

EXAMINING METAPHORS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE IN LADY WHISTLEDOWN'S STATEMENTS IN THE BRIDGERTON SERIES**Aidil Syah Putra^{1*}, Rizka Salsabiila Syahan², Sita Ardelia³**^{1,2,3} Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Universitas Muhammadiyah Tangerang, Tangerang, IndonesiaEmail: ¹ aidilpoetra@gmail.com ² rizkasyahan15@gmail.com ³ sitardelia30@gmail.com**ARTICLE INFO****Article History:**

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Bridgerton**Keywords:***Metaphor, Full Metaphor,
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Meaning, Bridgerton***ABSTRAK**

Metafora adalah cara untuk memahami fungsi inti suatu istilah melalui sudut pandang istilah lain, ketika kedua frasa tersebut memiliki kesamaan atau korelasi. Saat ini, bahasa kiasan, termasuk metafora, digunakan dalam pidato, penulisan narasi, dan dialog film. Hal ini penting karena penggunaan metafora telah membuat sebagian besar pembicaraan menjadi lebih cerdas. Penelitian ini akan melihat ekspresi figuratif Lady Whistledown dalam film seri Bridgerton dan membahas signifikansinya. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif, dimana data dan kesimpulan disajikan secara rasional. Data untuk penelitian ini diperiksa menggunakan teori metafora Beekman dan Callow. Penulis mengidentifikasi dua jenis metafora: metafora penuh dan metafora ringkasan. Temuan penelitian ini mengidentifikasi satu Metafora Lengkap, tujuh Metafora Singkatan jenis 1, sembilan Metafora Singkatan jenis 2, dua belas Metafora Singkatan jenis 3, dan empat jenis Metafora Singkatan. Makna setiap metafora ditentukan oleh lingkungannya.

ABSTRACT

Metaphor is a way for understanding the core function of one term via the lens of another when the two phrases share similarities or correlate. Nowadays, figurative language, including metaphor, is used in speech, narrative writing, and film dialogue. This is significant since the usage of metaphor has made the majority of the talks more clever. This research will look at Lady Whistledown's figurative expression in the Bridgerton film series and discuss its significance. This is a qualitative study, with data and conclusions presented rationally. The data for this study was examined utilizing Beekman and Callow's metaphor theory. The author identified two types of metaphors: full metaphors and abridged metaphors. The study's findings identified one Full Metaphor, seven Abbreviated Metaphor kinds 1, nine Abbreviated Metaphor types 2, twelve Abbreviated Metaphor types 3, and four Abbreviated Metaphor types. Each metaphor's meaning was defined by its environment.

INTRODUCTION

The series "Bridgerton" which airs on Netflix has attracted the attention of viewers from various circles since it was first released. Adapted from a novel by Julia Quinn, this series depicts the life of high society in Regency-era London. One of the most prominent characters and the center of mystery in this series is Lady Whistledown, an anonymous writer who uncovers various scandals and secrets through her newsletter. Lady Whistledown's writings are often structured in a witty, metaphorical style, which not only entertains but also provides sharp social commentary. This research aims to explore the use of metaphors in Lady Whistledown's statements and their significance in shaping the narrative and audience perceptions of the characters and events in the "Bridgerton" series.

Metaphors are highly effective rhetorical tools in communication, allowing writers to convey deeper and more complex meanings through imaginative comparisons. In the context of "Bridgerton", the metaphors used by Lady Whistledown not only enrich the language but also imply hidden social criticism. The use of this metaphor reflects the author's knowledge and intelligence, and adds layers of meaning to the narrative conveyed. Therefore, studying these metaphors can provide deeper insight into the way the author depicts the world of "Bridgerton" and the messages he hopes to convey to the audience.

The "Bridgerton" series takes place in a history rich with traditions, etiquette and complex social dynamics. Lady Whistledown, as a keen observer of social life, uses metaphor to highlight the tensions and contradictions in high society. For example, the metaphor of a 'mask' is often used to describe the falsehood and pretense behind a perfect exterior. This research will analyze how these metaphors express criticism of the social norms and expectations that existed at that time.

Figurative language is very different from what language users perceive as the conventional meaning of words or the regular arrangement of words to produce a specific meaning or effect (Abrams, 1999). "Figurative language was supposed to be one facet of what gives a text-in particular, a poetic text-special aesthetic value," according to Dancygier and Sweetser (2014). Figurative language employs figures of speech to boost effectiveness, persuasion, and originality. Figures of speech like as metaphors, similes, hyperbole, personification, and alliteration provide the reader with insights that go beyond the literal meanings of the words.

Metaphor is one example of figurative language. Lakoff and Johnson (2008) define metaphor as a technique for understanding the core function of one term through another when the two terms exhibit parallels or correlations. Nowadays, figurative language, including metaphor, is used in speech, narrative writing, and film dialogue. This is intriguing because the employment of metaphor has made the majority of the film's dialogue more engaging. Metaphors appear in a wide range of cinema genres, including romance, science fiction, detective, horror, comedy, thriller, drama, adventure, and even mystery films. Furthermore, metaphor works as a lucky charm to entice the audience.

Certainly, there are numerous types of movies, each with its own set of intriguing elements that could serve as a research topic. The writer want to conduct metaphor study on the British-Regency era picture, which is part of the Bridgerton series. Bridgerton is an American historical drama series based on Julia Quinn's novels. It is set during the debutante season in the cutthroat world of Regency Period London's ton. The plot takes place in Regency-era London in 1813, and revolves around the noble Bridgerton family. Each episode is narrated by Lady Whistledown, an anonymous and notorious weekly columnist. Bridgerton uses some words and phrases that are out of date by modern standards. As a period work, the exhibition depicts both the culture and fashion of the regency period, as well as its language. Though the majority of what the characters say is understandable, there are a few concepts and words (metaphors) that may be unclear. A remark must be significant before it may be understood by others. "Meaning what language expresses the world we live in or any possible or imaginary world" . Context is equally important for understanding an utterance. Context refers to the prevalent types and meanings of metaphors in Lady Whistledown's remarks in the Bridgerton film series.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This is a qualitative inquiry using descriptive approaches. The qualitative method is a scientific observation approach that collects non-numerical data. This strategy applies to the meaning, definition, metaphor, symbol, and description of anything. The data originates from the Bridgerton film series, and it comprises of metaphor-containing utterances by Lady Whistledown. The writer performed research by documenting, evaluating, and stressing claims that used the metaphorical phrase. Finally, the writer will classify the data according to the metaphor categories suggested by Beekman and Callow, as well as determine the meaning of each metaphor expressed by the character in relation to the setting. The writer will also use the photograph's subtitle to specify the minute or time at which the data is displayed.

The author will undertake this research utilizing data from the film Bridgerton, a popular movie series set in the British Regency Era that debuted at the end of 2020. According to Arikunto (1998), a data source is the institution that generates all research data. The data may be a discussion, a sentence, a clause, a phrase, or a single word. This study's data comes from Lady Whistledown's metaphor-laden statements in the film Bridgerton.

Data for this study are acquired using the following procedures: First, the writer saw Bridgerton many times on Netflix. Throughout the film, the author focusses solely on Lady Whistledown's words. Following that, the writer records every utterance. The writer went over the notes and underlined lines

that used metaphors. Furthermore, the writer classified the data according to the types of metaphor proposed by Beekman and Callow (1974), identifying the meaning based on the context in which each metaphor is communicated by the character.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

Based on his investigation, the writer uncovered both the Full and Abbreviated metaphors in this film, as shown in Figure 1.

The outcome of Lady Whistledown's metaphors in the Bridgerton film series is demonstrated. Because comparison figures are used to form metaphors, they serve as a topic, image, and point of similarity. Because one or two comparison components are left implicit, the metaphor is depicted in a brief comparison.

Evaluating motifs and their importance in Lady Whittledown's remarks in the Briggs and Trent series

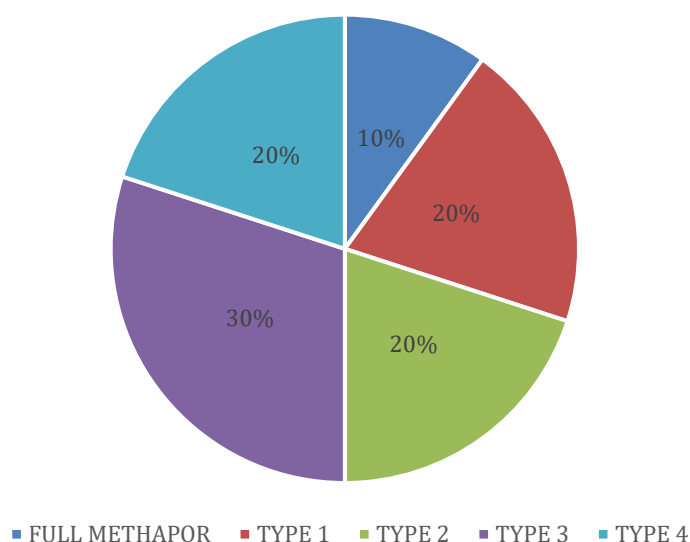


Figure 1. Percentage of the result

Discussion

Types of Metaphor and Their Meaning

The use of metaphors can help you provide facts on a subject in an interesting and lasting way. A metaphor, according to Beekman and Callow (1974), is an implicit comparison in which one comparison item (the "image," the part of the comparison meant to illustrate the topic under discussion) carries multiple meaning components, of which only one is typically shared and contextually relevant by the second item (the "topic," the item illustrated by the image, the discussion's subject), while "the point of similarity" expresses the comparison. The many metaphors used by Lady Whistledown are explained and interpreted in this study. The results of this analysis show that both complete and abbreviated metaphors are used frequently in Lady Whistledown's speech.

A) Full Metaphor

A full metaphor, according to Beekman and Callow (1974), is one that compares two things directly and emphasizes their similarities. In the television series Bridgerton, authors saw Lady Whistledown use her words to fully describe metaphors.

- **Data 1**

And the drawing room at Bridgerton House currenly appears to be emptier than the muddled head of her dearest King George.

This data (1) demonstrates the comparison between a topic (the drawing room) and a picture (the muddlehead). Though the similarity seemed to be smaller, there were commonalities between the topic and image. The researcher using Beekman and Callow's method to rank the metaphor "the drawing-room at Bridgerton House currently appears to be emptier than the muddled head of her dearest King George" overall after classifying its constituent parts. It is evident that two elements are being contrasted, and there are clear parallels. The drawing room serves as the data's topic, while a confused head serves as its visual. It seems as though there is no issue to which the photo is compared. The writer looks at the context first in order to determine the meaning. The queen's favorite debutante, Miss Bridgerton, was expected to have many "callers" (the people a debutante hopes to meet at her house the morning after a ball; ideally numerous, with gifts, plaudits, and flowers), but very few made an appearance in Bridgerton's drawing room. Even though King George's skull was disorganized, more items were still inside. Since Lady Whistledown's speech makes use of Bridgerton's home, situational context is employed in this instance. The callers are unwilling to ask Miss Daphne Bridgerton to marry them.

b) Abbreviated Metaphor

Abbreviated metaphors have one or two comparison items that are left implicit. Raymond W. Gibbs, Jr.'s (2008) "The Cambridge Handbook of Metaphor and Thought" delves into the intricacies of metaphor usage. Metaphors can get so firmly buried in our ideas that they are frequently truncated, and the listener or reader only understands their full implications subconsciously. This argument underscores the idea that abbreviated metaphors work underneath the surface of explicit language, relying on common cultural and cognitive understandings to transmit meaning. The study discovered that Lady Whistledown frequently employed truncated metaphors, which were then classified into four types as shown below.

- **Type 1**

The topic and image are provided as data underneath in truncated metaphor type 1, rather than a clear expression of the parallels.

Data 2

A scribbling woman is the most canine.

This data (2) has a dog as the image and a scribbling woman as the subject, but it does not state the point of resemblance, hence it is categorized as a truncated metaphor type 1. The word "dog" and its pointed teeth are usually associated with an image of a dog. This is so because the word "canine" is derived from the Latin word *canis*, which means dog. At first, the picture of a dog is shown next to a woman who is writing. The likeness has been eliminated, but by analyzing the characteristics of the dog image, we may determine the similarities between a dog and a scribbling lady. The dog, or canine, will bark nonstop when it perceives an enemy or threat. Consequently, we might say that a lady who scribbles has traits in common with a dog. Similar to how a dog will always bark loudly in response to threats or enemies so that people can hear it from a distance and be aware of it, a scribbling woman will continue to write and publish in spite of repeated threats in order for people to be aware of her utterances. In light of this, the metaphor suggests that Lady Whistledown is fearless in the face of peril.

- **Type 2**

In shortened metaphor type 2, the topic is not directly mentioned, as demonstrated in the example below.

Data 5

If the crown has lost its luster.

The crown image is displayed in data (5) above; it resembles it in that it is dulled, but her status as a princess is implied. The Queen's niece Prince Friedrich of Prussia is visiting the town in quest of his future princess, and this metaphor is placed against this backdrop. Except for Miss Daphne Bridgerton, the "one gem who is impervious," almost all of the debutantes competing for the prince's attention aspire to be his

princess. Lady Whistledown worries that Miss Daphne's activities will make the princess's position seem less valuable—in this case, less valuable—and that the crown, which once again possessed that quality, will no longer be able to attract Miss Daphne's attention. Miss Daphne Bridgerton dislikes the title 'Princess' for the reasons given above.

- **Type 3**

Type 3 abbreviated metaphors lack a topic or a point of comparison. Only the information below serves as an example of this kind of metaphor.

Data 7

Then this author would like to show you her teeth.

The topic and point of similarity are not revealed here; only the picture of her teeth is. We apply the previous metaphor from data (2) in the identical circumstance to ascertain the meaning. According to the comparison above, a scribbling lady and a barking dog are alike. The fangs of a dog can also be referred to as canines. A dog is showing strength to intimidate its opponent when it shows its fangs. By not being scared to face the threats she has received and the repercussions of her behavior, the feminine lady is demonstrating her strength by flashing her fangs.

- **Type 4**

The abbreviated metaphor type 4 implies both a point of similarity and an image component. The abbreviated metaphor type 4 implies both a point of similarity and an image component.

Data 9

It stirs passion and moves the spirit.

Entire kind of magician is 'an appreciation of the arts is what stirs the passion of us, human'. 'Human...passion' is another way to describe the idea. Since "passions" and "enjoyment of the arts" are both human feelings, we might infer that the metaphor's meaning is that appreciating art causes us to experience strong emotions. This alludes to Lady Whistledown personally. Lady Whistledown sees her work as an artwork at a tabloid focused on scandals. She creates new works in search of another scandal that she hopes will be even more spectacular than the last since she loves art, which in this case involves controversies.

CONCLUSION

Lady Whistledown appears to use metaphors in her utterances. In their study, researchers applied Beekman and Callow's (1974) hypothesis. The Bridgerton film series employs both long and short metaphors. There are four sorts of abbreviated metaphors: Type 1 expresses merely the topic and the image, not the point of similarity. Type 2: When the problem is unclear, include an illustration and points of similarity. Metaphors are the main component of Type 3 images. The final form, form 4, is created when the point of resemblance and a component of the image are implied. Context is key in comprehending each Lady Whistledown metaphor. The investigated metaphors usually incorporate situational and prior information situations. The context allows us to infer the metaphor's meaning. This research will provide readers with a grasp of metaphor, specifically in Regency Era England, as well as its significance. This research will also help the general public better understand metaphor.

From this research, it can be concluded that Lady Whistledown often uses metaphors to convey her message. These metaphors are not just decorative words, but also have deep meaning and are very important to understand in the right context. Through this analysis, we can better understand communication styles in Regency England and increase our insight into the use of metaphor in general. So, this research is not only interesting for those who like watching Bridgerton, but also for anyone who wants to learn more about language and how we communicate. This research also makes important contributions to the academic world, especially in the fields of linguistics and literature. Apart from that, this research can also be a guide for writers and readers who want to explore further the creative and effective use of language.

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