CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this section, the researcher will explain background of the research, research question, purposes of the research, limitation of the research, and significance of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

Communication is very important thing that we have to do in our life. We communicate with others to build a relationship and give the information which is needed. Language is one of the tools of communication that we have. Delahunty and Garvey (2010) argue that language is a system for connecting thoughts that can't be heard, seen, or touched with sounds, letters, manual signs, or tactile symbols (e.g., Braille). We need a language to talk with other people so that we are able to convey the message or information and there is no miscommunication between speaker and hearer. In communication, people share their thoughts, feelings, ideas in many ways, one of them is through song. Song is a part of music which consists of melody, rhythm, and also lyrics.

Songs have become one of the effective ways to express feelings and deliver the message. We can see that a lot of people love to listen to the songs and write the songs to share and tell their feelings. One part of the song is the lyrics. Lyrics are every word that builds the song and have special meanings. Lyrics can tell many things such as love, sadness, friendship, broken heart, religion, etc. Many songwriters tell many things in the lyrics by using figurative language that sometimes has hidden meaning inside them. So when we listen to a song, we do

not only listen to the melody and rhythm but also find the meaning of the lyrics that are shared by the writer and the singer. We have to find out the meaning and the message that the writer and singer want to express to us. But sometimes there are many song lyrics that are hard to understand by listeners, it is because the lyrics contain figurative language and the meanings are hidden inside.

Within various fields of language study analysis, there is a distinction between literal and figurative languages. Words that do not depart from their specified meaning are referred to as literal language. Words and sets of terms that exaggerate or change the typical meanings of the component words are referred to as non-literal or figurative language.

The listeners need to find out and understand the meaning of each lyric that contains figurative language. If the listeners are difficult to do that so they do not really understand the song that the singer sang. In other words, the listeners have to know and understand figurative language. There are several types of figurative language such as metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, irony, metonymy, etc. In this research, the researcher only discusses one type of figurative language called hyperbole.

The researcher chooses this topic because there are many songs that use hyperbole and there are many people have difficulty to understand and confuse about the lyrics that have hyperbolic expressions. By studying and understanding the hyperbole, the listener can easily understand the meaning of the song clearly and listener can enjoy listen the song.

1.2 Limitation of the Research

In this research the researcher limited the research to the two discussions namely the forms of hyperbolic expression used in song lyrics and the meanings of hyperbolic expression in song lyrics. The data of this research will be collected from different songs which contain hyperbolic expression in the lyrics. In this research, the songs that will be analyzed by the researcher may contain more than one figurative language, however in this research the researcher only analyze the hyperbolic expression.

1.3 Research Questions

Based on the background of the research above, this research aims to answer the following research questions :

1. What are the forms of hyperbolic expressions used in song lyrics?

2. What meanings can be inferred from hyperbolic expressions used in song lyrics?

1.4 Purposes of the Research

The purposes of the research are :

1. To identify the forms of hyperbolic expression used in song lyrics.

2. To describe the meanings of hyperbolic expression in song lyrics.

1.5 Significance of the Research

Theoritically, the result of this research is expected to provide benefits for the readers and can enrich knowledge about figurative language, especially about hyperbolic expression that are used in song lyrics.

Practically, hopefully this research can be used as a guide to understand the songs that used hyperbole in the lyrics. So the listeners of the songs that contain hyperbole in the lyrics knows about the form and the meaning that are delivered by the singer. For the next researcher who are interested with this topic, this research is expected to be a reference on developing research about hyperbole.