

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

Linguistics is a science that focuses on language. Studying and analyzing the intricacies of language is the role of linguistics. Linguistics helps the people to understand language. This knowledge about linguistics can be applied to improving communication between people and improving critical thinking and analyzing skills. Therefore, linguistics is very helpful for humans in communicating and finding the meaning better. Linguistics has many parts; the study of sounds (phonology), the study of formation of words (morphology), the study of the unspoken meaning of speech that is separate from literal meaning of what is said (pragmatics), the study of grammatical structure (syntax), semantics, etc.

Semantics is the study of the meaning used to understand human expression through language. Semantics is the systematic study of meaning and how languages organize and express meanings. Semantics is the study of word and sentence meaning. Meaning in semantics is understanding a sentence through linguistics meaning. Semantics increase people's understanding and awareness of word and sentence meaning. Basically, figurative language is a part of semantics. Whereas, both of them discussed the meaning of words or sentences.

Figurative language is a part of semantics that used words to convey and acquire meaning. It is used when someone says or writes something to create a broad meaning. Figurative language is when people describe something by comparing it to something else. It is phrasing that goes beyond the literal

meaning of words to get message or meaning. By using figurative language, people can evoke their emotions and imagination from their works. Figurative language can be found in various works, such as novels, poems, short stories, films, songs, etc.

In this study, the writer is interested in analyzing figurative language in a song. Sometimes without realizing it, people listen to songs without knowing the meaning in the lyrics, especially when there is figurative language. Therefore, this study used data from K-Pop (Korean Pop) songs. The writer has listened to many songs, such as Indonesian or Western songs, but K-Pop songs are more interesting to listen to. Moreover, K-Pop songs are currently global and favored by many people. By analyzing the figurative language of the songs, readers or listeners can find out the meaning of the song lyrics found in K-Pop songs. Therefore, the writer is very interested in doing this study because then the use of figurative language in various workd can be known by many people.

According to Abrams in Suryanto (2018:40 ), there are 16 types of figurative. They are Simile, Synecdoche, Metaphor, Metonymy, Hyperbole, Personification, Paradox, Sarcasm, Allegory, Allusion, Antithesis, Apostrophe, Epithet, Euphemism, Symbol, Irony.

Based on the explanations above, the writer intends to conduct the study entitled **“An Analysis of Figurative Language in the Song Lyrics of Map of the Soul: 7 Album”**

## **1.2 The Problem of the Study**

Based on the background of the study above, the problem is formulated as follows: What types of figurative language are found in the song lyrics of Map of the Soul: 7 album?

## **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the purpose of the research is to find out the types of figurative language in the song lyrics of Map of the Soul: 7 album.

## **1.4 The Scope of the Study**

Based on the background, the writer limits this study to focus on the types of figurative language found in BTS song lyrics. The writer chooses the album "Map of the Soul: 7". There are 19 songs in the album. This album was released on February 21, 2020.

## **1.5 The Significances of the Study**

The findings of this study are expected to make a good contribution to the readers :

### **1. Theoretically**

Linguistics is a science that focuses on language and its use as a means of communication. Hopefully, the results of this study may be useful in education study, particularly about figurative language in song lyrics.

## **2. Practically**

### **a. The Writer**

As a way to expand the writer's understanding of figurative language.

### **b. For Lecturers**

To inspire them in teaching figurative language.

### **c. For English Department Students**

As a good reference for other students who are interested in conducting studies on figurative language analysis.

### **d. Other Researchers**

As an additional reference for other researchers who want to conduct further research about figurative language in different objects.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

#### **2.1 Theoretical Framework**

#### **2.2 Linguistics**

Linguistics is a science that focuses on language and its use as a means of communication. According to Crystal (2008:283), “The scientific study of language; also called linguistic science”. Abrams (1999:140) “Linguistics is the systematic study of the elements of language and the principles governing their combination and organization”. Linguistics aims to discover the science of language, how they originate and evolve. It is concerned with identifying the aspects, such as the meaning, form and context language.

Robins (1964:2), “Linguistics is concerned with human language as a universal and recognizable part of human behavior and of the human faculties, perhaps one of the most essential to human life as we know it, and one of the most far-reaching of human capabilities in relation to the whole span of mankind's achievements”. Linguistics can be defined as the systematic inquiry of human language, into their structure, meaning, uses and the relationship between them.

They can be concluded that linguistics is concerned with identifying the meaning of languages. It is concerned with describing how languages can express meaning. Studying linguistics makes people familiar with the different components that make up a language. To found out the components in language, linguistics has been dividing into several branches. There are phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, pragmatics, and semantics.

### **2.3 Semantics**

Knowing the meaning of language is very important. If someone does not know the meaning of each word or sentence that people use, it is impossible to understand what they mean. To understand that meaning, people need to know semantics.

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning contained in a language. Semantic is the study about meaning in language. Griffiths (2006:6), "Semantics is the study of sentences meaning and word meaning". Further Kreidler (2002:59), "Semantics is the study of meaning through a consideration of the conditions that must exist for a sentence to be true, and how the truth of one sentence relates to the truth or falsity of other sentences".

They can be summarized that semantics is the study of the meaning of words and sentences and how language organizes and expresses meaning. Semantics attempts to study the attribution of meaning to words, and how these are combined to produce complex meaning.

### **2.4 Figurative Language**

Figurative language refers to words or phrases which do not represent exactly what is written or spoken. Figurative language is rarely used in our daily conversation. Figurative language is often found in literary works, such as: novels, poems, songs etc. Figurative language is the use of words that go beyond their ordinary meaning. It requires you to use your imagination to figure out the author's meaning.

According to Abrams (1999:96), "Figurative language is a conspicuous departure from what users of a language apprehend as the standard meaning of

words, or else the standard order of words, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect”. When the authors used figurative language in their works, they usually “deceive” the language because the authors wanted to create an implicit meaning through their works. Arvius (2003:30), “the interest in figurative meanings, or tropes, has in many ways been inspired by the kind of approach to human experiences, behaviour, and mental capacities that we find within the general”. Based on the experiences of people or the authors, it is easier to use figurative language to convey their messages or meaning to others.

The writer concludes that figurative language is the language that uses words to express meaning. It is typically showing the personality and experiences of someone. Someone used figurative language to produce images in readers or listeners minds and to express their ideas in fresh and imaginative ways. The use of figurative language is intended to make someone's speech more attractive and sound beautiful because it contains meaningful words with very broad meanings.

## **2.5 Types of Figurative Language**

According to Abrams (1999), there are 16 types of figurative language. They are Simile, Synecdoche, Metaphor, Metonymy, Hyperbole, Personification, Paradox, Sarcasm, Allegory, Allusion, Antithesis, Apostrophe, Epithet, Euphemism, Symbol, and Irony.

### **2.5.1 Simile**

A simile is a direct comparison between things, which are not particularly similar in their sense . Abrams (1999:97) defined that simile is figurative language that makes a comparison between two different things using words such as "like" or "as". Simile is a

comparison of two different things but considered has the same meaning. Simile is a trope which like metaphor describes one thing by comparing it with another, suggesting similarities between them, although they are also clearly different. Simile usually using the word as, than, like, seem, so, appear, more than.

Examples :

1. She's as sweet as honey.

Explanation : . The sentence used "as" to express a person's physique like the beauty of roses.

2. She is pretty like a rose

Explanation : This sentences use the words "like" to express a person's behavior and compared to the sweetness of honey

### 2.5.2 Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a meaning shift in the use of a lexeme or a longer expression within a part-whole relationship. Synecdoche language is a language that expresses a part of a whole or expresses a whole for a part. According to Abrams (1999:98), synecdoche (Greek for "taking together"), a part of something is used to signify the whole, or (more rarely) the whole is used to signify a part.

Examples :

1. England won the match.

Explanation :\_The first example, the word of *England* express a whole for a part that is the Great Britain.

2. Give us this day our daily bread



Explanation : The second example the *bread* express for a part of a whole that is food.

### 2.5.3 Metaphor

Metaphor is the one of types of figurative language that makes comparison between two things that are different to identify one with another. In a metaphor, a word or expression that in literal usage denotes one kind of thing is applied to a distinctly different kind of thing, without asserting a comparison (Abrams, 1999:97).

Metaphor can describe

Examples :

1. *Argument* is a *war*.

Explanation : Metaphor is a creative way to express something.

“*Argument is war*”, there is a verbal battle, is one that we live in this era. Arguments are understood and talked about as a war.

2. His *tears* were a *river* flowing down his cheeks.

Explanation : The second sentence, “*as a river is so much l*

*arger than a few tears*”, it's a unique way of expressing how much the person is crying.

### 2.5.4 Metonymy

Metonymy is a kind of figurative language in which the name of one object or idea is substituted for that of another closely associated with it. Abrams (1999:98) stated that in metonymy (Greek for "a change of name") the literal term for one thing is

applied to another with which it has become closely associated because of a recurrent relationship in common experience. The name of a place, for instance, can be metonymically used about the people who live or work in it.

Examples :

1. Jimin was washing his *Honda*

Explanation : The first example, the means of *Honda* is a motorcycle, he don't use word motorcyle, but mention the label.

2. My father drank a glass of *Kapal Api* this morning

Explanation : This is also the sama in the second example, the means of *Kapal Api* is a coffee.

### 2.5.5 Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a figurative language technique where exaggeration is used to create a strong effect. Abrams (1999:120), stated that hyperbole (Greek for "overshooting") is bold overstatement, or the extravagant exaggeration of fact or of possibility. Hyperbole is the the type of figurative language that explains something more exaggeratedly than the original.

Examples :

1. I will waiting you for a *thousand years*

Explanation : The means of example is the word “*thousand years*” is an exaggeration. It is possible for someone to life until a thousand years

2. He's going to *die of embarrassment*.

Explanation : Next example, “*die of embarrassment*”, this does mean that the boy will become unwell or his heart will stop beating as a result of his embarrassment. Instead, the speaker is using hyperbole to stress how embarrassed he will be.

### 2.5.6 Personification

Personification is the kind of figurative language that describes something that is not human as though it could feel, think, act, live, or die in the same way as people. This type giving the attributes of a human being to an animal, an object, or an idea. When an inanimate entity or an abstract concept is spoken of as if it were born with life, human qualities, or emotions, this is known as personification (Abrams, 1999:99). Personification is the one of the types of figurative language that portrays something that isn't human as though it might feel, think, behave, live, or die in the same way that people do.

Examples :

1. *The leaves danced* on the wind

Explanation : In these examples, the leaves is the thing. So, the leaves can't dance.

2. *The moon smiled* at me.

Explanation : The second sentence, the moon are thing. So, the moon can't smile. But, their are given the characteristics of human.

### 2.5.7 Paradox

Paradox is a statement which seems on its face to be logically contradictory or absurd, yet turns out to be interpretable in a way that makes good sense (Abrams, 1999:201). Paradox is apparently a self-contradictory statement. The underlying meaning of which is revealed only by careful scrutiny. The purpose of paradox is to get attention and provoke fresh thought.

Examples :

1. You have to be cruel to be kind

Explanation : “Cruel to be kind” is to cause someone pain for his/her own good, this is a paradox.

2. Save money by spending it

Explanation : The sentence “save money by spending it”, it seems strange and illogical, but it can be true.

### 2.5.8 Sarcasm

Sarcasm in common parlance is sometimes used as an equivalent for all forms of irony, but it is far more useful to restrict it only to the crude and taunting use of apparent praise for dispraise (Abrams, 1999:136). Sarcasm is a sharp or bitter remark intended

to hurt someone's feelings. Mainly, people use it to say the opposite of what's true to make someone look or feel foolish.

Examples :

1. When something is uninteresting and you say: *“I’m delighted that I get to be here for the next few hours.”*

Explanation : The sentence *“I’m delighted that I get to be here for the next few hours”* means that when something uninteresting and someone says that. Sarcasm tends to be harsher than irony, which can lead to embarrassment and humiliation. The context in the sentence explains how sarcasm is.

2. When someone puts on too much perfume: *“Nice perfume! How long did you marinate in it?”*.

Explanation : *“Nice perfume.! How long did you marinate in it?”*, when someone puts on too much perfume and someone said that.

### 2.5.9 Allegory

An allegory is a narrative, whether in prose or verse, in which the agents and actions, and sometimes the setting as well, are contrived by the author to make coherent sense on the literal or primary level of significance and at the same time to signify a second, correlated order of significance. (Abram 1999:5). An author may use allegory to illustrate a moral or spiritual truth, or

political or historical situation. However, allegories are complete stories with characters.

Examples :

1. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

Explanation : George Orwell's *Animal Farm* is one of literature's most famous allegories. The story is about a group of farm animals who rise up, kick out the humans, and try to run the farm themselves. The hidden story, however, is about the Russian Revolution, and each of the characters represents some figure from that revolution.

#### 2.5.10 Allusion

Allusion is a passing reference, without explicit identification, to a literary or historical person, place, or event, or to another literary work or passage (Abrams, 1999:9). Most allusions serve to illustrate or expand upon or enhance a subject, but some are used in order to undercut it ironically by the discrepancy between the subject and the allusion. Abrams defined allusion as a brief reference, explicit or indirect, to a person, place or event, or to another literary work or passage.

Examples :

1. I met a man who was romantic and a true *Romeo*

Explanation : The first example, alludes to Romea in Romeo and Juliet story by William Shakespeare.

2. We got a *new Einstein* in school today

Explanation : For the second, “*new Einstein*” means that person smart like Albert Einstein.

### 2.5.11 Antithesis

Antithesis is a contrast or opposition in the meanings of contiguous phrases or clauses that manifest parallelism—that is, a similar word-order and structure—in their syntax. Antithesis, which literally means “opposite,” is the two opposite ideas that are put together in a sentence to achieve a contrasting effect (Abrams, 1999:11)

Examples :

1. Better to *reign* in *Hell* than *serve* in *Heaven*.

Explanation : The contrasting ideas of reign-serve, and Hell-Heaven are placed in this sentence to achieve an antithetical effect.

2. Setting foot on the moon may be a *small step* for a man but a *giant step* for mankind.

Explanation : The use of contrasting ideas, “a small step” and “a giant step,” in the sentence above emphasizes the significance of one of the biggest landmarks of human history.

### 2.5.12 Apostrophe

An apostrophe is a direct and explicit address either to an absent person or to an abstract or nonhuman entity. Often the effect is of high formality, or else of a sudden emotional impetus. (Abrams, 1999:271). When a character in a literary work speaks to

an object, an idea, or someone who doesn't exist as if it is a living person. This is done to produce dramatic effect and to show the importance of the object or idea.

Examples :

1. *Car*, please *get me to work* today

Explanation : The first sentence, show how important the object is for someone's day and produce dramatic effect for the car which is an inanimate object.

2. *This is my letter to the world*

Explanation : "*This is my letter to the world*", this sentence isn't exactly address the letter to every single person in this world. Also, the world is absent in action because it never give someone any feedback.

### 2.5.13 Epithet

Epithet is a phrase or adjective which is used to express a quality or characteristic which can be attributed, rightly or wrongly, to a person or thing. Epithet denotes an adjective or adjectival phrase used to define a distinctive quality of a person or thing (Abrams, 1999:82).

Examples :

1. Daddy *Longlegs*

Explanation : The first example, is the epithet commonly used for Opiliones spiders.

2. *Alexander* the *great*



Explanation : The word “the great” is an epithet for Alexander. Epithets take a particular characteristic or description of a subject and use it to replace the subject’s actual name.

#### **2.5.14 Euphemism**

An inoffensive expression used in place of a blunt one that is felt to be disagreeable or embarrassing. Euphemisms are used frequently with reference to such subjects as religion, death and sex (Abrams, 1999:83). Euphemism is an inoffensive expression used in place of a blunt one that is felt to be disagreeable or embarrassing. Therefore, euphemisms are classified as figurative language, which is the "use of words in an unusual or imaginative manner."

Examples :

1. *He has passed away*

Explanation : The first example, *“He has passed away”*, euphemism for he has died.

2. *She is knocked up*

Explanation : *“She is knocked up”*, euphemism for she is pregnant. Euphemism can be used to soften tough news or uncomfortable ideas

#### **2.5.15 Symbol**

The term "symbol" is applied only to a word or phrase that signifies an object or event which in its turn signifies something, or

has a range of reference, beyond itself. (Abrams 1999:311). In the broadest sense a symbol is anything which signifies something. Symbol can be personal emotions or phenomena can be evoked in an indirect and optional way through symbolic for instance in literary language.

Examples :

1. Someone has painted a swastika on their door.

Explanation : Swastika in Asia as a symbol of good fortune.

Placing the swastika on the doorstep is a way of extending good wishes to all who come through our home.

2. She is my rock

Explanation : The second example, rock signifies she's strong and dependable.

### **2.5.16 Irony**

Irony is the use of words to convey a meaning that is opposite of what is actually said . In most of the modern critical uses of the term 'irony' there remains the root sense of dissembling or hiding what is actually the case; not, however, in order to deceive, but to achieve special rhetorical or artistic effects (Abrams, 1999:135). Irony is a way of speaking or writing by saying something while the meaning is another. It refers to a situation in which reality differs from appearance. It occurs in sentences or words when they imply contrast or opposite meaning.

Examples :

1. "Thank you Officer, now that you have my license I can't drive"

Explanation : The first example, irony for a driver whose license was confiscated by a traffic officer.

2. "How nice!"

Explanation : The word of "how nice", is for someone has to work all weekend.

## 2.6 Song and Lyrics

A song is a musical composition composed for the human voice to perform. Song is one of the most popular literary works, it also the most preferable and very close to the people in society because they not only get fun from, brought into large, close and fresh relation to life but also songs are used to express points of view, talk about history, about society or about someone's life. Songs are used also to inspire the people that are listening to them or even change their mind. In expressing the experience, the author of songs uses words and language to create interest and uniqueness in the lyrics. According to Hornby in Lubis (2019:3), "Song is a short piece of music with words that you sing". Songs can be sung solo, both (duet), three (trio) or the rollicking (koir).

Lyrics is a set of verses and choruses that make up a full song. According to Hornby in Lubis (2019:3), stated that the lyrics is expressing a person's personal feeling and thoughts, connected with singing and written for a lyric poem is the words of a song. A lyric is a person expression of the writer's feelings or thoughts. A lyric is a piece of writing created by someone who uses their imagination to

create beautiful words with significant meaning. The combination of lyrics and music would make a fantastic song that is agreeable to the ear.

## **2.7 BTS (Bangtan Sonyeondan)**

BTS (in Korean: Bangtan Sonyeondan), also known as the Bangtan Boys, is a seven-member South Korean boyband that began formation in 2010 and debuted in 2013 under Hybe Label. The septet is composed of Kim Namjoon as a leader, Kim Seokjin, Min Yoongi, Jung Hoseok, Park Jimin, Kim Taehyung, and Jeon Jungkook. BTS can become a worldwide boyband now because of the members' efforts in creating songs on their albums. Starting from 2013 until now, they have released 15 Korean albums, there are 2 Cool 4 Skool (2013), Dark & Wild (2014), Love Yourself: Answer (2018), Map Of The Soul: Persona (2019), and also Map Of The Soul: 7 (2020).

BTS released Map of the Soul: 7 album on February 21, 2020. Map Of The Soul: 7 album tells about the past seven years of BTS since their debut as seven members of one team. Their journey was not smooth sailing, and there were special travails that they had to endure in their rise as global superstars. This album has 19 songs, there are (1) Interlude: Shadow, (2) Outro: Ego, (3) Intro: Persona, (4) My Time, (5) Black Swan, (6) On, (7) Filter, (8) Friends, (9 ) Moon, (10) Inner Child, (11) 00:00, (12) Respect, (13) UGH !, (14) We Are Bulletproof: The Eternal, (15) Jamais Vu, (16) Dionysus, (17 ) Make It Right, (18) Boy With Luv and (19) Louder Than Bombs.

## 2.8 Previous Study

There are several studies that have been done previously by some writers that are relevant to this study. To prove the authenticity of this study the writer wants to present the previous study that deals with figurative language.

Bradhiansyah Tri Suryanto (2018) in “Figurative Language and Five Main Values of Character Education in Indonesia Song”. This study focused to analyzed the words, phrases, sentences in the lyrics of songs in Bon Jovi album of Bon Jovi and to found out kinds of figurative language used in the lyrics and its values in term of the values in education character in Indonesia based on Peraturan Presiden (PP) Number 87. Year 2017. The writer used Abrams (1999). The result obtained there were nine kinds of figurative language found out that consisted of the five main values of education character in Indonesia. They are Epithets, Euphemism, Hyperbole, Irony, Metaphor, Personification, Simile, Symbol, and Synecdoche with the character education values are religious, nationalist, independence, mutual cooperation, and integrity.

Furthermore, Syafitri and Marlinton (2018) in their study “An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Edgar Allan Poe’s Poems” noted 96 figurative languages in Edgar Allan Poe’s poems which specified each 8 figurative language proposed by Leech’s theory (1981). The objective of this study was to describe kinds and meanings of figurative language used in Edgar Allan Poe’s poems. From eight types of figurative language, the most dominant one was personification with 25 frequency. The conclusion of this study suggested that Edgar Allan Poe’s poems were important to be read because the poems were rich

with the use of figurative language which could attract the readers' attention and evoke readers' imagination.

“Figurative Language of Cinema's World in Joko Widodo's Speech” was conducted by Sundari and Ervina (2020). The writer used Perrine (1963). The purpose of this study was to analyzed and describe the figure of speech in Joko Widodo's speech, the types of figurative language and its meaning of the speech. They found that there were nine figurative languages in Joko Widodo's speech, there were 7 Allusions, 1 Metaphor, and 1 Assonance. The writer concluded that the speech used an alternative to imply the literal meaning which can attract the readers and listeners' attention and evoke their imagination.

These studies have been reviewed and conclude that what distinguishes this study is the object and theory used. The journal done by Sundari and Ervina used Perrine's theory (1863) to found figurative language in speech by Joko Widodo as an object. The journal done by Syafitri and Marlinton used Poems by Edgar Allan Poe as an object of their journal and used Leech's (1981) as a theory. The last journal by Tri Suryanto used Abrams (1999) theory and songs for his journal, the writer does not only look for the figurative language but also analyzes the values of education character based on Peraturan Pemerintah (PP) Number 87 Year 2017. Among those studies, the writer is interested to know more about figurative language in song lyrics especially in Korean Pop songs. In this study, the writer presents an analysis of figurative language in the *Map of the Soul: 7* album of BTS. The writer only focuses on finding out the types of figurative language in the song lyrics.

## 2.9 Conceptual Framework

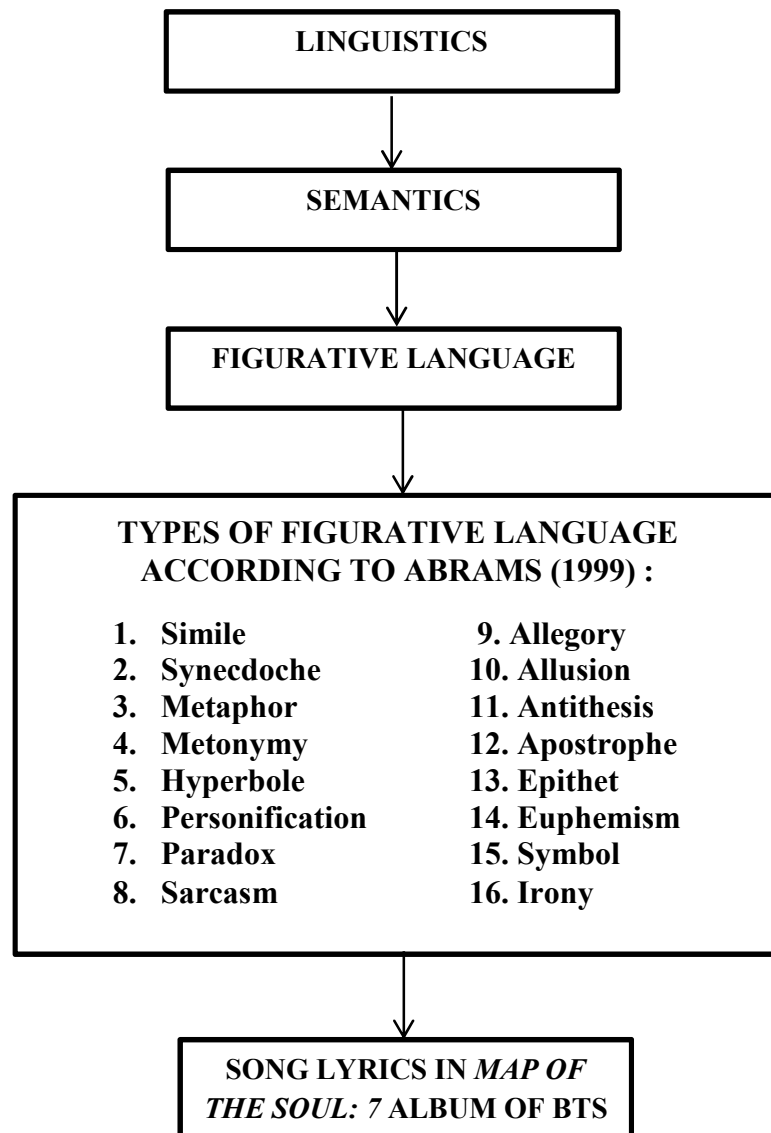


Figure 1. (Nainggolan, Feby., 2021) An Analysis of Figurative Language in the Song Lyrics of *Map of the Soul: 7* Album

## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Research Design

This study used descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive research is used to identify and obtain information on a particular issue, such as community, situation or phenomenon. Descriptive research answer the questions what, who, where, how, and when. According to Fraenkel, Wallen & Hyun (2012: 17), “the term qualitative research refers to studies that investigate the quality of relationships, activities, situations, or materials”. Qualitative research is procedures of the research which produces descriptive data in the form of written words or oral words about the object that is observed.

#### 3.2 The Source of Data and Data

The data of this study are BTS song lyrics in the *Map of the Soul: 7* album. The data included words, phrases, or sentences contained in the lyrics. The writer used a translation of the lyrics from Korean to English because the song's lyrics are not totally in English. The writer got the data from the internet.

#### 3.3 The Technique of Collecting Data

The writer has taken the data using the following procedures :

1. Downloaded the BTS song of the album Map of the Soul: 7
2. Transcribed the lyrics of BTS songs from the album Map of the Soul: 7
3. Underlined the song lyrics that contain of figurative language

#### 3.4 The Technique of Analyzing Data

The writer has analyzed the data using the following steps:



1. Classified the data that contain figurative language based on Abrams's theory.

Draw conclusion