

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter provides a detailed description of the research methodology used in this study. It is divided into six main sections: research design, object of the study, data and data sources, technique of data collection technique of data analysis, research instruments, and data validity.

3.1 Research Design

This research employs a descriptive qualitative design, which aims to describe and interpret the use of figurative language in Olivia Rodrigo's sour album. According to Creswell (2023), qualitative research seeks to explore and understand the meaning that individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem within a particular context. The descriptive approach is used to systematically identify, classify, and interpret the types and meanings of figurative expressions found in the lyrics without manipulating the data. This design is appropriate for linguistic and stylistic analysis because it allows the researcher to examine in depth the layers of meaning, emotional nuances, and contextual interpretations reflected in the songs.

3.2 Data Sources

The data source of this study consists of eleven songs from Olivia Rodrigo's debut album sour (2021), namely Drivers License, Déjà vu, Good 4 u, Brutal, Jealousy Jealousy, Traitor, Favorite Crime, Happier, 1 step forward 3 steps, Enough for you, and Hope Ur OK. These songs were selected because they construct a cohesive emotional and linguistic narrative that reflects the complexities of adolescence, heartbreak, and identity formation three dominant themes closely related to the use of figurative language.

3.3 Instrument of the Study

In qualitative research, the researcher is the primary instrument of the study. According to Creswell (2023), the researcher plays a central role in collecting, identifying, classifying, interpreting, and analyzing the data. In this study, the researcher herself acted as the main instrument to analyze the figurative language found in Olivia Rodrigo's sour album.

The data analyzed in this study were the song lyrics taken from eleven selected songs from the album. The lyrics were obtained from the LyricFind website as the primary data source and were examined systematically. The researcher identified the figurative expressions, classified them based on Perrine's (1982) theory, and interpreted their meanings using Leech's (1981) semantic theory.

3.4 Data Collection

In this research, the researcher obtained a deeper understanding of the study by referring to relevant sources. The data of this study were taken from the song lyrics in Olivia Rodrigo's sour album. This research employed the documentation method to collect the data. According to Creswell (2023), documents used in data collection may include searching in google, articles, letters, notes, books, and archives. In this study, the researcher used song lyrics accessed from the Lyric Find website as the primary data source. In addition, the researcher collected related literature, such as books and journal articles, to support the analysis and strengthen the theoretical framework of the study.

1. Reading

The researcher carefully and repeatedly reads all the song lyrics from the sour album to gain a comprehensive understanding of the content, context, and overall meaning of the lyrics.

2. Identifying

The researcher identifies and highlights words, phrases, or sentences in the lyrics that contain figurative language or indicate non literal meaning.

3.5 Data Analysis

After validating the data of figurative language, the researcher analyzes the data found in the song lyrics from Olivia Rodrigo's sour album. After the data have been collected from the data sources, the data are analyzed using the following steps:

1. Reading the Song Lyrics

In the first step of analysis, the researcher carefully reads all the song lyrics that contain figurative language. This step is conducted repeatedly to gain a deep understanding of the context, meaning of each lyric.

2. Writing the Data Found in the Lyrics

After reading the lyrics, the researcher writes down all the data in the form of words, phrases, or sentences that contain figurative language. The data are recorded systematically in a data sheet to facilitate further analysis.

3. Identifying the Figurative Language

In this step, the researcher carefully reads and listens to the song lyrics repeatedly in order to identify expressions that contain non-literal meanings or semantic deviations. The purpose of this stage is to locate and collect all possible figurative expressions found in the lyrics without determining their categories yet. Every lyric that indicates imaginative, symbolic, emotional, or indirect meaning is marked and

highlighted as data. After that, each identified expression is given a specific code to facilitate the organization and analysis of the data systematically.

4. Classifying the Figurative Language

After the figurative expressions have been identified, the researcher classifies each data into specific types of figurative language based on Perrine's (2021) theory. In this stage, the researcher analyzes the characteristics of each expression to determine whether it belongs to simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, hyperbole, litotes, irony, paradox, or other categories of figurative language. Unlike the identifying stage, which only focuses on finding figurative expressions, the classifying stage focuses on determining and grouping the identified data according to their appropriate types. To ensure accuracy and consistency, the researcher rechecks the classification results by comparing the characteristics of each figurative expression with the definitions proposed in Perrine's theory.

5. Interpreting the Meaning of Figurative Language

After classifying the figurative language, the researcher interprets the meaning of each expression by analyzing both its literal meaning and conveyed meaning in the context of the song lyrics. In interpreting the meanings, the researcher applies Leech's (2021) theory of meaning, particularly conceptual meaning and connotative meaning, to understand the implied messages conveyed by the songwriter. The researcher also pays attention to the context of the lyrics, emotional expressions, and the overall theme of the songs to avoid misinterpretation. Through this process, the researcher identifies

how figurative language is used to express emotions, experiences, and messages indirectly in the song lyrics.

6. Conclusion

The final step is drawing conclusions based on the results of the analysis. After answering the research questions, the researcher concludes the findings by relating them to relevant theories and previous studies to support the validity of the research.

3.6 Triangulation

Triangulation refers to the use of multiple methods, theories, data sources, or investigators to increase the credibility and trustworthiness of research findings. The application of triangulation helps researchers reduce bias and strengthen the validity of qualitative analysis by examining data from different perspectives. According to Flick (2021), triangulation is an important strategy in qualitative research because it enables researchers to produce more comprehensive, accurate, and reliable interpretations of the data.

In this study, the researcher employed investigator triangulation to ensure the credibility and accuracy of the analysis. Investigator triangulation involves the participation of more than one individual in reviewing and validating the research findings. In conducting this study, the researcher first analyzed the figurative language found in the song lyrics of Olivia Rodrigo's sour album based on Perrine's (2021) theory of figurative language and Leech's (2021) theory of meaning. After completing the analysis, the findings were validated by an English lecturer who has expertise in literature studies and an English teacher who specializes in teaching

literature. Their role was to examine the suitability of the figurative language classification as well as the interpretation of literal and conveyed meanings found in the lyrics.

Furthermore, after the validation process from the expert lecturer had been completed, the analyzed data were then consulted with the research advisor. Through this process, the researcher was able to ensure the validity of the findings before drawing the final conclusions of the study. Therefore, the use of investigator triangulation strengthened the credibility and trustworthiness of this research.