CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer discusses some topics such as research background, research problem, research objective, scope and limitation, research significance and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

There are various ways of using a language including communication, the expression of identity, play, imaginative expression, and emotional release. Language can also be expressed through many things, one of which is through songs. It consists of words or lyrics and sound. Lyric is the word of a song (Oxford, 2008). While song music deals with tones as its root, song lyric deals with words as its raw material. The words are used to create a picture, an idea or a story in a meaningful pattern. Lyrics, as an artistic work, need human creativity in using language. Every single song has different meaning and the writer usually uses an implicit meaning or explicit meaning in the lyric.

Creating a song lyric needs creativity. Robb (1996) stated that “The song writing process is one that harnesses the creative abilities of individuals and empowers them to express their experiences and emotions in a way that many have never before experienced”. When an author wants to make language to be creative, usually, they use language different from the conventional and everyday language which is called distinctive language. Using this distinctive language, an
author can give his readers unexpected surprise and make a strong impression on their minds.

Cited in Yeibo (2012), Ogunsiji states that language may be said to work in two broad dimensions namely literal and figurative dimensions. The literal dimension of language use to deploys words in their usual and obvious sense without any additional suggestions. On the other hand, the figurative dimension deals with the suggestive or connotative use of language.” It is supported by Ogbulogo (2005), “literature as an aspect of communication expresses meaning. Incidentally, the language of literature is coded in a creative way, using figures of speech.” Thus figure of speech called figurative language. It usually can be found in some literary works such as poetry, song lyrics, script and fiction. Figurative language is used to create a special effect or feeling.

The importance of studying and analyzing the figurative language are for people to know meaning of the lyric songs because it is quite hard for people to know the meaning of figurative language without analyzing the kind and meaning in it. There are some authors who distinguish figurative language on their written text such as irony which is basically a communicative act that expresses the opposite of what is literally said or any other figurative language that contains of humor needed to analyze to understand (Reyes, Rosso, Buscaldi, 2012).

Figurative language has been analyzed by some researchers, such as Kurnia (2004) entitled “An Analysis on Figurative Language Found in Backstreet Boys’ Album The Greatest Hits Chapter One, Putri (2012) entitled “An Analysis on Figurative Language in Adele’s Song Lyrics of 21 Album”, and Mustika (2017)
entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Language and Message on The Song Love Story By Taylor Swift”. They found that Figurative language on pop genre music has same pattern in creating lyrics. Both of them conclude that thus genre has various kind of figurative language in their song and suggest other researcher to conduct analyzing figurative language on other kinds of genre music.

There are some reason the researcher uses song lyrics on Kodaline. It is a band from Ireland which is fascinating to be investigated by the researcher. Their genre is rarely investigated, a folk alternative which most of their songs is cultural and social conflict based composition. They also won EBBA awards in 2013, an annual prize awarded to the success artists or groups who reached audiences outside their own countries with their first internationally released album in the past year. Their first album In A Perfect World managed the chart number 1 on the Irish on their debut, Coming Up For Air is their second album also in chart 1. The writer believes that their songs lyric might contain figurative languages that differ them from others bands.

The focus of the research is to investigate the kinds of figurative language and the contextual meaning embedded in the lyric. Therefore, the writer is interested in carrying out an analysis of figurative language of thesis entitled — The Analysis of Figurative Language on Kodaline: Coming Up For Air Album —.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background of study that has been described above, the research problem questions of the research are as follows:
1. What are the kinds of figurative language used in Kodaline’s song lyrics in album: *Coming up for air*?

2. What is the meaning of each kind of figurative language in Kodaline’s song lyrics in album: *Coming up for air*?

### 1.3 Research Objective

The purposes of the study that will be obtained by answering research question regarding the aim of this research are achieved. The purposes of the research are:

1. To find out the kinds of figurative language in the Kodaline’s song lyrics in album: *Coming up for air*.

2. To investigate the meaning of each kind of figurative language in Kodaline’s song lyrics in album: *Coming up for air*.

### 1.4 Research Significance

The usefulness of the research is expected to improve the readers ability in understanding kinds and meaning of figurative language through analyzing the songs lyric, so when the reader listen to the song they know what the meaning of any lyric in Kodaline’ songs. In addition this study provides contribution for other researchers who are interested in doing further research in this area.

### 1.5 Scope and Limitation

The writer analyzes figurative language in the Kodaline’s song lyrics. They have two albums which are *In a Perfect World* and *Coming up for air*. This
investigation limits the research only in second album; *Coming up for air* that contains 12 songs.

## 1.6 Definition of Key Term

1. **Figurative language**

   Figurative language is a form of language used by the writer or speaker to convey something else other than literal meaning (Tarigan, 2013). Afriani (2014) states that figurative language is a kind of language that the speakers say less than what they mean or more than what they mean.

2. **Contextual meaning**

   Contextual meaning is that whenever a linguistic expression cannot be straightforwardly interpreted, we turn to context to find some extra cues in order to get the right meaning (Requejo, 2007). Pateda (2010) states that contextual meaning could be regarded as a situational meaning. It appears as a result of the relationship between speech and context. Contextual meaning is the meaning according to the context.

3. **Kodaline**

   Kodaline is an Irish band. Originally known as 21 Demands, in 2012 the band changed their name to Kodaline. Their first album *In A Perfect World* managed to occupy the chart number 1 on the Irish Album Charts on June 20, 2013. *Coming Up For Air* is their second album (Jakarta Post, 2017).