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CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. Research Design

This research applies a qualitative method with a descriptive design through content analysis. As explained by Creswell (2018:3), qualitative research aims to explore and understand how individuals or groups interpret social or human issues. The descriptive approach in this study is used to identify, categorize, and interpret twelve types of figurative language found in the lyrics. The classification follows Perrine's theory as presented by Johnson (2016). The data come from three songs in Adele's album 21 (2011): "Set Fire to the Rain," "Rolling in the Deep," and "Turning Tables."

Rather than testing hypotheses or proving cause and effect, this study focuses on giving a detailed and systematic description of how figurative language functions to express emotion and meaning in the lyrics. For that reason, a qualitative content analysis design fits best with the research goals.

B. Location and Time

This research is a library research with song lyrics as the object, so it does not require a special field location. Data collection and analysis were carried out at the researcher's residence by utilizing computer devices and internet access to download and review lyrics from official online sources and digital music platforms. The research period lasted for two months, namely from april to may 2026. This time period was used for the data collection, coding, and analysis stages of three songs in Adele's album 21. The selection of this time period allowed the



researcher to carry out the analysis process systematically and repeatedly to ensure the accuracy of the interpretation of figurative language in the lyrics.

C. Data Sources

1. Primary Data

The main data used in this research consist of the lyrics from three selected tracks on Adele's album 21 (2011): "Rolling in the Deep," "Set Fire to the Rain," and "Turning Tables." These lyrics were gathered from official lyric videos on Adele's YouTube channel and checked against the album booklet to confirm accuracy.

2. Secondary Data

Secondary data were drawn from literary theory texts, academic journals, scholarly articles, and earlier studies related to figurative language, song lyric analysis, and stylistics. These materials provide the theoretical basis and analytical framework needed to interpret the meaning and function of the figurative devices identified in the lyrics. Rather than being analyzed directly, the secondary sources serve to support and reinforce the discussion of the findings from the primary data.

D. Research Procedure

The research procedure in this study is conducted through the following steps:

1. First The researcher chose three songs from Adele's album 21 "Rolling in the Deep," "Set Fire to the Rain," and "Turning Tables" because the lyrics contain a wide range of figurative language relevant to the research.



2. After selecting the songs, the researcher collected the lyrics from Adele's official YouTube channel and matched them with the album booklet to make sure the text was accurate. The researcher also gathered books, journals, and previous studies on figurative language to use as theoretical support.
3. Next the researcher listened to and read the lyrics repeatedly to understand the context of each song. While doing this, the researcher identified words, phrases, and sentences that contained figurative language based on Perrine's twelve categories. The identified expressions were then recorded and grouped into a data sheet according to their type.
4. After that, the researcher analyzed each expression to explain both its literal meaning and its implied meaning within the song.
5. Finally, the researcher interpreted the findings and drew conclusions to answer the research questions in a descriptive way.

E. Research Instrument

In qualitative research, the researcher herself functions as the primary instrument. Sugiyono (2019:15) states that the researcher is responsible for collecting, identifying, classifying, and analyzing data. To support this process, this study used a data analysis sheet to organize the lyric data. Following Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña as cited by Anggraini et al. (2022:43), tables help with data reduction and display. The sheet used here contains four columns: song title, lyric excerpt, type of figurative language, and meaning.



F. Data Collection Technique

The data collection technique in this study is conducted through the following steps:

1. First The researcher read the lyrics of three selected songs from Adele's album 21 to understand the general content and theme of each track.
2. While reading, the researcher also listened to the songs repeatedly using the official lyric videos on Adele's YouTube channel. This helped the researcher catch the tone, context, and emotional meaning behind the lyrics.
3. After getting familiar with the songs, the researcher identified expressions that contained figurative language based on Perrine's twelve categories.
4. Then the researcher marked the relevant parts and recorded them in a data sheet.
5. Finally, the researcher organized the data by grouping each expression according to its type of figurative language. This made it easier to analyze them later in the discussion chapter.

G. Data Analysis Technique

This study applies qualitative content analysis based on Miles and Huberman's model in Anggraini et. al (2022:43), which consists of three main activities: data reduction, data display, and conclusion/verification. The analysis is conducted as follows:

1. Data Reduction



- a. The researcher listened to and read the lyrics of selected songs from Adele's album 21 several times to get the context.
- b. Then the researcher highlighted parts of the lyrics that contained figurative language based on Perrine's twelve categories.
- c. Irrelevant lines were removed so only data related to the research focus remained.

2. Data Display

- a. The selected data were organized into a table and grouped according to their type of figurative language. This display made it easier to see the patterns, frequency, and context of each expression before moving to the interpretation stage..

3. Conclusion and Verification

- a. The researcher interpreted the meaning of each figurative expression by considering the context of the song and the supporting theories.
- b. To ensure validity, the researcher cross-checked the findings with existing literature and re-read the lyrics. The final results are presented descriptively, explaining the types, functions, and implied meanings of figurative language in the album.