

**AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGES USED IN THE  
ALCHEMIST NOVEL**

**THESIS**

**BY  
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FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM  
APRIL 2021**

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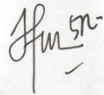
**Present to  
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In Partial Fulfillment of the requirements  
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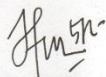
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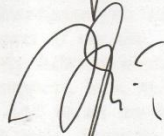
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## MOTTO AND DEDICATIONS

**Motto:**

**"don't stop when you're tired, but stop when you're done."  
"dream without a plan just a wish"  
"prove them wrong"  
"don't wait for opportunity, but create it"**

**This Thesis is Dedicated to:**

- Allah SWT and Prophet Muhammad SAW who always give his full of rohmah and blessing.
- My super Father, Aslinudin. who always give spirit and you are a hero. Thank you for supporting me in every situation.
- My beautiful Mother, Rusmala Dewi. you are the real angel. Thank you for your pray, advice, love and everything you have done.
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## ABSTRACT

Yunita, Herlia 2021. *An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in “The Alchemist” Novel*. Thesis, English Education Study Program, Sarjana Degree (S1), Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Universitas Muhammadiyah Palembang. Advisors: (I) Kurnia Saputri S.Pd., M.Pd. (II) Andriamella Elfarissyah, S.Pd., M.Pd.

**Keywords:** An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in The Alchemist Novel.

This thesis is entitled “An Analysis of Figurative Languages Used in “The Alchemist” Novel. The objectives of the study are to describe how many sentences that contain figurative language found in the novel and to identify the most dominant figurative language used in the novel. The method used in this research qualitative research. In collecting the data related to the subject of this research is documentation because the researcher collected the data from novel. This research was conducted by collecting any relevant data and information about the topic or problem of the study from novel and internet that are available for the analysis. The data collection used the following steps: reading the novel, and then selecting the data that used the types of figurative language. While the steps to analyze the data are identifying the types of figurative language according to Leech, identifying how many figurative language used in the novel, and the last is interpreting the data. The result shows that there are 70 sentences that have figurative language. From all the sentences, there are 30 items of simile, 27 items of personification, 12 items of metaphor, and 1 item of hyperbole. It can be indicated that the dominant type of figurative language in the novel is simile as many as 30 items. The author uses simile to explain circumstances, to describe the characters, to express emotion of the characters, and to make his writing more vivid and entertaining. It can be concluded that figurative language has important roles in this novel. That’s why the author used so many sentences that have figurative language in this novel. Using figurative language makes the novel more interesting to read, and helps the readers to imagine the story, the character based on the illustration that the author has already given in the story.

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The researcher realizes that this thesis really far from being perfect. That is why all comments, critics, and suggestions are welcomed for this thesis. The last, she hopes that this thesis will be useful for the people who read it and for another researcher in the future.

Palembang, April 2021  
The Researcher

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Menerangkan dengan sesungguhnya bahwa :

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Palembang, 06 Mei 2021

Yang Bersangkutan  
  
Herlia Yunita

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents (1) background of the study, (2) problem of the study, (3) limitation of the study (4) formulation of the problems, (5) objectives of the study, and (6) significances of the study

### **1.1 Background of the study**

A language is a tool of communication owned by a human in life, as stated by Siahaan (2008) that language is a unique human inheritance that very important role in human life, such as in thinking, communicating ideas, and negotiating with others (p.1). It can be interpreted that language plays a significant role because people can tell and express their opinions, ideas, feelings, or anything else to people by using language. In this era, many countries use English in communication both in spoken or written forms. According to Firth in Kirkpatrick (2011), English is a lingua franca that is a ‘contact language’ between persons who share neither a common native tongue nor a common (national) culture, and for whom English is the chosen foreign language of communication (p.2). It means that people must learn English to be able to communicate with other people who come from different countries.

In learning English, we would find some components and they are phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. In this research, semantics is one of the components that would be analyzed by the researcher.

According to Olmen (2018), semantics is the field of linguistics concerned with the study of meaning (p.1). So we know that semantics is the study focused on meaning, as also stated by Patrick (2006) that semantics is the study of the “toolkit” or meaning: knowledge encoded in the vocabulary of the language and its patterns for building more elaborate meanings, up to the level sentence of the meanings (p.1). In another words, it can be said that semantics is a study about meaning or tools for the learning process that encoded in the vocabulary to build detailed meanings.

In semantics, figurative language is one of topics that should be learned by the students. Perrine and Thomas as cited in Safitri (2018) states that figurative language is persuasive language. It is another way for adding an extra dimension to language, which can attract the reader’s attention. Figurative languages convey meaning or heighten the effect, it will give more meaning to the words, beautify them, and emphasize their meaning (p.44). It can be said that figurative language is a persuasive language that can have more than one meaning and the words more interesting to read. There are kinds of figurative language and they are simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, metonymy, irony, and litotes. In this analysis of research, the researcher just focused on simile, metaphor, hyperbole, and personification.

One of the media that can be used by the students in learning is reading a novel. The novel is a good media for people in studying figurative language because figurative language usually appeared in novels such as simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, etc. Novels are literary works that serve as a place to pour the author's thoughts in reaction to its surroundings, as stated by Kenney in Rahayu (2014) that the novel is a long and narrative fiction is an imitation of the situation in fact (p.45). It means that novel is one kind of variety prose it is one form long story, involving many characters with each character and is a series of events relating to human life. So in this case, the researcher would choose a novel as media in doing her analysis.

As we know that when we read a novel sometimes we find some terms that are difficult to be understood because there will be so many figurative expressions that we will never find in our daily conversation. We need to know the meaning of the figurative language that found in a novel so we can imagine what happens in the story, so we can feel the emotion of story in the novel. According to Knatchal cited in zaimardiansyah (2019), figurative language allows people to express their thoughts abstractly, can help people play with abstract ideas, and also it can help to connect language with an emotional response quickly and effectively (p.17).

In this thesis, the researcher analyzed the figurative language used in the Alchemist novel by Paulo Coelho. The Alchemist novel is interesting

story and has many moral values can be learned. The story of Alchemist novel told about the magical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found. It can make the readers curious about this novel. The researcher was interested to find the figurative language used in that novel. Based on the explanation above the researcher took interest in the figurative language used in the Alchemist novel. So, this thesis is entitled: **An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in the Alchemist Novel.**

## **1.2 Problem of the Study**

The problem of this study was regarded in “An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in The Alchemist Novel.”

### **1.2.1 Limitation of the Study**

In this study, the researcher limited the problem on her analysis of figurative languages used in “ The Alchemist” novel. Figurative language has seven types, there are simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, metonymy, irony, and litotes. In this research, the researcher focused on simile, metaphor, hyperbole, and personification that were used in the Alchemist novel.

## **1.3 Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the limitation of the problem above, this research was formulated in the following questions :



1. How many sentences that contain figurative language used in the Alchemist novel ?
2. What is the most dominant figurative language used in the Alchemist novel?

#### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

Considering what has been explained in the formulation of the problems above, the objectives of this study were to find and describe the figurative languages used in the Alchemist novel and to analyze the most dominant figurative language that used in the Alchemist novel.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

This study provided information about the result of **An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in the Alchemist novel**. The result of the study expected can be useful, a good contribution, additional information, and expected to improve in understanding the figurative language that used in a novel, they are stated below.

##### **1. For the Researcher herself**

By doing this study, the researcher would have better understanding in analysis of figurative language used in the Alchemist novel

##### **2. For the Readers**

It is hoped that this result can give more information and also help them to understand more about figurative language.

### **3. For the Other Researcher**

It is expected can be used as reference for other researcher who want to make a research on the related fields so that they can conduct the research more better.

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