

Figurative Languages and Their Meaning Found in the Rachael Lippincott's Novel *Five Feet Apart*

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Abstract. This research seeks to identify the forms of figurative language present in Rachael Lippincott's novel *Five Feet Apart* and to explain the meanings of the identified figurative language. This research employed a qualitative methodology. The primary instrument was the researcher herself. The researcher employed the content analysis methodology. The study indicates that five forms of figurative language exist out of twelve, according to Perrine's theory. The figures of speech include personification, metaphor, exaggeration, metonymy, and simile. Personification constitutes the predominant form of figurative language, appearing in 27 of the 69 phrases. The prevalent sort of figurative language in the novel is personification, which plays a crucial role in expressing the meanings of various figurative expressions. The novel explores the emotions (fear, anxiety, pain, anger, joy) experienced by the characters in the novel.

Keywords : Figurative language, Five Feet Apart, Semantics study

1. INTRODUCTION

A study of linguistic meaning is termed semantics. The English term semantics originates from the Greek terms *semantikos*, meaning "significant," and *semainein*, which translates to "to show," "to signify," or "to indicate by sign." *Sema* signifies "sign." Semantics, a subfield of linguistics, examines the meaning of codes, sentences, or other representational entities. Semantics is described as the study of meaning, a characteristic of formal logic, and the structural representation of meaning in the source language [1]. The study of semantics explores more into the usage, environment, and culture that influence meaning. Through the integration of syntax, pragmatics, and language itself, semantics is the key to unlocking a knowledge of the linguistic universe. Semantics is the principal subfield of linguistics committed to the analysis of semantics in language [2]. Semantics pertains to the meanings of individual words within a language, as well as the meanings that arise from the various combinations of these words. Semantics is the methodical examination of meaning, whereas linguistic semantics concentrates on the organisation and expression of meaning within languages, with linguistic meaning originating from linguistic form. Semantics is the examination of meaning, it involves understanding the codes found in language and the patterns used to create more complicated meanings, all the way up to the level of sentence meaning [3].

Semantics is a subfield of linguistics that concentrates on the comprehension of word and phrase meanings [4]. Semantics is the language discipline that examines the meanings of words, sentences, phrases and morphemes. Semantics is the study of meaning in language [5]. Semantics is defined as the study of meaning, including the structural understanding of meaning in natural language and the formal logical characteristics of these structures [1]. Kate Kearns defines semantics is defined as "the examination of the literal significance of words and the implications of their combinations, which collectively form the foundational basis of meaning, or the point of origin from which the complete meaning of a specific utterance is derived." [6].

A novel is a well-known literary work in and of itself. A novel is an example of literature that depicts human behavior through written language as well as cultural, social, ethical, and educational qualities for the readers [7]. A novel is a literary composition in which the author articulates human existence in their own language [8]. Furthermore, a type of written language that lacks adherence to the conventional structures of poetry [9]. Fiction refers to narratives or reports that are not based on reality [9]. A novel

has an extensive story that goes into extensive detail about how the relationships between the characters in the novel evolve. Literary works are the product of the author's semi-conscious ideas and essence, which are subsequently processed and turned into a conscious form [10]. The novel urges the reader to immerse oneself in the tale as though they were part of another world. When creating novels, the author uses figurative language to evoke emotion in readers. A novel is a lengthy prose narrative in which the author seeks to elicit the sensation of immersion during the reading experience. [11]. Incorporating figurative language within the book is essential, as it seeks to elicit particular effects in the expressions [11]. Figurative language is a linguistic style employed by the speaker to evoke emotions and encourage the listener to take action [12]. Figurative language represents a significant deviation from the conventional meanings of words or their normal arrangement, employed to fulfil a particular objective. Figurative language relates to both oral and written discourse [13].

A novel is a historical record of the evolution of words over time. Words might have various meanings based on how they were used because of their dynamic movement. Novels, among other literary works, are undeniably attractive because they allow readers to spend time themselves in the lives of people and stories. However, despite novels' established status in literary culture, their complexity as a medium for expression and an artistic form continues to be a fascinating area of analysis. A novel is a work of literary art in which reality and fantasy combine. A novel is more than just a bunch of words on a page; it offers readers new viewpoints, fosters empathy, and broadens their understanding. The novel's force comes from its use of language as much as its story. A writer employs language to evoke feelings and meaning, allowing the reader to engage in genuine fantasy.

The previous study was about finding contextual meaning on the phrase or clause [14]-[16], the figurative meaning pragmatically [17]-[19]. Figurative language refers to expressions that are not meant to be taken literally, meaning that meanings must be understood through interpretation [20]. Figurative language also found in fiction story, the author wanted to reader find the message [21]-[24] refers to words or sentences that convey meanings other than those of the primary statement. Mastering figurative language is crucial for students, enabling them to select appropriate expressions to convey their meanings in English [25]. Nonetheless, the meaning and message are frequently communicated indirectly or implicitly, making it challenging for the reader to articulate the message [26]. Figurative language is employed in the performing arts to express thoughts, emotions, and ideas indirectly rather than directly [27]. Its purpose is to elevate the aesthetic quality of literary works and evoke specific atmospheres and feelings [28]. Figurative language refers to the incorporation of figures of speech in a literary work, sometimes termed *style of language*. [29].

Figurative language is characterized as the utilization of a word or phrase to communicate a topic without clear explanation or illustration [30]. Figurative language is described as language that employs words or idioms whose meanings diverge from their literal interpretations [31]. Figurative language is ubiquitous in many types of communication, encompassing everyday conversations, advertisements, poetry, literature, and novels [32]. It is hardly seen in everyday discourse and publications. A phrase is commonly understood to have two meanings: literal and metaphorical. The unequivocal inference is that it is identical to the original. Connotative meaning is equivalent to figurative meaning. This pertains to clarifying an ambiguous statement, as most nouns have many definitions. Figures of speech are often utilized in metaphorical circumstances [33]. Figurative language, being persuasive, may augment knowledge, understanding, and contextual relevance while maintaining reader engagement [34].

Figurative language can be utilized easily in poetry, prose, and nonfiction writing, including novels. Figurative languages are an additional means of giving language more depth [35].

Perrine's theory identifies twelve forms of figurative language: synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, hyperbole, litotes, irony, paradox, apostrophe, simile, metaphor, and personification: Simile is a linguistic style that use direct comparison terms to convey something else. A simile is a metaphorical statement in which two completely distinct items are compared because they appear to have at least one quality. Similes can also be used to explain language or increase caution [36]. Metaphor is a language style that compares two things that have similar characteristic with the figurative word is called an analog comparison. A metaphor is an *Implicit statement of something meaning something else literally*. It doesn't make use of conjunctions like or as [37]. Personification is a linguistic approach that draws parallels between animate entities and living beings by depicting them in a comparable manner. A personification is a literary technique wherein inanimate things, abstractions, beings, and concepts are endowed with human form, traits, or sensitivity. [36].

Synecdoche is a part used to represent the whole or vice versa. Synecdoche is a kind of metonymy. Synecdoche is described as "the use of a part of something to represent the entirety or the entirety to represent a part." [6]. Metonymy is a language style that uses other terms to convey ideas because those

words are closely related and are accepted or acknowledged. As an alternative, consider a name that is characteristic or that of an object connected to a person, object, or other object. A metonymy is a method of rhetoric that uses an expression closely linked to the intended object [36]. Symbol represents a specific objective reality. Symbolism refers only to a word or phrase that denotes an item or event, hence imparting meaning or encompassing a range of connotations beyond its literal understanding [38]. Allegory is the fundamental meaning diverges from the description provided. An allegory is a tale that conveys a different meaning. The importance of it differs from its representation. An allegory is a brief narrative that employs figurative language [39].

Hyperbole is a language style that exposes or exaggerates the truth. Hyperbole, along with other literary figures, often reflects personal values and emotions; it presents subjective assertions that, despite their extreme exaggeration, remain unverifiable until we explore individuals' perceptions of the subjects to whom the claims pertain [36]. Litotes is a style of language that uses the expression of quality degradation to humiliate itself [40]. The term "litotes" is a form of understatement when the speaker employs a negative expression instead of a more assertive and straightforward positive one. Irony is a language style of expressing meaning that contradicts its true meaning. Irony is described as a rhetorical device that includes a statement with actual significance [37]. Paradox is a language style that seemingly contradictory statement that is nonetheless true [38]. Paradox is a statement that initially appears logically contradictory or irrational yet may be comprehended rationally upon further examination. Apostrophe is absent individuals or inhuman entities seem to be there and attentive to the conversation. An apostrophe is a method of rhetoric that involves addressing a deceased person or an inanimate thing as if it were alive and present [41].

Five Feet Apart is a novel by Rachael Lippincott, released in November 2018. It is included within the young adult genre. Numerous readers have been emotionally affected by *Five Feet Apart*, a captivating, fervent, and tragic young adult fiction work. The narrative centers on Stella Grant and Will Newman, two adolescents who have predominantly resided in hospitals owing to a condition known as cystic fibrosis.

Five Feet Apart by Rachael Lippincott chronicles the poignant experiences of Stella Grant and Will Newman, two adolescents afflicted with cystic fibrosis (CF), a perilous pulmonary condition. Due to their condition, they must stay at least six feet apart to avoid cross-infection, but as they grow closer emotionally, they struggle with the limits imposed on their love. Stella is diligent about following her treatment, while Will is rebellious and tired of living under constant medical supervision. Their deepening connection forces them to confront the realities of life, love, and loss, ultimately leading them to redefine the boundaries between staying safe and truly living—one foot at a time.

2. METHOD

This study employed a descriptive qualitative research approach to analyze data, including metaphorical language, from Rachael Lippincott's novel *Five Feet Apart*. Qualitative pertains to data and significance, with the data expressed in spoken form. Descriptive data is presented in textual form rather than as numerical quantities. The researcher collected, evaluated, and translated data using qualitative descriptive approaches. Because this is a qualitative study, the data is translated using words or phrases.

Data for a study of Rachael Lippincott's novel *Five Feet Apart* were acquired through observation. Data was gathered to enhance comprehension following the researcher's reading of the book in both Indonesian and English. While reading the text, the researcher identified every word that used metaphorical language. The researcher categorizes figurative language into twelve categories: personification, metaphor, exaggeration, metonymy, simile, synecdoche, symbolism, allegory, litotes, irony, paradox, and apostrophe, based on Perrine's thesis.

Technique of Collecting Data

The researcher in this research project employed analytical techniques. Through reading and analyzing the novel, the researcher collected and interpreted data. The researcher employed some steps to get the data, as outlined, the researcher read the novel *Five Feet Apart* and the story it contained then subsequently, the researcher searched phrases that employed the twelve distinct kinds of figurative language as delineated by Perrine's theory: synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, hyperbole, litotes, irony, paradox, apostrophe, simile, metaphor, and personification. The last is the researcher observed figurative language and supplied the necessary facts in figurative words.

Technique of Analyzing Data

For a better understanding, the researcher alternately read the English and Indonesian versions of the novel *Five Feet Apart*. A researcher utilized figurative language in their sentences, classifying them into the same category based on Perrine's categorization of figurative languages that were addressed, which included personification, metaphor, hyperbole, metonymy, simile, synecdoche, symbolism, allegory, litotes, irony, paradox, and apostrophe. The author interpreted each phrase's implied meaning using figurative language.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Table 4. Types of figurative language found in the novel *Five Feet Apart*

No.	Type	Amount	Page
1.	Personification	27	1,5,9,39,43,44,56,61,61,62,86,87,90,95,108,113,114,116,119,122,125,165,171,172,179,179,185.
2.	Metaphor	2	88,119
3.	Hyperbole	19	2,9,9,21,28,40,44,46,59,80,85,95,111,119,130,131,144,184,185
4.	Metonymy	13	5,8,9,13,14,16,18,37,39,136,153,155,155.
5.	Simile	8	1,14,38,49,80,92,100,111.
6.	Synecdoche	0	
7.	Symbolism	0	
8.	Allegory	0	
9.	Litotes	0	
10.	Irony	0	
11.	Paradox	0	
12.	Apostrophe	0	

Based on Perrine's approach, the novel *Five Feet Apart* was analyzed to reveal five categories of metaphorical language out of twelve. Personification is the predominant figurative language employed in the novel *Five Feet Apart*. The analysis identified 69 instances of figurative language within the 189-page novel *Five Feet Apart*. Only five of the twelve varieties of figurative languages have been identified. The most prevalent category is personification, which has 27 phrases. The metaphor contains 2 phrases, hyperbole has 19 phrases, metonymy has 13 phrases, and simile has 8 phrases.

The prevalent use of figurative language in the novel *Five Feet Apart* suggests that personification contributes to the depiction of the characters' emotions (excitement, sadness, surprise, anxiety, nervousness, pain, happiness).

Personification

I stand up, my heart sinking in my chest at the thought of them leaving, but I don't want to hold them up. It means that feeling of sadness because Mya and Camila leaving my room.

My heart jumps as I hear noise outside the doorway, and I yank my hand away from the keyboard, worried we've been caught." It means that I was surprised as hear noise outside the doorway.

I pull my red scarf closer as the cold air bites at my face and neck context of this sentence it shows because it's so cold, Stella wears her scarf tighter to make it warmer. It means that the air is so cold like it bites my face and neck.

Metaphor

All this waiting is agony. It means that all this waiting is really painful.

I look pretty nice considering I pulled it together from the worst date wardrobe in history. It means that implies that despite the challenges or limitations of her wardrobe, she managed to present herself in a manner that is deemed acceptable or even attractive.

Hyperbole

My blood begins to boil.. It means expressing intense of anger or frustration.

I can sense the waterfall of questions that's about to pour over me. It means that I can sense so many question for me like an interview.

This place is still a freaking maze. context of this sentence it shows the location still very confusing for Camila and Mya. It means that the location is very confusing.

Metonymy

You'd better! Photoshop me into a few. It means that Stella asked to be edited using an application called Photoshop because she couldn't join the trip.

Pushing open the door and sliding inside the dimly lit hallway, I smile as I watch Converse girl for a second. It means that Converse describes the shoe brand, so "I" character smile when he watch Converse shoes girl for a second.

Me, Camila, and Mya, arm in arm, all in the same deep-red lipstick we'd picked out together at Sephora. context of this sentence it shows Stella ended her live broadcast and stared at her photo with Mya and Camila while wearing the lipstick they chose together at Sephora. It means that Sephora shows the brand of a French makeup and self-care retail company.

Simile

The feeling of going on an adventure with my sister, just the two of us, the world expanding like an open book. It suggests the presence of new possibilities and opportunities, much like how opening a book reveals its content.

She shoves the paper back at me, her face like thunder. It means that she looks very angry or furious.

Sneak around is about as subtle as a blindfolded elephant." context of this sentence it shows Will sneaks out of his room for a walk, but Julie catches him. He attached his back to the wall but it was useless because it is too clear to hide it. It means that hiding that's useless because it's too clear to hide it.

5. CONCLUSION

Upon reviewing the data, the researcher discovered that Rachael Lippincott's novel *Five Feet Apart* utilized figurative language. The study has two objectives: first, to identify the many kinds of figurative language employed in Rachael Lippincott's novel *Five Feet Apart*, and second, to evaluate the significance of the figurative language utilized in the novel. The analysis revealed that the novel had 5 out of 12 types of figurative language, along with 69 phrases whose meanings were derived from the figurative language itself. Each figurative language possesses a distinct quantity, with personification comprising 27 sentences, hyperbole 19 sentences, metonymy 13 sentences, simile 8 sentences, metaphor 2 sentences, and synecdoche, symbolism, allegory, litotes, irony, paradox, and apostrophe each containing 0 sentences. Personification is a prevalent form of figurative language employed in the book. Personification is a prevalent use of figurative language in the novel *Five Feet Apart*, effectively communicating the characters' emotions.

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