

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE OF FOOTBALL COMMENTARY BY PETER DRURY

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ABSTRACT

Figurative language is described as employing figures of speech and involves communicating something by an intended deviation from literal meaning. It is a word or phrase which is used for special effect which is used non-literally and can be understood based on generally applicable principles of meaning extension. There are various types of figurative language. The objectives of this study are to explore the figurative language types of football commentary used by Peter Drury and to find out the most dominant type of figurative language of football commentary used by Peter Drury. The scope of this research is figurative language or figure of speech of football commentary used by Peter Drury. The researcher used Saeed's theory which consists of metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole, and litotes. This study is limited to the football commentaries by Peter Drury, which are taken from the two videos in the YouTube channel. Some conclusions are drawn that commentaries by Peter Drury used six types of figurative language, they are metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole, and litotes in his football commentaries, In his football commentaries, there were 10 metaphors (14.08%), 7 ironies (9.86%), 6 metonymies (8.45%), 14 synecdoche (19.72%), 22 hyperboles (30.99%) and 12 litotes (16.90%). It is concluded that hyperbole is the most dominant figurative language. The findings theoretically can give a contribution to the next researchers who are interested in investigating figurative language. Practically, the findings can give a contribution to English teachers as well as the reference to the figurative football commentary by Peter Drury

Keywords: Semantics, figurative language, football commentary

I. INTRODUCTION

Language style is very important to know in primarily an instrument of communication to among human beings. Language style is the way people manipulate others and control people in making interactions, brings the message that usually conveyed in words and done of voice, whether formally or informally. Hidayati and Syahputri, D (2022: 33) In any case, understanding language style isn't simple for perusers. They may involvement trouble in recognizing dialect styles utilized by the creator. By every people show the different style, they have certain features that are not owned by others. Human uses language as a communication tool as well as a group identity and both are inseparable entities. It cannot be imagined what would happen if human beings had no language (Hutauruk et al, 2022: 44).

According to Meyerhoff (Dewi and Aulina, 2022: 12), language style also describes the personality, mindset, condition of human. The condition of human can create human's language style. For example, very formal language will be used when a president delivers a speech in front of the citizen. It happens because the context is formal, and has special purposes to deliver such kind of information.

Niswa (2023: 2) Semantics is the ponder of meaning and the range of etymology that centers on deciding and comprehending meaning. We can learn about meaning in semantic. A part of linguistics refers to the study of meaning, changes in a sense, and the relationship between sentences or words and their definitions called semantics. Zimmermann and Sternefeld (2013:1) stated that the subject of semantics is the systematic study of the meaning of linguistic expressions like morphemes, words, phrases, sentences, or even

texts.

Generally, people try to communicate perfectly and completely. They want to give information as many as they can to the other. According to Colston and Gibbs (2012: 1) added that figurative language generally refers to speech where speakers mean something other than what they literally say. How listeners arrive at these metaphorical meanings is a topic of considerable debate within both the humanities and cognitive science. Figurative language also can be found in sport field especially in football. Bakr and Al-Saifi (2022: 188) described that football had a unique vocabulary that was used in specialized contexts, not just among young people but in many other areas of communication for instance, regulation and science, the media, coaches and players, supporters. Several figurative language or figure of speech are metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole, and litotes as Saeed (2016: 14) explained.

Moreover, sport and football in particular have always been a common form of entertainment. In the last decades, with the rise of television broadcast with increasingly better filming technology; football has become commercialized, viewed by millions and a common "form of popular culture as Richard (2008:193) explained.

Moreover, Larvic et al (2008: 96) stated that satellite technology gave commentators the opportunity to compete in the linguistic art of football commentary, which varies from mere audio description to infotainment with lots of elucidation on the match (formation, tactics, errors, solutions, interpretation, etc.), as well as interesting historical information and factual statistics. It even encourages stage performance mimicking of the Latin American commentators' famous and incredible cry "Goooooooooooooool, Goal, Goal, Goal!"

Crystal and Davy (2009:143) explored

that football commentary sets out primarily to provide information about events, and to this extent its language is likely to be factual and nonfigurative; but the commentator has also to give an adequate visual impression of the events and of their setting, and this gives him the opportunity to be descriptive and impressionistic. A person who commented the football event is called a commentator.

One of the most popular British commentators is Peter Drury. He has been widespread in the last twenty years. Away from traditional commentators who concentrate on the description of the occasion being televised, Peter Drury has addicted digressing off the main track and thus taking a very different approach to the job. Another important characteristic of his is his obsessive use of alliteration in an attempt to please the ears of his audience. Some examples of Peter Drury's comments in football events are as follows. *Goal Bafana Bafana! Goal for South Africa! Goal for South Africa! Rejoice* (Drury commented this in South Africa taking the lead against Mexico in 2010 World Cup). He used the word *Bafana* for substituted South Africa. This is called as metaphor which compares something to others. *Etihad is bubbling up like it only does on 'special days'* (Drury commented this on Etihad Stadium). He used the figure of speech *bubbling up* which means rising up.

Drury's comments used a figurative language that serves to convey thoughts, feelings, and perceptions that cannot be adequately expressed in literal language. It has a function to explain, strengthen, a live, stimulate, decorate an object. Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the *Figurative Language of Football Commentary by Peter Drury* with the hope that this would be beneficial for students, teachers and other researchers who are interested in figurative language or figure of speech. And the researcher interest to analyzing commentary of Peter Drury because in his commentaries showed many expressions that imagines about condition or situation in football.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Semantic

Griffiths (2006: 15) defined that semantics as the study of word meaning and sentence meaning, abstracted away from contexts of use, is a descriptive subject. It is an attempt to describe and understands the nature of the knowledge about meaning in their language that people have from knowing the language.

Figurative Language (Figure of Speech)

Saeed (2016: 442) explored that traditionally figurative language is described as employing figures of speech, involves communicating something by an intended deviation from literal meaning, for example by using metaphor, irony, or hyperbole. Richards et al (2002: 201) defined figure of speech as a word or phrase which is used for special effect, and which does not have its usual or literal meaning.

Figurative language is the outcome of our figurative thought, which derives from the ever-present interconnection between our physical experience and the relation we set up with the cultural context in which we live as Baicchi (2020: 91) explained. Not only are the mind and the body inseparable, but they cannot be reduced to mechanical brain activity or abstract mental representations separated from the whole personhood.

From the above description, the researcher concludes that figurative language is a word or phrase which is used for special effect which is used non literally and can be understood on the basis of generally applicable principles of meaning extension.

Types of Figurative Language

Several linguists have described the types of figurative language or figure of speech. Keraf (2009:129) divided figurative language into two classifications. The first is rhetoric figure of speech which consists of illiteracy, assonances, anastrophe, asyndeton, polycyndethon, chiasmus, ellipsis, euphemism, litotes, paradox, hyperbole and oxymoron. The second covers simile, metaphor, allegory, personification, allusion, metonymy, irony and synecdoche.

Football Commentary

Shoukanov (2017: 1574) defined commentary as (1) A series of explanations or interpretations. (2) An expository treatise or series of annotations; an exegesis. (3) An apt explanation or illustration: a scandal that is a sad commentary on national politics. Meanwhile, sport and football in particular have always been a common form of entertainment. In the last decades, with the rise of television broadcast with increasingly better filming technology, football has become commercialized, viewed by millions and a common “form of popular culture” as Richard (2008:193) explained.

The language of football offers many rewarding topics for linguistic research. One such topic is the lexicographic analysis of football vocabulary. Since, on the one hand, a football match is made up of a relatively small number of ever-recurring events (shots, passes, referee interventions, etc.), but, on the other hand, myriads of texts (written reports, spoken commentary, etc.) are produced every day which describe these events, a vocabulary has been developed in many languages which abounds with synonyms, with fine-grained semantic distinctions and with subtle stylistic variation as Lavric et al (2008: 5) explained.

British Commentator, Peter Drury

According to Omuya (2022: 1) Peter Drury is another well-known British football commentator whose reputation has been widespread in the last twenty years. Away from traditional commentators who concentrate on the description of the occasion being televised, Peter Drury has addicted to digressing off the main track and thus taking a very different approach to the job. Due to an inflated idea of his own importance, Drury feels that it is his duty to use his own background to enrich the process of description and commentary. Another important characteristic of his is his obsessive use of alliteration in an attempt to please the ears of his audience.

Related Research

There are some previous researches that investigate about the figurative language in football commentary. The first research was conducted by Bakr and Al- Saifi (2022) in their research entitled *The Language of Football Commentaries in British*

English and Egyptian Arabic: A Contrastive Study. The results of their research were that the interaction between spontaneous and non-spontaneous speech patterns can be seen in sports commentary. The majority of the chosen linguistic elements, including ellipsis, passive voice, inversion, synonymy, metaphor, collocations, and repetitions, are discovered to be more salient. The English commentators do not offer any unique methods or strategies because they just provide a conventional explanation of the image.

Conceptual Framework

In applying the research of the *Figurative Language of Football Commentary by Peter Drury*, the researcher collected all the data that related to the figurative language or figure of speech especially the types of figurative language as Saeed's (2016) theory of figurative or figure of speech which consists of

RESEARCH METHODS

Research Design

This research used a qualitative method which indicates the general purpose of the study. Formulation of a qualitative problem begins with the identification of a general topic or an area we want to know more about as Ary (2015: 53) explained.

To analyze the figurative language in the football commentary by Peter Drury, the researcher will apply a descriptive qualitative research. At this point, this research will use a theory proposed by Saeed (2016: 44) who stated that the figurative language or figure of speech consist of six types, they are (1) Metaphor (2) Irony, (3) Metonymy, (4) Synecdoche, (5) Hyperbole and (6) Litotes.

The researcher only needed to describe the data based on the problem statements and find out the result of the problem statements. Moreover, Tavakoli (2012: 504) describe that the aims of qualitative researchers often involve the provision of careful and detailed descriptions as opposed to the quantification

of data through measurements, frequencies, scores, and ratings. There is less of an emphasis on statistics (and concomitant attempts to generalize the results to wider populations) and more of an interest in the individual. In this case, the researcher will use this method to analyze figurative language in the football commentary by Peter Drury.

Source of Data

The sources of the data were taken from 2 videos of a football commentary by Peter Drury which was taken from YouTube channel. The videos are: *Peter Drury's Best Goals Commentaries* metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole, and litotes. The conceptual framework can be seen in the following figure:

2021/2022 through the website

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=IFBkd7MhdfM&pp=ygUgcGVOZ> and *Peter Drury's Poetic Commentary on Lionel Messi Winning the World Cup* through the website of youtube <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=tbN8-Tv63g&pp=ygUgcGVOZXlgZhg1cnkg>.

The researcher collected the data deals with figurative language from the videos. Besides the researcher used other literature or the theories of Saeed (2016:44) who stated that the figurative language pr figurative speech consist of six types, they are (1) Metaphor, (2) Irony, (3) Metonymy, (4) Synecdoche, (5) Hyperbole, (6) Litotes.

Technique of Collecting the Data

Research instrument is very important to obtain the research data for it is a set of method which is used to collect data. Tavakoli (2012: 277) described that instrument is any device which is used to collect the data. Instruments can be presented in written, audio, or visual format. Responses can be gathered via paper-and-pencil tests, computer administered tests, video camera, or audiotape recorder.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Try to presented the results of the writer's research found that the dominant figurative language used by football commentator Peter Drury was hyperbole based on Saeed's theory, it as concisely and comprehensively as possible. The discussion should focus on the results and how they can answer the issues raised.

CONCLUSION

Peter Drury used metaphor, irony, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole and litotes in his football commentaries, 2. In his football commentaries, Peter Drury used 10 metaphors (14.08%), 7 ironies (9.86%), 6 metonymies (8.45%), 14 synecdoche (19.72%), 22 hyperboles (30.99%) and 12 litotes (16.90%). It is concluded that hyperbole is the most dominant figurative language

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