

## The Use of Metaphor Function in The Song Lyrics in The Album "Time Machine" By Pusakata

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### Abstract

*Difficulty understanding changes in meaning in the use of metaphorical language styles is often experienced, especially by lay people. This research aims to analyze the metaphors in the song lyrics on the album Machine Time by Pusakata using qualitative descriptive methods. The research process involves the steps of recording, grouping and understanding metaphors based on type and function, as well as their relevance to learning to write poetry in class X. Data was collected through text analysis and documentation. The lyrics of the song Pusakata in the album Machine Time are rich in metaphors which not only enrich the text, but also have great potential to be utilized in literature learning. The metaphors in the lyrics help create poetic images that deepen meaning and increase appreciation of the language. In the context of learning to write poetry, this exploration of language styles allows students to be more creative and expressive in their written work. In accordance with the problem formulation, researchers conducted research with the following objectives: a). Describe the types of metaphors in the heritage songs on the album "Time Machine". b). Describe the function of metaphor in the heritage songs on the album "Time Machine". c). Describe the relevance of the meaning of metaphor in the heritage song in the album "Time Machine" to learn to write poetry in class in the field of semantics and generally in the field of linguistics.*

*The research stated by Moleong (2014: 206) is that qualitative research is an investigation of events experienced by research subjects, such as motivation, actions and deeds, through descriptions in the form of certain words or language. This research found 53 metaphor functions were also found, including the function of overcoming vocabulary limitations ( 24 data), expressive function ( 15 data), and the function of avoiding monotony ( 14 data).*

**Keywords:** *metaphor, song lyrics, poetry learning*

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### INTRODUCTION

Style is one part of changing meaning, because of the relationship between a linguistic field, namely the semantic field. These changes in meaning in words, phrases and sentences are difficult for lay people to understand. Indirect changes in meaning cause meanings that are not conveyed. The concept of metaphorical style of language describes a broad situation with a concise word form. "Metaphor is a style of language that uses words not their true meaning, but as an equation or comparison" Tarigan (2015:15).

A song lyric does not have to contain words with metaphorical figures of speech. It's just that songwriters usually arrange words beautifully and creatively. So that listeners enjoy songs based on the experiences the songwriter has had. Song lyrics are closely related to the literary work being sung (Nugroho and Fatoni, 2021). The writer pours ideas, thoughts and feelings into written media, then adds musical accompaniment and uses language elements to create an impression of beauty, by playing musical instruments. The song and its beautiful lyrics result in a relationship with literary works of poetry. Through imagination, listeners will also feel the things that happen to the musicians in the lyrics brought by the indie genre.

Semantics is a branch of linguistics whose task is to study the meaning of words, their origins and the development of language. Semantics is a science that studies the meaning of words, signs and symbols that are closely related to social life. The definition of the study according to Chaer (2018:60) semantics is a science that studies meaning and significance, which is one of three levels of linguistic

analysis: phonology, grammar, and semantics.

The functions of metaphor according to Subroto include : Expressive function, a function to avoid monotony and overcome vocabulary limitations (Subroto 2019:126). Language containing metaphors is an implied form of the meaning that the author wants to convey.

## METHOD

The research method used is a qualitative descriptive research method. The data collection method used is the literature method. Using data collected from published scientific works, then summarized to obtain appropriate data. According to Moleong (2014:206), qualitative research is an investigation into events experienced by research subjects, such as motivation, actions and deeds, through descriptions in the form of certain words or language.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study of metaphor functions found 1) Function to overcome vocabulary limitations 2) Expressive function and 3) Function to avoid monotony. The metaphor function amounted to 53 data found as the metaphor function to overcome vocabulary limitations with a total of 24 data, expressive function with a total of 15 data and the metaphor function to avoid monotony with a total of 14 data.

Metaphors can convey the pain of loss, the warmth of love, and the sweetness of memories in a way that is deeper than words. Furthermore, metaphors give the soul space to speak and become an endless medium of expression that can accommodate all emotions. When formal language seems cold and limited, metaphors bring a deeper subtlety and richness of meaning, enriching any expression , and adding a deeper level of emotion. Feelings of hurt, burning longing, or overwhelming happiness are embodied in metaphors, and every word can touch the heart and mind. This is the function of metaphors: metaphors allow us to overcome language barriers and help us convey things that are difficult to express in real life to people. Finally, metaphors avoid monotony and frozen language. Like a colorful painting , they can take us to unexpected depths and mysteries, refreshing the way we see the world and understand our emotions. Through a series of metaphors, words come alive like an endless river, bringing new stories, meanings, and nuances. Subroto emphasized that language, including metaphors, always lives in beauty and diversity, never dark, never simple, and always challenges the limits of the human mind.

### A. Functions to Overcome Vocabulary Limitations

The vocabulary limitations above have the function of overcoming vocabulary limitations. The author uses the metaphor of anger adorning the face because he wants to discuss the facial expression of the angry character. By using the metaphor, the author can explain that the character is very angry until his face is decorated with angry emotions. If the character's anger is written directly, the storyline presented will not further arouse the reader's curiosity. The data found are as follows.

The valley wind and mist **slowly moved away**

(L1.mkkk.1)

The sentence "The valley wind and mist slowly move away" contains rich metaphors, especially to overcome the limitations of vocabulary in describing the changes in nature in a subtle and poetic atmosphere. In this sentence, "the gentle breeze of the valley" not only refers to the breeze coming from the valley, but also implies a gentle, cool atmosphere and evokes the tranquility typical of the natural environment. "The fog is slowly moving away" describes the movement of the fog dissipating itself slowly and gracefully, providing a calming visual image. The word "moving" is generally used for living things that move, but in the context of fog it becomes a metaphor to describe the shifting of the fog as if it were alive, conveying a deeper and more meaningful atmosphere of natural change. With this metaphor, this sentence is able to overcome the limitations of descriptive vocabulary in literal language, thus creating a clearer and more dramatic impression of natural beauty, without the need for a lengthy explanation.

But **the wound was then wiped clean** by the embrace every morning

(L1.mkkk.1)

The sentence "But the wound was then swept away by a hug every morning" uses a metaphor to convey a complex idea that is difficult to express in literal language. Here, "wound" does not mean a physical wound, but rather a metaphor to describe emotional pain or mental burden. The term "swept away" also does not refer to the actual act of sweeping away, but rather describes the slow and gradual process of healing. A hug every morning is not just a literal hug, but symbolizes the warmth, affection, or security provided every day, perhaps by a loved one. This metaphor helps overcome the limitations of vocabulary by weaving together complex and deep feelings such as the process of healing a heartache

and the importance of the presence of another person into one poetic sentence. Without metaphor, it might take more words to describe the same process and feelings, or even no words to express them fully.

Pass through the long night valley, **dark turns to light**  
(1.2.mkkk.2)

The sentence "passing the long night valley, the dark changing into light" is a metaphor that helps overcome the limitations of vocabulary to describe the process of changing from a difficult situation to a better one. With this sentence, the experience of facing difficult times is likened to a journey through the "long night valley". The word "valley" describes a low and difficult situation, while "long night" indicates uncertainty or challenges that last for quite a long time. Limited literal vocabulary cannot capture the emotional nuances and inner journey of someone struggling, so the use of this metaphor places great emphasis on the challenge and duration of the experience. Ultimately, the part "darkness turns to light" symbolizes the change towards hope or happiness after hardship, overcoming the limitations of literal vocabulary in describing the change from darkness to light as a symbol of calm or recovery. This metaphor not only describes the process more subtly, but also brings the reader's imagination to experience a deeper emotional transition, overcoming the limitations of simple words in explaining complex meanings.

**All happiness is perfectly His**  
(1.2.mkkk.2)

The sentence "All happiness is perfect for Him" contains a metaphor that overcomes the limitations of vocabulary to express a profound concept of happiness as something that can only be perfectly understood when linked to divinity. The words "all happy" represent all forms of happiness felt by humans, both simple happiness and deep and broad happiness. Here, "perfect" serves to overcome the limitations of language in describing the highest happiness that is free from flaws and blemishes, a form of ideal happiness that cannot be fully described with ordinary words. Meanwhile, the word "His" indicates that this highest happiness does not belong to humans, but is a reality that only exists in God. This metaphor, thus, replaces the limitations of everyday vocabulary to convey the understanding that true, perfect, and untainted happiness is transcendent, cannot be possessed or created by humans, but can only be found in the majesty of the Creator.

## B. Expressive Function

The metaphor above has an expressive function to describe the mixed expression of anger and rage of the protagonist. This can also be seen from the use of exclamation marks at the end of sentences so that readers can feel the difference in emphasis when reading a text. The data that researchers can find are as follows.

Staring **slowly at all the suffering**, all happiness is perfectly His  
(L2.ekp.2)

The sentence "Mentatap semua derita, semua bahagia adalah sempurna Miliknya" uses an expressive metaphor to describe life experiences, both suffering and happiness, as something that is completely in God's power or control (belongs to Him). The word "mentatap" here does not only mean to see, but contains a depth of emotional meaning, namely a contemplation or deep understanding of what is experienced. "Perlang" shows that the process of understanding is not rushed, but requires patience and calm, as if every second of the suffering and happiness is seen with the inner eye. Then, "all suffering" and "all happiness" are described in a balanced way as part of life that must be fully accepted as God's provisions. The metaphor "perfectly belongs to Him" implies complete surrender and acceptance of destiny, both joy and sorrow, as God's will which is considered perfect and undeniable. This sentence reflects the expression of an inner attitude full of gratitude and belief in the greatness of God in every life experience.

Your voice calls me, **inviting me to walk with you**  
(L3.ekps.3)

The sentence "Your voice calls me, invites me to walk with you," the metaphor "your voice calls me" describes someone's voice as a call that has a strong emotional appeal, as if the voice is alive and able to "invite" or "touch" the listener's heart. This is not just a voice in the physical sense, but an expression of deeper feelings, where the voice has a special meaning and attracts the listener's attention emotionally. This metaphor is used to show that the voice contains longing, intimacy, or even affection that is able to "invite" the listener to move in line, not only physically, but also emotionally or spiritually. This sentence shows how strong the expression of feelings represented by the voice is, so that it can become a gentle but strong encouragement, creating a closeness that feels very personal and deep.

Passing **away leaving the body**  
(L4.ekps.4)

The sentence "Berlalu mencapai keluar raga" has a depth of meaning that expresses an intense mood or emotional condition. Metaphorically, "berlalu" does not only mean leaving physically, but also indicates the process of releasing or freeing oneself from something, perhaps feelings, memories, or heavy emotional burdens. "Melaju" adds the impression of rapid movement, as if what is being left behind is so strong that it needs to be moved away immediately. "Meninggalkan raga" is a very expressive metaphor; in this context, "raga" symbolizes the body or physical self, while "meninggalkan" describes feelings that are so deep that the soul or emotions feel separated from the body. This phrase indicates a complex inner condition, such as deep sadness, despair, or fatigue that makes someone feel "empty" or as if they are no longer at one with themselves. Through this expressive metaphor, a strong emotional picture is created of an intense inner experience, beyond what can be explained literally.

**I look for you** in silence in solitude  
(L6.ekps.6)

The sentence "I search for you in silence in silence" is a metaphorical expression rich in expressive function, describing a deep but wordless feeling of longing. The word "kucari" does not only mean searching physically, but also contains a more emotional meaning, namely a search for the presence of someone who is greatly missed. "Hening" in this sentence functions as a metaphor for a quiet and empty inner atmosphere, reflecting how this feeling goes without any crowds or noise from the outside world; this shows an intense search but is not disturbed by other sounds, as if there is only the voice of the heart. Meanwhile, "sepi" completes the silence, presenting a feeling of solitude or the absence of the person who is missed, adding a layer of meaning that this search takes place in an empty space, without the hope of a return voice. Overall, this sentence uses metaphor to convey a deep expression of loneliness and longing in silence, presenting a strong emotional atmosphere without having to express the feeling directly.

### C. Function of Avoiding Monotony

The use of language will certainly experience boredom in everyday life and will reduce the interest in language. Therefore, the use of metaphors is very influential in boredom and monotony of language. The data that researchers can find is as follows.

**familiar** fire and frying pan are the backdrop.  
(L1.menmon.1)

The sentence "Api dan panci keras menjadi Latar" contains a metaphor that describes the relationship between fire and frying pan as elements that are symbolically interconnected. In this context, "api" and "wajan" not only refer to concrete objects, but also function as symbolic depictions of dynamic and inseparable processes or interactions. The choice of the word "akrab" indicates a harmonious closeness, as if the two have a close relationship, not just a functional role. This metaphor avoids monotony by providing a more vivid and meaningful image, which is more captivating than simply stating "the fire is on the pan." This phrase utilizes the function of metaphor to enliven the atmosphere and provide a richer artistic touch in describing an intense process, such as cooking or even feelings or conflicts that are happening, where the fire and the pan are like an inseparable couple. The use of this metaphor, thus, prevents the sentence from seeming flat and adds color to the narrative, creating a deeper and more interesting image.

scattered **debris of memories becomes an elegy**  
(L5.menmon.5)

The sentence "The scattered ruins of memories turn into an elegy" is an example of a metaphor that is rich in meaning and function. This metaphor contains several layers of meaning expressed figuratively to avoid monotony in conveying the message. "Memory debris" describes shattered or fragmented memories or the past, replacing the use of literal words such as "lost memories" or "forgotten memories". By using the word "rubble", the author gives a stronger visual and emotional impression. While "scattered" indicates chaos or disorder, which reinforces feelings of sadness or loss. Then, the metaphor of "transforming into an elegy" contains the meaning that the scattered memories have now changed or developed into a form of contemplation or expression of deep sadness (elegy), which is usually used to remember someone who has died. By using this metaphor, the sentence avoids the boredom that might arise if literal words were used to convey feelings of loss, and instead, creates a deeper and more meaningful atmosphere. The function of this metaphor is clearly to provide power of expression while maintaining diversity in the use of language, so that communication does not feel flat or monotonous.

**Remembering the sharp aroma of intimacy** that exists  
(L5.menmon.5)

The sentence "Mengingat harum aroma kemaraan yang ada" contains a metaphor that functions to avoid monotony in delivering the message. Literally, the words "tajam" and "aroma" are not directly related to "kemaraan," which is generally expressed with more general and flat words such as "rasa"

or "susatan." The use of this metaphor creates a more lively and dynamic picture in communication, so that it does not seem ordinary or boring. "Tajam" here describes how strong and influential the feeling of intimacy is, as if it can pierce or feel deep, while "aroma" gives the impression that the intimacy can be felt or presented through the sense of smell, making it more real and intense. Thus, this metaphor provides variation in the style of language used, making sentences feel fresher, richer, and more colorful, avoiding repetition of words or phrases that tend to be monotonous.

**I put your name** in my prayers

(L6.menmon.6)

The sentence "ku gantikan namamu dalam doa" has a metaphor that is quite useful for highlighting monotonous meanings or feelings in writing. Therefore, we cannot be sure that we can "ku gantikan" or "insert" something in a similar way to a physical object. However, the use of the word "kulindungi" in this context functions as a metaphor that describes how someone can use another person's name in a hopeful, caring, or spiritually healthy way. This metaphor highlights the use of monotonous words that are often used such as "mengmohon untuk Anda" or "mengmohon untuk Anda", which are more common and less formal and express personal and deep sentiments. As a result, "I put your name in doa" provides a nuance of intimacy and depth of feeling that is more expressive and eloquent, and helps in communication, regardless of its data or cliché.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been conducted in the lyrics of the Pusakata song on the album "Time Machine" has been found in the form of data on the types of metaphors and their relevance to learning to write poetry for class X. Based on the results found in the research in the lyrics of the Pusakata song on the Time Machine album, 53 metaphorical functions were found, the data studied as the function of the metaphor of the function of overcoming vocabulary limitations with a total of 24 data, the expressive function with a total of 15 data and the metaphor function of avoiding monotony totaling 14 data.

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