CHAPTER II
LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter will discuss about the review of the related theories and related studies. This review is very important because it is used as the basis of analysis of the study. In this part, the writer reviews the theories related to figurative language based on X. J. Kennedy theory (1979) on his book entitled *Literature: an Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*. These theories include the types and definition of figurative language.

2.1. Semantics

Palmer (1981: 1) states that semantic is the technical terms used to refer to the study of meaning, and since meaning is a part of language, semantic is a part of linguistic. In addition, he states that meaning here covers variety aspect of language and there is no general agreement about the nature of meaning, what aspect of it may properly be included in semantic, or the way in which it should be described. John I Saeed classifies the semantic on the diagram below.

![Diagram of Semantics]

- Literal meaning
- Non-Literal Meaning
  - Figurative language
    - Hyperbole
    - Personification
    - Simile
    - Irony
    - Metaphor
    - Metonymy
    - Litotes
2.2 Figurative Language

The Webster's New World College Dictionary (1996: 571) explains that figurative speech is an expression (as metaphor or euphemism) that substitutes a variation of points of view by which things or notions which is referred to as if it is different in some ways (in identify, degree, shape) from what it actually is or seems to be but so related to the expression successfully implies an intended meaning of effect either or greatly different from what is utterly said.

Rozakis (1995: 28) says that “Figurative language – saying one thing in terms of another”. It means that figurative language is an expression used by person or the author indirectly by using a comparison. It cannot be interpreted literally because the comparison in figurative language expression has the meaning.

Figurative language is language that uses figures of speech. A figure of speech is a way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the world. Figure of speech may be said occur whenever a speaker or writer, for the sake of freshness or emphasis, departs from the usual denotations of words (X.J. Kennedy, 1979:187).

Based on Kennedy (1983: 481), figurative language consists of comparative, contradictive, and correlative. Comparative language consists of Personification, Metaphor, and Simile. Contradictive figurative language consists of Hyperbole, litotes, Paradox, and Irony. Correlative figurative language consists of Metonymy, Synecdoche, Symbol, Allusion, and Ellipsis. For clearer information, look at these following explanation.
2.2.1 Comparative Figurative Language

Comparative figurative language consists of Personification, Metaphor, and Simile.

2.2.1.1 Personification

Personification is a figure of speech in which a thing, an animal, or an abstract term (truth or nature) is made human (Kennedy, 1979:495). Personification gives human characteristics to inanimate objects, animals, or ideas. This can really affect the way the reader imagines things. This is used in children’s books, poetry, and fictional literature. Other definition is given by Potter, (1967: 54). He defines that personification is figure of speech in imaginative something, which does not have soul as though they have human characteristic.

For example:

1) *The sun played hide and seek with the clouds.*

2) *The sky was full of dancing stars.*

The meaning of the first statement is the weather of that day is always change, and the meaning of the second statement, the sky of that night is very beautiful because full of stars. Both of the sentences above describe the sun and the sky is played and dancing as human does. The word “played” and “dancing” has a connotative meaning.

2.2.1.2 Metaphor

Metaphor is a statement that one thing is something else, which in a literal sense, it is not. It does not use connective words such as like or as. Kennedy,
(1979: 490). It means that metaphor only makes sense when the similarities between the two things become apparent or someone understands the connection.

Other definition is given by Keraf (1994: 139) Metaphor is variety of analogy which compare two things directly, but in short pattern. It means that between subject and object have same attributes, and writer uses it to compares it to another. For example:

1) *He has a heart of stone.*

2) *“Oh, my love is red, red rose*

The meaning of heart of stone is the man cannot accept opinion from others because his heart is hard like a stone. For the second example, this sentence compares a love with a rose that has a red colour, red means brave, so love is brave, brave to face obstacle and fight to get love.

2.2.1.3 Simile

Kennedy (1979:490) affirms that simile is comparison of two things, indicated by some connective, usually like, as, than or verb such as resembles. Generally, simile is defined as a type of figurative language that used to explain the resemblance of two objects (in shape, colour, characteristic etc). For example:

1) *As easy as shooting fish in a barrel.*

2) *Her eyes are like a star, east star.*

The first example is doing something that people think is hard but he makes it is very easy and simple. For the second example, the word “eyes” and “east star”, expression can be called explicit comparison because it express those
words with the same purpose. The both of the example above used the key word like and as to compare between two unlike things.

2.2.2 Contradictive Figurative Language

There are four kind of contradictive figurative language which consists of Hyperbole, Litotes, Paradox, and Irony.

2.2.2.1 Hyperbole

Kennedy (1983:496) affirms hyperbole is emphasizing a point with statement containing exaggeration. It can be ridiculous or funny. Hyperboles can be added to fiction to add colour and depth to a character. Hyperbole is figure of speech that it is intentional exaggeration or overstating, often for emphasis or vivid descriptive. Hyperboles can be added to fiction to add colour and depth to a character. For example:

1) *I had to walk 15 miles to school in the snow, uphill.*

2) *He was so hungry, he ate that whole cornfield for lunch, stalks and all.*

The meaning of the first sentence is he walks to school in the snow it make like walk so far like 15 miles away. The second statement describe that he ate so much because very hungry. The statement above is expression of over-statement.

2.2.2.2 Litotes

Litotes is opposite from hyperbole. It is kind of understatement where the speaker uses negative of a word ironically, to mean the opposite. According Hornby (2000:451), litotes is expression of one’s meaning by saying something is the direct opposite of one’s thought, it to make someone’s remarks forceful. For example:
1) Welcome to my ugly palace

2) It was no easy matter.

The meaning of the first example is a luxury place, where the king lives with luxurious. The meaning of the second statement is the man always things carefully when problem come, and not makes it simple and easy.

2.2.2.3 Paradox

Paradox is statement which seems to contain two opposite facts but is or may be true (Oxford, 1991:298). Paradox occurs in a statement that at first strikes us as self-contradictory but that on reflection make some sense (Kennedy, 1979: 497). For example:

1) He was dead in the middle of his riches.

2) We just need to move quickly but carefully.

The meaning of the first statement is the man was dead when he was in the top in his riches has much money. The meaning of the second statement is they need to move as fast as possible but carefully. The both of example are contradictory statement because it has make sense.

2.2.2.4 Irony

The last contradictory figurative language is irony, Irony has a meaning that extends beyond its use merely as a figure of speech. According to Diyyani (2004:933), irony almost arises from a contrast or discrepancy between what happens and what has been expected to happen. For example:

1) You are so discipline because you come the meeting at 8.00 o’clock.
2) Your house is very beautiful because there are so many things on the floor

The meaning of the first example is the employee come too late at the meeting. The meaning of the second statement is the house is very dirty because there are many things in everywhere. The statement above is a contrast between what happens and what has been expected to happen.

2.2.3 Correlative Figurative Language

There are five correlative figurative languages consist of:

2.2.3.1 Metonymy

According to Perrine (1978:57), metonymy is the use of something closely related for the thing actually meant. It is figure of speech which the name of one object is replaced by another which is closely associated with it. For example:

1) Somebody wants your love so open the door.
2) The pen is mightier than the sword.

The meaning of the first sentence is someone falling in love and asking girl for accepting his love. The second example describe not only sword, weapon, knife that can hurt of someone else, but pen can hurt other as sharp as sword. Both sentences is closely related to the thing actually meant.

2.2.3.2 Synecdoche

Synecdoche is the use of part a thing to stand for the whole of it or vice versa (Kennedy, 1979: 479). From the definition above a synecdoche is a figure of speech in which a part is used for the whole.

For example:
1) *All eyes on me.*

2) *Well, because Medicare doesn’t cover old ladies falling off of giant bees. Get down.*

The meaning of the first example, all of people is looking at her. The meaning of the second statement, Medicare is not always covering all of old ladies of their sickness. The words eyes and giant bees are used to designate a part thing for the whole.

### 2.2.3.3 Symbol

According to Diyanni (2004:569) symbol is any object or action that represents something beyond its literal self. An apple pie, for example, can represent an American Lifestyle. Natural symbols like light and darkness, fire and water can stand for contradictory things. The meaning of any symbol whether an object, an action, or a gesture, is controlled by its context. A symbol can be defined simply as any object or action that means more than itself. For example:

1) *Music is nature’s painkiller. Sing him a song.*

2) *I’m ready on jail.*

The meaning of statement above is the man dislike music, and the meaning of the second sentence, the man is ready with anything happen with him. Because the painkiller and jail here

### 2.2.3.4 Allusion

Allusion is figurative language that show indirectly forwards a person or even that people have known together (Potter, 1967:145)

For example: *Many victims caused by Nazi*
Nazi was a military organization that was leaded by Adolf Hitler, this organization was known as cruel organization, it members might be killed all by the enemies and did not pay attention toward its enemies women, children, old people, all were killed by them.

2.2.3.5 Ellipsis

Ellipsis is figurative language that eliminates word of part of sentence (Potter, 1967: 146)

Example: Fauzi and his father to Kupang (eliminate verb go)

The sentence eliminate verb in it because the correct sentence is fauzi and his father go to Kupang.