CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, problems of the study, significance of the study, the scope and limitation and the study of key terms.

1.1 Background of Study

Language is a main part of human communication and interaction. Language also has a meaning as an instrument to express feeling, thought, and attitude. We can define language as a system of communication using sounds or symbols that enables us to express our feelings, thoughts, ideas, and experiences, (E. Bruce, 2008). Therefore, language is useful to people communications.

Literature cannot be separated from language. Literature is another way to experience the world around us through our imagination (Jones, 1968). There are two kinds of literature that Koesnoesoebroto (1988:2) mentions. First is literature of knowledge and second is literature of imagination. The literature of knowledge is like facts and ideas. Literature of imagination interprets experience by a factious of person, ideas, events and creativity. Sometimes they can use their imagination to make some poem or songs.

A song is one of the literature imagination example. Song is the literature that purpose to entertain. Song expresses imagination and delivers message or idea to listener. In many songs, there are figurative languages that touch the listener heart by their beautiful words. Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions which has different meaning from the literal explanation.
Figurative Language is important in Language Teaching. In learning language, we do not learn formal language only, but also figurative language to make the more beautiful sentence. Moreover, it helps the students to interpret the figurative language in poem or others.

To accomplish this research, the writer reviews from another previous research such as “A Study on The Figurative Language Used in Red Hot Chili Pepper’s Song “Californication”” by Wisnu Wardono (2004) found the most dominant figurative language used is symbol. Ambarsari (2013) in her thesis “An Analysis of Figurative Language and Message on The Song “Heal the World” by Michael Jackson” found the most dominant figurative language in that song is personification and the message is about a war did not solve problem. The war will cause hatred, anger, suffering, cry, fear, and trauma. Therefore, to solve a conflict is not necessary to fight, or war, but it can be overcome by a diplomatic way or a peace way expected by most people in the world. From both research above, the writer draws a conclusion that there are many types of Figurative Language. Therefore, the purpose of the research is to know what kind of Figurative Language in “Love Story” song by Taylor Swift.

Here, the writer chooses to analyse the figurative language and massage in the song by Taylor Swift “Love Story” be the object of this research because that song was popular in 2008 and liked by teenegers at school whose English is part of their subject. Taylor Swift is the young lady singer and songwriter from USA. Due to that reason, the writer aims to find the figurative language of “Love Story” by Taylor Swift and the message behind the song. Thus, the tittle of the thesis is
“An Analysis of Figurative Language and Message on the Song “Love Story” by Taylor Swift”.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background above, the writer formulates problem to be investigated as follow:

1. What kinds of figurative language are used in “Love Story” song?
2. What are the messages of “Love Story” song?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Based on the background above, the purpose of the study is intended:

1. To know the figurative language in “Love Story” song by Taylor Swift.
2. To know the message from “Love Story” song by Taylor Swift.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The writer hopes, this study can give contribution and is useful for the students in English Language Education of Muhammadyah University of Malang. Figurative language is taught because in English Language Education not only study about education but also literature. From this research, the researcher gives information for future researchers who interested in conducting the similar study and help them to analyse the song.
1.5 **Scope and Limitation**

The scope of this research is on “Love Story” song by Taylor Swift. Actually Taylor Swift has many songs and already issued some albums. So from her many songs in her album, the reason from the writer chooses “Love Story” song since this song has a lot of Figurative Languages.

The limits in this research are Figurative Language and Message from “Love Story” song by Taylor Swift to know what kind of Figurative Language which consisted in that song and to know what the message that implied in “Love Story” song by Taylor Swift.

The study is limited to the observation of “Love Story” songwriter because the researcher here was not able to meet her. The researcher cannot ask what important to include figurative language in “Love Story” song to songwriter. The meeting with songwriter, in fact, may promote the validity of the data in the present study. However, because of practical reason, the researcher could not access to meet the songwriter. Another limitation is because the research instrument here is the writer herself, the message which is mentioned is from the writer’s point of view. This maybe different from some listeners point of view in accepting the message. However, the writer has conducted a little observation to some of her friends about what message they got from the song. The result is almost all of them got the same message as mentioned in this research. These are limitations of the study.
1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Following definition in this research are important to the readers that can give understanding for them, the key definition are as follows:

a. Figurative Language

Figurative Language is a language used for descriptive effects, often to imply ideas indifferently. Expression of figurative language are not literally true but express some truth beyond literal level (Macmillan: 1984:261). Figurative Language is a beautiful words that’s not in a real meaning.

b. Message

Message is ideas or purpose that is delivered by the author to the readers about the meaning of literary work through a story, (Nurgiyantoro, 1995:32). Message can mean moral values from the story or song that people already hear or read.

c. Song

Ambarwati (2013) said that song is a short poem or number of verses set of music intended to be sung by the singer. Song is like a voice that has a tone. People can song single, duet or trio.