

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is elaborate points which are the background of the study, research problem, and objective of the study, significant of the study, Scope and limitation, definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Language is an essential aspect that is important in human life. Language is as a medium of communication to convey ideas and feeling from one to another. The goal is that people can understand the message conveyed. According to Jakobson (1960) there are six basic functions of language. The six basic functions are referential, emotive, phatic, conative, metalingual, and poetic. The six basic functions have their respective uses to help humans convey and receive messages. One is the poetic function which focuses on the message and this function is usually used in poetry.

In language education, literature is one of the objects of research. Poetry is part of a literary work that uses language as a medium of delivery, in the form of expressions of thoughts, experiences, beliefs, and ideas in the form of language. Each stanza in poetry assesses how the journey and story of a writer therefore always has different characteristics in his writing from one writer to another. This uniqueness makes poetry always an object that never runs out to be studied. The conveyance of meaning in poetry supported by the use of beautiful stylistics is very interesting to study.

Based on Simpson (2004) literary works has many sources to be analyzed in language study because it provides an unusual language. Style is the primary aspect in writing a work. Style is refers to how the author's thoughts take the shape of word. The style of literary works is discussed using stylistics approach as the branch of linguistics. In stylistic devices,

language is divided into three main levels, namely realization, form and semantic. In realization there are graphology and phonology.

Sound is one of the things that cannot be separated from poetry. The beauty of the writing as well as the beauty of the sound effects supports the reader's understanding of the implied and explicit meanings in the poem. In this case, phonology is a part of stylistic devices which study of sound system of a particular language. Refers to how sound is organized to mean. The beauty of language in poetry can be seen in how it is used. Judging from the presentation, it is seen that the study of how sound is organized to mean is a very interesting thing and needs to be done considering that studying poetry is not only about the alphabet but also the sound itself which will bring the reader to explore the stories and messages conveyed by authors.

One of the Nigerian authors who lived at the time of the civil war in his country has perpetuated the history of the event and some of his works are *Collected Poem*. This book has five parts. Part one is entitled Prologue which contains six poems, part two is entitled *Poems About War* contains nine poems, part three is entitled *Poems Not About War* contains thirteen poems, part four entitled *Gods, Men, and Others* contains six poems, and finally *Epilogue* contains three poems.

Collected Poems is very interesting because each poem contains a story about an event, even about dreams and hopes. Chinua Achebe Cited in the London Sunday Times as one of the 1,000 Makers of the Twentieth Century for defining a modern African literature that was truly African and thereby making a major contribution to world literature, also based on Collected Poems (2004) Mr. Achebe has received numerous honors from around the world, including the Honorary Fellowship of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and Foreign Honorary Membership of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, as well as more than 30 honorary doctorates from universities in England, Scotland, the United States,

Canada, Nigeria, and South Africa. He is also the recipient of Nigeria's highest honor for intellectual achievement, the Nigerian National Order of Merit, and of Germany's Friedenpreis des Deutschen Buchhandels for 2002. In 2007, he won the Man Booker International Prize for Fiction.

Therefore, this research chooses *Collected Poems* from Chinua Achebe because he is one who brought modern African literature and is also an academic. With a stylistic approach that will focus on understanding phonology consisting of rhyme, alliteration, assonance, consonance found in the *Poems About War* section.

This research is expected to make it easier to understand phonology, especially in the world of education in learning phonetics and phonology more interestingly through poetry.

B. Research problem

Base on the background of study above, the writer formulate the problem as “**What are phonological levels realized in the *Collected Poems*”**

C. Objective of the study

This study aim and refers to the research problem to find out phonological levels realized in the *Collected Poem* by Chinua Achebe.

D. Significant of the study

In this section, the research provides the urgency of this study in the theoretical and practical benefaction.

1. For the Students

This research is expected to help and facilitate students in learning the level of phonology and phonetic symbols more easily through poetry.

2. For English Teachers

This research expected to enrich teaching materials, especially in the field of phonetics and phonology.

3. For Next Researchers

The researcher expects the result of this study may provide benefits to the future researchers who are interested in conducting pragmatic study, particularly phonological level. The next researchers are advised to develop this study. Therefore, the researchers will get more knowledge to understand the use of pragmatics and the implementation of phonetic and Phonology in daily life.

4. For Readers

This research increases the deeper knowledge between theory and practice about the level of phonology contained in *"Poems About War"* readers are expected to be more open to the use of phonetics and phonology in poetry as well as other readings.

E. Scope and Limitation

This study is more focused and not widened. Thus, the study is limited to analyze of the Chinua Achebe poem based on the phonological devices that are about analyzing the term of phonological devices on his *"Collected Poem"* in the part of *"Poems About War"* entitled: *The First Shot, A Mother in a Refugee Camp, Christmas in Biafra (1969), Air Raid, Biafra 1969, An "if" of history, Remembrance Day, A Wake for Okigbo, After a War.*

F. Definition of key terms

1. Style

Style as the manner of linguistic expression in prose or verse it is how speakers or writers say whatever it is that they say.

2. Stylistic

Stylistic is a branch of linguistics of applied linguistics concerned with the study of style in texts

3. Phonological levels

Phonology refers to how sound is organized to mean.

4. Rhyme

Rhyme is the correspondence in the last sounds of different lines of a piece of poetry

5. Alliteration

Alliteration is also known as head rhyme or front rhyme. In Latin, alliteration refers to putting letters together.

6. Assonance

Assonance is the effect created when two syllables in words that are closed together have the same vowel sound.

7. Consonance

Consonance refers to sounds agreement in a line.