Every nation must have at least one language, maybe even more. As human beings, we should regard it as a knowledge we should learn.

Language cannot be separated from us, because it is so important in every aspect of human life, such as: technology, education, sciences, politics, economics,

art, etc. In art for example: namely song. The songs have the imaginative quality and specific characteristic of the language use, such as denotation and connotation. English songs are used to express human feelings. It is necessary for listeners especially Indonesian to comprehend the content of the English songs than the others. Now, all of the people like music or song, from the young till adult, especially English ones. Most of them would like to collect the English song cassettes or CD. They are interested in improving English mastery through English songs which are popular right now.

Figurative language is used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation, articles in newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, etc. The effectiveness of figurative language in four main reasons, the 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.

In this thesis, the writer chooses the song as object of the research. Song is a short musical composition which is sung by human voice, and has a certain lyric. Lyric is expressing the writer's emotions, usually briefly and in stanzas or recognized forms (Concise Oxford English Dictionary).

The meaning of a lyric can either be explicit or implicit. Some of lyrics are composed in poetical composition which makes it similar with poetries that there

are many words written using figurative languages. Most of the authors express their ideas of reality, social life in their point of view, and their experiences through their own imaginative and intense perception of their own world. The authors purpose to makes a good response from the listeners. So, the song can make the listeners more interested in hearing it such as in Raef's song.

Raef Haggag is an American singer from Washington, D.C. He is an influential songwriter and his songs reach the Muslim and religious communities around the world. In June 2014, he released his debut album, *The Path*, produced by Awakening Records.

The writer chooses Raef's songs, because His songs have power in influencing listeners by combining unique of music tone, beautiful diction, meaningful of lyric in literally and non-literally and consist of figure of speech. For instance, in his song entitled "Home" In the third song "*Our smiles they shine from sea to sea*". This sentence indicates the types of figurative language namely hyperbole. It describes a point of sentences which exaggerate to show strong feeling or effect. The sentence shows that it is impossible for the reader or listener to see the smile shining from sea to sea, so the meaning can't be known directly. It can be said that this song has a deep meaning that become a big power in influencing the listener feeling.

This study focused on the use of figurative languages in song lyrics especially in Raef's songs, because many figurative languages could be analyzed by the writer. In fact, many students do not really understand about figurative

language, how to classify the type and explain the denotative meaning from figurative meaning. Every song has many messages. The song needs to analyze the meaning to understand the song. From the phenomenon, the writer would analyze the figurative language which is used mainly in the song lyrics in the songs of Raef. The writer is also interested to find out what the types and the meaning of the figurative language found in that song. The writer presents a study entitled: **Learning English Through Song : An Analysis Of Figurative Language In The Song Lyric By Raef”**

### **B. Research Questions**

Based on the background of study above, the writer aims to know about:

1. What types of figurative language are found in Raef song lyrics?
2. How do the song lyric can be use in learning english?

### **C. Objectives of Study**

Based on the research questions above, the aims at this research are stated as follows:

1. To identify the types of figurative language found in the lyrics of Raef's song.
2. To Analysis and explanation in learning english use lyrics of Raef's songs.

## **D. Significance of Study**

This study is expected to be significant theoretically and practically.

### **1. Theoretically**

The writer hopes that this study will provide readers with information about the types of figurative languages used in song lyrics.

### **2. Practically**

Students and society can use the results of this study as additional information, and future researchers can use the results of this study as references and knowledge in the analysis of figurative languages.

## **E. Definition of Key Terms**

In order to avoid misunderstanding about the title, certain terms should be explained as follows:

### **1. Figurative language**

Figurative language is a language to describe the comparison, equation, and imagery. There are figurative language make song more interesting, more beautiful, more life, and make clear of imagine. Leech in Dewi (2010) classified figurative meanings into eight categories. These are: personification, simile, metaphor, exaggeration, irony, understatement, metaphor and oxymoron.

The writer in this research that have found six types of figurative language are personification, metaphor, hyperbole, simile, paradox, and synecdoche.

## **2. Song**

According to Hornby et al. (2015), a song is a series of words accompanied by music and intended to be sung. The song is formed from music and lyric, becoming one of the media for public communication. The writer in this research use lyric songs by Raef in his album the path.

## **3. Learning English in Song**

Learning is related to the cognitive process. Brown (2007, p. 343) learning is not only a machine like process, but it is also necessitates cognitive operation by learner. Singing is an enjoyable activity for students while learning in class, and songs are practical tools that can create a fun atmosphere in language learning. Songs provide an opportunity for language learning which is student-centred and pleasing. So in this research learning English through song activities it is can practice reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.