Sadness Expressions Conveyed Through Words in The Emily Dickinson's Poems

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Azizatul Alifah

SADNESS EXPRESSIONS CONVEYED THROUGH WORDS IN THE EMILY DICKINSON'S POEMS

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ABSTRACT

Emotion is one of the human reactions to psychological and physiological conditions that is the utterance nonverbally expressing their feelings. Emotion is influenced by the situation that they are facing. This research uses descriptive qualitative research that uses descriptive methods It implies that this study does not use statistical methods for data analysis and is solely concerned with words and their meaning. The writer used the theory from Parrot (2001) found there are 5 sadness expressions appear in 20 poems. The writer found suffering is about 10 data, sadness is about 27 data, disappointed is about 7 data, shame 1 is about data, and neglect 6 is about data. From the data, the writer found the way of poet tell the sadness expression in literal meaning is 25, figurative language is 6; hyperbole is 3, personification is 2, imagery is 2. And also, there is the compound emotion is 1 and idiom is 1. From all sadness expressions that the writer found, the expression of sadness dominates used. Based on the result of the research, the dominates of sadness expression is despair and the way that often used in the poet is literal meaning. Figurative language is also used in this poem and hyperbole is dominant appear.

Keywords: Sadness Emotion, Figurative language, Emily Dickinson's Poem

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For all the shortcomings and imperfections of this thesis, the writer sincerely hopes for constructive criticism and suggestions for the improvement and refinement of this thesis, so that the preparation of the next paper can be better.

The writer hopes that this thesis can be useful for all parties and hopefully all the good deeds that have been given to the writer get a reply from Allah SWT.

Padang, 7 Agustus 2023

Azizatul Alifah

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Research

Emotion is one of the human reactions to psychological and physiological conditions that is the utterance non verbally to express their feeling. Emotion is influenced by the situation that they are facing. Ekman (2003) With the ability to identify emotions, we can better relate to others in various situations and develop emotional responses to their problems.

Express their emotion; humans can do this verbally and non-verbally. Emotions are manifestations that arise within a person, outside their conscious awareness. Although the definition of 'emotion' is still debated, it can be perceived through a person's facial expressions or behavior. Humans can express their emotions by speaking directly (verbally) and using linguistic creation, gestures, and Body language can also be used to express emotions, convey meaning, and facilitate communication (non-verbal).

Parrot (2001) classified emotion into primary, secondary, and tertiary. Humans have emotions like joy, sadness, anger, fear, and surprise. From the basic emotions, I am interested in sadness because sadness is an expression of feeling someone in a bad situation.

Ekman (2003) also said that there are many words to express sadness emotion. In their book, they have summarized an atlas of emotion. He classifies the types of sadness are distraught, disappointed, sad, blue, depressed, discouraged, despairing, grieved, helpless, miserable, and sorrowful.

From the kinds of basic emotions and the words of sadness expressions, I am interested in the sadness emotion. Because sadness is an expression of many kinds that

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can be categorized as sadness, many people still do not know about the classify sadness, like what it is.

In linguistics study, people can express their feeling in non-literal such as using the vocabulary of sadness, figurative languages such as metaphor, personification, and irony/sarcasm; repetition of the exact words, phrases, clauses/lexical bundles; and rhetorical questions, as Yanti (2015) found. People can communicate their sadness through their actions and words. She also gives an example of how to express sad in English, for example, "I feel sad because of you," "I've just received some unfortunate news," "He gave me a sad smile," "Sad to say, the ring was never found," "I feel blue," this is another way to express of sad by using non-literal meaning that known as figurative language. They used the vocabulary of color to express that they were sad.

A journal finding by Irma et al. (2021) compares sadness can be expressed using metaphor concepts. In the journal, they analyze the metaphorical expression of sadness in English and Japanese. The finding is that both countries have the same way of expressing the feeling of sadness by using color, but there is a difference. In English, people say "I feel blue" to express their sadness, but in Japanese, to say that they are sad using "black," or in Japanese, say "*Kuroi*."

From some previous studies I have mentioned, the writer was inspired to analyze the sad expression in the poem that belongs to Emily Dickinson, which has some utterance by word about sadness emotion that many of their creations belong to her. The theme of her poem is about fear, loss, death, and grief. The writer of the poem uses many words to express their emotion because of fear, loss, death, and grief heart which have literal and non-literal meanings that some people do not know what the writer will say.

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The poem is one of the literary creations that still have many admirers and still become a way to express their feeling. There are many ways to express human emotion, and one of them is a poem. The poem expresses all the emotions, such as anger, fear, sadness, happiness, and love. Those are the case that the writer will analyze by using a linguistics approach.

This thesis focuses on the sad emotion contained in the poem. And the writer also wants. To analyze how the poem uttered the word that contains an expression of sadness. The use of words also used in figures of speech, also known as figurative language, is an example of non-literal language. Figurative language, also known as a figure of speech, is a way of communicating something other than the literal meaning of a word. The poem has a meaning or intention behind that. Many people sometimes don't know the intention or meaning of the poem. This study will analyze the way and the sad expression that poet used in the poem.

1.2   Limitation of the Research

There are a lot of problems in linguistics that can be used to analyze the poem' stanza, for example, implicature, coherence, speech act, grammatical errors, and denotative and connotative meaning.

In this study, the writer limits the problem to analyzing the emotional expression of sadness in the poem that belongs to Emily Dickinson. There are many poem creations from Emily, but the writer limits the data to just about 20 poems that will be used.

1.3   Research Questions

1. What are the types of sad expressions used in the poem of Emily Dickinson?

2. How is the way the poem writer tells the sad expression used to express the feeling of sadness?

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1.4   Purpose of the Research

1. To find out sad expressions because of fear, loss, death, and grief based on the subcategories used in a poem by Emily Dickinson

2. To find out the way the writer of the poem expresses the sadness expression found in the poem of, Emily Dickinson

1.5   Significance of the Research

Sadness is a fundamental part of human experience that has been the subject of extensive inquiry and analysis. The writer hopes that this research can give an understanding of how people express and regulate their feeling of sadness when they are in a down situation.

And also, this research can contribute to explaining the linguistic aspect, especially in the emotional expression of sadness, and give a different understanding of the kinds of vocabulary for the reader learning English.

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