



Exploring Semantics and the Utilization of Figurative Language in the Song Lyrics of “21 Guns” by Green Day

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ABSTRACT

Translation serves multiple purposes, encompassing the expression of emotions, the conveyance of ideas, and the ability to influence others. Figurative language plays a significant role in communicating feelings through the songs we encounter in our daily lives. This study adopts a descriptive qualitative approach to investigate this phenomenon. Content analysis is employed as the analytical technique, aiming to identify the distinct characteristics of messages conveyed through songs and the utilization of figurative language, such as metaphors, hyperboles, similes, euphemisms, and personifications. The findings reveal that the majority of lyrics within the song “21 Guns” contain implicit and profound meanings related to the physical and psychological impacts of war, including the destruction of homes and the loss of soldiers' lives. Furthermore, the song employs a diverse range of language styles, incorporating hyperbole and personification, which contribute to its captivating and meaningful nature.

KEYWORDS

Figurative Language;
Translation;
21 Guns.

ABSTRAK


Penerjemahan memiliki banyak tujuan, mencakup ekspresi emosi, pengungkapan gagasan, dan kemampuan untuk mempengaruhi orang lain. Bahasa kiasan memainkan peran penting dalam menyampaikan perasaan melalui lagu-lagu yang kita temui dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Studi ini mengadopsi pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif untuk menyelidiki fenomena ini. Analisis konten digunakan sebagai teknik analisis, dengan tujuan mengidentifikasi karakteristik khas pesan yang disampaikan melalui lagu-lagu dan penggunaan bahasa kiasan seperti metafora, hiperbola, perumpamaan, eufemisme, dan personifikasi. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa sebagian besar lirik dalam lagu “21 Guns” mengandung makna tersirat dan mendalam yang terkait dengan dampak fisik dan psikologis dari perang, termasuk penghancuran rumah dan kehilangan nyawa para prajurit. Selain itu, lagu ini menggunakan beragam gaya bahasa, termasuk hiperbola dan personifikasi, yang berkontribusi pada sifat yang menarik dan bermakna dari lagu tersebut.


KATAKUNCI

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1. Introduction

Language, with its intricate web of symbols, rules of grammar, and societal customs, assumes a vital role in facilitating effective communication and fostering mutual understanding among individuals. By harnessing language as a vehicle for expression, humans possess the remarkable capacity to articulate their thoughts, emotions, ideas, and information in a well-structured and meaningful manner. The true essence and potency of language as a tool for communication become increasingly apparent when both the listener and the speaker share a harmonious understanding and possess the ability to accurately decipher the conveyed messages. Within this context, collaborative endeavors in utilizing language as a means of communication become indispensable in cultivating profound comprehension and preventing potential misinterpretations. Therefore, the adept utilization of language as a medium of communication necessitates close collaboration between the listener and the speaker, alongside a comprehensive grasp of the intricate linguistic and cultural nuances interwoven within the communication process.

According to the insights shared by (Kreidler, 1998), language assumes a profound role as a refined and intricate system comprising diverse sounds and written symbols, forming an indispensable foundation for communication within a given society or nation. Serving as a sturdy cornerstone of human interaction, language encompasses the realms of spoken and written expressions, empowering individuals to proficiently transmit messages, exchange information, and partake in profound and significant dialogue (Fitch, 2011).

Language transcends its mere role as a utilitarian tool of communication and embodies the very essence of human existence. It assumes a myriad of vital functions that permeate our daily lives. Among these functions, one stands out: the extraordinary capacity of language to verbalize emotions, enabling individuals to eloquently express feelings of delight, grief, or dissatisfaction with meticulousness and lucidity. Through the medium of language, we delve into the intricate intricacies of our emotions, allowing others to comprehend and resonate with our innermost sentiments in a deeply empathetic manner (Kim & Linzen, 2020). Moreover, language acts as a conduit for the transmission of ideas and concepts. It serves as a vehicle for the dissemination of knowledge, the exchange of information, and the cultivation of mutual understanding. By harnessing the immense power that language bestows, we unlock the ability to give voice to our creative ruminations, engage in the exchange of philosophical perspectives, and participate in profound discussions that shape our collective consciousness.

In addition, language possesses an astonishing ability to mold an individual's behavior and decision-making process (Gibson et al., 2019). Through the artful use of persuasive and captivating language, humans possess the power to sway others, spurring them to take specific actions or undergo transformative shifts in their perspectives. Thoughtfully selected and masterfully employed, language carries within it the potential to shape the beliefs, attitudes, and conduct of individuals and collectives alike. Thus, language transcends its role as a mere tool for communication; it emerges as a vast reservoir teeming with multifaceted functions and profound implications in the realm of human existence. Through the medium of language, humans can give voice to their innermost emotions, articulate complex ideas, and even wield

the transformative power to inspire and motivate others into action. The adept and impactful utilization of language lays a solid foundation for successful human interactions (Dolník 2022). allowing us to forge profound connections and engage in communication that resonates deeply.

Unleashing the full spectrum of emotions through language often finds its expression in the enchanting realm of imaginative and dynamic figurative language, a craft frequently encountered within the lyrical tapestry of our everyday songs. Figurative language, adorned with the hues of metaphors, personification, and hyperbole, breathes life into communication, imbuing it with greater depth and resonance (Liu et al., 2022). When deftly wielded, these literary devices infuse song lyrics with an irresistible allure, an abundance of creative vitality, and an extraordinary depth of meaning.

Within the realm of language, metaphor emerges as a captivating form of figurative expression, where words and phrases take on meanings beyond their literal interpretations (Chakrabarty et al., 2022). Metaphors weave a tapestry of connection, bridging seemingly disparate elements and birthing profound associations and comparisons within the fertile landscapes of the audience's minds. When harnessed skillfully in the realm of song lyrics, metaphors serve as the poet's and songwriter's brush, painting intricate portraits of emotions, experiences, or ideas. Through the evocation of vibrant imagery, metaphors awaken the slumbering imagination, giving life to intangible concepts and breathing depth into the lyrical tapestry (Lakoff, 1993).

Furthermore, figurative language extends its embrace to include the enchanting realm of personification, a technique that bestows human attributes and qualities upon lifeless objects or entities beyond the realm of humanity. In the realm of song lyrics, personification acts as a transformative alchemy, infusing these inanimate entities with a vibrant existence, giving rise to imagery that is both vivid and profound. Through the magic of personification, emotions are stirred, and listeners find themselves forging emotional connections and resonating deeply with these animated characters, fostering a profound sense of engagement (Ahmed, 2022).

Hyperbole, an integral element of figurative language, assumes a role of utmost significance, acting as a potent amplifier that magnifies the intended impact or effect. It ventures into the realm of exaggeration and embellishment, employing extravagant or overstated statements to convey a heightened impression. When woven into the fabric of song lyrics, hyperbole unleashes a symphony of vivid and dramatic imagery, igniting tension, intensity, and etching an indelible mark upon the hearts of the audience (Sari et al., 2022). The presence of figurative language within song lyrics transcends mere ornamentation, as it adds a layer of profound meaning to the expression of emotions. Through the skillful interplay of metaphors, personification, and hyperbole, song lyrics spring to life, bursting with vibrancy and becoming potent vessels that carry the weight of intricate sentiments (Swarniti, 2022). This symphony of figurative language in song lyrics harmonizes artistic beauty with communicative might, immersing listeners in captivating experiences and stirring deep emotions within the depths of their being.

Metaphor, a captivating embodiment of figurative language, empowers us to transmit profound meanings by harnessing the intricate analogical connections that bind two seemingly disparate ideas. With the brushstrokes of metaphor, carefully selected words or phrases give

birth to potent visual representations, unraveling profound insights and illuminating hidden depths. Another stalwart of figurative language that walks alongside metaphor is hyperbole, as elucidated by Abrams & Harpham (2014). Hyperbole, functioning as a literary device, stretches the boundaries of reality through the art of exaggeration, enabling us to convey a point that transcends the constraints of the actual world. Woven into the tapestry of our everyday conversations, hyperbole adorns our words with a dramatic flair, capturing attention, and infusing humor into the very fabric of our ongoing exchanges.

Hyperbole serves a multitude of significant purposes within the realm of everyday language. Firstly, it injects a delightful touch of informality and spontaneity into conversations, preventing them from feeling excessively rigid or overly formal. Through the clever utilization of hyperbole, dialogue takes on a livelier and more relaxed tone, fostering an atmosphere of enjoyment and granting speakers the freedom to express themselves with unrestrained flair (Putra, 2022). Furthermore, hyperbole stands as a formidable tool for elevating humor in conversation. By stretching the boundaries of reality, it conjures an effect that tickles the funny bone and unleashes waves of laughter. The employment of hyperbole within the realm of humor allows us to find amusement in certain situations or events, forging emotional connections through the shared joy of laughter. Figurative language, encompassing both metaphors and hyperbole, assumes a pivotal role in the landscape of human communication, gifting us with the ability to engage in lively and entertaining exchanges that leave a lasting impact.

Through the skillful deployment of metaphors, we unlock the capacity to weave tapestries of vivid and impactful imagery, broadening our perception and deepening our knowledge of the world. Conversely, hyperbole presents us with a unique opportunity to manipulate language, crafting exaggerated impressions that heighten the allure of everyday conversations (Aziz & Jayaputri, 2023). When we adeptly harness these twin aspects of figurative language, we elevate our encounters in communication, infusing them with a tapestry of richness and depth, and nurturing profound connections with those who surround us. With their deft and strategic application, we transcend the ordinary, elevating our interactions and forging a deeper sense of understanding with others.

Personification, a widely utilized form of figurative language, breathes life into non-living objects by endowing them with the attributes of living beings. Through personification, these inanimate entities appear to engage in actions typically reserved for living organisms. As expounded by Abrams & Harpham (2014), personification also entails the attribution of human characteristics or emotions to these objects, resulting in a portrayal that is vibrant and relatable. Additionally, within the realm of figurative language, we encounter another compelling element known as similes, parables, or comparisons. Simile, a facet of figurative language, employs comparisons or parables to establish an equivalence between two seemingly disparate entities. Employing vivid and impactful comparisons, similes utilize words with the intent of enhancing comprehension or describing something in a manner that captivates the imagination, as illuminated by Pradopo (2017).

Within the expansive realm of figurative language, both personification and simile emerge as instrumental players, enriching communication and giving voice to our emotions. Personification breathes enchanting life and distinct personalities into otherwise lifeless objects,

inviting us to perceive the world from a fresh and unique perspective. Similes and comparisons, on the other hand, serve as valuable allies in unraveling intricate or abstract concepts, employing relatable and tangible parables that illuminate the path of understanding. Figurative language encompasses a tapestry of elements, encompassing the captivating dance of personification, which bestows living qualities upon the non-living, and the vibrant strokes of similes, which harness comparisons to paint vivid portraits of description. Through the skillful application of figurative language, we cultivate an aesthetic sensitivity that enlivens our communication, fostering deeper connections as we weave intricate thoughts, evoke emotions, and unfurl the beauty of our ideas.

Beyond the realms of metaphors and personification lies another captivating facet of figurative language known as euphemism. Within the tapestry of expression, euphemism, as beautifully expounded by Kafi & Degaf (2021), weaves a delicate fabric of subtly crafted phrases, offering an alternative to terms that might carry offense, impoliteness, or unpleasantness. Acting as linguistic guardians, euphemisms deftly navigate the landscape of language, replacing words or phrases burdened with negative connotations or deemed too harsh with gentler, more polished expressions that veil the underlying intensity. Euphemisms find their home in a multitude of contexts, from the fabric of everyday conversations to the grand stage of mass media, and the dignified arenas of politics and government, adorning language with a refined grace.

By harnessing the power of euphemisms, we actively contribute to the upholding of communication ethics and the alleviation of potential conflicts or discomfort. Through the artful employment of euphemisms, we navigate the delicate terrain of conveying messages in a more nuanced manner, demonstrating sensitivity towards the emotions of others. Instead of resorting to overly harsh or direct terms, we opt for neutral or positively inclined expressions, seeking to minimize any negative impact that may ensue. Furthermore, euphemisms serve as our allies in veiling or downplaying unpleasant or controversial notions. With their diplomatic and indirect words and phrases, euphemisms act as guardians of harmony during social interactions, skillfully averting unnecessary confrontations. As a form of figurative language, euphemism assumes the role of substituting offensive, impolite, or suggestive expressions with delicate and tactful alternatives. Functioning as valuable tools of communication, euphemisms rise to the occasion, upholding ethical standards, diffusing conflicts, and paving the way for harmonious exchanges.

Within the realm of song lyrics, we often encounter a tapestry of eloquent yet enigmatic language, wherein words assume multiple meanings, inviting interpretation. Figurative language, employed with finesse, weaves itself into the fabric of these lyrics, contributing to their profound significance and serving as a vessel for the songwriter's intense emotions. As expertly highlighted by Kennedy & Gioia (2009), figurative language embraces the deployment of words or phrases that veer away from their literal meanings. Its purpose lies in infusing communication with a sense of intrigue, breathing life into the conveyed message, and introducing a multifaceted layer of comprehension. Through the skillful utilization of figurative language, writers and orators unleash the power to forge indelible impressions, evoke visceral emotions, and transcend the boundaries of conventional communication. This artistic technique imbues

song lyrics with a tapestry of richness and depth, captivating listeners and expanding the vast realm of expression.

Within the realm of song lyrics, the infusion of figurative language acts as a catalyst, sparking the writer's or speaker's imagination to soar to new heights. Through the artful construction of words or sentences that bear figurative meanings, they unleash the ability to summon vivid imagery, rouse the dormant imaginations of their audience, and deliver an experience that resonates deeply through the sheer force of language. Figurative language, nestled within song lyrics, becomes the gateway to an enriching journey for the listener, beckoning them to plunge into deeper strata of meaning and discover unique interpretations nestled within each lyric. The deft utilization of figurative language not only injects intrigue into communication but also nurtures the fertile grounds of the writer's or speaker's creative prowess, empowering them to wield words that leave an indelible emotional imprint.

According to the insights shared by Kenneth Leslie Knickerbocker & Reninger (1963), figurative language predominantly finds its expression through the enchanting artistry of metaphor, traversing realms beyond the confines of literal interpretations. Furthermore, as expounded by Lakoff (1993), figurative language weaves itself intricately into the fabric of our daily lives. Even on a subconscious level, the utilization of figures of speech shapes the patterns of individual thinking, infusing these words with additional layers of comprehension and profound significance. By delving into the depths of figurative language, we embark on a journey of captivating revelations, unearthing insights into the intricate tapestry of how individuals conceive the connections between diverse entities. Through this exploration, our comprehension of social phenomena is enriched, unlocking new dimensions of understanding.

It is indeed captivating to observe how figurative language transcends its conventional boundaries and gracefully waltzes into the enchanting realm of song lyrics. Within the tapestry of artistic expression, song lyrics stand as shimmering embodiments of beauty and profound significance. And it is within this hallowed space of song lyrics that figurative language reveals its transformative power, breathing new life into the act of listening (Amanah, 2022). The words delicately chosen for song lyrics possess an innate depth, surpassing the realm of literal interpretation. They serve as vessels that carry within them emotional messages, echoes of the human experience, and conduits that give voice to the profound and melancholic states of the soul.

Delving into the realm of figurative language not only enriches the tapestry of our everyday conversations but also unveils a treasure trove of artistic expression nestled within the realm of song lyrics. As figurative language intertwines with the poetic cadence of songwriting, a mesmerizing synergy takes flight, fusing the evocative power of music with meticulously selected words. This harmonious union births a profound tapestry, capable of unraveling deeper messages and forging resonant emotional connections with listeners. Within the realm of song lyrics, figurative language emerges as an enchanting conduit, channeling the raw intensity of emotions, encapsulating the very essence of human experiences, and transcending the bounds of ordinary language.

By weaving figurative language into the fabric of song lyrics, the listening experience is elevated to new heights, imbuing the expression of emotions by songwriters with a poetic

dimension that lingers in the hearts of listeners. It assumes a pivotal role, allowing songs to transcend the ordinary and stand out amidst a sea of musical offerings. Throughout the vast expanse of the music landscape, numerous singers and bands have embraced the transformative power of figurative language, crafting lyrics that leave an indelible impact. One shining example is the iconic band Green Day, whose roots trace back to the fertile grounds of Berkeley, California, in the year 1986. Revered for their contributions to the punk rock genre, they are celebrated for their dynamic musical style, lyrics that strike a chord deep within the soul, and poignant messages that reverberate with the challenges and realities of contemporary life.

Within the confines of this scientific paper, the author embarks upon a meticulous exploration, delving into the intricate web of figurative language interwoven within the lyrics of Green Day's poignant song, "21 Guns". This melodic masterpiece beckons us with an intriguing opportunity for contemplation, as it deftly employs figurative language to weave a tapestry of intense emotional nuances, unlocking a profound understanding of the underlying theme. By meticulously analyzing the tapestry of figurative language crafted within Green Day's lyrics, a cascade of captivating insights emerges, revealing the transformative power that the integration of figurative language bestows upon musical compositions. This linguistic alchemy breathes life into sentiments and emotions, fostering encounters that are more profound and genuine, inviting listeners to embark upon a journey of heightened resonance.

Countless researchers have dedicated their unwavering attention to the profound study of songs as a subject worthy of intricate analysis. For instance, Cahyo et al. (2020) embarked on an immersive journey, meticulously dissecting the fabric of sarcasm meticulously woven within Jason Ranti's captivating song, aptly titled "Communist Danger." Sarcasm, characterized by its intricate blend of mockery, derision, and satire, assumes a prominent position within linguistic styles. The central aim of this research lies in the meticulous scrutiny of the author's linguistic tapestry, unravelling the enigmatic layers of meaning within the intricately constructed sentences of the song, while simultaneously assessing the song's aesthetic qualities. With a descriptive qualitative approach serving as the compass, this study adroitly draws upon song lyrics as the primary wellspring of data. The illuminating findings that emerge from this research cascade light upon the labyrinthine meanings nestled within the tapestry of the "Communist Danger" song, culminating in the resounding conclusion that sarcasm, harnessed as a deliberate tool, serves a specific purpose within its lyrical framework. The employment of sarcasm within this song reveals itself through a myriad of intricate facets, including but not limited to: 1) the artful infusion of profanity, reproach, and razor-sharp wit; 2) an invitation that beckons the reader or listener to act upon and wholeheartedly embrace the expressed words; and 3) the profound function of communication itself, where information or news is deftly conveyed to a second party. Through this research, a resounding truth echoes forth, emphasizing that the art of sarcasm extends far beyond the realms of formal communication, effortlessly transcending boundaries to find its poignant voice within the realms of song lyrics.

Embarking on their intellectual quest, Helmi et al. (2021) embark upon a captivating exploration, delving into the profound realm of literary techniques, with a particular focus on the enchanting tapestry of metaphors that adorn the creative canvas of song lyrics. Metaphors, as

ethereal beings, play an instrumental role in adorning musical compositions with a tapestry of aesthetic elements, weaving an ambiance that resonates with the very essence of the composition. This study sets forth with a clear objective: to meticulously examine the metaphorical gems enshrined within the lyrical fabric of Nadin Amizah's mesmerizing song, "Bringing." By adorning a qualitative research design with a descriptive approach, the intricate threads of data were woven together through the delicate dance of observation and meticulous note-taking. The subsequent analysis of this precious data danced to the rhythm of the direct and directed content analysis technique, unraveling layers of meaning that offered insights from a semantic perspective. Within the labyrinthine tapestry of song lyrics, the findings of this captivating study revealed the presence of three explicit metaphors (in praesentia) and implicit metaphors (in absentia) within the enchanting strains of the song "Bloody." Each metaphor, whether explicit or implicit, was meticulously chosen to orchestrate not only an enchanting musical journey but also to effectively convey the messages that lay nestled within the lyrical composition. It is worth noting the distinctive nature of the contributions made by Cahyo et al. (2020) and Helmi et al. (2021), as they each weave their intellectual tapestries within the realm of distinct language styles, offering valuable perspectives that enrich the vast field of research.

Syahril et al. (2020) embarked upon a sweeping study that delved deep into the captivating realm of figurative language styles and the evocative meanings nestled within the lyrical tapestry of a Japanese song by L'arc En Ciel. The research methodology chosen for this study unfolded through the lens of a descriptive approach, unveiling the subtle nuances woven within the fabric of expression. To gather the invaluable data, the researchers deftly employed translation techniques as a key to unlock meaning, skillfully bridging the gaps between languages. As the journey unfolded, the findings revealed a treasure trove of 22 instances of data, shimmering with the magic of 7 distinct forms of figurative language: from the enchanting equations of similes to the vivid breath of personification, the captivating allure of hyperbole, the synesthetic symphony, the tantalizing paradoxes, the subtle strokes of synecdoche, and the echoes of allusion. The study, in its tireless exploration, also unraveled 2 figurative meanings, immersing in the realm of idiomatic expressions and the timeless wisdom of proverbs. Through this meticulous analysis, the research shed a radiant light upon the intricate dance of figurative language, illuminating its tapestry of meanings within the captivating context of the Japanese song by L'arc En Ciel.

The realm of song lyrics and the intricate art of translation have long yearned for a dedicated investigation into the enchanting tapestry of figurative language. Yet, until this very moment, a palpable void has persisted, leaving a lacuna yearning to be filled. In response, this study emerges as a guiding beacon, seeking to bridge this gap by embarking upon a comprehensive analysis of both the nuanced meaning and the deft utilization of figurative language within the translated version of Greenday's resounding anthem, "21 Guns." Through this scholarly endeavor, a treasure trove of invaluable insights awaits, revealing the intricate web that emerges when song lyrics are translated, unveiling the delicate presence of figurative language that weaves its ethereal threads within them. With each step taken on this intellectual odyssey, a deeper understanding of the intricate art of translating song lyrics emerges, and the rich tapestry of figurative language that adorns them unfurls before our eyes.

2. Method

This research adopts a descriptive qualitative method to examine and analyze the usage of figurative language, including metaphors, hyperboles, similes, euphemisms, and personifications, within songs. The content analysis technique is employed to draw conclusions by identifying the distinct characteristics of the messages conveyed through these figurative language elements. The researcher undertakes the task of translating the song lyrics and identifies specific sections that contain figurative language. To locate these parts, the researcher listens to the song repeatedly, takes notes, and organizes the lyrics into various data tables. Subsequently, the collected data is thoroughly reviewed and analyzed, aligning with the research problem's scope and formulation.

3. Results and Discussion

Within the pages that follow, a vivid tapestry unfurls, showcasing the enlightening findings and captivating discussions surrounding the enchanting song lyrics of "21 Guns," masterfully performed by the resounding Green Day. As we embark upon this illuminating exploration, the initial segment of the lyrical narrative, gracefully spanning the lines from 1 to 8, unveils a profound message that reverberates through the core of our beings. It tenderly whispers of the struggle to uphold values that may appear tarnished, as emotions of shock, constriction, and pain intertwine with an innate desire to shield one's vulnerable heart. Within the poetic embrace of these lyrics, the artful embrace of figurative language emerges, enhancing the intensity of the message that pulsates through each word. For instance, the arresting line, "does it take your breath away?" and the evocative phrase, "does the pain weigh out the pride?" ingeniously employ the enchanting power of metaphors, drawing intricate parallels between pain and pride, invoking a cascade of emotions that ripple through the very essence of the song's lyrical composition. These meticulously woven figurative expressions breathe life into the lyrics, unearthing hidden depths and conjuring vivid imagery that dances within the minds of listeners.

Table 1. Lines 1 to 8

Tsu	Tsa
Do you know what's worth fighting for?	Taukah kau apa yang pantas diperjuangkan?
When it's not worth dying for?	saat itu tak layak untuk dipertahankan?
Does it take your breath away?	Apakah ini mengejutkanmu?
And you feel yourself suffocating?	Dan hidupmu terasa sesak?
Does the pain weigh out the pride?	Apa rasa sakit lebih berat dari rasa bangga?
And you look for a place to hide?	Dan kau cari tempat 'tuk sembunyi
Did someone break your heart inside?	Apakah seseorang meremukkan hatimu?
You're in ruins	Kau hancur

In the initial lines of the song lyrics, particularly the first and second lines, a powerful message emerges regarding the significance of discerning what truly merits our commitment and determination, even when circumstances suggest otherwise. The songwriter explicitly aims to communicate the idea that certain values hold such profound meaning for individuals that they should be upheld, regardless of the challenges or unfavorable situations that may arise. This

message underscores the importance of having unwavering principles and convictions when determining what is genuinely worth pursuing, even if it necessitates substantial sacrifices.

Most of the the song's meaning in the stanza above is readily comprehensible to both listeners and readers. However, there is one lyric that stands out, namely “does it take your breath away?” This line cannot be interpreted literally, suggesting that someone or something is physically capable of stealing or depriving one of their breaths. Instead, the expression “take your breath away” figuratively describes an intense feeling or sensation, such as when someone experiences astonishment, surprise, wonder, or even shock to the extent that it metaphorically feels like their breath momentarily ceases. Within the context of the lyrics, the use of this figurative language serves to convey the depth and intensity of emotions, portraying a person's profound emotional response as if their breath has been momentarily taken away.

The intention behind employing figurative language in the lyrics is to amplify and magnify a statement, as the act of physically taking or stealing someone's breath is inherently impossible. The interrogative phrases utilized in the lyrics fall under the category of hyperbole, as described by Abrams & Harpham (2014). Hyperbole is a form of figurative language employed to express something in a manner that exceeds the bounds of literal reality (Putra, 2022). In this instance, the incorporation of hyperbolic figurative language in the song's lyrics serves to enhance and intensify the intended meaning or emotion being conveyed to the audience.

The subsequent line, “does the pain weigh out the pride?”, conveys the idea that one's self-esteem and pride can surpass or outweigh the experience of pain. Throughout our lives, we often encounter pain, whether physical or emotional, yet we sometimes find ourselves too proud to seek assistance or reveal our vulnerabilities to others. Consequently, we tend to conceal our true emotions. In this context, the phrase “weigh out” signifies the act of comparing two distinct entities: pain and pride. While it is not feasible to literally measure or weigh pain and pride, figurative language is employed to depict a comparison or equilibrium between these two elements. This employment of figurative language in the line falls under the category of metaphor, where two dissimilar entities, pain and pride, are likened or equated to unveil deeper and more intricate meanings.

In Table 2, which comprises the lyrics from lines 9 to 14, 24 to 29, and 37 to 47 of Green Day's song “21 Guns,” there are notable instances that warrant analysis. Starting with the line “One, twenty-one guns,” followed by the subsequent line “Lay down your arms”, and “Throw up your arms into the sky.” These lyrics present intriguing elements to examine.

Table 2. Lines 9 to 14, 24 to 29, and 37 to 47

Tsu	Tsa
Lay down your arms	letakkan senjatamu
Give up the fight	berhenti berperang
One, twenty-one guns	Satu, 21 senapan
One, twenty-one guns	satu, 21 senapan
Throw up your arms into the sky,	angkat tangan dan menyerahlah,
You and I	kau dan aku

Within the lyrical tapestry lie numerous words and phrases, each imbued with specific meanings and poignant significance. An eloquent example of this resides in the phrase “21 guns” that

graces the lyrics, evoking a rich tapestry of associations. Here, the phrase beckons us to the hallowed grounds of a time-honored military tradition known as the “21 guns salute.” This solemn ritual, etched in history, entails the firing of 21 cannons or weapons as a profound symbol of respect and tribute to those valiant heroes who have fallen in the crucible of war. It serves as a resounding testament, an expression of utmost reverence, bestowing upon them the honor they so rightfully deserve. Moreover, the inclusion of the word “one” preceding “21 guns” carries a profound significance. It embodies the recognition that on the battlefield, each soldier stands as an individual, deserving of their own unique recognition within the embrace of the “21 guns salute.” This inclusion serves as a poignant reminder, an unwavering testament to the fact that every soldier, without exception, merits the utmost respect and acknowledgement for their unwavering dedication and selfless service amidst the trials and tribulations of the battlefield.

Contrasting with the ebb and flow of the lyrical narrative, a resounding line emerges, resonating with the exquisite charm of a simile or metaphor. Here, we find the enchanting phrase “throw up your arms/lay down your arms,” gracefully adorned with the delicate brushstrokes of figurative language. Within the tapestry of these lyrics, this evocative expression stands as a vibrant symbol, an ethereal conduit that beckons us to the realm of surrender, bidding the battle to cease. It embodies the profound act of laying down weapons or voluntarily relinquishing the strife that engulfs us. Through the masterful brushstrokes of metaphorical language, the intended meaning cascades forth with unparalleled potency, carrying a weighty significance that compels listeners to ponder the transformative power of letting go and the beauty of resolution. Within the poetic embrace of metaphors and similes, the song “21 Guns” finds its voice, resonating with the hearts of its captivated audience. The deft utilization of figurative language infuses the song's lyrical composition with an emotional and artistic depth that effortlessly enchants and captivates, forging an indelible connection between the song and its devoted listeners.

As we venture into the enchanting realm of lines 15 to 22 within the poetic tapestry of Green Day's resounding anthem, “21 Guns,” a captivating array of figurative language unfurls before our eyes. Within this lyrical sanctuary, we encounter an exquisite bouquet of intriguing instances that dance with creative flair. One such moment beckons us with the mesmerizing line, “and your thoughts have taken their toll,” where the ethereal brushstrokes of figurative language gracefully sweep across the canvas. This enchanting expression casts a profound light upon the detrimental impact that thoughts can have, unveiling a world where the weight of one's thoughts inflicts damage and exhaustion upon the weary soul. Moreover, nestled within the lyrical embrace, we discover the resplendent line, “your faith walks on broken glass,” where figurative language paints an evocative portrait of faith's fragility amidst the trials of life. It serves as a poignant reminder, illuminating the arduous path one must traverse, where faith becomes a delicate dance upon the shards of broken glass. This vivid imagery embodies the resilience and steadfastness required to uphold one's faith in the face of daunting adversity. Within these carefully crafted lines, figurative language weaves a mesmerizing tapestry, evoking emotions and thoughts that resonate with the depths of our being.

Table 3. Lines 15 to 22

Tsu	Tsa
When you're at the end of the road	saat kau di ujung jalan
And you lost all sense of control	dan kau kehilangan kendali
And your thoughts have taken their toll	dan kau kehilangan akal sehat
When your mind breaks the spirit of your soul	Saat pikiranmu menghancurkan semangat jiwamu
Your faith walks on broken glass	Keyakinanmu berjalan di atas pecahan kaca
And the hangover doesn't pass	Dan rasa pening tak jua hilang
Nothing's ever built to last	Tak ada yang abadi
You're in ruins	Kau hancur

In the third section of the lyrics, there are numerous intriguing instances of figurative language. One notable example is the line "and your thoughts have taken their toll," which, if taken literally, would imply that thoughts themselves are actively causing harm or taking a toll. However, such a literal interpretation may not be fully accurate or readily accepted in the intended language. The intended meaning of the sentence is that we lose control over our rationality and thoughts. By using figurative language in this sentence, it creates the impression that thoughts possess a sentient quality capable of inflicting harm or affecting individuals, thereby magnifying their impact. Consequently, the appropriate stylistic choice in this context is personification (Kreidler, 1998; Swarniti, 2022).

Through the use of personification, the lyrics vividly portray the immense power thoughts wield over one's mental well-being. Unrestrained thinking has the ability to overpower and yield profound implications for the soundness of the mind and rationality. This figurative language adds a layer of depth to the lyrics by conveying the message indirectly and captivating the audience's attention, prompting them to ponder upon the underlying meaning embedded within. The subsequent line in the lyric's states, "your faith walks on broken glass." When taken literally, faith cannot physically traverse as it lacks corporeal existence. Nevertheless, this figurative language captures the fragile mental state of soldiers who endure the ravages of war and the associated traumas. By alluding to "broken glass," the lyrics depict a shattered and perilous psychological condition. Employing personification, the language style ascribes mobility to faith, likening it to a sentient being capable of walking.

The underlying meaning within these lyrics captures the struggle of individuals to discern right from wrong following their involvement in war, as the overwhelming presence of trauma overshadows their judgment. The incorporation of figurative language in the lyrics enhances the audience's engagement by conveying a profound message and prompting them to contemplate the emotional repercussions of war experiences.

In the segment of the song "21 Guns" by Green Day, specifically lines 29 to 36, poignant situations and profound emotions are conveyed. This portion exhibits a notable employment of figurative language. For instance, the line "like a liar looking for forgiveness from a stone" holds a meaning that extends beyond its literal interpretation.

Table 4. Lines 29 to 36

Tsu	Tsa
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Did you try to live on your own	Apakah kau berusaha hidup sendiri
When you burned down the house and home?	Saat kau hancurkan rumah dan tempat tinggal?
Did you stand too close to the fire?	Apakah kau berdiri terlalu dekat dengan api
Like a liar looking for forgiveness from a stone	Seperti pembohong yang minta maaf pada batu?
When it's time to live and let die	Saat tiba waktunya hidup dan membiarkan mati
And you can't get another try	Dan kau tak punya kesempatan lain
Something inside this heart has died	Sesuatu di dalam hati ini telah mati
You're in ruins	Kau hancur

In the final section of the lyrics, when considered as a whole, it can be inferred that these fragmented sentences reflect the realization that the past cannot be undone, and one must forge ahead. However, there remains a profound emptiness within their hearts that seems impossible to heal, leaving them forever changed. The phrase “like a liar looking for forgiveness from a stone” carries a profound meaning that goes beyond its literal interpretation. This sentence serves as a symbol for the state that soldiers find themselves in after the war, torn between the search for hope and the weight of their actions that have caused destruction and shattered the lives of others. The figurative language employed here is personification, attributing human qualities to inanimate or abstract objects (Ahmed, 2022). Using figurative language and personification, the lyrics in the fourth part of the song vividly portray the intricate and challenging emotions that arise when confronting the aftermath of war, along with the daunting task of facing the future burdened with a heavy heart.

4. Conclusion

Based on the analysis and translation of Green Day's song “21 Guns,” it can be concluded that figurative language plays a significant role in adding depth, beauty, and emphasizing the intended message of the song's composer. Figurative language serves as a tool for songwriters to express, describe, and highlight ideas or concepts in their artistic creations. In the case of “21 Guns,” the lyrics predominantly revolve around the theme of war and shed light on the plight of soldiers who are mere instruments and victims of the brutalities of warfare. The song conveys the profound impact that war has on individuals and society at large, depicting the destruction of homes and families, the loss of lives, and the lasting mental and physical scars inflicted on those involved. It serves as a poignant reminder of the senselessness of wars. It is important to note that the translation analysis focused primarily on the meaning and figurative language employed in the song, without delving into the translation of beats and melodies. This aspect presents an opportunity for future researchers interested in expanding upon this study and exploring translation within the context of maintaining the song's musicality. The study provides important insights into the use of technology in language learning and highlights the potential benefits of using Machine Translation as a tool for vocabulary acquisition and reading comprehension. However, it is important to note that the study was conducted in a controlled environment, and the findings may not be generalizable to other contexts. Further research is needed to explore the effectiveness of Machine Translation in other language learning contexts and with different populations. Additionally, it is important to consider the potential limitations and ethical implications of relying on technology for language learning.

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