

**ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN *CANNIBALISM IN THE CARS*
BY MARK TWAIN**

by
¹Agung Suhadi and ²Mela Charismoneti
^{1,2} Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu
agungslecturer@gmail.com
melacharismunity@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper aims to find the analysis of the style of language found in a short story entitled Cannibalism in the Cars written by Mark Twain. The purpose of this research is to use and describe the types of language used in cannibalism short stories Cannibalism in Cars, to show the dominant language style used inside, and to find non-dominant language styles used in short story Cannibalism in the Cars. This study uses a descriptive study method. Data inside This research is the language style found in the short story of cannibalism in the cars. Techniques for collecting data use documentation. The results of the study showed that it was deep found in the three language styles of placement style (Paradox, Satire, and Irony).

Keywords: *Figurative language, research Cannibalism in the Cars, Paradox, Satire, and Irony.*

I. Introduction

This paper aims to analyze figurative language in cannibals in the cars because in the story there are many satirical words that make the reader difficult to interpret the story. According to on Abrams (1999:96), tell that figurative languages were a conspicuous departure from what users of language apprehend as the standard meaning of words, or else the standard order, in words to achieve some special meaning or effect. Beckson and Ganz (1975,p.80) said is Figurative language is the language which makes use of certain devices called the figure of speech, most of which are techniques for comparing dissimilar objects,

Language is a means of communications. Through language, people can express their ideas, thought, and feelings. Hornby (1987) states that language is a human and non-intensive method of communicating ideas, feelings, and desires by means of a system of sounds and sound symbols. The language may represent explicit and implicit feelings and thoughts. It can also be described as a vehicle of thought because through language people can share or deliver what put in mind.

Language is very important in human life because we cannot communicate with each other without it. One of the languages is English. English has become an important popular language, for international communication and people always call it an international language. Language as a means of communication is the most important thing for human beings. It can express people's ideas, knowledge and feeling in written or spoken. According to Kreidler (1998:19) language is a system of symbols through which people communicate. The examples of symbols were spoken, written, or sign with the hands.

Analyzing for us is a common one. In analyzing, it is not just an analysis, but there are elements, one of which is figurative language or commonly called figurative language. There are many figurative languages included in Twain's work *Cannibalism in the Cars*. In short story many dominant figurative languages, Each has his own desires and intends. And I will analyze it to find out what that means.

Sometimes we ask ourselves why there are figurative languages and their imports in the literature. What is the role of figurative language and what works in it or not. Whether that will be

another meaning in the work or not, we will know later. That is a common question that always comes in our brains. That is why figurative language is something worth discussing. According to Abrams, figurative language is a departure. What is understood by language users as the standard meaning of words, or standard word sequences, to achieve certain meanings or effects. The numbers are sometimes described as especially poetic, but they are an integral part of language functions and do not make sense for all modes of discourse (Abrams, 1999: 96)

For the purpose of this study, figurative languages are defined as diverse language techniques, which balance the use of normal languages in all types of communication. with normal language that means all components language directly expresses the intended meaning.

In short story Mark Twain *Cannibalism in the Cars*. In this case, I will analyze some of those figurative languages with focused on Paradox, Irony, and Satire. In the next explanation about those, we would know the differences among those each other and knowing the function.

II. Method

This research is descriptive study, In analyzing data, the writer focuses on the types of figurative language used in *Cannibalism in the Cars*. According to Nazir (1988: 63) in the research Method Sample Booklet, the descriptive method is a method of examining human status, objects, defined conditions, or significant influence in the present. The purpose of this study is to make a description, facts, and facts in fact, and accurate facts, characteristics and relationships between phenomena investigated. Therefore, this study attempts to identify, and describe the figurative language used in “*Cannibalism in the Cars*”.

The research method is the methodology which is used by the writer to analyze the data. This is very important to do research needs to apply the right method. The method which is used in this research is descriptive qualitative study. The object from short story *Cannibalism in the Cars* focuses to figurative language.

In the short story” *Cannibalism in the Cars*” short stories are the main focus that researchers will do analyze. In this research, the writer uses data in the form of sentences taken from the language used in the story of Cannibal in the cars he author language which is too difficult to understand, it still has its own charm. The data source of this research is using figurative language in short story *Cannibalism in the Cars*.

The technique of Data Analysis In doing the analysis the writer uses procedures as follow. First Identification, after collecting data, the authors identify data based on the type of figurative language, which focuses on literal and non-literal meanings figurative language to make it easier to classify data, and the second classification, The author classifies each figurative language according to several points based on the type of figurative language. The method of collecting data is observation and documentation, while the technique in collecting data is a search for downloading the short story from the website. Identify sentences including figurative language.

This study focuses on figurative language in *Cannibalism in Cars* as well as steps to analyze data use. First To find the type of figurative language used in cannibalism in cars. The author uses figurative language theory by (Kennedy, 1983) to find the type of figurative language. Second, to give the meaning of the figurative language used in *Cannibalism in the Cars*, the author uses theory contextual meaning.

III. Results and Discussion

In this section, the author is analyzing figurative language in the short story *Cannibalism in the Cars* that explain some figurative languages that focus on Paradox, Irony, And Satire. The paradox is an apparently self-contradictory statement though which is essentially true. It mean paradox is there must be two things or more in which those are contradictory meaning each other. Below there is some quotation **Paradox** in the short story *Cannibalism in the Cars*:

“Cheerfulness gave place
to grave concern.”
(*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.3)

Through that sentence, Twain wanted to describe the conditions that really happened were

fear and anxiety where they were imprisoned in a snowstorm. From that explanation, we know that paradoxical meanings that are very contradictory can be analyzed from two sides, and seen from the true meaning of two words which are completely logically opposed without relating them to the story.

"A night of *restless slumber, dreams of feasting* waking distressed, with *the gnawing of hunger.*" (*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.13)

That sentence is a condition where a person cannot sleep comfortably and calmly. And it is very impossible if in that condition someone can dream partying or party. And also is a candiction with joy, and full of food. But in the story explain that they are (a group of people) starving , as a matter of fact, the condition is that they are more dependent.

"*...company of frantic men fighting the banking snows, half in the blackest shadow and half in the angry light of the locomotive's reflector.*"
(*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.3)

The word Frantic men is a group of men who are afraid of something. It is something that struggles with a fight or attacks someone. From these two definitions, we realize that logically there is no way to fight in panic. Usually, men who are afraid will not be able to fight. He will cry, shudder, or hide. And from the true meaning, we see that we are not afraid to fight the falling snow.

"*With all his gentleness of manner and his soft voice, I shuddered whenever he turns his hungry eye upon me.*" (*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.10)

There is phrase soft voice and word shuddered. which is also have the contradictory each others. Those contradict in meaning logically. Usually, soft voice is will make the listener feel relax. But character shuddered Listen to his voice. "*he turns his hungry eye upon me* " shows someone who shows something he wants from him through the behavior of the way he speaks.

. "*I felt inexpressibly relieved to know that I had only been listening to the harmless vagaries of a madman instead of the genuine experiences of a bloodthirsty cannibal.*" (*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.11)

The sentence that Mark Twain describes is not a cannibal experience of real Canadian blood, but an increasingly clear form of figurative discussion, we can see two words that are completely contradictory and very implausible. Where both have very conflicting and very contrasting meanings.

Besides paradox and irony, there is another figurative language in this story. That's satire. Satire is the use of humor, or called irony. In figurative language, allusions are always used to mock things contextually. This means that satire is ridiculous for outside stories. Usually, it has been connected with historical stories of speech. Satire can be described as literary art from a diminishing number of stories which make it ridiculous and arousing an attitude of amusement, humiliation, ridicule, or anger. This is different from comics in comedy that evokes laughter especially as an end in itself while using laughter as a weapon, and fighting against something outside the work itself. Below there is some quotation **Satire** in the short story *Cannibalism in the Cars*:

"*MR. A. L. BASCOM from Ohio: I moved that thenomination is now closed and selection process with ballots.*" (*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.5)

The underlined words show encouragement to Congress. The author wants to mock the election - style made by the congress which was not always conducive at that time? It's possible, but we never know clearly. Therefore, it is necessary to know historical figures to express this satire.

"*Mr. Herman that of Mr. Lucius Harris of St. Louis, who is well and honorably known to us all.*" (*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.6)

In my opinion, this part is a problem with the characteristics of Americans who really see someone on the basis of the castle and title. This is the stereotype of Americans. This is an American stereotype. the kind and respectful is used for the highest castles in this part the narrator defames the character or nature of the people of American.

"*I must beg to move that they is dropped at once and that we elect a chairman of the meeting and proper officers to assist him, and then we can go*

on with the business before us understandingly."(*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.5)

This sentence is one of being a loud allusion to the Congress that acts without procedure who only thinks of himself. That's in the sentence that gives a lot of meaning that is not widely known by readers who use loud satire for the congresses who act as they wish without using rules.

The irony which one figurative language shows something different from what actually happened. In general, this can be called the same as a paradox which shows the contradiction of something. Below is some quotes **Irony** in the short story *Cannibalism in the Cars*:

“... that I stood almost with the late Harris in his esteem, my heart fairly stood still!”(*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.10)

He had heard the story of the stranger. He felt uncomfortable with the narrator of a stranger but he remained silent from time to time. Maybe this is meant by irony divided into two, situational and verbal. This is related to situational irony, which is known by stories at the time, not from the dialogue. This number does not tell you directly but with narration.

“ I know was the cheeriest hour of my eventful life”. (*Cannibalism in the Cars*, p.8)

In this section, the stranger's narrator says the word "most cheerful" but the situation is inversely proportional to what was said. Realization at that time was a problem, terrible, and starving. This is very far from the most interesting theme. And in the sentence it did not really happen, it did not match what was felt when it happened to the suffering they felt.

IV. Conclusion

After analyzing the figurative language used in *cannibalism in the cars*, the writer concludes that the theory used in accordance with the type of data. The numbers of these figurative languages are five Paradox, three satire, and two ironies in *cannibalism in the cars* and dominated by paradox figurative language.

The meaning is more than just the number of parts. Understanding figurative language requires more than the monotonous

combination of individual word meanings. To process figurative language that is more interesting so that readers are more curious about words that are difficult to understand but have their own meaning.

After identifying and analyzing the figurative language in *Cannibalism in the Cars*. The writer gives a benefits, The first for teacher From this researcher they can get additional knowledge about figurative language and learning source for their students. The second, for student They know about the definition and explanation of each figurative language, Student can study the figurative language in a Students can identify figurative language easier by doing the writer's instruction. And for the English Department is the English department can use this paper to add the reference about the educational values.

Reference

- Abrams. 1999. *Sound and Sense: AP English Literature and Composition*. Archbishop Moeller English Department.
- Brown, S.W. 2008. *Figurative Language: "Meaning" is often More than Just a Sum of the Parts*. Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence.
- Ganz. 1975. *Critical Discourse Analysis: The Critical Study of Language*. London: Longman.
- Kreidler. 1998. *Understanding Figurative language: From Metaphor to idioms: From Metaphor to idioms*. Oxford University Press.
- Hornby. 1987. *Literal vs. Figurative Language: Different or Equal*.