

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Language serves as a fundamental tool for human communication, enabling the expression of thoughts, ideas, and emotions through spoken or written symbols that are collectively understood and agreed upon. It includes a collection of spoken or written signs used in everyday situations to express meanings and concepts (Wardhaugh, 2006). Each word or symbol in language represents a specific meaning or concept. Effective communication would be difficult without language. As such, semantics is one of the foundations in understanding linguistic meaning and its interpretation, which in turn reveal the complexities of language and communication.

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on understanding meaning. It examines the grammatical meanings found within words, phrases, and sentences. While meaning is a fundamental aspect of language, semantics specifically refers to study of these meanings. This term is also used to describe how language can be manipulated or used deceptively by choosing the right words. Semantics involves a systematic study of meaning, emphasizing the importance of understanding semantic meaning in linguistics to effectively communicate ideas within a language.

Figurative language serves to enhance verses by adding layers of depth and beauty. Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) explain that figurative language is also known as metaphorical language or simply a metaphor. They stated that figurative language encompasses different types, including simile, metaphor, personification, dead metaphor, synecdoche, paradox, metonymy, hyperbole, irony, and allusion. These literary devices serve to emphasize the meaning of song lyrics and create an engaging listening experience. Figurative language is a valuable tool that allows songwriters to craft lyrics that resonate deeply with readers and listeners, conveying complex emotions and ideas in a relatable and memorable way.

Songs are a way for people to express their emotions through music. According to Hamdju (1980:26), it is a fundamental way for humans to convey their feelings through spoken language. This is why song lyrics are carefully crafted to create a meaningful and beautiful music. Just like poetry, songwriters use their lyrics to share their personal experiences, thoughts, and emotions. In doing so, they create a powerful medium for expressing themselves through the combination of beautiful language and melody. In regards to songs, linguistic devices can be used to express complex ideas and emotions in a more powerful and nuanced way than conventional language. With the use of a semantic approach, it would be easier to know or understand the meaning of a phrase or a word. From the statements above, there are many songs that use figurative language

cally convey the writer's ideas.



chnology progress, English-language songs are gaining popularity in d is evident in the increasing number of listeners tuning in to English naming platforms and the growing presence of international artists in ic scene. In this context, NIKI's "NICOLE" album has emerged as a on, demonstrated by its considerable online interest with millions of be music videos. The album's success can be attributed to several

factors, including NIKI's unique style and the relatability of her lyrics. Her ability to convey complex emotions and ideas in a way that resonates with listeners has helped her to stand out in the crowded music scene, as can be seen in the comment section of her Youtube music video: @leigh8612 who commented on the "Backburner" music video: "Every lyric of this song effects me so hard."@Reylandson commented: "I can't conceive the idea of having a brain that knows how to write like this. This is one of the greatest examples of lyricism I've ever seen." On "Ocean & Engines" music video, @jan.993: "THIS WHOLE ALBUM IS JUST INSANE!" Born 24th January 1999 in Jakarta, Niki Zefanya is an Indonesian R&B artist known for her charming rhythmic beats and soothing vocals. She gained recognition for her music on YouTube at the age of 15 and has since opened for Taylor Swift's Red Tour in Jakarta and signed with the record label 88rising. In 2022, she released her second studio album, "Nicole". Zefanya's songwriting is marked by her use of figurative language that serves to add layers of depth, thus enhancing the verses' beauty. Her popularity and influence not only resonates through her music, but also through the impact she has made; turning specific ideas into popular phrases in modern culture.

One standout example is the adoption of the term 'backburner,' popularized by NIKI through one of her songs on the 'NICOLE' album. This phrase has gained popularity on platforms like TikTok, where trends involve users sharing screenshots of their phone call history or messages from individuals who treat them as 'backburners.' In the context of the song, 'backburner' signifies being sought out or contacted only when the other person feels lonely or needs something, without being prioritized or fully valued in the relationship. This dynamic traps individuals in a cycle of attraction and frustration, acknowledging they could choose better but remain stuck. The term encapsulates feeling like a backup option or being kept behind the scenes by someone they care about. The popularity of such terms indicates that Zefanya's use of figurative language enriches the meaning and depth of her songs.

In addition to the previously mentioned motivations, the researcher was further inspired to investigate this topic due to a noticeable increase in internet interest in the meanings of NIKI's Nicole album. This trend is particularly evident on platforms like TikTok, where content creators such as @5angapta—who has accumulated 25 million likes and 360,000 followers—routinely analyze song lyrics in response to their audience's curiosity. Her frequent analysis of the lyrics from 'Nicole' highlights a broader interest in exploring the complexity of NIKI's compositions. For instance, one user, @autumnssky_, commented, "Lagunya NIKI bagus semua tapi emang liriknya agak susah buat dipahami," which translates to, "All of NIKI's songs are great, but her lyrics are a bit hard to understand in general." Additionally, @ungpalz, another user, urged content creator @victoriaebrina to focus specifically on the Nicole album, writing, "Please discuss the

se are only a few examples of many videos on social media that g attention the Nicole album has garnered, with its lyrics becoming a t and discussion. Given the explanation above, the researcher will i taken the title of "Figurative Language Used in NIKI's 'NICOLE' alalysis".



1.2 Identification of the problems

Related to the background of the research, there are some problems that may arise. The researcher identifies the problems as follows:

1. Some listeners find it challenging to distinguish and identify the different types of figurative language used in NIKI's "NICOLE" album.
2. There is a need for analyzing the meanings of the figurative language employed in NIKI's lyrics and examining how these meanings enhance the overall message and emotional impact of the songs.
3. The efficacy of figurative language in conveying nuanced emotions and complex ideas in NIKI's songs, in comparison to literal language, lacks thorough understanding.
4. The frequency of figurative language in NIKI's lyrics has not been thoroughly analyzed, making it difficult to recognize patterns in her songwriting style and identify the most commonly used type.

1.3 Scope of the problems

Building on the four problems identified above, this research focuses on analyzing the figurative language used in the selected songs from NIKI's NICOLE album. The research examines the types and meanings of figurative language in these songs using a semantic approach to identify main ideas, categorizing the meanings into denotative and connotative interpretations. Additionally, it analyzes the frequency of each type, presenting the results in a table to reveal patterns in NIKI's songwriting style.

1.4 Research Questions

1. What types of figurative language are used in the lyrics of the selected songs from NIKI's "NICOLE" album, and which type is used the most frequently?
2. What are the meanings of the figurative language used in the selected songs, including both denotative and connotative interpretations?

1.5 Objective of the study

The primary goals of this study are as follows:

1. To find out the types of figurative language used in the lyrics of NIKI's NICOLE album and analyze their meanings through a structured approach. This includes identifying the most commonly used types of figurative language in the selected songs and providing insights into the stylistic elements of the songs.
2. To reveal the meanings of the figurative language used in the selected songs,



both denotative and connotative interpretations. Denotative meaning is the general, straightforward meaning of words, while connotative meaning is the set of associations or implications that a word suggests or implies. This study aims to reveal how NIKI's use of figurative expressions enhances the depth and overall themes of her lyrics.

1.6 Significance of the study

1. This research investigates the theoretical and practical applications of figurative language in popular music. Through examination of the semantic aspects of song lyrics (semantic exploration), it reveals how meaning is created through the use of figurative language. The research then studies five of NIKI's songs, "High School In Jakarta," "Backburner," "Anaheim," "Oceans & Engines," and "Take A Chance With Me" for a more profound analysis of figurative language in music. This detailed analysis provides valuable insights that help improve the overall understanding of the topic.
2. On a practical level, the research extends benefits to various groups. English department students, particularly those with a keen interest in semantic analysis, gain a solid framework for studying figurative language in music. Aspiring songwriters and musicians can gain practical insights from NIKI's work, learning how figurative language meticulously enhances the impact of their lyrics. Finally, the research offers invaluable educational resources. Educators can use the findings to develop comprehensive lesson plans or materials that effectively teach students about figurative language, music analysis, and creative expression, all grounded in the analysis of these specific NIKI songs.



1.7 Previous Studies

Building on previous studies of figurative language in various contexts, this research analyzes five specific studies to deepen the understanding and analysis of the research topic. These selected studies offer valuable insights and contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

First, Agatha Amelda Telaumbanua (2022) conducted a study titled "An Analysis of Figurative Language in the Lyrics of Imagine Dragons' Songs on the Album Origins" with the aim of identifying the types of figurative language used in the album and determining the most dominant among them. The study employed a descriptive qualitative method and applied Gorys Keraf's theory of figurative language as its analytical framework. The method that the researcher used are by collecting the data from the album, selecting the lyrics via LyricFind.com and YouTube, noting the data that contain figurative language, classifying the data and proceeded with analysis. Through analysis of 28 song lyrics, the researcher identified eight types of figurative language: personification, allusion, epithet, irony, allegory, simile, synecdoche, and metonymy, with personification found to be the most frequently used device. This study shares a similarity with the present research in that both examine figurative language in music lyrics using a qualitative descriptive approach. However, the present study differs in its object of analysis, focusing on five selected songs from NIKI's Nicole album, and in its theoretical framework, which utilizes Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1963) classification of figurative language, supported by Lakoff and Johnson's (1980) conceptual metaphor theory. Furthermore, the present research goes beyond identifying types by also analyzing the lyrics' denotative and connotative meanings.

Second, the study titled "Metaphors in Song Lyrics from Lana Del Rey's Album 'Born to Die': A Semantic Analysis," conducted by Nafiza Meiliana Rahmat and Dianita in 2024, with the aim of identifying the types of metaphors used in Lana Del Rey's Born to Die album lyrics, including the transfer of meaning from one conceptual domain to another and to analyze the functions of the metaphors used in those lyric. The research used a qualitative approach and draw on George Lakoff and Johnson's theory. The method that the researcher use in this study are analyzing the song lyrics in-depth to understand how the metaphors are used in context, and by a document study technique, data is collected and then examined to identify the types of metaphors and their functions. Through a total of 27 instances, the researcher identified 10 ontological metaphors, 10 orientational metaphors, and 7 structural metaphors. Additionally, the study found metaphor functions, including expressive (12 instances), aesthetic (3 instances), cognitive (6 instances), persuasive (1 instance), referential (1 instance), constitutive (1 instance), explanatory (1 instance), ornamental (1 instance), and heuristic (1 instance). This study shares



the present research in using a qualitative method and Lakoff and Johnson's theory. However, it differs by focusing on Lana Del Rey's Born to Die album. The current study analyzes selected songs from NIKI's Nicole album. The present research includes Knickerbocker and Reninger's figurative language classification and examines both denotative and connotative meanings.

Third, the study titled “Figurative Languages in the Song Lyrics of 5 Seconds of Summer in Regard to Their Music Videos (A Visual Semantic Approach)” was conducted by Wika Aviliani Amandasari in 2023. It aimed to identify the types of figurative language in 5 Seconds of Summer's song lyrics, determine the types of music videos used when those lyrics are sung, and understand how the videos visualize the figurative language. This study uses a qualitative method along with a documentation research method to collect the data. It applies theories by Abrams (1999) to identify figurative language, Railton and Watson (2011) to define music video types, and Rohini and Burhans (1994) to explain how the videos reflect the figurative lyrics. The researcher found five types of figurative language in the songs, which are simile, metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche and personification. Among these, metaphor was the most dominant. The study also identified three types of music videos, including hybridity which mixes video styles, narrative which tells a story, and staged performance which shows the band performing. Lastly, the study discovered three ways in which the videos visually represent figurative language, which are through contextual constraints, spatial constraints and characteristic constraints. This study is similar to the present research in its use of a qualitative method and its focus on figurative language in song lyrics. However, they differ in scope and approach. Amandasari's study explores how lyrics are visualized in music videos through a visual semantic perspective, while the current research focuses on NIKI's Nicole album. The present study also uses Knickerbocker and Reninger's classification and explores both denotative and connotative meanings, while Amandasari relies on Abrams's theory and centers on visual interpretation.

Fourth, the study titled “An Analysis of Figurative Language in Maleficent Movie,” conducted by Agnes Meikurniawaty Nehe, Erika Sinambela, and Tiara Pasaribu in 2022, aimed to analyze the types of figurative language used by the main character in the Maleficent movie. This study employed a qualitative method by analyzing the movie script, which was collected by watching the film multiple times and compiling figurative words and sentences from the script. The study applied Perrine's (1997) theoretical framework to classify figurative language, which included hyperbole, irony, understatement, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, simile, metaphor, and personification. The researchers found 96 instances of figurative language, with simile as the most dominant type, followed by hyperbole and paradox. Other types appeared less frequently, and personification was not found, likely due to the fantasy nature of the film. This study is similar to the present research's qualitative approach to figurative language analysis. However, it differs by focusing on a movie script rather than song lyrics, and by using Perrine's framework instead of Knickerbocker and Reninger's classification and Lakoff and Johnson's conceptual metaphor theory as in the present study.



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ly titled “Figurative Language in the NIKI Zefanya Every Summertime y Chintia Handayani in 2022, aimed to identify the types of figurative re lyrics of NIKI Zefanya's song Every Summertime. This study used l and was analyzed using Perrine's theory (1963). This study involved a collection and analysis. First, the researcher of this study listened select those containing figurative language. After selecting Every

Summertime, the lyrics were carefully read to identify instances of figurative language, which were then underlined and categorized. The analysis revealed six types of figurative language: allegory (1 instance), hyperbole (2 instances), personification (1 instance), synecdoche (1 instance), metaphor (1 instance), and metonymy (1 instance), totaling seven data points. This study shares similarities with the present research in its focus on NIKI's lyrics and its use of qualitative analysis. However, this study and the current study has its own differences. Handayani's research analyzes only a single song and focuses solely on identifying and categorizing the types of figurative language based on a theory from Perrine. In contrast, the present study analyzes multiple songs from NIKI's Nicole album and goes further by interpreting both the denotative and connotative meanings of the figurative expressions using Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1963) classification and conceptual metaphor theory by Lakoff and Johnson (1980).

Sixth, the study titled "An Analysis Of Figurative Language In Songs Lyric "Lover" Album By Taylor Swift," conducted by Rizka Ria Amalia in 2024, aimed to analyze the types of figurative languages and to figure out the most dominant figurative language which is used in the songs lyrics "Lover" by Taylor Swift. This study employed a qualitative method by having data reduction, data display and conclusion. Moreover, the researcher analyzed the data by identifying, classifying, and noting down the data based on the types of figurative language. The study applied Perrine's theoretical framework to classify figurative language. The analysis revealed 11 data of simile, 22 data of metaphor, 7 data of personification, 2 data of synecdoche, 15 data of hyperbole, 5 data of symbol, and 2 data of paradox, with the most dominant type being metaphor. This study is similar to the present research's qualitative approach to figurative language analysis. However, it differs by focusing on another object such as Taylor Swift song rather than song lyrics from NIKI, and by using Perrine's framework instead of Knickerbocker and Reninger's classification, with the addition of Lakoff and Johnson's conceptual metaphor theory like in the present research and the lyrics denotative and connotative meanings.

Seventh, the study Titled "Figurative Language In Maher Zain's Song Lyrics," conducted by Laila Alviana Dewi In 2020, aimed to find the types of figurative languages and to figure out the most dominant figurative language in Maher Zain song lyrics. This research employed a descriptive qualitative method. This data collection technique of this research are by observing, interviewing, note taking and transcribing. The study applied Perrine's theoretical framework to classify figurative language. The analysis revealed from the 42 lyrics, it was found there are 8 types of figurative languages. They are simile, metaphor, personification, synecdoche, paradox, hyperbole, understatement and irony. This study is similar to the present research's aim of figurative language analysis. However, it differs by focusing on another object such as Maher Zain song rather than NIKI's Nicole album, and by using Perrine's framework instead of Reninger's classification, with the addition of Lakoff and Johnson's or theory like in the present research. Additionally, the present both denotative and connotative meanings.



Eighth, the study Titled “An Analysis On Figurative Language In Shawn Mendes Selected Songs,” conducted by Amirul Chaq Husnul Muzzaqi In 2020, aimed to analyze the types of figurative language and the song lyrics meaning. This research employed a qualitative method. This study applied a qualitative method with content analysis as its approach. In collecting the data, the researcher selected and transcribed the lyrics from YouTube, printed them, and highlighted the figurative language used in the lyrics. The study Used Gorys Keraf framework and focus on six types of figurative language: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, and paradox. The data were analyzed by identifying, classifying, and noting each instance based on those categories. The results showed that hyperbole was the most frequently used type, followed by personification and paradox. This study shares similarities with the present research in its qualitative method and focus on figurative language in modern song lyrics. However, it differs in its choice of object, focusing on Shawn Mendes’ music rather than NIKI’s, and in its analytical framework, which does not incorporate the denotative-connotative meaning with differing framework of figurative language as this present study used framework. by Knickerbocker and Reninger, with the additional conceptual metaphor theory by Lakoff and Johnson.

Ninth, the study titled “An Analysis of Figurative Language on Pablo Neruda Poems” by Heni Susanti (2021) aimed to identify the types of figurative language found in selected poems by Pablo Neruda and to determine the most dominant type. Using a descriptive qualitative method and guided by the theories of Keraf and Leech, the study found seven types of figurative language, with simile being the most frequently used. This study relates to the present research through its focus on figurative language analysis, but differs in its object and framework. While Susanti analyzed poetry using Keraf and Leech’s approaches, the present study examines song lyrics using Knickerbocker and Reninger’s framework, supported by Lakoff and Johnson’s conceptual metaphor theory and an analysis of denotative and connotative meaning.

Tenth, the study titled “An Analysis of Figurative Language Meaning in Taylor Swift’s Songs” by Bouti et al. (2023) aimed to identify the types and meanings of figurative language in two songs from Taylor Swift’s 1989 album: Blank Space and New Romantics. Using a descriptive qualitative method and a semantic analysis approach, the study applied Abram’s (1999) theory of figurative language and Leech’s (1974) theory of meaning. Data were collected through library research and analyzed by identifying, classifying, and interpreting figurative expressions. The study found seven types of figurative language: 6 metaphors, 6 similes, 2 personifications, 4 hyperboles, 12 instances of symbolism, 1 irony, and 2 paradoxes. It also revealed five types of semantic meaning: connotative, affective, social, conceptual, and collocative. This study relates to through its focus on figurative language and meaning in song lyrics, its object and theoretical framework. as this present study used :knickerbocker and Reninger, with the additional conceptual metaphor d Johnson. Moreover, the present study incorporate the denotative-g



Upon reviewing previous studies, the researcher identifies both similarities and differences with the present study. Like the earlier researches, this study employs a qualitative method and focuses on identifying figurative language in popular media. However, the present study differs in its focus on five selected songs from NIKI's Nicole album and its use of both Knickerbocker and Reninger's (1963) classification and Lakoff and Johnson's (1980) theory. Unlike most prior research, it also explores the denotative and connotative meanings of figurative language used in the song lyrics.

1.8 Theoretical Background

1. Concept of Semantics

The word "semantics" comes from the Greek word "semanio," which means "to signify" or "mean." Yule (1985) notes that semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. It is concerned with understanding the usual or conventional meanings of words, rather than how a speaker might interpret or use them in a specific situation.

In linguistics, semantics is the study of meaning and the connections between different symbols like words, phrases, signs, and symbols. It investigates how humans use language to communicate and convey meaning. The word "mean" reflects the complexity of semantics. It was used in two primary ways: to describe what speakers or writers intended to say, and to refer to what words or sentences represented or were equivalent to.

Meaning itself is the idea or concept that a writer or speaker intends to convey to their audience. This concept is conveyed through words, signs, or other forms of expression, and it is the same for both the sender and the receiver. According to Hurford et al. (2007), utterance meanings can be divided into two. The first is speaker meaning, which refers to the speaker's intent as they convey their message, and the second one is sentence meaning that refers to the literal meaning of the sentence.

Speaker meaning refers to the intended message, purpose, or implication behind what a speaker conveys in a given context. For example, consider the sentence, "It's raining outside." In one context, the speaker might mean that their picnic could be postponed as they glance at their picnic basket. In another context, if said to someone about to leave the house without an umbrella, the sentence could imply, "You might want to take an umbrella with you." Speaker meaning heavily relies on context and reflects the speaker's intention. (Hurford et al., 2007)

In contrast, sentence meaning is the literal meaning of sentence, based on its grammatical structure and definitions of its individual words. Taking the sentence "It's raining outside" as an example again, this sentence can simply mean that water is falling from the sky. Sentence meaning focuses on the literal definition without additional layers, dependent without context. (Hurford et al., 2007)

Meaning on the other hand can be categorized into two types as well. Speaker meaning, which is the emotional or cultural associations that a word carries beyond its literal meaning. As stated by Hook in Widarso (1989), a word not only has a literal meaning but also often carries emotional associations that shape its meaning. For example, the word "home" can connote feelings of warmth, comfort, and safety. These associations can vary depending on individual's experiences.



Denotative meaning, on the other hand, refers to the literal, dictionary definition of a word. Crystal (1987) defined denotative meaning as the straightforward, dictionary connection between a word and the concept it refers to. This meaning type is shared by most people due to its objective and straightforward nature. The word "home" denotes a place where someone lived, with no additional meaning attached. Sentence meaning focused on the literal definition without additional layer, unlike connotative meaning.

Semantics plays a significant role in understanding words that carry meaning. Recognizing the distinctions between speaker meaning and sentence meaning, as well as connotative and denotative meaning, reveals how a word can convey either a literal meaning or a deeper, nuanced message. As a field, semantics is the philosophical and scientific study of meaning in language

2. Concept of Figurative Language

Language plays a crucial role in human communication. Without it, we cannot communicate with each other. Language consists of a set of verbal symbols used in daily life to communicate (Wardhaugh, 2006). There are two types of language: literal language and figurative language. Figurative language uses stylistic devices to convey something in a different way. It involves using words, phrases, and sentences in a way that goes beyond their literal meaning, adding depth and new interpretations to how the audience understands them. Citing Peter (2002:12), figurative language is language that uses non-literal meanings to evoke emotions, create impact, and persuade people to take action. It is used to convey thoughts, feelings, and perceptions that cannot be fully expressed through literal meanings.

Furthermore, according to Knickerbocker and Reniger (1963) "figurative language "is often also called "metaphorical language," which involves using words or phrases with implied meanings in literary works. Writers such as authors, poets, and song writers often use this figurative language to evoke emotions and capture the attention of readers or listeners, as well as to convey ideas in an engaging manner. The use of figurative language helps writers and singers add special effects to their words to convey stronger expressions and messages to others in a more relatable and memorable way, emphasizing the meaning of writings and create a more engaging and memorable reading or listening experience.

3. Concept of Song Lyrics

Song is a collection of words intended to be sung with music. Hamdju (1980) stated that a song is a fundamental expression of human emotion regularly conveyed through spoken language. Therefore, lyrics, often consisting of multiple verses, are a sequence of words carefully selected and arranged to create a song.

Lyrics are a collection of words that form the foundation of a song, expressing and even themes through language. They play an important role and in various perspectives, including literary, cultural, and musical. Some are literary commentary, while others tell personal stories that listeners or music fans relate to.



Song lyrics are created by the writer to express what they feel, see, or experience. It is a platform for writers to express their emotions using the beauty of language. The use of symbolic words and connotations sometimes creates

vagueness in songs. This leads to different interpretations among listeners based on their individual experiences and perspectives. Thus, through the analysis of figurative language, a deeper understanding can be achieved to fully comprehend the intended meaning of the song lyrics.

1.9 Types of Figurative Language

Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) identified ten types of figurative language, which areas followed:

1. Metaphor

Metaphors directly state that one thing is another, creating an implied comparison to convey a deeper meaning or connection beyond the literal sense. According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963), metaphors omit connective words such as "like" or "as," relying instead on the recognition of similarities or the understanding of a connection between the two objects being compared. Hurford et al. (2007) also explain that metaphors are the mental process expressed through language, enabling the speakers to understand and explain abstract ideas and experiences by relating them to more concrete, familiar things. Lakoff and Johnson (1980) categorize metaphors into three subtypes.

The first type is the Structural Metaphor. The authors elaborate that this type of metaphor helps in understanding abstract concepts by connecting them to more concrete and familiar ideas. Examples of this include phrases such as "I won/lost the argument," "They attacked everything we said," or "She defended her argument." In these examples, words like "win," "lose," and "defend" are used to conceptualize the metaphor "Argument is War," suggesting that arguments are often viewed as battles or conflicts. (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980)

The second subtype is Orientational Metaphors. The authors note that this type of metaphor assigns spatial orientations or physical descriptions, such as "up" and "down" or "front" and "back," to abstract ideas. Examples include "I'm feeling up today," "Her spirit rose," or "That movie boosted my spirits." These phrases use "up" to signify improvement, energy, or feeling better, akin to how physical movement upwards is associated with progress or positivity. In contrast, phrases like "I'm feeling down" link negative emotions with the physical position of being lower (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980).

The third subtype is Ontological Metaphors. According to Hurford et al., this subtype is used to conceptualize abstract ideas as though they were physical objects, comparing them to things that can be experienced as physical entities in the real world. An example of this is the metaphor "inflation is an entity," where inflation, an abstract concept, is treated as though it were a physical object. Phrases like "Inflation is lowering ng" or "Inflation is increasing every year" treat inflation as if it were a ng to make the idea more comprehensible (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980)



2. Dead metaphor

Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963) define a dead metaphor as a figure of speech that has lost its original meaning due to extensive overuse. Dead metaphors become so familiar and ingrained in everyday language that they undergo a "semantic shift," where their meanings gradually change over time. As a result, they are no longer perceived as vivid metaphors and are instead interpreted literally, becoming regular expressions. For example, the phrase "the back of the chair" can be considered a dead metaphor because it is used so frequently that its meaning has become a literal standard. Initially, this term was metaphorical, comparing the part of the chair where you rest your back to the "back" of a human body.

3. Simile

A simile compares two different things using words like "like," "as," in order to connect the comparison between one object to another, (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963). According to Keraf (2009), simile is a figure of speech that shows how something shares traits with other things. It directly asserts that one thing is similar to another. There are primarily four ways similes are utilized: for descriptive purposes, to establish connections between disparate ideas, as embellishments, and to impart a sense of proverbial wisdom. Nasrimi defines a simile as a figure of speech that directly draws comparisons between one thing and another (Nasrimi, 2021).

For example, the sentence "She is like an angel, " compares a person to the qualities of angels, which are often associated with kindness, purity, and beauty. It is used to convey that the person possesses these admirable traits, making them seem almost divine. This phrase is often used to express admiration and respect for someone's character or actions. Another example is the sentence "Busy as a bee," uses the constant work ethic of bees to describe someone who is extremely busy. Bees are known for their relentless activity, collecting nectar and pollen, and building their hives. This phrase is often used to describe someone who is very productive and dedicated to their tasks.

4. Personification

Personification attributes human qualities to non-human entities such as inanimate objects or impersonal beings. It is a type of figurative language that describes lifeless objects as if they possessed human characteristics (Keraf, 2001). As a literary device, personification is similar to both simile and metaphor, though these two does not involve comparing objects to human-like characteristics. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963). This technique finds frequent use in children's literature, poetry, and fictional works. For example, the sentence "The smell of warm bread welcomed us inside." Much like simile and metaphor, personification involves comparison with something else. In this case, pares an inanimate object with a human-like attribute, such as being



5. Metonym

Metonymy is a figure of speech where one word is substituted for another that is closely related or associated with it. It involves substituting a term with something that has a strong connection to the original idea, thereby conveying meaning indirectly (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963). For example, the sentence "Lend me your ears." The word "ears" is used metonymically to mean "attention" or "listening." This substitution works because ears are physically associated with the act of listening, and asking someone to lend their ears figuratively means asking for their attention. Another example is "Give me a hand." The word "hand" in this sentence is used metonymically to refer to assistance or help. The hand symbolizes physical aid or support, and asking for a hand means requesting assistance from someone. Both examples show how metonymy operates by using the familiarity and association between words and their meanings to convey a concept indirectly.

6. Synecdoche

Knickerbocker and Reninger defines synecdoche as a figure of speech where a part of something is used to represent the whole or vice versa. This figure of speech replaces experience itself with important details or aspects of experience. Synecdoche encompasses two main types, namely pars pro toto and totem pro parte. Pars pro toto involves using a part of something to stand in for the whole, and totem pro parte uses the whole to represent a part (Keraf, 2010).

For example, the sentence "I got a new set of wheels" uses "wheels" as a synecdoche (pars pro toto) to refer to a car, emphasizing ownership or acquisition. The phrase creates vivid imagery and conveys the concept of obtaining a new vehicle without explicitly stating the word 'car.' Another example is "Indonesia won the match." This idiomatic expression uses "Indonesia" (totem pro parte) as a synecdoche to refer to the Indonesian team's victory. It emphasizes the team's collective identity and achievement by associating it with the nation, highlighting unity and national pride in sports contexts.

7. Paradox

A paradox is a statement that seems illogical or absurd at first glance but actually makes sense upon closer examination (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963). It refers to a statement that contradicts itself or appears to be contradictory. This type of figurative language is often used to create a sense of surprise, irony, or complexity in a text, conveying a deeper meaning or challenging the reader's expectations.

For example, "Less is more" presents a paradox by seemingly contradicting itself. The word "less" usually suggests a reduction, whereas "more" implies an increase. However, the expression can be understood as advocating for the idea that simplicity or minimalism can often be more effective or appreciated than complexity or excessiveness.

although the statement might seem illogical at first, it actually makes consideration.



8. Hyperbole

Hyperbole involves the use of exaggerated statements to enhance the emotional impact and create a distinct, dramatic effect in a situation. It is intended to be memorable or to leave a strong impression by expressing something in an extreme manner (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963). This type of literary tool employs exaggerated language—whether in words, phrases, or sentences—to magnify the essence, scale, or quantity related to a subject. The phrase "I've told you a million times" exaggerates how often something was repeated to communicate a sense of annoyance or frustration.

9. Irony

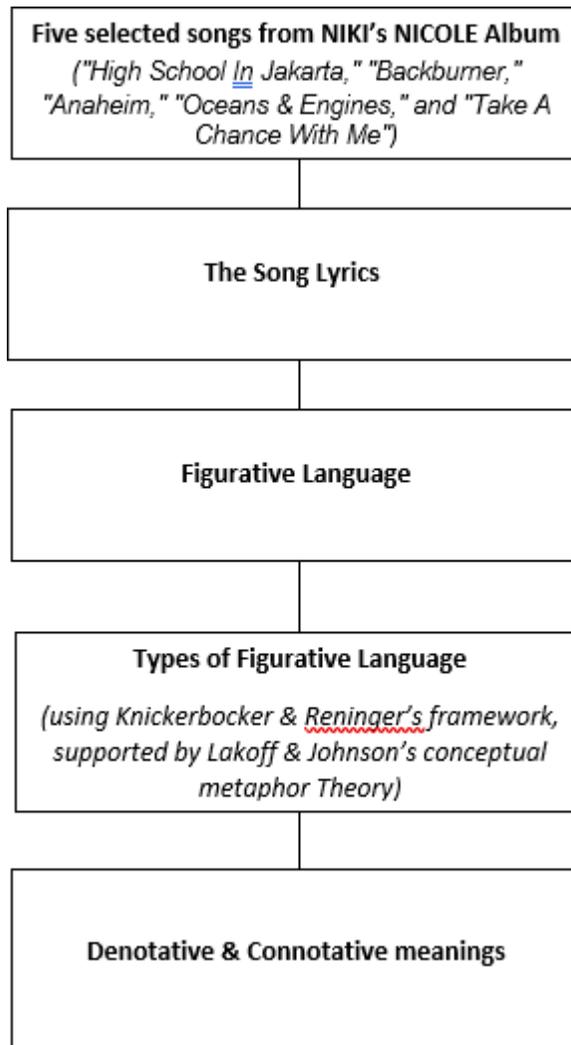
Irony is a figure of speech in which a statement's true meaning is the opposite of its literal or surface meaning (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963). It represents a contrast between what is expressed and its intended meaning, or between what is expected and what actually occurs. It involves conveying a message that carries a meaning contrary to the literal interpretation of the words used. Diyyani (2004) describe irony as typically arising from a disparity between anticipated outcomes and actual events. Example of this is "Your room is so tidy that nothing in the corner is not covered in paper waste." This phrase sarcastically emphasizes the surprising level of cleanliness. Irony improves communication by pointing out contradictions in a clever and often humorous manner.

10. Allusion

Allusion in literature involves indirect references to well-known people, places, events, or artworks. Unlike direct quotations, allusion establishes a connection between the original source and the current text without explicitly naming it. This literary device enriches the writing by encouraging readers to draw parallels and deepen their understanding through recognizing the embedded reference. It relies on shared cultural knowledge and associations to enhance the text's or lyric's depth. For example, "She went down a rabbit hole" is an allusion. It indirectly refers to the novel *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, where Alice follows a rabbit down a hole into a fantastical world. The phrase implies someone fell into a strange or unexpected situation.



1.10 Conceptual Framework



CHAPTER II RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

2.1 Research Design

This study aims to analyze the figurative language used in five selected songs by NIKI from her album titled "NICOLE". In this research, the researcher will use qualitative research, as the data contains various types of figurative language. Creswell (2014) asserts that qualitative research is based on textual or visual data and typically involves distinct procedures for data analysis using various designs. It is conveyed through the description of words and languages within a certain context.

2.2 Source of Data

The primary focus of this research is the figurative language in five specific songs from NIKI Zefanya's album NICOLE, released on August 11, 2022. The songs selected for analysis are "High School in Jakarta," "Backburner," "Anaheim," "Oceans & Engines," and "Take A Chance With Me." The song lyrics will be sourced from NIKI's official YouTube channel (https://youtube.com/@NIKIZFNY?si=9ro_BkE3QIN5Dd-0) and the Genius lyrics website (<https://genius.com/albums/Niki/Nicole>). NIKI's YouTube channel provides a direct, authoritative source, ensuring the accuracy and authenticity of the lyrics, while Genius is a well-established platform known for its comprehensive and verified song lyrics, often in collaboration with the artists.

Additionally, to avoid redundancy in the data and focus on a purposeful analysis, the researcher has selected a representative set of lyric samples that balances different types of figurative language, given the high density of metaphors in the lyrics. The selection and categorization of figurative language were guided by established frameworks and supported by insights from previous studies on similar topics.

2.3 Method of Data Collection

1. Gathering the lyrics of selected NIKI songs through reputable websites, such as NIKI's official YouTube channel and genius.com. As previously published content, they are classified as secondary data.
2. Reading the lyrics to gain a deeper understanding, with the researcher carefully examining them.
3. Identifying lines from the lyrics that exhibit figurative language from the reading process.
4. Writing down the identified lines to be used as data for further analysis.

2.4 Method Data Analysis

1. Reducing the data by selecting purposive lyric samples from five songs in NIKI's Nicole album. Due to the high density of metaphors, this step aimed to minimize redundancy and identify different types of figurative language, ensuring a more balanced analysis. The researcher classified figurative language in the purposive lyric samples based on Reninger's theory. The classified figurative expressions were then presented in a structured table for clarity.



3. Analyzing each identified figurative expression for its denotative and connotative meanings. Lakoff and Johnson's theory was specifically applied in the analysis of metaphors.
4. Drawing a conclusion regarding the most commonly used types of figurative language across the five selected songs. The results were presented in a table, which also served as a frequency analysis to highlight usage patterns

