

THE ANALYSIS OF IDIOMS AND COMPARISON IN ADELE'S AND MARIAH CAREY'S SONG LYRICS

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ABSTRAK

Ungkapan idiom (Langgam Bahasa) memiliki banyak makna konotasi indah di dalam setiap katanya. Terutama di dalam lirik - lirik lagu, lagu - lagu pop khususnya. Tujuan mendasar dari kajian ini adalah untuk mengetahui ungkapan apa saja yang terkandung dalam lirik lagu tertentu yang dalam kajian ini diangkat lirik lagu oleh Adele dan Mariah Carey.

Kata Kunci : Ungkapan, Makna Konotasi, Klasifikasi Ungkapan Langgam Bahasa, Jenis - jenis ungkapan Langgam Bahasa

1. Background of the Study

Language is a way of any living things including we humans to communicate in order to deliver any kinds of information, expressions, and feelings to each other. In a literary way, humans can express their feelings in forms of writing a literary works such as poetries, novels, and even song lyrics. In my journal, song lyrics are the main subjects of analysis because as we all know we can find lots of combinations of vocabularies and wordings within it. Songs are one of the best kind of entertainment every man can get considering it contain a lot of beautiful words combined with melodies which can last until hundreds of years without decreasing its values and its popularities. In a literary way, we all know about idiomatic expressions of meaning through lexical items for example idioms, and metaphors. These expressions are often used in our daily life without us noticing it. This journal is all about the comparisons of the idioms found particularly in the song lyrics between the singer Adele and Mariah Carey.

2. Problems of the Study

In this journal there are three theories which I conveyed to analyze the song lyrics, they are the types of idioms by Palmer (1956), the classification of idioms by Jennifer Seidl and W. McMordie (1988) and The Meaning Theories by Leech (1974). There were three problems found based on these theories, to find out what are the types of idioms, classification of idioms and the meanings of those idioms. Later, those findings will be compared each other.

3. Aims of the Study

The aims of this journal is to find out what are the significant differences between the song lyrics that nowadays pop ballads artist Adele made to the mid nineties artist Mariah Carey. They are particularly in the same genre which is Pop Ballads, but they came from a different era. This journal is about to discover which of the era has more beautiful yet figurative lyrics between the two artists.

4. Research Method

Research method is an important process to conduct a scientific study or in this case journal which it is the way of understanding the objects that become the target of subject. Methodology is a procedure that is used in a research in a corresponding way with the approach. It is the way of how researchers approach the problems to find the answer through the findings, collecting, and analyzing the data. The data which are the song lyrics I used are primarily taken directly from the Adele's and Mariah Carey's songs. In the Adele's album I took only the three of her songs out of eleven total in her 21's album. Those songs were *Rolling in the Deep*, *Dont You Remember*, *Someone Like You*. In the Mariah Carey's song lyrics, there are of 3 songs, they were *Always Be My Baby* (*Daydream*, 1995), *Hero* (*Music Box*, 1993), and *My All* (*Butterfly*, 1997). The reason I chose those six songs was because those were the songs which had the deepest emotion and feeling for all their listeners, especially me. Those six songs had different theme and story. These songs were used as the main data which to be analyzed and compared as the object of the study. In order to collecting these song lyrics data, the observation and documentation method are used.

Firstly was to download all the song lyrics from the internet website <http://www.azlyrics.com/a/adele.html> for the Adele's song lyrics and <http://www.azlyrics.com/m/mariahcarey.html> for the Mariah Carey's song lyrics and then to note every words or phrases which were identified to be idioms which those notes were analyzed later. The data was analyzed in the qualitative way relating to the theories. The data were clarified to the sources which would provide the information of the idioms, later is to categorize the idioms based on the types, and the meaning of the idioms.

5. The Analysis of The Idioms

There are three main theories used in this journal which they are the types of idioms, the classifications of idioms, and the meaning theories.

5.1 The Analysis of the Types of idioms

Palmer stated in his book: *Semantic: A New Outline* (1976), idioms could be categorized into three types: phrasal verb, prepositional verb, and partial idiom. Phrasal Verb is the most common type of idiom in English which is the combination of the verbs and adverbs (Palmer, 1976: 99). In the phrasal verb analysis there were some idioms found for example the expressions *settled down* and *stay away* were found in the Adele's songs and in the Mariah Carey's songs, the expressions *letting you fly* and *linger on* were found. The prepositional verbs are a group of words verbs made from a verb followed by another words. Many people consider it to be all multi-word verbs or phrasal verbs.

It's the sequences of verb plus such as *stay away* which was found in the one of the Adele's song lyrics and *melt away* found in the Mariah Carey's. The last types of idioms is partial idiom is where one of the words has usual meaning and the other has a meaning of peculiar to particular sequence. We can find the example in *the depths of your despair* in the song lyrics by Adele's and *letting you fly, Vividly emblazoned in my mind* were found in the Mariah Carey's.

5.2 The Analysis of Classifications of idioms

The classifications of idioms proposed by Jennifer Seidl and W. McMordie were divided the idiom into eight classifications Idioms with nouns and adjectives, Idiomatic pairs, Idioms with prepositions, Phrasal verbs, Verbal idioms, Idioms with key words from special subjects, Idioms with key words from special categories, Idioms with comparisons. Some of these classifications were found. For example, the expressions of nouns and adjectives found in the Adele's song lyrics were *Summer Haze*, and *Fickle heart*. And in the Mariah Carey's song lyrics were *A matter of time* *A feeling this strong*. Other expressions were the Idioms with keywords from special categories, they were *fickle heart* and *wandering eye* found in the Adele's song lyrics and *reaches out a hand* in the Mariah Carey's. The expression of idiomatic pairs also found which was *Your days and your night*.

5.3 The Analysis of The Meaning Theories

The crucial point for the theory of meaning was to determine how the conditions of a feelings could be used by one person to communicate with another. There were 3 types of meaning according to Leech (1974), they are the affective meaning, connotative meaning, and the conceptual meaning. The meaning theories of the songs related to the meaning of idioms found in the songs. In my undergraduate thesis, the meaning of the whole songs discussed by finding the idioms and the theme found in the songs. The songs analysis was divided into several part such as intro, verse 1, 2, and 3 etc, chorus/refrain, and bridge. Intro was an introduction, basically used only several lines of the song and rarely found in almost any songs because commonly, any songs begin with the verse 1 and so on. Verse 1, 2, 3, etc, usually had the same rhythms, the words were different because the next verse was following the previous verse and continuing the story. For example in the song *Someone Like You*

by Adele presented the condition of a person who finally knew that her ex-lover had engaged a marriage. The person's feeling was of course sad because she still loved her/his ex-lover very much and all she could do then was just wishing them a good life. In the seventh line of the lyrics, an idiom was found which was *turn up out of the blue* which could be classified as the affective meaning, since it expressed the reflection of a personal feelings of the speakers, about their attitude towards the listener or something he was going to talk about (Leech, 1974:18). From another point of view, *turn up out of the blue* also could be categorized as connotative meaning, since it had the value of the communication of an expression.

5.4 The Comparison of the idioms found

1. The types of idioms that are found in the Adele's and Mariah Carey's songs are: The phrasal verbs, *settled down, hold back, turn up, look for, sell me out*. The prepositional verbs, *stay away*. The partial idioms, *turn up out of the blue, the time of our lives, bittersweet this would taste, to seal any scene, missing piece, crystal clear, The scars of your love remind me of us, the depths of your despair*.

 Mariah Carey's songs are: the phrasal verbs, *linger on, carry on, reaches out*. The prepositional verbs, *melt away, letting you fly, can't erase a feeling this strong, you'll always be my baby, Vividly emblazoned in my mind, sleepless solitude tonight, drowned in you, reach into your soul*

2. The classification of idioms found in the Adele's and Mariah Carey's songs are: The noun and adjectives, "Noun phrases: *Summer haze*", "Adjective + noun: *The surprise of our glory days*", "Adjective + noun: *Fickle heart*", "Noun phrases: *heaviness in my head*", "Adjective + noun: *missing piece*", "Noun phrases: *The scars of your love*", Noun phrases: *Depths of your despair*". The idioms of special categories, *out of the, fickle, wandering eye, heaviness in my head, fire starting in my heart, my heart inside of your hand, make your head burn*.

In the Mariah Carey's, "Adjective + noun: *A feeling this strong*", "Noun phrases: *A matter of time*", "Adjective + noun: *Sleepless solitude*", "Noun phrases: *Memory of our song*", "Adjective + noun: *Distant star*". The idioms of special categories, *in my heart, inside your heart, reaches out a hand, my heart, Your body next to mine, I'm looking in your eyes*. The idiomatic pairs, *Your days and your night*. the idioms of comparison, *like hope is gone, Like a distant star*.

3. The meaning of the idioms found in both Adele's and Mariah Carey's songs. In the Adele's songs "Someone Like You" there are some meanings analysis found, the expression *turn up out of the blue* could be classified as the affective meaning, also can be conveyed as connotative meaning, the expression *time of our lives* as well as *bittersweet this would taste* could be classified as connotative meaning. In the song "Dont You Remember" some meanings analysis are found, the expression *missing piece* could be classified as connotative meaning. In the song "Rolling in the Deep", there are some meaning analysis found, The idioms *see you crystal clear* and *the scars of your love* belonged to the affective meaning since it was a reflection of a personal feeling of the speakers, these idioms could also be considered as a connotative meaning. the idiom *the depths of your despair* was categorized to the connotative meaning.

The meaning analysis of the Mariah Carey's song "Always be My Baby" found are the idiom *I'm letting you fly, can't erase a feeling this strong* was categorized to be a connotative meaning. The idiom was *you'll always be my baby*, considered to be affective meaning, this idiom was also a connotative meaning. The song "My Hero" are the expression *reach into your soul, the emptiness you felt* could be classified as connotative meaning. The meaning analysis of the song "My All", there are some meaning theories found The first was *sleepless solitude tonight* and *drowned in you* these idioms was considered to be affective meaning, this idiom could also be categorized to be a connotative meaning. The expression *vividly emblazoned in my mind* could also be categorized as connotative meaning.

6. Conclusion

Firstly, based on the numbers of the types of idioms found on the songs on both artists, Adele's songs contain more idioms than Mariah Carey's. The total number of the types of the idioms found in the Adele's are fourteen idioms, while Adele has only eleven total. According to the classification of idioms, Adele's songs also have more idioms than Mariah Carey's songs. Based on these results, we can clearly say that Adele lyrics representation is more meaningful and deep. This result also states that artists based on true story or personal experience driven singers make more beautiful songs. Regarding Mariah Carey at that time (in the 1990s) were making music just for the sake of entertainment only. According to the meaning analysis, both of the artists' songs contain affective meanings which are mostly followed also by connotative meanings. The numbers of the meaning theories used in the songs are practically the same considering both artists' songs genre are ballads pop.

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