

# Analysis Figurative Language “Let Me Not To The Marriage Of True Minds” By William Shakespeare’s

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## Analysis Figurative Language “Let Me Not To The Marriage Of True Minds” By William Shakespeare’s

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**Abstract.** Literary works are creations written with the aim of conveying an aesthetic impression. Literary works can take the form of prose, poetry, or drama. To make poetry more beautiful and easier to understand, a writer needs to understand the rules for creating good poetry. This research aims to analyze the various types of figurative language found in William Shakespeare's poem titled "Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds." The research focuses on the analysis of figurative language used in the poem. The objective is to identify the types of figurative language and understand their functions within the poem. The results of this study reveal that there are three types of figurative language found in the poem: metaphor, personification, and hyperbole.

**Keywords:** Figurative language, Literature, Poem, Personification

**Abstrak.** Karya sastra adalah hasil kreasi yang ditulis dengan tujuan menyampaikan kesan estetis. Karya sastra bisa berupa prosa, puisi, atau drama. Agar puisi menjadi lebih indah dan mudah dipahami, seorang penulis perlu memahami aturan-aturan dalam membuat puisi yang baik. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis berbagai jenis bahasa kiasan yang terdapat dalam Puisi William Shakespeare Yang Berjudul “Let Me Not To The Marriage Of True Minds”. Penelitian ini berfokus pada analisis bahasa kiasan yang digunakan dalam puisi. Tujuannya adalah untuk mengidentifikasi jenis bahasa kiasan serta memahami fungsi bahasa kiasan dalam puisi tersebut. Hasil penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa terdapat tiga jenis bahasa kiasan yang ditemukan dalam puisi, yaitu metafora, personifikasi dan hiperbola.

**Kata kunci:** Bahasa Kiasan, Sastra, Puisi, Personifikasi

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Literary works are creations written by their authors with the aim of presenting their work, which possesses aesthetic value. Literary works are usually seen as reflections of the times, representing the views of their authors. Poetry is one of the literary works; it is a literary creation that largely contains elements of beauty.

Poetry is a form of literary work that is structured with elements such as rhyme, lines, stanzas, rhythm, and incantation. According to Kosasih (2012: 97), as quoted by Eka Septiani, poetry is a form of literary work that uses beautiful and meaningful words. The beauty of a poem is due to the diction, figurative language, rhyme, and rhythm contained in it, as these elements are condensed to their essence. Poetry is a linguistic expression that considers aspects of sound, reflecting the poet's imaginative, emotional, and intellectual experiences derived from their personal and social life, conveyed with specific techniques to evoke a unique experience in the reader or listener. Based on various expert opinions, the researcher concludes that poetry is the oldest form of literary work.

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Poetry has several elements, one of which is the intrinsic elements. According to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963), as cited in the book "Interpreting Literature" by Budi Antara (2013), the intrinsic elements of a poem are those that emphasize the internal organization of the literary work itself, which includes the analysis of a poem through its elements to determine the aesthetic value of the work.

The intrinsic elements of a poem are the components contained within the poem that form the entire work. Several aspects of the intrinsic elements of a poem include theme, feeling, tone, message, diction, figurative language, rhyme, typography, and style. This research focuses on the figurative language used in William Shakespeare's poem "LET ME NOT TO THE MARRIAGE OF TRUE MINDS"

According to Perrine (1973: 6), as quoted by Marce Laimena and Stella Rose Que, figurative language is predominantly used in poetry because it reveals a language beyond the ordinary, beautifying the poem. Figurative language is used to enhance literary works, especially poetry. It can make a poem more interesting and unique. However, some readers may not be able to identify the figurative language used in the poem. Poem readers will read, analyze, and interpret the poem without considering the use of figurative language.

Arp and Johnson (2008: 71) explain: "Figurative language, or language using metaphors, is language that cannot (or should not) be understood literally. Writers argue that figurative language is usually metaphorical. We conclude that it is an imaginative tool used to explain something." Besides, the use of imagery can reveal what the author wants to convey more effectively than direct language. The use of figurative language differentiates poetic language from ordinary language. The purpose of this research is to explain the various types of figurative language.

## 2. METHODS

In this research, the author uses descriptive qualitative methods to solve problems and develop new knowledge. This research uses a literature review by tracing and studying various journals and other literary publications related to the research topic to produce writings related to the research topic. In every research, a method is needed to collect data. The techniques used in research to collect and analyze data are called research methods. Natural, in-depth, and exploratory research usually uses a qualitative approach.

Qualitative research is also described as an approach to seek meaning, understanding, concepts, characteristics, phenomena, symbols, or descriptions of a phenomenon. This

approach focuses on <sup>5</sup> multi-methods, is natural and holistic, prioritizes quality, uses various methods, and is presented in narrative form in scientific research (Sidiq & Choiri, 2019).

In applying this qualitative method, the researcher describes the existing problems in the poems by collecting detailed data, including data, phrases, descriptions, and others. Data are collected by carefully and repeatedly reading the poems "LET ME NOT TO THE MARRIAGE OF TRUE MINDS". Additionally, the researcher examines journals and articles related to poetry and the use of figurative language. Notes are made to gather information related to the figurative language in the poems.

## <sup>12</sup> 2.1 Analysis Of Figurative Language In The Poem

Before analyzing the poetry, it will be presented as follows:

<sup>3</sup> "Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds"

<sup>3</sup> Let me not to the marriage of true minds

Admit impediments. Love is not love

Which alters when it alteration finds,

Or bends with the remover to remove:

<sup>1</sup> O no! it is an ever-fixed mark

That looks on tempests and is never shaken;

It is the star to every wandering bark,

Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks

Within his bending sickle's compass come:

Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,

But bears it out even to the edge of doom

If this be error and upon me proved,

I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

By analyzing the poem displayed above, not all types of figures of speech are found within it. Each stanza of the poem contains several figures of speech. According to the theory put forward by Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963), figures of speech are divided into several categories. The following are the types identified in the poem.

## <sup>4</sup> 2.2 Metaphor

A metaphor is an indirect comparison or expression used in a new context based on the similarity between the original meaning and the new object or situation applied, without using the words 'like' or 'as'. (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963:367). Metaphors in poetry serve to create the beauty of language, allowing the listener to feel an emotional touch. Poetry often

uses metaphors because words in poetry must have beauty and good quality. With the use of metaphors, the reader can understand the reality conveyed in the poem, even though the sentences do not always have literal meaning.

In this poem by William Shakespeare, there are two related metaphors. Here are the figures found in the poem:

"O no! It is <sup>1</sup>an ever-fixed mark" line 5

"That looks on tempests and is never shaken;" line 6

In the above two lines, the author compares the phrase "ever-fixed mark" to "is never shaken," referring to a mark that never moves even when struck by a storm. This all signifies the very strong nature of true love.

### 2.3 Personification

Keraf (2004:140) explains that personification or prosopopoeia is a type of figurative language that attributes human qualities to inanimate objects or non-living entities. Personification is a special form of metaphor that makes inanimate objects appear to act, do, and speak like humans.

Personification is a figure of speech that equates humans with animals, objects, or abstract concepts. Personification can also be defined as giving human traits to inanimate objects to create a connection between the object and humans.

"Let me not to the marriage of true minds" line 1

"Admit impediment. Love is not love" line 2

"Which alters when it alteration finds" line 3

"Or bends with the remover to remove" line 4

In all the lines of this poem, the author interrelates them. In the first stanza, William Shakespeare signifies personification through the action of "the marriage". In the following lines, the author personifies "love" through actions, stating that love will change when alteration comes and love will disappear when the other goes. Thus, love cannot perform actions like a human, such as disappearing and leaving.

"It is the star to every wandering bark" line 7

"Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken" line 8

In lines 7 and 8 of the second stanza, the poem contains personification. The author likens "the star" to a man, stating that the star resides above the universe as explained in the excerpt "his height be taken" and imbues the object (the star) with a living soul.

"Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks" line 9

"Within his bending sickle's compass come" line 10

In the third stanza, lines 9 and 10, the author personifies love and time, suggesting that love is not dependent on time. Shakespeare animates love in this poem as a slave of time, which love cannot do. This is an allusion to the medieval concept of death as a character known as the "grim reaper," who was imagined to carry a scythe-like sword "bending sickle."

## 2.4 Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a figure of speech that uses exaggerated statements, whether in quantity, size, or characteristics. Its purpose is to emphasize a statement or situation, thus intensifying and enhancing the impression and influence produced.

According to Perrine (1977:102), as cited by Ni Made Pratiwi Rusadi, <sup>6</sup>Desak Putu Eka Pratiwi, and I Dewa Ayu Devi Maharani Santika, hyperbole is an intentional exaggeration to affirm a truth.

According to Mar'atun Shaleha (2016:25), hyperbole is a style that describes or narrates an event in an exaggerated manner. In other words, this figure of speech attempts to dramatize an event to make it appear more interesting and beautiful. For example, "her tears flowed and flooded her cheeks" or "the deer ran as fast as lightning." Such sentences are known as hyperbolic sentences.

According to Tarigan in Samudaria (2006:153), as cited by Mar'atun Shaleha, hyperbole is a type of figure of speech that contains exaggerated statements in terms of quantity, size, or characteristics. Its purpose is to emphasize a statement or situation, thereby intensifying and enhancing its impression and influence.

***"That looks on tempests and is never shaken;"*** line 6

The second stanza, line 6 of this poem, considers "That looks on tempests and is never shaken" as containing hyperbole. The word that shows hyperbole is "tempests." Shakespeare likens "tempests" to being very strong, even when struck by a storm.

***"Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken."*** line 8

Line 8 of this poem is also considered hyperbole, allowing the reader to feel an exaggerated meaning. The proof of hyperbole in this line is "his height be taken," which refers to a theme about celestial objects. During Queen Elizabeth's era, no one understood what a star was; therefore, a star's height could not be known even though experts knew "height" through conventional navigation practices.

***"But bears it out even to the edge of doom"*** line 12

Line 12 in Shakespeare's poem also contains hyperbole, as the author amplifies that love will not change despite the passage of time. However, love endures through the time that

has passed, as written in the previous line "brief" and continues until "the edge of doom," implying that love will last until the judgment day, the day of the apocalypse.

### 3. CONCLUSION

In this study, it can be concluded that there are three figures of speech analyzed: metaphor, personification, and hyperbole. The dominant figure of speech in William Shakespeare's poem in this journal analysis is personification, as it is present in all stanzas of the poem. However, there are also other types of figures of speech used in several stanzas of the poem, such as metaphors and hyperboles.

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