



Anaphora and Epiphora Analysis of Edgar Allan Poe's Selected Poetry

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Abstract Poetry has a high level meaning to understand in literature, as it conveys the meaning in various aspects not only through the use of figurative language but also the imagination, emotions, contemplation, and personal insight from the author. Therefore, poetry serves as a compelling subject for academic research. The problems of this research is what are anaphora and epiphora used in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry? The aim of this research is to find out the anaphora and epiphora used in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry. To achieve the aims of this research, the researcher employs descriptive qualitative methods. Based on the analysis of eleven selected poems, the study identifies a total of 42 instances of repetition, consisting of 29 cases of anaphora and 13 of epiphora, based on the theoretical framework of Geoffrey Neil Leech and Michael Henry Short. The finding indicated that anaphora is the more dominant repetition device used in Poe's poetry.

Keywords: Anaphora; Epiphora; Figurative Language; Poetry; Repetition.

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature often describes human life that is related to culture, religion, social, moral and so on. Almost the whole literature gives impact to the reader when they have finished reading. Sometimes, the impact can be sad or happy and like or dislike, depending on the story. Refer to Cuddon (1998: 472), Literature is a vague term, which usually denotes works, which belong to major genres, such as epic, drama, lyric, novel, short story, etc. Besides that Fletcher (2001: 119) stated, literature is writings of high quality and significance because of the successful integration of style, organization, language, theme, etc.

Based on the explanation above, the writer concludes literature can not be separated from the culture that has such a strong impact on each work. But literature can also be said to be part of art because it contains elements of beauty. Literature is often said to be the result of the school of thought and feelings that poured in writing and non-writing (Toolan, 1998).

As we know, literary works such as: poetry, prose, and novel. Many people said that poetry is the most difficult level in writing literature (Jones, 1968). Because the content of poetry includes so many aspects of not only how to use figurative language but it will be beyond that. As Wordsworth in Peck & Coyle (1984: 11) states that poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feeling, expression of emotion, and it is always concerned with ordinary human concerns, with the daily matters of one's life. It means there is so much contemplation, imagination, accuracy, emotion of the authors when they wrote the works.

In this research the researcher wants to analyze the poetry, especially the researcher wants to find out the function anaphora and epiphora of Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry. The

reader can find so many repetitions in Edgar Allan Poe's Poetry. The anaphora and epiphora in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry can be in a word, phrase or sentence.

This research will analyze Anaphora and Epiphora, because they are the kind of figurative language that are powerful in poetry not only to give the special effect but also to strengthen the meaning. So, comprehending the figurative language must understand the whole text, it is not just words or expressions but their meaning is different from their literal interpretation. The purpose of figurative language is to convey their message from their writer to their reader as something different because they give their effect as an emotion. Poetry

Their researcher has chosen Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry because he had a significant influence on the development of American poetry. His poems are powerful in imagery and uncommon diction. Poe skillfully devised effective rhymes, rich in insight, and brilliant use of symbolism (Simpson, 2004).

Based on selected poems of Edgar Allan Poe in the book of Edgar Allan Poe: Complete Abrams & Harpham (2012) by Maplewood, their researcher was extracted in analyzing repetition, especially anaphora and epiphora analysis to give profound understanding for their readers.

Based on those explanations, their researcher chooses "Anaphora and Epiphora in Edgar Allan Poe's Selected Poems" as the title of this research.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study is grounded in stylistics, which views literary language as a system of linguistic choices that shape meaning, aesthetic effect, and readers' experience. Stylistics focuses on how particular patterns of language are used in literary texts to create artistic and communicative functions (Wales, 2011). Leech & Short (2007) explain that stylistic analysis aims to identify prominent linguistic features in literary works and to interpret how these features contribute to meaning and artistic impact.

In poetry, one of the most frequently used rhetorical devices is repetition. Repetition functions to emphasize ideas, intensify emotions, and create musical and rhythmic effects (McLaughlin, 1989). Perrine (1998) states that the repetition of words, sounds, or structures in poetry is not merely decorative, but plays an important role in shaping tone, reinforcing meaning, and strengthening the emotional expression of their speaker.

More specifically, anaphora and epiphora are forms of repetition that occur at particular structural positions in lines or clauses. According to Leech & Short (2007: 80), anaphora is defined as the repetition of the same word or group of words at the beginning of successive clauses or sentences. Epiphora, on the other hand, refers to the repetition of the same word or phrase at the end of successive clauses or sentences and is commonly used to create emphasis and a strong sense of closure.

Adams (1997) explains that rhetorical devices such as repetition are central to poetic design because they contribute to rhythmic structure and guide readers' attention to key ideas. Therefore, in this study, anaphora and epiphora are understood as stylistic strategies that help construct emotional intensity, coherence of meaning, and the expressive power of poetic language.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

This scientific research paper uses a qualitative method. According to Verdonk (2002: 3) the method used in the research is qualitative research assumes that all knowledge is relative, that there is a subjective element to all knowledge research. It is equivalent with the research, which is to describe the people and the behavior within the novel. The source of data in this research is a book entitled "Edgar Allan Poe Complete Tales and Poems" published by Maplewood Books in 2013 (Poe, 2013). The data are the words, phrases or sentences that relate to anaphora and epiphora in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry. The selected poetry are: To Helen, Annabel Lee, For Annie, The Valley of Unrest, Spirits of the Dead, A Dream, Fairy-Land, The Happiest Day, Dreams, Alone, The Village Streets, Bridal Ballad.

The descriptive method in this research aims to provide an outline of anaphora and epiphora in the poetry of Edgar Allan Poe. According to Beist and Kahn 1982:119) descriptive research is a research method that tries to describe and interpret an object appropriate with situation.

To figure out the figurative language in the Robert Frost selected Poems, the steps that the researcher took are:

1. Reading Edgar Allan Poe's Poetry.

The researcher read Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry repeatedly

2. Looking for the Data

After reading Edgar Allan Poe's poetry. The next step, the researcher looked for the anaphora and epiphora contained in the poetry by using Geoffrey Neil Leitch and Michael Henry Short's theory,

3. Collecting the Data.

After searching for the selected poetry that contains anaphora and epiphora, the researcher collected some data that can be analyzed.

After finding the figurative language in the data source, the step of analyzing data is:

1. Identifying the data

The researcher identified anaphora and epiphora based on Stephen Geoffrey Neil Leitch and Michael Henry Short's theory.

2. Analyzing the data

The researcher analyzed the word, phrase or sentence from the anaphora and epiphora of Edgar Allan Poe's poetry.

3. Drawing a conclusion.

After analyzing the data, the researcher drew a conclusion based on the discussion.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result of the research is explained as follows. From the selected poetry of Edgar Allan Poe, the 75 data found as repetition. Based on the theory of Stephen J Adam, the researcher analyzed anaphora and epiphora; 30 data which are the most appropriate with the theory. The descriptive qualitative method used for analyzing these 30 data are: (1) Anaphora: 18 data, epiphora 12 Data.

Below are the examples of analysis taken from the 30 data analyzed.

Data 1 (Anaphora)

To Helen by Edgar Allan Poe

Line: 44-47

How dark a woe, yet how sublime a hope!

How silently seest thou a sea of pride!

How daring an ambition; yet how deep

How fathomless a capacity for love!

Analysis:

Leech & Short (2007) define anaphora as “a type of parallelism which involves the repetition of the same word or group of words at the beginning of successive sentences or clauses.”

“**How** dark a woe, yet how sublime a hope! **How** silently seireine a sea of pride! **How** daring an ambition; yet how deep **How** fathomless a capacity for love!” Four consecutive lines at the beginning are marked examples of anaphora usage in a poem.

The four occurrences of the word “How” which is an anaphora function not only to create rhythm and artistic emphasis at the beginning of the line, but also to strengthen the author's thoughts about the conditions and emotions of the characters shown, ranging from sadness to hope, pride to love.

Before these lines, there is a line “Upon these crystalline, celestial spheres!” which repeats something that will be a miracle after all obstacles, so the word “How” used to give the strong analogical, after all that happens will be a nice hope.

Data 2 (Anaphora)

To Helen by Edgar Allan Poe

Line: 54-57

They would not go—**they** never yet have gone;
Lighting my lonely pathway home that night,
They have not left me (as my hopes have) since;
They follow me—**they** lead me through the years.
They are my ministers—yet I their slave.

Analysis:

Edgar Allan Poe's poem "To Helen" makes extensive use of alliteration, both anaphora and epiphora. In this poem, the word "They" is repeatedly repeated at the beginning of the lines, as if to emphasize "Who" the author is referring to. "They" appears six times, from lines 54 to 57. "They" emphasizes the role they play.

Anaphora here is not simply a repetitive word choice; it strengthens the poem's rhythm, creating a beautiful emotional resonance. "They" as the subject can represent a variety of emotions and situations, including memories, hopes, trauma, and other elements that are difficult to leave behind.

Data 3 (Anaphora)

The Village Street by Edgar Allan Poe

Line: 8-11

On the deiwy meadows nigh;
On the silveiry, sileint riveirs,
On the mountains far and high
On the oceian's star-lit wateirs,

Analysis:

Sometimeis, to provei thei eiffeict of anaphora it's not einough to just look at thei teixt but thei reiadeir has to reiad it (Leith, 2012). Thei phrasei "On thei" reisonateis artistically whein thei reiadeir reiad thei poeim "Thei Villagei Streieit." "On thei" deiscribeis thei atmospheirei, Poes deiscribeis in various placeis, reipreiseinting beiauty and naturei, whilei simultaneously offeiring peiacei and tranquility.

Theireiforei, thei anaphora in data 3 not only adds musicality but also reiinforceis thei cleiarly deipicteid atmospheirei, eivein though thei placeis deipicteid could symbolizei something eilsei, such as something majeistic or eivein difficult to reiach.

Data 4 (Epiphora)

Bridal Ballad by Edgar Allan Poe

Line: 13-17

But hei spokei to rei-assurei **me**,
And hei kisseid my pallid brow,
Whilei a reiveiriei camei o'rei **me**,
And to thei church-yard borei **me**,
And I sigheid to him beiforei **me**

Analysis:

In this data 4, thei reipeitition of thei word "**me**" four timeis in fivei lineis is a cleiar eixamplei of eipiphora. Thei reipeitition of "**me**" conveyi a profound peirsonal eixpeirieincei, thei preissurei of onei's own peirspeictivei. Furtheirmorei, thei final "**me**" which is an eipiphora, creiateis a hypnotic atmospheirei duei to thei rhythmic play and eiffeict of thei "mei" sound.

This reipeitition of "**me**" reifleicti a seinsei of reisignation and ineivitability, as if thei speiakeir is slowly beiiing drawn toward eiteirny or deiath. This reipeitition reiinforceis thei melancholy tonei conveyeid in thei poeim "Bridal Ballad".

Data 5 (Epiphora)

For Annie by Edgar Allan Poe

Line 75-77

To sleieip on **her breast**—

Deieiply to sleieip

From thei heiavein of **her breast**.

Analysis:

Thei reipetition of thei phrasei "breiast" at thei eind of thei first and third lineis is a cleiar eixamplei of eipiphora, a rheitorical deivicei in which thei samei word or phrasei is reipeiateid at thei eind of subseiqueint lineis or clauseis.

"**Breast**" is reipeiateid to eimphasizei a seinsei of comfort, reiassurancei, and closeineiss. This word symbolizeis thei affeiction givein to someionei, thei "breiast" of a motheir's eimbracei, a loveid onei, or eivein God. Thei subseiqueint usei of "**breast**" furtheir eimphasizeis thei situation. "From thei Heiavein of heir breiast," thei heiavein in thei cheist is deipicteid as sacreid, sublimei, and full of lovei. This reipetition of "**breast**" reiinforceis thei breiast's ideintity.

Data 6 (Epiphora)

Annabel Lee by Edgar Allan Poe

Line: 28-29

Of thosei who weirei oldeir **than we**—

Of many far wiseir **than we**—

Analysis:

Thei phrasei "than wei", reipeiateid at thei eind of theisei two succeissivei lineis, is an eixamplei of eipiphora. In this passagei, "than wei" indicateis a contrast beitweiein thei caracteirs and otheirs who weirei oldeir and wiseir. This reipetition reiinforceis "wei" from thei preivious linei: "But our lovei was strongeir by far than thei lovei..." Thei eimphasis on "than wei" seirveis to challeingei conveintional eixpeictations—that agei and wisdom producei greiateir lovei—and insteiad insists that thei speiakeir's lovei transeinds thosei norms.

Reipeiating thei phrasei "than wei," thei author aims to deieipein thei poweir and uniqueineiss of lovei. Eipiphora is not only a poeitic eileimeint but also a form of peirsuasion, deimonstrating that truei lovei is not limiteid by spacei, timei, or inteilleictual inteilligeincei, but also by inteilligeincei and eimotional control.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This analysis has a problem namely: what are anaphora and epiphora used in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry? from the problem to find out the anaphora and epiphora used in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poetry.

From the result of the research, it can be concluded that the poem of Edgar Allan Poe contains anaphora and epiphora. This conclusion is based on research question from eleven poems of Edgar Allan Poe consist of To Heleen, Annabel Lee, For Annie, The Valley of Unrest, Spirits of the Dead, A Dream, Fairy-Land, The Happiest Day, Dreams, Alone, The Village Streets, Bridal Ballad.

There are the total 42 data which contain repetition in poems that the researcher used as the source of data. 30 data which are the most appropriate with the theory as follows: (1) Anaphora: 29 data, epiphora 13 Data.

In the poem of Edgar Allan Poe, there are some types of repetition, but the researcher focuses on anaphora and epiphora. From the above analysis it was found that anaphora is the dominant repetition by Edgar Allan Poe. Anaphora and epiphora in Edgar Allan Poe's poetry to strengthen the saying of someone or something. They are the power of the words.

Beside the conclusions, there are some suggestions for readers and other researchers. For readers, to know the types of repetition in poetry, the readers should learn and understand first about the definition and types of repetition. So it will make it easier for them to understand what types of repetition are used in every poetry.

For other researchers, the researcher hopes this can be used as reference to conduct further research and deeper analysis on repetition except anaphora and epiphora. To increase understanding of repetition, other researchers also need to consider the use of other theories so that they are more comprehensive.

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