

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter presents the theoretical framework of the related literature that relevant to the topic that is about definition of poetry, element of poetry, figurative language, figurative meaning, William Blake and the last id previous study.

A. Poetry

1. Definition of Poetry

Poetry is a distinct form of literature that differs from prose and drama. Its uniqueness stems from its tendency to evolve with the culture of the society that produces it. Due to this, it is challenging to define the boundaries of poetry in detail. As literary works, including poetry, continue to develop, so does the definition of poetry. Klarer (2004:27) defines poetry as a form of writing that traditionally includes multiple lines in each stanza, numerous words in each line, rhyme, and rhythm. However, contemporary poetry often disregards these conventions, allowing for more freedom in form and structure.

Here are some definitions of poetry according to experts. Gwynn (2005:3) defines poetry as an interpretive dramatization of experience in metrical language. Bloom (2000:69) says that poetry is the most beautiful words in the most beautiful settings. The poet selects the appropriate words and arranges them beautifully, with balance and symmetry between elements. Gioia (2004:10) argues that poetry is a musical expression. The purpose of a poet when creating a poem is to consider the melodious sounds,

rhythms, and orchestration of the poem. The poem should be harmonious and well-orchestrated. However, Melaty (2019:162) argues that poetry is a statement. The poet imagines and a dream of these feelings, but it is important to note that subjective evaluations should be excluded unless clearly marked as such. According to Vlender (2004:8), poetry records the most beautiful moments in our lives, such as memorable events that evoke strong emotions like happiness, excitement, romance, and even sadness due to the loss of a loved one. The loss of a loved one is a moment that can be recorded or remembered. Poets often choose to memorialize such moments in the form of poetry.

Based on the above definitions, it can be concluded that Poetry is an expression of thoughts that evoke emotions and stimulate the imagination through a rhythmic arrangement. Consequently, poetry is a form of expression that records and interprets significant human experiences in a manner that allows them to be recalled and appreciated.

2. Element of Poetry

Ferdinal et al. (2020:30) posits that there are certain elements that contribute to the creation of a successful poem. Consequently, it is not necessary for a poet to utilize all of these elements or devices; rather, they serve as fundamental elements of the poetic form. A number of these elements are presented below.

a) Rhythm

Rhythm is analogous to music for a poem, which recalls the syllables for the lines. The optimal methodology for comprehending this concept is to read the poem aloud so that the reader may discern and comprehend the focused and unstressed syllables. Please tune in to the auditory and musical aspects of the poem when it is recited with resounding clarity. How do the words resonate with one another? How do the words flow when they are connected? Do the words sound appropriate? One must consider whether the words fit with one another, as this is an important aspect of the sonnet's cadence.

For example:

Whose WOODS these ARE I THINK I KNOW.

His HOUSE is IN the VILLage THOUGH;

He WILL not SEE me STOPping HERE

To WATCH his WOODS fill UP with SNOW

("Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening" by Robert Frost)

b) Metre

The basic structure of a poem. in regular units, the repetition of a prominent feature in the sequence of sounds of a language. A poem composed of squares of lines that convey a single thought, which consists of a structure of syllables that follow the musicality, must be incorporated. This structure is the meter or metrical form of poetry.

For example:

"The safest place on planet earth."

(Iambic meter= unstressed/stressed)

"Life is short to hold grudges."

(Trochaic meter= stressed/unstressed)

"Be happy, be positive, be you."

(Spondaic meter=Stressed/stressed)

c) Stanza

A smaller unit of lines in a poem. A stanza has some elements, such as a specific meter and rhyme. and rhyme. Depending on the number of lines, stanzas are called a couplet (2 lines), tercet (3 lines), quatrain (4 lines), cinquain (5 lines), sestet (6 lines), septet (7 lines), octave (8 lines).

d) Rhyme

The term "rhyme" is defined as the repetition of the last stressed vowel and all the speech sounds that follow it. For example, the words "láte-fáte" and "fóllow-hóllow" rhyme. Rhyme is a system of similar sounding words, such as "cat" and "hat," "close" and "shows," "house" and "mouse," and so on. However, free verse poetry does not follow this pattern.

e) Rhyme Scheme

The rhyme scheme is a fundamental aspect of poetic composition. As a continuation of the discussion of rhyme, the rhyme scheme is also one of the essential elements to be considered. In other words, it is also the pattern of rhyme. The alphabetic notation of the rhyme scheme is employed to indicate the pattern of rhyming lines. For instance, the scheme may be represented by the letters aabb, which denotes a rhyme between the first and second lines, and between the third and fourth lines. Similarly, the scheme may be represented by the letters abab, which denotes a rhyme between the first and third lines, and between the second and fourth lines. The scheme may also be represented by the letters abba, which denotes a rhyme between the first and fourth lines, and between the second and third lines.

f) Theme

The theme of the poem is the poet's central idea is the fundamental concept that the poem is built upon. This idea can take the form of a thought, a description of a person, place, or thing, or any other element that is essential to the poem's overall meaning.

g) Symbolism

The use of symbolism is a common literary device employed by poets to convey a theme. The manner in which a poet transmits the theme is through the use of symbols. A symbol can represent a multitude of concepts simultaneously, prompting the reader to abandon their conventional approach to interpretation. It is not

uncommon for a writer to utilize an image in a poem in order to make a profound impact on the reader.

h) Figurative language

Figurative language is a form of language that deviates from the conventional meanings of words. Instead, it employs words in ways that are not typically expected, thereby creating new meanings and effects. Figures of speech are often considered to be inherently wonderful, yet they are essential to the functioning of language and are crucial for all forms of discourse. They are used to compare two things in an intriguing or even surprising manner, which helps the reader to empathize with the author's perspective.

All of these elements of poetry are an essential part of the construction of a good poem. Consequently, it does not follow that all lyrics must contain all these elements. The choice of which elements to include and how to use them depends entirely upon the poet, who has all these tools at his disposal to convey his ideas effectively.

Similar to prose literature, poetry serves as a medium for expressing the author's emotions. However, interpreting poetry can be more challenging than other literary works due to its use of figurative language, symbolism, and dense vocabulary. Therefore, readers must possess intelligence and foresight to comprehend the meaning of the allusions within the poem. Poetry is often filled with allusions and symbols that require readers to have sensitivity and accuracy to fully understand the

poem. Therefore, analyzing poetry can be a challenge for readers to comprehend the author's intended message.

B. Figurative Language

Figurative language is often used in poetry to create interest and depth. However, it is important to remember that figurative language can be subjective and may require careful consideration by the reader to fully understand the intended meaning. Experts have varying opinions on the use of figurative language, but it is generally agreed that it adds complexity and nuance to poetry.

Many experts have different ideas about figurative language. According to Ferdinal et al. (2020:32) figurative language captures attention, brings life and freshness to a writer's imagination, and provides clarity. Wahyuna (2019:120) also agree that figurative language allows poets to express themselves in a unique and unconventional way, indirectly conveying meaning. Fahas et al. (2021:1) adds that figurative language demonstrates a poet's skill in selecting words, ultimately influencing the success and beauty of their work. similar to Fahas et al, Keraf (2010:113) also argues that figurative language can be limited as a way of expressing thoughts through language in a distinctive way that shows the author (language user) soul and personality. Overall, these perspectives emphasize the significance of figurative language in enhancing the impact and aesthetics of literary expressions.

The use of figurative language can make poetry more interesting and creative. However, in some cases, the use of figurative language can also be confusing if not well understood by the reader of the poem. Therefore, understanding the meaning of different types of figurative language is important to convey the message clearly and effectively. In Laimena and Que (2022:48) divides and explains the types of figurative language based on perrine theory in their study. same as laimena and que, this study researcher used perrine theory to analyze poem *To the Evening Star* by William Blake. Perrine (1982) in his book divided and explain figurative language into ten kinds. The following are the types of figurative language often used in literarture:

1) Metaphor

Metaphor is the use of one term to describe another that shares a similar characteristic. It is commonly used in daily speech, prose, and poetry. Metaphor is the use of one term to describe another that shares a similar characteristic. In poetry, a writer may use a metaphor when they believe that two terms share a common characteristic. In poetry, a writer may use a metaphor when they believe that two terms share a common characteristic. The comparison is made directly, without using 'like' or 'as'.

Example:

He has a heart of stone

I am big, big world

The concept of heart stone is that a man's heart is as strong as a stone, and he cannot tolerate other people's opinions. In the second case, the first keyword is immediately linked to the second highest word. As a result 'I' has a strong correlation with 'the big planet'. All of the above statement compare two distinct object.

2) Personification

Personification is a figure of speech that attributes human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas. However, it is important to avoid overusing personification and to ensure that it does not create confusion or ambiguity. It is used to create a more vivid and engaging description. The author uses personification to describe the night as if it were a person.

For example, in the quote "The night was creeping on the ground!", the use of personification adds a vivid and imaginative element to the description. The author portrays the night as a stealthy figure by saying 'She crept and did not make a sound' (James Stephens).

3) Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a figure of speech that involves exaggeration. It is used to emphasize a point or create a dramatic effect, but it is not meant to be taken literally. It is important to avoid using hyperbole in objective

writing, as it can be seen as biased or emotional. It is used to emphasize a point or create a dramatic effect, but it is not meant to be taken literally.

Example:

I do not love you with my eyes, for they note a thousand errors in you
(Shakespeare).

4) Metonymy

Metonymy is a figure of speech that uses a specific word to represent another word with which it has a close relationship. It involves substituting the name or brand of one object for another that is related. This rhetorical device replaces the exact word with something associated with an object, thing, or idea. It means one word is being replaced with another word that has a similar meaning.

For instance, he purchases a new Tesla.

5) Simile

A simile is a figure of speech that compares two things using the words resemble, seem, like or as. It is a direct comparison between two unlike things.

For example, in the line 'My love is like a red, red rose' by Robert Burns, the poet is comparing their love to a rose using a simile.

6) Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a figure of speech that uses a part to represent the whole or vice versa. Synecdoche has two types, they are synecdoche pars pro toto and synecdoche totem pro parte.

In synecdoche pars pro toto, the writer uses parts of something in order to explain the whole of the parts. Besides, synecdoche Totem pro parte refers to a whole and not its parts.

Example:

He has fast wheels. Wheels refers to a car, but only mentions the wheels (synecdoche pars pro Toto)

7) Irony

Irony is a statement that conveys a meaning that is opposite to its literal meaning. It creates a contrast between the literal meaning and the intended meaning.

It can be interpreted by the listener based on the context and the poet intention. Irony is often used to criticize rather than praise.

Example:

Water, water, everywhere, nor any drop to drink (Samuel Taylor Coleridge).

8) Paradox

Paradox refers to the use of contradictory terms that reveal a deeper truth. It is important for the speaker or writer to use clear and concise language to avoid confusion. A paradox is a rhetorical term for a situation

or statement that appears contradictory or absurd but may, in fact, contain insight into life. The primary objective is to capture the attention of others and to make an impact that is both dramatic and significant.

Example:

Ignorance is strength.

9) Symbolism

Symbolism is a form of figurative language that utilizes animal, plant, or object symbols to represent other concepts or traits. The concept of symbolism was derived from the author's personal experiences, expressions, and fantasies. The symbol is a literary device that represents a multiplicity of meanings, encompassing a range of aspects, concepts, and traits. It uses an object, idea, or action that has some meaning more than its literal meaning. The symbol is typically constructed using elements that are readily identified in the context of everyday life.

10) Alliteration

Alliteration is a type of figurative language that involves the repetition of consonants. This is a figure of speech that involves the repetition of the initial consonant. Alliteration should consist of at least two repetitions, occurring in a consecutive sequence.

Example: Sit on the bed alone, staring at the phone

C. Figurative meaning

According to Mutiara (2016:102) , figurative meaning is a word or phrase that can serve a number of functions, including the purpose of comparison, the emphasis or clarity of an idea, or the creation of a sharp and concise expression. The judicious use of such figurative language can enhance the effectiveness of fiction and prove an efficient and economical means of transferring a concept or a point of view. When employed inappropriately, however, figurative language may prove perplexing. One of the meanings of the word “figure” is drawing, image, or picture.

According to Mutiara (2016:104) The objective of figurative language is to evoke images (figures) in the reader's or listener's mind. These images facilitate the conveyance of the message in a more expeditious and vivid manner than would be possible with the use of words alone. In contrast, literal language represents the opposite of figurative language. In contrast to figurative language, which conveys meaning in a more nuanced manner, literal language is characterized by a precise and direct expression of meaning.

Example:

John is as strong as jack (literal)

John is as strong as lion (figurative)

The phrase "as large as a lion" is an example of a turn of phrase, or in this case, a simile. It is essential to be able to distinguish between a literal and figurative meaning.

According to Mutiara (2016:104) figurative language has become an integral part of the contemporary vocabulary. In their everyday discussions and writing, they utilize thousands of words and phrases. It is possible that you have unintentionally identified several of their preferences. A rhetorical device is simply the use of a phrase in a different context. It moves away from the phrase's popular literal meaning and provides it with a special beginning.

The researcher posits that figurative meaning is not merely a means of stating something from a person or a similarity to doing something, but rather, it is a common and representative mode used during a natural sense. This is in contrast to literal language, which is applied to specific terms and phrases, and that our interpretation of a statement is based on our understanding of the figurative meaning.

D. William Blake

The biography of the author is important to help understand and analyze the poem *To the Evening Star*. The life of William Blake is taken from The Norton Anthology Of English Literature Eighth Edition Volume 2 by Abrams, M.H. (2006:77-128).

William Blake was born on November 28, 1757 in London, England. Blake was born into a modest, middle-class family. Blake was the third of seven children, but two of his siblings died in childhood. Blake never attended school. In his early years, Blake was influenced by the Bible, which became his guide in life, but everything he was taught at school he

learned at home with his mother, and he also practiced painting with his father. Blake first painted after antique statues from Greece. Recognizing Blake's talent, his parents enrolled him in a painting school.

At the age of 15, Blake was apprenticed to a sculptor named James Basire on Great Queen Street. By the age of 21, he had become an accomplished painter and engraver. In 1778, Blake became a student at the Royal Academy in Old Somerset House. Under the tutelage of Joshua Reynolds, Blake became an artist who emphasized classical beauty, in contrast to Reynolds, who emphasized general beauty.

In the late 1700s, England was going through a transition between two periods, and this is when Blake began his early career as a writer. England was influenced by two very strong periods: The Augustan period, which was all about order and emphasizing reason, and the Romantic period, which was all about feeling, expressing the beauty of nature, and being very concerned about the social conditions of the time, namely the exploitation of the lower classes and the suffering and poverty.

Blake is a poet whose works are romantic in nature. Blake has a strange and elusive manner. His poems are full of images of nature with all its inhabitants, including supernatural beings. Blake was a poet of pantheism, which is the belief that everything on earth is part of God and that God plays a role in everything. Blake's poems are collected in *Songs of Innocence* and *Songs of Experience*.

William Blake began his work in 1783 when his first published collection of poems was called *Poetical Sketches*. After the death of his father, he decided to start a printing business with a very radical publisher named Joseph Johnson. That same year, Blake completed the manuscript of *An Island in the Moon*.

In 1778 Blake had written a biography of a person named Marry Wollstonecraft, which included sex life in a married life, and the biography was entitled *Original Stories from Real Life*. In 1793 Blake's work was entitled *Visions of the Daughter of Albion*.

In 1778, at the age of 31, Blake began to experiment with making reliefs or printing on plates, and it was this method that Blake used to create many of his paintings, pamphlets, and poems. Blake's works include *Songs of Innocence and Experience* (1794), *The Book of the Thel*, *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, and *Jerusalem* (1804-1820).

Blake reveals and tells much about death in his book *The Book of Thel*. Blake also began writing about his work entitled *Milton; a Poem* between 1805- 1808. Furthermore, in 1809 Blake's work entitled *Descriptive Catalogue* appeared. The work contains his brilliant ideas on Caucer. Blake's last work was *Dante's Divine Comedy*. This work was published in 1826, one year before Blake's death in 1827.

E. Previous Studies

In writing this thesis, there are several previous studies related to the title and topic of the research, The researcher chose two journal articles related

to the same research as the researcher, specifically figurative language in poetry.

First previous studies that researcher uses is from MATAI: international journal of language education volume 3 number 1 in 2022. In title *an Analysis of Figurative Language in Poems by Laksmi Pamuntjak*. According to the title of the journal, the content of the journal contains research on figurative language in poems by Laksmi Pamuntjak. The poems studied consist of several poems selected by the author of the journal, there are 3 poems by Laksmi Pamuntjak selected by the author 1. From the buru notebook: from now on 2. Night Train: end of January 3. From the Buru Notebook: Arrival. The author uses qualitative research method for this research. From this research, the author found some figurative language used in the poems of Laksmi Pamuntjak, among others, as follows:

1. In the poem *From Now On* the author finds 2 figurative language symbolism and hyperbole.
2. While in the poem *Late January*, the author found 3 metaphors, 1 simile, 1 personification, 2 hyperbole and 2 symbolism.
3. In the 3rd poem with the title *the arrival*, the writer found 2 types of personification, 1 type of simile, 1 type of symbolism, and 1 type of hyperbole.

And the second previous study is from Journal of Tourism and Culture (sabbhata yatra) Volume 2 Number 1 in 2021. With the title *Linguistics Analysis: Figurative Language Used in Robert Frost's Poem*.

The article examines the use of figurative language in Robert Frost's poetry, in line with the journal's title. The method used by the author is qualitative research with content analysis method. The author analyzes 3 poems of Robert Frost with the titles of the road not taken, my November guest, and stopping by woods on a snowy evening. From this research, the author found several figurative language in three poems by Robert Frost

1. In the first poem with the title *The Road Not Taken*, the author found 2 personifications, 2 metaphors and 1 symbolism.
2. In the second poem, *My November Guest*, the author found 7 personification, 2 symbolism, and 1 hyperbole.
3. In the last poem with the title *Stopping By Woods On a Snowy Evening*, the author found 1 exaggeration, 2 personification, 1 repetition, and 1 symbolism.