

## Hyperbolic Analysis Through Song Lyrics Of "Bohemian Rhapsody" By Queen

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**Abstract:** *This study aims to analyze the hyperbolic expression used in the lyric of the song Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen. Qualitative descriptive methods are designed in this study. In the data analysis process, researchers use Creswell's theory. The data source in the study took the lyrics of the song Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen obtained from the internet by downloading the lyrics of the song. This research data are words, phrases, and sentences in song lyrics. Hyperbole is one type of greeting used to enlarge an excessive thing. Based on the results of the study obtained 10 hyperbole expressions contained in the lyrics of the song. There are expressions in the form of words, phrases, and sentences. It can be concluded that in the song Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen made using the expression of hyperbole aims to make interesting songs to be heard and allow listeners to feel the emotions delivered by singers or songwriters such as sadness, extraordinary happiness, or various other feelings.*

**Keywords:** *Hyperbole, Meaning, Song Lyrics*

**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis ekspresi hiperbolik yang digunakan dalam Lirik lagu bohemian rhapsody by queen. Metode deskriptif kualitatif dirancang dalam penelitian ini. Dalam proses analisis data, peneliti menggunakan teori Creswell. Sumber data dalam penelitian mengambil lirik lagu bohemian rhapsody by queen yang didapatkan dari Internet dengan mengunduh lirik dari lagu tersebut. Data penelitian ini adalah kata, frasa, dan kalimat dalam lirik lagu. Hiperbola merupakan salah satu jenis ucapan yang digunakan untuk membesar-besarkan suatu hal dengan berlebihan. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian didapatkan 10 ekspresi hiperbola yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu tersebut. Ada ekspresi dalam bentuk kata, frasa, dan kalimat. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa dalam lagu bohemian rhapsody by queen yang dibuat menggunakan ekspresi hiperbola bertujuan untuk membuat lagu menarik untuk didengar dan memungkinkan pendengar merasakan emosi yang disampaikan oleh penyanyi atau penulis lagu seperti kesedihan, kebahagiaan luar biasa, atau berbagai perasaan lainnya.

**Keyword:** *Hiperbola, Makna, Lirik Lagu*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Linguistics is the study of language scientific studies. In linguistics studying the analysis of language forms, language meaning and language context etc. Therefore, linguistics is very closely related to social, cultural, historical and political factors that affect language, often defines the context of linguistic and linguistic. Learning language as a means of communication, the goal, and how people really use their language can also be learned in linguistics. There are five aspects in linguistics, namely: phonology, morphology, syntax, pragmatic and semantics.

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies meaning. Semantics is said to be part of linguistics because it is a technical term used to refer to the study of meaning, and meaning is part of language. The meaning of reaching many aspects in language, and there is no general agreement about which aspects can be included in the semantics, or how they should be explained. "Systematic study of meaning is called semantics, while the study of how language regulates and expressing meaning is called semantic linguistic." Kreidler (1998: 3).

Further discussion, there are two parts contained in semantic meaning: literal meaning and non-literal meaning. Literal meaning is sourced from the actual words, while the non-literal meaning is the opposite. In addition to using literal meaning of real words, sometimes speakers or writers also have other desires, which are different from the meaning of words expressed by the speaker or writer. So, when the non-literal meaning is used by a speaker or writer in a statement or literary work, it is difficult for listeners and readers to understand what the speaker or writer wants to convey.

Written, compact and clear work that includes human personal experiences expressed in the form of thoughts, feelings, ideas, and interests called literature. Literature is a form of communication that is mediated by giving writers of freedom about their creative imagination. Therefore, literature refers to written works in which there are artistic or intellectual values. This includes various forms of written expressions, including novels, poetry, short stories, songs, etc. In other words in literature containing figurative language. This has the aim to provide entertainment and aesthetic pleasure in literary works.

One part of the popular field of language is the figurative language. A figurative language is used in a writing to have a special effect or feeling. "A figurative language is a striking habit of what is understood by language users as part of the meaning of standard words, or the order of standard words, to achieve some special meanings or effects". (Abrams, 1999: 96). In addition, the dual role is also played by figurative language to show the structure of music, academic discourse, and scientific investigation (Nirwanto et al., 2021). This allows us to be able to communicate the mind complex, empathy, and real meetings by utilizing affiliates, images, and imaginative comparisons (Alfiyani, 2021B). In other words, figurative language is a way to cause emotional feelings in

informative statements and how to convey attitude together with information. The scope of the figurative language can be used in the use of words or phrases in a way that passes through their literal meaning, interacting by adding a layer of depth and context (Datul & Agung, 2023).

Hyperballein is a Greek language which is the origin of the word Hyperbole, which means to throw far or out of reach. The word hyper that has more meaning and the word ballein which means throwing. Hyperbole which means exceeding something to something represented can be greater or less, or involve a greater intensity, compared to real life, or beyond the possibility.

Hyperbole emphasizes a point with a statement containing an excessive thing. This shows that hyperbole is a type of figurative language that contains excessive meaning of the number, measurement or original characteristics (Kennedy and Gioia, 1995). Hyperbole is an international excessive word meaning used by speakers and writers to interpret a point or to emphasize an idea (Johnson, 2011).

Hyperbole is an expression as outlined by writers who exceed literal expressions and contain more semantic attributes to express something (Claridge 2011). This means that hyperbole is part of a language that uses excessive meaning to emphasize certain characteristics of a thing, and especially how it feels. With this hyperbole, it can be used to make a more creative and funny description. It is important to be used as a note that hyperbole is not necessarily taken as literature, listeners or readers know it is excessive. So, hyperbole can be used to communicate all types of feelings and entertain or surprise people with description creativity.

Hyperbole is one of the techniques that exist in literature where information, emotions, or other statements are deliberately enlarged to achieve certain effects. In various cases, excessive literal interpretation is actually not true, but an excessive one serves to emphasize something. In literature, hyperbole can also be used sarcastically or for the sake of humor, although it must be used in general for emphasis. In general, hyperbole is used in a prose to emphasize a point or to provide humor. For example, a writer wants to emphasize a particular topic, they can use hyperbole to enlarge or exaggerate it. In addition, hyperbole can be used to describe a thing to attract attention for example on the quality of the character to be written. To show an important or

emergency thing, the author can use it. Hyperbole is also used in similar matters to emphasize certain actions, feelings, or features and is not intended to be taken literally.

One type of greeting whose meaning is used to enlarge something excessively is called hyperbolic expression. This expression results in something normal in real circumstances can become excessive. Hyperbole is a type of figurative greeting that refers to something but is done by enlarged the original reality to create an impression and strength to influence something that is being discussed. This is used to emphasize or as a way to make a description more creative and funny.

In this study, researchers conducted an analysis using hyperbolic expressions in the song *Bohemian Rhapsody* lyrics by Queen. Researchers chose the lyrics of this song because the song has many hyperbolic expressions that need to be learned to find out the meaning besides this song is also very popular. The objectives of this study are:

1. To find out the hyperbolic expression used in the lyrics of the song *Bohemian Rhapsody* by Queen.
2. To describe the meaning of the hyperbolic expression used in the lyrics of the song *Bohemian Rhapsody* by Queen.

## **2. METHODS**

The qualitative research is used in this study. Words, phrases, and sentences in song lyrics are the data used in this study. While the data source is taken from the lyrics of the song *Bohemian Rhapsody* by Queen. Data collection in this study uses documentation techniques. To analyze the data in this study, namely by: setting and preparing data for analysis, reading all data, starting a detailed analysis with the coding process, using the coding process to produce a description of the background or person as well as the category or theme used for analysis, advance how the description and theme are represented in qualitative descriptive, data analysis involving interpretation or meaning of the data. (Creswell 2014)

## **3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

This research is the study of hyperbolic expression analysis used in the Lyric of the *Bohemian Rhapsody* song by Queen. Researchers focus on hyperbole contained in the lyric of the song. Qualitative methods are used to analyze data in this study. This

qualitative research is used to solve problems and answer the problems in this study. Data collected by downloading soft copy on Google and printing hard copy. The data source in this study uses the lyrics of the song Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen. Creswell (2014) is used in data analysis techniques consisting of data preparation, data reading process, data coding, data description, and interpretation as a conclusion of the analysis. The purpose of this study is to describe the meaning of hyperbolic expressions contained in the lyrics of the song Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen.

After conducting data analysis in the lyrics of the song, there were 10 expressions containing hyperbolic expressions used in the song lyrics of Bohemian Rhapsody. The summary of the expression found can be seen in the following table.

<b>Hyperbolic Lyric</b>	<b>Exaggerated Emotion</b>	<b>Effect on Story Arc</b>
"I'm just a poor boy, nobody loves me"	Helplessness & loneliness	Creates pity, frames him as tragically isolated
"Sometimes wish I'd never been born at all"	Despair & regret	Intensifies guilt, dramatizes hopelessness
"Thunderbolt and lightning, very, very frightening me"	Fear & anxiety	Adds operatic tension and humor
"Spare him his life from this monstrosity"	Danger & desperation	Creates courtroom-like drama, life framed as at stake
"Stone me and spit in my eye"	Persecution & rejection	Portrays martyr-like suffering
"Leave me to die"	Abandonment & hopelessness	Amplifies betrayal into life-or-death stakes
"Beelzebub has a devil put aside for me"	Doom & guilt	Expands personal guilt into cosmic damnation
"Sends shivers down my spine"	Fear & dread	Physical dread reinforces guilt and inevitability
"Nothing really matters"	Nihilism & resignation	Sweeping, detached finale of indifference
"Mama, just killed a man	Violent & Fear	Symbolic act of betrayal or mistake.

The results of this study are in the form of data and findings using qualitative descriptions and focus in this study are hyperbolic expressions contained in the song lyrics of Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen.

Hyperbole is a style of speech that shows something but is done by exaggerating its original reality to increase the impression and strength to influence something that is being discussed. Besides that, Hyperbole is an international excessive word meaning used by speakers and writers to interpret a point or to emphasize an idea (Johnson, 2011). The hyperbolic expression used in the song lyrics of Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen is as follows:

a. *"I'm just a poor boy, nobody loves me"*

In this lyrics it is said to be hyperbolic because it is very impossible that no one loves him at all, someone usually has at least a figure who loves him (family, friends). The statement in this lyrics exaggerates loneliness and helplessness for emotional impacts. The author also dramatized the situation as if to love him at all in this world, this is to increase sympathy. This lyrics make the listener feel sorry for the existing character, frame the character as a tragic isolated person even if it's not literally true.

b. *"Sometimes wish I'd never been born at all"*

It is said to be hyperbolic because this lyrics have a classic expression of despair. Regret felt by many people does not literally mean that they hope that their entire existence never happens, this has an excessive meaning of the true meaning of despair. This lyrics can increase the guilt and self -punishment of the character. In addition, intensifying guilt - as if his mistakes felt very large that he denied the value of his existence.

c. *"Thunderbolt and lightning, very, very frightening me"*

In this lyrics we can see that Guntur and Lightning are natural events that are commonly heard. While they can surprise or frighten some people, in this lyrics describe them as a very, very scary thing and this is excessive. This lyrics are used for dramatic and almost funny effects to intensify that are related to mood. Adding related to tension. The real fear is normal but exaggerated by strengthening into a theatrical panic, making the moment dramatic and almost funny.

d. *"Spare him his life from this monstrosity"*

The word "Monstrosity" is too excessive used in this lyrics. This illustrates the situation as if it was a very terrible and strange power that threatened his life. This lyrics exaggerate the danger to make a courtroom scene like a more dramatic opera.

Too excessive because it makes the vibration of the courtroom/opera where his life is framed because it hung in a balance of some "terrible" fate.

e. "Stone me and spit in my eye"

The meaning of throwing stones and spitting is an extreme punishment that is not true in reality. This exaggerates the persecution, describing himself as a victim of the rejection of violence, which intensifies a dramatic conflict. Positioning speakers as martyr figures, suffering from extreme assessments, which increase conflict. This lyrics are said to be hyperbolic because they exaggerate from a persecution in the form of throwing stones and spit, this causes a very deep pity for the listener. As if they were in the position of character being punished.

f. "Leave me to die"

Being abandoned does not have to cause death, but in this lyrics the rejection or betrayal is framed in the most extreme way. This might give loneliness to the problems of life or death. Strengthen betrayal. Instead of rejection is a simple thing in the true sense, but it is framed as a problem of life and death, encouraging further drama. This illustrates an excessive seseutu because not all rejections are resolved in an ectestrim way that is ending life in this world.

g. "Beelzebub has a devil put aside for me"

It is said to be hyperbolic because this is excessive, mitologically excessive. This implies that he is very guilty or destined so that even high demons (Beelzebub) personally have ordered the devil for him. This is clearly not literal, but that increases the sense of curse. Expanding his personal conflict into the proportion of cosmic - his sins feel so great that even Satan is preparing it. This is excessive, because in reality Satan is only a myth in life, but by including this element makes this song feel alive.

h. "Sends shivers down my spine"

This lyrics show an expression of fear or guilt that can cause physical reactions, this phrase enlarged in reality. It dramatized the body's response to fear, making it sound extraordinary and like a theater. Making physical emotions extraordinary, strengthening the intensity of his mistakes and inevitable from his fate.

i. "Nothing really matters"

Saying nothing is important at all is an excessive thing from despair and nihilism. In fact, even people who feel hopeless usually still care about something. Here, the excessive thing underlines the feeling of use and resignation of the character. Creating a sweeping and philosophical ending by enlarged -raising indifference, the character seems free and tragically released.

j. "Mama just killed a man"

In the lyrics of "Mama, just killing a man" is hyperbole for enlarged raising guilt and regretting through an extreme image of murder. The author is likely to be not true -killing someone, but instead uses this expression of violence to symbolize a terrible mistake or emotional damage that feels the same cannot be changed such as taking life. By choosing the word "killed", lyrics intensify drama and make emotions sound bigger than life, which is the core of hyperbole.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the hyperbolic expression in the chosen song lyrics, the Bohemian Rhapsody by Queens, based on the focus of the problem, the formulation of the problem, the purpose of the study and the significance of the study can be concluded that in the song lyrics of Bohemian Rapsodi have hyperbolic expressions. Found 10 hyperbolic expressions in the lyrics of the song. Based on the results of the analysis conducted by the researcher, researchers concluded that each song lyrics were made by hyperbole figurative language to make interesting songs to be heard and allow listeners to feel the emotions delivered by singers or songwriters such as deep sadness, extraordinary happiness, or various other feelings. The meaning of hyperbolic exaggerating sadness is used to make songs more interesting. Using High Demons (Beelzebub) includes the mythical element in the lyrics of the song, making the listener feel extraordinary fear.

From the results of the study above answering the questions from this study, there were 10 hyperbolic expressions found in the song lyrics of Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen and explain the meaning of the hyperbolic expression used in the song lyrics. From the conclusions of this study, researchers want to provide advice related to the results of this study.

1. It is expected that the listener is advised to understand the meaning of the lyrics.
2. For further research, this research can be used as a basis for further research, in particular, which is related to semantics.

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