

**FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN SHAWN MENDES' SELECTED
SONGS FROM HANDWRITTEN ALBUM: A SEMANTIC
ANALYSIS**



A Thesis

Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University
as Partial Fulfillment of Requirement to Obtain Bachelor Degree
in English Literature Study Program

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ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM

FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES

HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY

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LEGITIMATION

THESIS

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HANDWRITTEN ALBUM: A SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

BY

MUHAMMAD CHOIRI

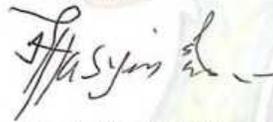
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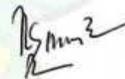
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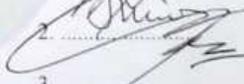
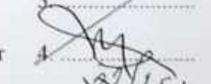
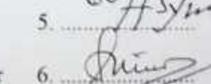
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AGREEMENT

On Friday May 3rd 2024, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by Muhammad Choiri (F041201029) entitled *Figurative Language in shawn Mendes' Selected Songs from Handwritten Album: A Semantic Analysis* submitted in fulfillment of one of the requirements to obtain Sarjana Degree in English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

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The thesis by Muhammad Choiri (F041201029) entitled *Figurative Language in shawn Mendes' Selected Songs from Handwritten Album: A Semantic Analysis* has been revised as advised during the examination on May 3rd 2024 and is approved by the Board of Undergraduate Thesis Examiners:

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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

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Hereby, the writer declares that this thesis is written by himself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by other people, and it does not cite other people's ideas except quotations and references.

Makassar, 6th May 2024
The writer,



Muhammad Choiri



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With reference to the letter of the Dean of Cultural Sciences No. 6070/UN4.9.1/KEP/2023 regarding supervision, we hereby confirm to approve the thesis draft by **Muhammad Choiri** (F041201029) to be examined at the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences.

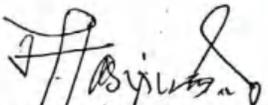
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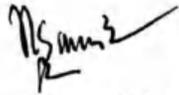
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Finally, he can feel proud of himself for being able to survive and complete this thesis.

Makassar, 6th May 2024
The Writer,



Muhammad Choiri



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ABSTRAK

MUHAMMAD CHOIRI. *Figurative Language in Shawn Mendes' Selected Songs from Handwritten Album: A Semantic Analysis* (dibimbing oleh **Husain Hasyim** dan **Simon Sitoto**)

Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis penggunaan jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan dan juga menjelaskan makna bahasa kiasan yang terdapat pada lagu-lagu pilihan di dalam album *Handwritten* milik Shawn Mendes. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Data penelitian diperoleh dari lima lagu pilihan pada album *Handwritten* milik Shawn Mendes, yaitu *Stitches*, *Something Big*, *Never Be Alone*, *Aftertaste*, dan *Kid In Love*. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan cara mendengarkan dan membaca keseluruhan lirik lagu melalui platform digital berupa *YouTube*. Kemudian penulis memilih bagian-bagian lirik yang mengandung jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan menggunakan teori Kennedy (1979) yang disitasi di Atmaja (2022). Setelah itu, penulis menafsirkan makna dari bahasa figuratif yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu-lagu tersebut. Berdasarkan hasil analisis, terdapat 30 (tiga puluh) data yang berkaitan dengan penggunaan bahasa figuratif dalam lirik lagu yang dikaji. Jenis data tersebut meliputi dua data personifikasi, sembilan data metafora, enam data simile, sembilan data hiperbola, satu datum ironi, satu datum paradoks, dan dua data simbol. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa data yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah hiperbola dan metafora. Sementara itu, data yang paling sedikit ditemukan adalah ironi dan paradoks. Lagu yang paling banyak menggunakan bahasa kiasan adalah *Stitches* dengan lima tipe (personifikasi, metafora, simile, hiperbola, dan simbol) dan *Something Big* yang juga memiliki lima tipe (personifikasi, metafora, simile, hiperbola, dan ironi). Sebaliknya, lagu yang paling sedikit menggunakan bahasa kiasan adalah *Aftertaste* dan *Kid in love* dengan masing-masing dua tipe, yaitu metafora dan hiperbola.

Kata kunci: *Bahasa Kiasan, Album 'Handwritten', Shawn Mendes, Semantik*



ABSTRACT

MUHAMMAD CHOIRI. *Figurative Language in Shawn Mendes' Selected Songs from Handwritten Album: A Semantic Analysis* (supervised by **Husain Hasyim** and **Simon Sitoto**)

This research aims to analyze the use of figurative language types and also explain the meaning of figurative language contained in selected songs in Shawn Mendes' *Handwritten* album. This study used a descriptive qualitative method. Research data was obtained from five selected songs on Shawn Mendes' *Handwritten* album, namely *Stitches*, *Something Big*, *Never Be Alone*, *Aftertaste*, and *Kid In Love*. Data collection was carried out by listening and reading all the song lyrics via a digital platform in the form of *YouTube*. The writer then selected parts of the lyrics containing types of figurative language using Kennedy's (1979) theory which was cited in Atmaja (2022). After that, the writer interpreted the meaning of the figurative language contained in the lyrics of the songs. Based on the results of the analysis, there are 30 (thirty) data related to the use of figurative language in song lyrics. The data included two data for personification, nine data for metaphor, six data for simile, nine data for hyperbole, one datum for irony, one datum for paradox, and two data for symbol. The research results show that the most data found are hyperbole and metaphor. Meanwhile, the fewest data found are irony and paradox. The songs that found the most figurative language are *Stitches* with five types (personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, and symbol) and *Something Big* that also has five types (personification, metaphor, simile, hyperbole, and irony). In contrast, the songs that found the fewest figurative language are *Aftertaste* and *Kid in love* with two types of each, namely metaphor and hyperbole.

Keywords: *Figurative Language, 'Handwritten' Album, Shawn Mendes, Semantics*



CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the background of the study, identification of the problems, scope of the problems, research questions, objectives of the study, and significances of the study.

A. Background

In this study, the subject focuses on the topic of discussion on Semantic analysis, especially figurative language. Figurative language is a form of language style commonly used by writers/speakers to convey messages imaginatively and figuratively which aims to attract attention or give an impression to the reader/listener. There are so many types of figurative language that people usually encounter in a written work which are usually formulated by experts, one of which is the figurative language proposed by Kennedy. Kennedy (1979) as cited in Atmaja (2022) states that figurative language can be divided into three parts, namely comparative figurative language (including personification, metaphor, and simile), contradictive figurative language (including hyperbole, litotes, paradox, and irony), and orrelative figurative language (including metonymy, synecdoche, symbol, fusion, and ellipsis). The writer considers that figurative language is an interesting thing to study because it is related to human written works, about



how they express things in writing. An example of a work that usually uses figurative language is a song.

A song is an artistic composition of tones or sounds in an order, combination, and temporal relationship that is usually accompanied by musical instruments. Songs are one of the human creative works that are closely related to figurative language, about how humans insert elements of language and beauty in a song lyric to express their emotions and feelings pleasantly. This song can also be a medium to convey criticism about the situation in society because it can contain implied moral values made by the songwriter.

Almost everyone around the world enjoys listening to the songs. There are many reasons why people enjoy listening to the songs, including to calm the mind, improve mood, self-motivation, or even express self-identity. The question that arises is "Does everyone who listens to the song understand the meaning and purpose of the work?" The answer is no, in many cases, people listen to songs just because they find it easy to listen, without knowing the meaning behind the lyrics, and the writer is one of them. In fact, when we understand the lyrics and the message that the songwriter wants to convey, it will add a special impression to us as connoisseurs and we will appreciate these works more. So, with this phenomenon, the writer feels the need to raise the topic of knowing the meaning and purpose of making a song through Semantic studies, in the analysis of figurative language.



In this writing, the writer chooses five selected songs from the album *Handwritten* by Canadian singer Shawn Mendes, namely *Stitches*, *Something Big*, *Never Be Alone*, *Aftertaste*, and *Kid In Love*. The reason why the writer chooses the album as a research subject is because the album contains songs that are favored by music lovers, especially millennials and those five songs are the most popular songs in the album based on the views on *YouTube*. In addition, this album is also Shawn Mendes' first album released on April 14, 2015, which successfully catapulted his name. This is evidenced by the position of the album at the top of the Billboard 200, with album sales of up to 106,000 copies in the first week after its release (Stenvall, 2015). Therefore, the writer feels the need to reveal the meaning behind the writing of these songs, about what types of figurative language are used in these songs with the title “Figurative Language in Shawn Mendes’ Selected Songs from Handwritten Album: A Semantic Analysis.”

B. Identification of the Problems

After a brief reading of the subject to be studied, the writer found several problems, such as:

1. There are some difficulties in understanding the meaning of the figurative language used in the song lyrics

Some lyrics have double meaning, so it is difficult to find the true meaning



3. There are some difficulties in determining the types of figurative language used in the song lyrics
4. Some lyrics contain impolite words

C. Scope of the Problems

Based on the identification of the problems above, the writer decided to limit the scope of the problems by only focusing on two topics, namely the types of figurative language that are dominantly used and the meaning behind that figurative language in the song lyrics. The writer scope the objects by only analyzing five songs from Shawn Mendes' album entitled "*Handwritten*," namely *Stitches*, *Something Big*, *Never Be Alone*, *Aftertaste*, and *Kid In Love*.

D. Research Questions

1. What types of figurative language are used in Shawn Mendes' selected songs on *Handwritten* album?
2. What are the meanings of figurative language used in Shawn Mendes' selected songs on *Handwritten* album?

E. Objectives of the Study



Based on the research questions above, it can be seen that the objectives of this study are:

1. To find out the types of figurative language used in Shawn Mendes' selected songs on *Handwritten* album,
2. To explain the meaning of figurative language used in Shawn Mendes' selected songs on *Handwritten* album

F. Significances of the Study

The writer hopes that this research can be useful and contribute to others. The benefits expected from this research are:

1) Theoretical Significance

This research is expected to enrich knowledge in teaching semantics as a basis for obtaining additional information about figurative language, especially in selected songs of Shawn Mendes in the album *Handwritten*.

2) Practical Significance

This research is expected to be a guideline for future researchers to enrich their knowledge in researching a song, especially regarding the types of figurative language and the meaning contained in a song.



CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter describes a theory building used as the basis for the research and also general information about the singer whose songs are used as the object of this study. This chapter contains previous study, theoretical background, and Shawn Mendes' biography.

A. Previous Study

In fulfilling this research, the writer found several studies related to figurative language. The related studies that are used as references as follows:

A study by Setiawati and Maryani (2018), *An Analysis of Figurative Language in Taylor Swift's Song Lyrics* found that there are seven types of figurative language that are often used in Taylor Swift's songs, namely simile, metaphor, hyperbole, symbol, irony, paradox, and personification. All the songs studied are based on Taylor Swift's life experiences. The most dominant figurative language in Taylor Swift's songs are hyperbole and simile. It can be seen from most of the context of the song lyrics that are negative so that the words used in the songs are exaggerated from their original meaning to describe and emphasize conflicts, such as heartache, and deep betrayal.

The second study was conducted by Muhammad et al. (2021) entitled *An Analysis of Figurative Language in Maroon 5 – Nobody's Love Song Lyrics*,



found five types of figurative language used in the lyrics of *Nobody's Love*, namely Personification, Hyperbole, Irony, Simile, and Repetition. Hyperbole is the most dominant type of figurative language used in the lyrics. The use of hyperbole is raised because the songwriter wants to emphasize a word that he wants to convey to all listeners which functions to make the lyrics more beautiful and aesthetically pleasing, especially in terms of conveying and explaining a feeling he experienced when loving his lover.

The third study was written by Fajrin and Parmawati (2021), *An Analysis of Figurative Language Found in Song of Bruno Mars Entitled "Grenade,"* found three figurative languages in *Grenade* song, namely metaphor, hyperbole, and repetition. Hyperbole is the most common form of figurative language found in the lyrics. The song tells the story of a betrayal of love received by someone who gives the impression that what the person did was meaningless and in vain.

The fourth study was done by Sulistyowati et al. (2021), *The Analysis of Figurative Language in Shawn Mendes' Song Lyrics*, found nine figurative languages in *Illuminate* album, namely onomatopoeia, hyperbole, repetition, simile, personification, irony, metaphor, symbol, and parallelism. The most dominant type of figurative language found in this album is hyperbole. The songwriter uses this type of figurative language to convey the message of love



life experienced by teenagers when experiencing a breakup and how to get up from a broken heart with the use of very touching lyrics.

The last study was compiled by Tracy et al. (2021), *Figurative Language in Speechless Song by Naomi Scott: What Meaning Lies Behind It?* found that the lyrics of Speechless, a soundtrack to the hit movie Aladdin 2019, are rich in figurative language. The figurative language encountered is metaphor in the first position, followed by hyperbole which occupies the second position, and personification in the third position. The figurative language found in the song clearly illustrates the great power and passion that the singer wants to convey. Naomi Scott, who plays the role of Princess Jasmine, wants to convey a feminist or female empowerment message, about how women should not remain silent and accept what they do not want. Therefore, it is clear that this song motivates many people, especially women not to give up and accept their condition, but to keep fighting to make a change.

The previous studies above have similarities with this research in terms of topic, namely analyzing figurative language in a song. The difference is the title of the song and also the way the writer describes the meaning of the figurative language behind the song lyrics. In terms of theory, almost all of the studies above use the theory proposed by Kennedy, but those studies do not use all types of figurative language from Kennedy's theory in full, which totals 12 types as the writer does in this study.



B. Theoretical Background

1. Meaning (Linguistics)

In linguistics, the study of meaning is the study of semantics. Meaning can be obtained through words, sentences, signs, or symbols by humans through language communication. According to Riemar (2010), meaning is closely related to definition because when hearing or seeing a word, the first thing that appears in the human brain is what the definition of the word is. Therefore, an understanding of the definition is needed to develop a conceptual theory of the meaning of the word. In addition, Crystal (1991: 100) as cited in Yunira et al. (2019) states that the study of the properties of meaning is important and must be known, but there is something even more crucial that needs to be understood, namely the study of how words and sentences convey meaning in everyday situations in speaking and writing.

According to Leech (1981: 8) as cited in Yunira et al. (2019) “meaning can be learned as a linguistic phenomenon itself, not as something outside of language.” However, to find out the important role in understanding what is communicated, Leech (1981) divided the types of meaning into seven types. The seven types of meaning are as follows:

1. Conceptual meaning refers to the logical understanding commonly used to describe an idea, also known as cognitive or denotative



meaning. An example of this meaning is the word "cat" which has the conceptual meaning of a furry mammal that is often kept as a pet.

2. Connotative meaning refers to a variety of expressions that are usually intended to give a favorable or negative impression, or briefly defined as an untrue meaning, such as "home". Besides simply referring to a place to live, the word "home" can also have connotations of warmth, peace, and a sense of comfort. In addition, some people think that home can symbolize identity, stability, or even nostalgia for the past.
3. Affective meaning can be interpreted as the emotional meaning owned by each individual. That is why it is also called subjective meaning. One example of affective meaning is found in the word "night". This word not only refers to the time between dusk and dawn, but it can also trigger certain feelings such as calmness or fear. Some people may interpret night as a feeling of peace and tranquility, while for others, it can be associated with fear or discomfort.
4. Collocative meaning is the meaning that arises from the use of several words in the same environment, such as "fast car". The word "fast" in English is often used together with "car" to form a collocative meaning. It denotes a car that has high speed or is able to accelerate quickly.
5. Associative meaning is a figurative meaning beyond the original meaning of the word or phrase, this meaning is related to the context,



such as “sun”. The word sun literally refers to the star at the center of the solar system. However, associatively, "sun" can carry connotations of warmth, light, or even freshness, as people can feel its heat and see its light in the sky.

6. Social meaning is a social language that is usually used by certain social groups, such as formal dress. In a social context, "formal dress" refers to clothing that is seen as appropriate for official or professional occasions, such as business meetings, weddings, or other formal events. The use of this formal attire reflects the social norms and expectations associated with the particular circumstance.
7. Thematic meaning is related to the choice of grammatical construction, how to replace an element or emphasize a word to convey a certain meaning, such as “education”. The word "education" is thematically related to the processes of learning, teaching and developing knowledge and skills. Its thematic meaning includes concepts such as school, teacher, student, curriculum and evaluation.

2. Figurative Language

Figurative language is a unique language used to attract the attention of readers or listeners. Figurative language refers to the use of words or phrases that deviate from the traditional meaning to suggest the beauty, power and life of an inanimate object (Atmaja, 2022). According to Raymond Gibbs (2006) as



cited in Atmaja (2022), figurative language serves to describe thoughts and evoke the right feelings for the reader. According to Kalandadze et al. (2018), by learning figurative language, a reader will be able to modify the meaning of a word or idea by comparing it to other things, then figurative language can also improve one's skills in social communication.

There are many types of figurative language, two of which are figurative language proposed by Leech and Kennedy. Leech as cited in Syafitri and Marlinton (2018) divides figurative language into eight parts, namely personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, litotes, metonymy and oxymoron. Meanwhile, Kennedy as cited in Atmaja (2022) divides it into three parts, namely comparative (personification, metaphor, and simile), contradictive (hyperbole, litotes, paradox, and irony), and correlative (metonymy, synecdoche, symbol, allusion, and ellipsis). Based on the types proposed by the two experts, the writer decides to identify the figurative language in Shawn Mendes' selected songs on *Handwritten* album based on the theory of figurative language proposed by Kennedy (1979) as cited in Atmaja (2022). The writer considers that the theory of figurative language proposed by Kennedy is more complete. There is one different type of figurative language proposed by Leech, namely oxymoron, but after being traced, oxymoron is most the same figurative language as that proposed by Kennedy, namely paradox. It is known that both oxymoron and paradox can reach the same



heights in manipulating language through opposing words to create a deeper meaning.

1. Comparative figurative language

Comparative figurative language is a form of language that involves the figurative use of comparisons between different things to enhance understanding or evoke certain images or emotions. These comparisons can be found in various forms, and are not meant to be taken literally. The following are some common types of comparative figurative language:

a. Personification

Personification is a figurative term meant to give life to inanimate objects by describing them in terms of characteristics, behaviors, or emotions shared by humans. Personification can make descriptions more vivid, understandable, and interesting.

Example:

Wind blows the leaves (the wind personified as if it has ability to blow, a human characteristic)

b. Metaphor

Metaphor is a figurative term that compares two fundamentally different things to highlight a shared characteristic. Unlike simile, metaphor



doesn't use a connective word such as "like" or "as" to make a comparison.

According to Lakoff and Johnson (1980), metaphors can be divided into three types, namely structural metaphors, ontological metaphors, and orientational metaphors.

- Structural metaphors are metaphors built to express one form of concept or entity into another concept or entity, where the concepts are related or have the same character.

Example: Government as a machine

In the metaphor above, the government is analogous to a machine that has parts, such as gears and cogs, that work together to create a coordinated movement, just as the government has institutions and individuals that work together to carry out government functions, such as making policies, enforcing laws, and providing public services.

- An ontological metaphor is a type of metaphor that refers to the way we understand one domain of concepts or phenomena by using language or concepts from another, more concrete domain.

Example: Time is money



In the above metaphor, time (an abstract concept) is considered the same as money (concrete) because the way we treat time is the same as the way we treat money. We understand the importance of valuing time and making wise decisions on how we spend or allocate our time, just like we use money.

- An orientation metaphor is a type of metaphor that relates an abstract concept to a more concrete physical or spatial orientation. In orientation metaphors, abstract concepts are explained or understood by using analogies of orientation such as up-down, front-back, or inside-out.

Example: Life is up and down

Life is thought of as a journey or experience that goes up and down. The physical orientation of up and down here is used to describe the various emotions, successes, and failures experienced in one's life. When a person experiences difficult times or challenges, they will feel themselves falling and feel sad and disappointed. However, when they achieve success or experience happiness, they feel like they are going up, where they will feel happy and excited.



c. Simile

Simile is a comparison between two things that are not essentially the same. The typical of this figurative language is the use of conjunctions, such as “as”, “like”, “than”, “resembles”, “similar”, “to”, or “seems” to express something.

Example:

Her eyes are cute like a cat (this simile highlights the beautiful eyes that someone has by comparing them to the cute, round eyes that most cats have)

2. **Contradictive figurative language:**

Contradictive figurative language is a type of figurative language that involves the use of literary devices that seem to contradict each other. This type of figurative language can add complexity and depth to language to provoke thought and create a more memorable impact.

a. **Hyperbole**

Hyperbole is a figurative term that gives an exaggerated impression of something. The use of this type of language is not meant to be taken literally, but rather to create a strong impression and feeling in emphasizing a point. Therefore, this type of figurative language often uses extreme or exaggerated types of language to increase the impact of the expression.



Example:

This room is very hot, I'm melting (the exaggeration is used to convey extreme heat and discomfort)

b. Litotes

Litotes is a figurative term expressing something that is the opposite of one's point of view. This type of language uses the form of an understatement in denying its opposite to give the impression of subtlety of a statement.

Example:

She is not a bad singer (this phrase suggests that the person is actually a good singer, using negation for understatement)

c. Paradox

Paradox is a statement that seems contradictory at first, but makes sense upon further consideration. Paradoxes often reveal the complexities and contradictions inherent in different aspects of life based on human experience.

Example:



Feel unhappy in a happy party (this paradoxical statement shows that sometimes the crowds and euphoria of many people can be unpleasant for some)

d. Irony

Irony is a statement that has a deeper meaning. Irony is usually the result of a contrast or difference between what happened and what was expected to happen.

Example:

I like your smile when you turn to the opposite direction (this statement shows that smiling is not needed and not expected)

3. Correlative figurative language

Correlative figurative language is a type of language that aims to find the relationship between two variables. This figurative language usually uses words that are related, and show a cause and effect relation.

a. Metonymy

Metonymy refers to the use of related words or phrases, usually replacing the name of one object with the name of another closely related object in a figure of speech. Metonymy refers to something by the name of a concept or item associated with it.



Example:

The White House issued a statement (The White House is associated as the United States government)

b. Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a word or phrase that is part of something. Synecdoche uses part of something to represent the whole or the whole of something to represent part of something.

Example:

I have cute Angoras in my house (Angora is kind of cat and represents a whole cat)

c. Symbol

Symbol is an object or a word to represent an abstract idea. Symbols are often used to convey a deeper meaning, emotion, or theme to a communication.

Example:

Red Rose (Symbolize love, girl, smell, or something beautiful)

d. Allusion



Allusion is a type of figurative language that indirectly alludes to a historical thing, person, place, or idea. Allusion allows a writer to make connections and evoke certain emotions by referring to something outside of the writer's work in passing, something the reader is already familiar with.

Example:

I am not a Hercules, but I could open that jelly jar for you.

e. Ellipsis

Ellipsis is figurative language that is usually used to omit words or parts of a sentence. The function of using ellipsis is to save space or remove irrelevant parts in a sentence or quote. In addition, ellipsis is also used to describe emotions or expressions in a piece of writing that has no continuation. The distinctive feature of ellipsis is the use of a colon (...) located in the middle, beginning, or end of a sentence.

Example:

“I don’t know ... I am not sure.” (this ellipsis shows someone’s doubt)

C. Shawn Mendes’ Biography



Shawn Peter Raul Mendes or commonly known as Shawn Mendes is a talented singer and songwriter who was born in Pickering, Ontario, Canada on

August 8, 1998. He is the son of Manuel Mendes (father) and Karen (mother). He also has a younger sister named Aaliyah Mendes. Since childhood, Shawn Mendes has had a talent for music and has charming vocal abilities. Shawn Mendes began to show his interest in music at an early age. He learned to play guitar at the age of 13 and began uploading snippets of songs and cover versions of himself to social media platforms such as *Vine* and *YouTube*.

Shawn Mendes' popularity began to skyrocket when he uploaded short pieces of popular song covers that received a lot of attention from his fans. Shawn Mendes' popularity on the *Vine* platform then caught the attention of a talent manager named Andrew Gertler. Finally in 2013, Shawn Mendes signed a recording contract with *Island Records*. After signing a recording studio contract, Shawn Mendes debuted with a single titled "Life of the Party" which was released in June 2014 and managed to top the charts in Canada. The success of this single made him the youngest artist to top the Billboard Hot 100 chart at the age of 16.

Shawn Mendes then released his first album titled "Handwritten" on April 14, 2015 and received a positive response from fans. The album managed to top the Billboard 200 in the United States with sales reaching 106,000 units in the first week. One of the booming songs on the album is "Stitches" which reached number four on the US *Billboard* Hot 100 and number one on the UK Singles Chart for two weeks.



Apart from being a singer and songwriter, Shawn Mendes is also known to be involved in various forms of charity work and is a respected figure in the music industry. He regularly contributes to organizations such as *Pencils of Promise*. *Pencils of Promise (PoP)* is a non-profit organization committed to building schools, providing quality education, and improving learning opportunities for children around the world. Shawn Mendes' life story is an inspiring example of how celebrities can use their influence for a good cause and spread awareness about important issues like children's education around the world.

