

## AN ANALYSIS OF CONNOTATIVE MEANING IN ED SHEERAN'S SONG LYRICS

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### Abstract

*The purpose of this study were to find out: 1) the kind of connotative meaning is found in Ed Sheeran's 10 song lyrics, 2) the connotative meaning contained in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song and 3) the most dominant types of connotative meaning in the 10 lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song. In collecting the data, the researcher used documentation. By using connotative meaning theory of Hook's in Cahyani. The researcher focused to analyze connotative meaning that include 2 types, namely: Positive connotation and negative connotation. The result of the study showed that from Ed Sheeran's song lyrics, the researcher found there were 41 utterance containing the types of connotative meaning. Positive connotation with percentage 70.5% and Negative connotation 29.5%. Based on the result of the study, it can be concluded that the most dominant types of Connotative meaning in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics is Positive connotation. While the meanings contained in the 10 lyrics of Ed Sheeran's songs were: Disappointment and happiness.*

**Key Word: Connotative Meaning, Lyric, Song.**

### Abstrak

*Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui: 1) jenis makna konotatif yang ditemukan disepuluh lirik lagu Ed Sheeran's, 2) makna konotatif yang terkandung dalam lirik ;agu Ed Sheeran's dan 3) jenis makna konotatif yang paling dominan dalam seppuluh lirik agu Ed Sheeran's. Dalam pengumpulan data peneliti menggunakan teknik dokumentasi. Dengan menggunakan teori makna konotatif dari Hook's dalam Cahyani. Peneliti memfokuskan untuk menganalisis makna konotatif yang mencakup dua jenis yaitu: konotasi positif dan konotasi negatif. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dalam lirik lagu Ed Sheeran's, peneliti menemukan 41 ujaran yang mengandung jenis makna konotatif. Konotasi positif dengan persentase 70.5% dan kononasi negatif 29.5%. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian, dapat disimpulkan bahwa jenis makna konotatif yang paling dominan dalam lirik lagu Ed Sheeran's adalah konotasi positif. Sedangkan makna yang terkandung dalam 10 lirik lagu Ed Sheeran's adalah kekecewaan dan kebahagiaan.*

**Kata Kunci: Makna Konotatif, Lirik, Lagu.**

## I. INTRODUCTION

Semantics is the science of meaning or about meaning, which is one of the three levels of language analysis: phonology, grammar, and semantics. Every word in the sentence has a meaning. Meaning is an element of a word or more precisely as a symptom-in-speech.

Connotative meaning is a thought that creates a sense of value in someone when dealing with a word. The connotative meaning is also a figurative meaning or not the actual word and is related to the value of taste. Connotative meaning is influenced by the values and norms held by a particular society, which also makes a difference in the social function of words with almost the same meaning. However, the meaning of the word will also change along with changes in values and norms that occur in society.

Based on the above statement, the writer is very interested to use in connotative meaning. The writer wants to know and understand more deeply about this connotative meaning to increase knowledge. Knowledge about many diversity of connotative meaning or the uniqueness of language that maybe no many people know about it so far. Usually, connotative meaning can be find

in poetry, short stories, novels, and songs. The lyrics in a song can be a good example of looking for some connotative meanings.

In this study, the writer wants to will highlight the connotative meaning contained in the song lyrics. This study use song lyrics as the object of research because song lyrics have such deep and varied meanings. Therefore, the writer is interested to choose the Ed Sheeran's song lyrics. Because, the arrangements of Ed Sheeran's songs are so pleasant to hear, in the lyrics of the song have a lot of connotative meaning that many people don't know what the real meaning and the songs also tell about life, love, disappointment and happiness. Apart from the great music Ed Sheeran is a song writer, most of his songs are his own compositions taken from real life. Therefore, the writer is interested to analyze the types of connotations in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics and what the real meanings contained in the lyrics of the song.

Based on the description above, the writer is very interested in analyzing the lyrics of a song popularized by Ed Sheeran entitled: Give Me Love, Shape Of You, I See Fire, Supermarket Flowers, Perfect, sing, the a team, Photograph, Thinking Out Loud and Afterglow. The reason the

writer examines song lyrics from Ed Sheeran is because music listeners, especially lovers of foreign language songs, usually only listen to a song but do not understand the implied meaning conveyed by the song writer in his song. Therefore, the writer wants to know more about the connotative meaning of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics. So the title of this research is "Analysis of Connotative Meaning in Ed Sheeran's Song Lyrics".

#### A. Defenition of Connotative Meaning

According to Warriner et al, (1977 : 602) in Tarigan (2009 : 52) that connotation is an impressions or association usually of an emotional nature caused by a word in addition to its dictionary definition or main definition. Next, according to Tarigan (2009 : 51), "The connotation of a word is the circle of ideas or feelings that surrounds the word, as well as the emotions caused by the word".

Furthermore, according to Pateda( 2011 : 107 ), "Connotative meaning is *de communicative wearde die eenuit drukking heft, over zuiver conceptuele in houdheen, of grond van waar die uit drukking aanrefereert*" (in English communicative use that has an expression, above a purely conceptual content, or the basis from which the expression refers). According to Leech (1981), in Lahama (2017 :2), connotative meaning is the communicative value of an expression according to what it refers to over and above its purely conceptual content.

Based on the quotation above, the writer concluded that connotation is an expression of thought which is usually emotional which is expressed through a word and has a different meaning. This connotative meaning often used by many people to express a thought or feeling.

#### B. Kinds of Connotative Meaning

In this study, the writer discusses the connotative meaning based on the opinion of experts. Connotation is divided into two, namely: Positive connotation and negative connotation.

## II. METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

Research method are the step the writer takes in order to collect information and survey data. The research method outlines the research design, including: the step and steps that must be taken, the time of the research, the data resources, and the steps that used in processing and analyzing the data. In connection with this research, the writer use library research approach to find out and analyze the connotative meaning which is find to Ed Sheeran song's lyrics.

According to Mardalis (1999) in Sari et al, (2020 : 43) library research is a study used incollect information and data with the help of various materials in the library such as documents, books, magazines, historical stories, etc.Based on

the description above, it can be concluded that library research is an activity carried out in order to use a certain method or technology to collect, process and conclude data in order to find the answers of problems. The other sources in collecting data, such as: internet, books from libraries and previously published research.

## III. RESULT

After processing data from Ed Sheeran's song lyrics, the researcher counted the data and got the percentages of connotative meaning.It can be discuss as follow:

**Percentage of Types of Connotative Meaning Used on 10 of Ed Sheeran Song Lyrics**

No.	Types of Connotative Meaning	Quantity	Percentage
1.	Positive connotation	29	70.5 %
2.	Negative connotation	12	29.5 %
Total		41	100 %

From the result of the analyzing in classified the types of connotation and after counted the percentage by using formula, the researcher concluded the most dominant connotative meaning happens in song lyrics is Positive connotation with percentage 70.5% and Negative connotation 29.5%.

## IV. DISCUSSION

After classified the types of connotative meaning found in 10 of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics into a table. The writer use the formula in the percentage of the total connotative meaning found in connotative meaning. It aims to see what type of connotative meaning is dominantly used in song lyrics according to the writer's analysis. From the result of the analyzing, there are 41 data in this research. The writer found the most dominant types of connotative meaning happens in 10 of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics is Positive connotation with percentage 70.5% while Negative connotation 29.5%.

The writer found enough relevant research that related with this research. First, Amiyati and Wahyuningsih (2016) entitled "Analysis of the Conotative Meaning of the July Song Lyrics on the Album EsIst July". There are 5 data in this research. The most dominant connotative meaning which is used in the song lyrics in 5 songs is Negative connotation, which in the 5 data contains disappointment or negative connotations.

Second, Cahyani and Zalman (2021), with the title "Analysis of Connotative Meaning of Song Lyrics in the Album "Best Selection Blanc" by Aimer". There are 10 data in this research, which consists of 4 meanings of positive connotation and 6 meanings of negative connotations. The most dominant connotative meaning which is used in the song lyrics in 5 songs is negative connotation.

The result of this study has the difference with relevant study before are Amiyati and Wahyuningsih, Chyani and Zalman. The writer conclude that from the calculation of the data, the writers found the dominant type of connotative meaning used is positive connotation. There are also same type of connotative meaning that found in each study. The type found, including : positive connotation and negative connotation.

## V. CONCLUSION

After analyzing and getting the result, the writer found several type of connotative meaning on Ed Sheeran's song lyrics namely:

1. The kind of connotative meaning is found in Ed Sheeran's 10 song lyrics is positive connotation and negative connotation.

2. The connotative meaning contained in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song is disappointment and happiness.
3. The most dominant types of connotative meaning in the 10 lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song is positive connotation. There are 41 data which had been found by song lyrics. The data showed that positive connotation is the dominant types of connotative meaning that use in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics, and it's about 70.5% and negative connotation is 29.5%.

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