

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### 1.1 The Concept of English Literature

Yulianti (2021) states that literature comes from the Sanskrit word which has the full meaning of writing. English literature plays a very important role in people's lives. Its purpose is to entertain and provide aesthetic pleasure in a literary work. The literary aim is centered on the words themselves and their deliberate and purposeful arrangement to achieve enjoyable or enlightening effects. There are three principal types or genres of literature: fiction, poetry, and drama (Rahmawati, 2021). Sutrisno (2022) asserts that literature is frequently interpreted as an attempt to describe real sports. Literary works are frequently recognized as imitations of actual events occurring at the time of writing. Wibowo in Zuriyanti (2022), also states that English literary works can constitute culture, its values and organizational networks as a material form of expression of human enjoyment. English literature often explores universal human experiences, emotions, and dilemmas. It allows readers to reflect on their own lives, relationships, and the world around them. By engaging with literary works, readers gain insights into the complexities of human nature and society, prompting introspection and personal growth.

English literature is known for its diversity, which includes a variety of genres, themes, styles, and viewpoints. This includes both well-known and

Influential works as well as lesser-known or newly created works. Examining these literary texts' artistic merits, historical context, and cultural implications is a critical component of the study of English literature. However, because the literature is so extensive, sometimes some students who do not understand the meaning of the literature presented will experience misinterpretation which will affect their learning performance. English literature also often uses complicated language or an unconventional writing style. This can pose a challenge for students who may find it difficult to engage with the text, especially when dealing with older or experimental work.

In conclusion, besides giving an aesthetic impression, a deeper understanding is needed to study English literature more broadly. This is done so that readers or students will not be misled about the literary works they read or identify.

### **1.2 Figurative language in a movie**

Figurative language is a common phenomenon that plays an important role in our daily communication. The figurative language refers to the use of words or expressions that deviate from their literal or straightforward meaning to create a more vivid, imaginative, or expressive effect. It involves the use of various literary devices, such as metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole, and symbolism, among others. According to Lakoff and Johnson in their book “**Metaphore We Live By (2003)**”, figurative language is language which departs from the use of straight forward words. This creates a special effect, clarify idea, and make writing more colorful, and powerful. Honneck and Hoffman (2018, p 3) in Febriyanti

(2022) also states that figurative language is fun, it leads one to find all sorts of intriguing phenomena. While according to Ardhyanti (2020), figurative language is the ways to show the writer's thought use the special word. This is produced in our daily conversation and often found in literary works, such as newspaper, advertisements, novels, poems, and so on. It is use words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation (Hutauruk 2019).

Through the use of metaphors, similes, personification and other figurative of speech, filmmakers create a visual and emotional language that goes beyond literal representation. In addition, figurative language in movie facilitates the communication of abstract concepts and intangible emotions. Metaphors and similes create vivid comparisons, allowing filmmakers to convey meaning through visual and auditory cues. They provide a way to describe characters, settings, and events in a more evocative and memorable way. Personification, on the other hand, imbues inanimate objects or abstract ideas with human characteristics, allowing the viewer to connect on a deeper level. By animating non-human entities, personification creates a sense of familiarity and empathy. The figurative language in this film helps to evoke emotion, provoke thought, and engage the audience in a more profound and meaningful way.

While figurative language in movie can enhance storytelling and emotional impact, it can also pose certain challenges for viewers. One problem is the potential for misinterpretation or misunderstanding. Figurative language relies on metaphorical or symbolic meanings that may not be immediately apparent to all viewers. This can cause confusion or misrepresentation of the intended message or theme of the film. Another problem is the cultural and language barriers that figurative language can create. Different cultures and languages may have different

interpretations and associations with certain metaphors or symbols. Viewers of all backgrounds may find it difficult to fully understand the intended meaning or emotional resonance of the figurative language used in a movie. In conclusion, besides giving a beautiful effect to the movie, figurative language can also give misinterpretation to people who are unfamiliar or don't understand the meaning of the words conveyed. To overcome this problem, filmmakers must provide clarity and context when using figurative language in movies. Balancing the use of figurative language with clear storytelling and effective visual cues can help ensure that viewers understand the intended meaning and emotional nuance.

### 1.3 Types of Figurative Language

Writers can express meaning in a variety of creative by using figurative language. There are 11 types of figurative language, namely hyperbole, personification, metaphor, simile, idiom, synecdoche, irony, symbol, oxymoron, and allusion.

**Firstly, *hyperbole*.** It is a style of language that expresses something excessively and even seems unreasonable. The use of exaggerated words is useful to attract the attention of readers and adding color and depth of meaning in a literary work. Some examples of hyperbole include:

- a) "I have told you a billion times to turn off the microwave."
- b) "I have a pit in my stomach."

From this sentence, the speaker doesn't really have a hole in his stomach, he just wants to talk about the negative feelings he has.

**Secondly, *personification*.** This type of figurative language uses words to compare and enhance the impression of a sentence. Personification also describes inanimate objects other than humans, to be like living things that have human

characteristics. For example,

- a) “The wind whispers into my ear.”
- b) “The sun smiled down on us.”

**The third** is *metaphor*. Hutaaruk (2019) defines metaphor as a type of figurative language that involves the use of analogies or in-depth comparisons between two objects that are not often viewed as having anything in common. An example of its characteristic is not using the word "like" or "as" to show a comparison. One sentence that uses a metaphorical figure of speech is "Love is a battlefield." An example of its characteristic is not using the word "like" or "as" to show a comparison. Two examples that uses a metaphorical figure of speech include:

- a) "Love is a battlefield."

The metaphor compares love to a battleground. The place where the battle takes place is referred to as the battlefield. This metaphor could imply that love is in conflict with the situation. People who fight in battle will come to trust their allies, which also means that love and trust are closely related.

- c) “His heart of stone surprised me.”

Heart of stone means **not empathetic**.

**The next is simile.** According to Nursolihat (2020), simile is typically the comparison of items that are fundamentally different on the basis of a similarity in one feature. The function of this figure of speech is to compare two things that are essentially different, but are then considered to have almost the same meaning. The comparison of similes focuses on traits or characters. Unlike metaphor, it use the words "like" or "as" to show comparisons. The examples of simile are:

- a) "Joe is as tall as a giraffe."

In this case, the giraffe is compared with Joe because this animal has a very large size compared to other animals. This simile shows that Joe is very tall.

- b) "He is cold as ice"

This means he is acting very unfriendly.

**The fifth is idiom.** It is a series of words whose meaning cannot be taken literally, but it represents a certain expression implied in them. For instance,

- a) "It's raining cats and dogs."

That means it's raining heavily.

- b) "I'm feeling under the weather."

It means the person is feeling sick.

**The sixth is Synecdoche.** It is a sort of figurative language in which the whole or one component is used that refers to the other. This figurative language is often used as the basis for making slogans, combining several words and terms to form one sentence, such as showing the reasons for people to be interested in seeing or using goods and services.

The examples of Synecdoche are:

- a) Head count refer to counting cattle and people.

"What's the headcount for today's meeting?"

- b) Hired hands can be used to refer to workers.

“We need hired hands for the next harvest.”

**The next** is *Onomatopoeia*. This refers to a word associated with its means or words that phonetically imitate the sound they describe, such as trills or cackles. Onomatopoeia is often found in comic books, story books, infographics, and other picture books. The example of this figure of speech are

- a) “The fireplace heater hissed and cracked.”  
 b) “The alarm clock buzzed at the time I was going to the bathroom.”

**The eight** is *Irony*. This figurative language refers to the use of words or sentences that do not clearly state what is meant or contradicted with their true meaning. Indirect statements in irony are aimed at conveying a message or criticism subtly, without having to directly reveal the true meaning. According to Sinambela (2022), irony is a humorous language technique that hides the real truth while asserting the reverse. In this instance, irony typically uses subliminal innuendo. The example of Irony are:

- a) "Your voice is so good to hear, that you shouldn't have to sing anymore."

This means the voice is so bad that the speaker doesn't want to hear it anymore.

- b) “The new manager is as friendly as a rattlesnake.”

Another type of figurative language is *symbol*. It is a style of language that contains sentences comparing things by using symbols to express their meaning. Objects, people, situations, or actions used in figurative language serve as symbols

to represent something else, usually abstract ideas or concepts. Symbols come in many forms, such as Objects. Smaller objects can serve as symbols for more important concepts. For example, a dove could symbolize peace while a red rose could represent love or passion. Symbol is included in the comparative figure of speech. The example of *symbol* are:

- a) A wedding ring is a symbol of someone's commitment to a serious relationship.

“He brought his wedding ring to the battlefield so it could remind him of his commitment to his marriage.”

- b) Chains mean imprisonment.

“He puts him in chains and took him to the police.”

**The tenth is *Oxymoron*.** The definition of this figurative language is two or more words combined into one sentence. However, these words have conflicting or contradictory meanings. Thus, it can be concluded that the oxymoron is a figure of speech that describes conflict and irony. Some examples from the Oxymoron are:

- a) "Parting is such sweet sorrow."

This shows the expression of sadness due to separation

- b) "I'm busy doing nothing."

This shows that the things the person does are pointless and do not achieve anything

**The last is *Allusion*.** It is a rhetorical device in the form of a reference to a place, a person or an event that is well-known and considered as general knowledge and understood by many people. In its use, a writer or speaker often refers to matters



related to historical, religious, cultural events, even including things that are fictional, such as famous folklore and many more. Usually, allusions are used to convey a thought without having to use sentences or explanations that are too long. An example of this figure of speech are:

- a) "Chocolate cake is my Achilles heel."

This shows that chocolate is my weakness.

- b) "That's your fifteen minutes of fame."

This shows that the person only had popularity for a short period of time.

In conclusion, in addition to adding color and deepening the meaning of sentences in a literary work, figurative language can also be used as a comparison in a word. The example is the use of in personification, metaphor, simile, and symbol.

#### **1.4 Meanings of Figurative Language**

According to Barhes in Saifuddin (2018), there are two kinds of meaning, namely denotative and connotative.

##### **1.4.1 Denotative Meaning**

Soemantri (2020) states that denotative meaning is a meaning that relates to experience, to what is seen and heard. Therefore, it can be inferred that this meaning refers to literal or dictionary definition of a word or phrase. While Saifuddin (2018) states that denotative meaning is meaning that does not have other connotations or additional values. Denotative meaning is the first type of objective meaning that can be ascribed to symbols. It is by direct connection between symbols with a reality or the chosen phenomena. Inclined denotation is described as definitional, literal, clear or reasonable meaning of a sign. It means that denotative

meaning is what the dictionary tries to provide.

From example:

- a) "My mother is a woman."

The term "woman" has several different denotative meanings, including "human," "female," "girl," and "adult." All of it can be inferred in line with the definition of women as pure.

- b) "I saw a snake last night"

In general, the word "snake" means a long, limbless reptile belonging to the suborder Serpentes. Typical characteristics include an elongated body, no limbs, and an often forked tongue.

#### 1.4.1 Connotative Meaning

Indrayani (2020) states that connotative meaning is frequently described as meaning that is not genuinely true. Its function is to convey an experience in the real world to be associated with someone's expression when listening and using it. It refers to the emotional or associative implications that a word or phrase carries beyond its literal or denotative meaning. Connotative meaning is frequently used in figurative language to create images, evoke specific emotions, or convey abstract concepts. According to Barthes in Saifuddin (2018), connotative is the level of signs explains the correlation between signifier and signified which is explained implicitly, indirectly, not real meaning. It is dependent on the reader's or listener's knowledge of cultural and contextual associations.

For example:

- a) "He was feeling blue."

Blue is one of three primary colors, along with red and yellow, that can be combined to create a variety of other colors. Connotatively, the color blue can also

be described as a feeling of sadness which is reflected in expressions, such as "feeling blue".

- b) "My brother is a tree."

Trees, with their towering trunks and sprawling branches, serve as a common reference point for describing height due to their natural splendor. In this sentence, it gives a clear picture of significant height. The speaker wants to express that his brother is very tall as a tree. This is a way to emphasize the impressive dimensions of an existing subject.

In conclusion, denotative meaning refers to the literal, dictionary definition of a word, whereas connotative meaning refers to the emotional, subjective, and associative implications that go beyond the literal definition. In figurative language, connotative meanings are often used to convey complex ideas or emotions.

### 1.1 Meanings of Movie

Herman (2021) describes movies as a form of visual storytelling using moving images and sounds for entertainment. Meanwhile, Sharjeel and Dadabhoy, as cited in Oktaviani (2020), see movies as colorful, animated visuals with sound designed to grab and maintain students' attention. Movies, which is a medium for conveying stories visually, continues to play an important role in culture modern times. It is extraordinary in its capacity to cross barriers of geography, language, and culture, and as a consequence, it has the power to change the way society views the world surround them. Movies are able to reach people all over the world, enabling individuals from many different walks of life

background to gain insight into other cultures. Therefore, films play an important role in public discourse through encouraging intercultural understanding. This contributes to increased understanding and empathy between different cultures.

Movies produced in other countries have the potential to be damaged artificial barriers and develop a sense of shared humanity, thereby serving as a bridge between many things cultures that exist in the world. (Lyn, 2023)

Dunbar (2020) assumes that genre has a major influence on how audiences respond and interact with a movie. There are various genres of Movies. The five of them namely action, comedy, drama, horror, and romance. Filmmakers often blend genres to create hybrid films, leading to innovative storytelling and new cinematic experiences. For example, a romantic comedy with horror elements can create a unique viewing experience.

