

# **THE FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN MATA NAJWA TALKSHOW'S NOTES**

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## **Abstract**

The purpose of this article is to show through concrete examples about how figurative language used in notes. The notes texts were taken from The Year-End Record of Mata Najwa Talk Show. The central is to analyze the types of figurative language that used in Mata Najwa Talkshow's notes, that contain Simile, Metaphor, Metonymy, Synecdoche, Personification, Hyperbole, Apostrophe, Allegory, Paradox, Understatement and Irony. 15 notes were taken as the data by using documentary technique and were analyzed by using descriptive qualitative technique. It was found that Irony is the dominant type used in the notes. It means that the notes contain of the insinuation to an object or circumstances.

**Keywords :** mata najwa, notes, figurative language, metrotv

## **Introduction**

Language can be expressed into to form, they are: written and spoken. Written language can be found in the novel, newspaper, poetry letter, magazine; and spoken language can be found in the song, speech, and conversation. Palmer (1981:5) states language can be viewed as a communication system that relates something to be communicated with something that communicates a message on the one hand with a set signs or symbols on the other.

There are so many ways of human beings use language to express their thought, opinion or information, and using figurative language is one of them. Figurative language uses "figures of speech" - a way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the words. Figurative language is one of literary aspects. It is a mode of expression which used in order to add beauty or emotional intensity of something.

As we know, a word has two meaning: Literal meaning and figurative meaning. Literal meaning means corresponding exactly to the original. Figurative meaning means

connotative meaning. It is concerned with the meaning of the unfamiliar word in which most words have several meaning. Figurative meaning use figure of speech too. Both of these always be used by people to say what they want to say. But, because the figurative meaning shows the beauty of the language, some of writer, poet, motivator, etc, always use the figurative language to express their thinking and their feeling into a language.

Often, we encounter, there are so many poems, lyrics, quotes and also notes that using more than two figurative language. There is no rule that say we can not use more than one figurative language on one sentence. Just, if the writer use more than one figurative language in one sentence, it means that he/she is a creative person, because he/she can put more than one figurative language with a beautiful words. Using figurative language makes the sentence is more interesting.

This study focuses on the use of figurative language in Mata Najwa Talk Show's notes, namely The Year- End Record. Using figurative language is the way of the newscaster to make a conclusion in the last show is so interesting and beautiful.

## **Review of Literature**

### *Figurative language*

Figurative language is a language that uses many figures of speech that explain or suggest by using words and ideas differently from literal meaning (Maclin: 1992). Figurative language is part of language that using words to mean something different from their ordinary meaning in order to emphasize an idea. Figurative meaning changes the literal, to make a meaning fresh or clearer, to express complexity, to capture a physical or sensory effect or to extend meaning Leech (1981: 43). It gives varieties in representing the speaker's feeling to reach his goal. Thus, gives more freedom to express his mind.

Miller and Greenberg (1981: 66) state "figurative meaning means of indirect statement that says one thing in term of another". Means that instead of saying something that is probably harsh or rude, we intent to use the replacement words or a way of saying one thing and meaning another. Figurative meaning is language, which departs from what is taken to be the standard construction, order, and significance of words in order to achieve special meaning or effect.

There are many kinds of figurative language where in its basic function is always depart from literal meaning to achieve a special effect or meaning. Figurative languages are known respectively as *simile*, *metaphor*, *symbol*, *metonymy*, *synecdoche*, *personification*, *hyperbole*, *apostrophe*, *allegory or parable*, *paradox*, *understatement*, and *irony*.

1. Simile

A figure of speech in which a comparison is expressed by the specific use of a word or phrase such as: *like, as, than and seems*. There are some sentences which use the word *like* or *as*.

Example: a. She acts **like a princess**.

b. He was cold **as an arctic wind**.

2. Metaphor

A metaphor is a comparison that shows similarities in things that are basically different. A distinction is made between a metaphor, which compares without using “like” or “as”.

Example: a. **The road** was a ribbon of **moonlight**.

b. **the ship** plows through the **waves**.

3. Symbol

A symbol is a word or objects that stands for another word or object. The object or word can be seen with the eye or not visible.

Example: a. **A dove** stands for peace.

b. **Red**, symbol of braveness.

4. Metonymy

A figure of speech that uses a concept closely related to the thing actually meant. The substitution makes the analogy more vivid and meaningful.

Example: a. My sister always drink **Aqua** (Aqua means water).

b. he has **Marlboro** in his bag (Malboro means cigarette).

5. Synecdoche

A figure of speech which mentions a part of something to suggest the whole.

Example: a. **The pen** is mightier than the sword.

b. **Germany** won the match last afternoon.

6. Personification

A type of figurative language in which distinct human qualities, e.g., honesty, emotion, volition, etc., are attributed to an animal, object or idea.

Example: **My teddy bear** gave me a hug.

b. **The wind** stood up and gave a shout.

7. Hyperbole

Using hyperbole on the sentence is the style of the writer to make something to be interested because the meaning will be exaggerate.

Example: a. **The world ended** the day my youngest died.

b. **Ten thousand thousand** fruit to touch.

#### 8. Apostrophe

A figure of speech in which someone absent or dead or something nonhuman is addressed as if it were alive and present.

Example: a. “**O** star”

b. **Tree at my window**, window tree.

#### 9. Allegory

A poem in the form of a narrative or story that has a second meaning beneath the surface one.

Example: a. The story of **deer and crocodile**.

b. The relationship between **cat and mouse**.

#### 10. Paradox

A statement or situation containing apparently contradictory or incompatible elements, but on closer inspection may be true. There is only one paradox that the writer found on the data.

Example: a. He who loses **his life** for my sake will save it.

b. One day is sometimes **better than** a whole year.

#### 11. Understatement

The presentation of a thing with underemphasis in order to achieve a greater effect.

Example: a. That was some **sprinkle**.

b. Anything more than **the truth would have seemed too weak**.

#### 12. Irony

Irony using words to mean the opposite of what is said. Irony is used to express the exact opposite of its literal meaning. There are many types of irony, the three most common being verbal irony, dramatic irony, and irony of situation. Verbal irony occurs when either the speaker means something totally different that what he is saying or the audience realizes, because of their knowledge of the particular situation to which the speaker is reffering, that the opposite of what a character is saying is true. Verbal irony also occurs when a character says something in jest that, in

actuality, is true. In other definition irony is an expression used is the opposite of the thought. Dramatic irony is a literary or theatrical device of having a character utter words which the reader or audience understands to have a different meaning, but of which the character himself is unaware. Irony of situation is when a situation occurs which is quite the reverse of what one might have expected.

Example: a. You are smart student **who always comes late**.

b. Medan is a beautiful city **with its rubbish**.

Here some reason why figurative language has prominent place in human conversation:

1. The writer or speaker describes something using unusual comparison, for effect, interest, and make things clearer.
2. Figurative compares two things that are different in enough ways so that their similarities.
3. The writer or speaker want to make their language more beautiful gorgeous.
4. Writer or speaker use the figurative language to help them convey and expression
5. The writer or speaker want the reader or listener to smell, hear, taste and feel the story as it is read.
6. To make beautiful words in literary works or in conversation.

### *Metro TV*

PT. Media Televisi Indonesia was granted a broadcasting license for Metro TV on October 25, 1999 (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MetroTV>). Metro TV has a different concept than the other stations in Indonesia; even this station broadcast 24-hour a week, it focused its programs only for news around the world. Metro TV also broadcast two English language programs, Indonesia This Morning, and also Indonesia Now. It also had a Chinese language programs such as Metro Xin Wen. It has also had IT and documentary programs. Additionally, it has a culinary program, talkshow like Mata najwa and Kick Andy and a motivation program, Mario Teguh Golden Ways. It also shows business programming, which one of them is Bisnis Hari Ini (Business Today).

### *Talk Show*

A talkshow (American, Australian and English) or chat show (British) is a television program or radio program when one person (or group of people) discuss various topics put forth by a talk show host ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talk\\_show](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talk_show)).

*Mata Najwa* is one of Metro TV talk show program which held every Wednesday at 10.05 pm. This talk show is hosted by Najwa Shihab, a woman that was working in Metro

TV as reporter, producer, anchor and now a program owner since 2000 until now. *Mata Najwa* is a talk show which discusses some events and political issues in a week. Unlike the other talk shows which are typically produced by Metro TV (tend to be formal in style and rigid in the way of packaging), *Mata Najwa* is a breakthrough and standing out of the crowd. It is a unique and balanced blend among shrewdness, witty banters, refreshing jokes, and parody. In other words, it is informatively amusing, simply offers a new alternative of enjoying hard topics without having to be an erudite academician.

### The Methodology and Discussion

This paper is intend to show the types of figurative language and what type is dominantly used in Mata Najwa' notes so the reader can know the meaning of the figurative language that is used. The data of this qualitative study (Nazir: 1988) is taken from the year end record of Mata Najwa during 2011. There was 15 show that have been selected from January to December 2011 but only focus on the notes.

#### Notes analysis

By analyzing, the notes is classified according to the types of figurative language that used in sentence. And the writer analyzed the notes clause by clause.

#### 1. Simile

- a. Bagi banyak kalangan/ **hukum laksana belantara tak bertuan**//

(In that sentence, Najwa want to describe the law system in Indonesia is alike a jungle without silvan. The word "*laksana*" shows the sentence is simile).

*Episode: Hukuman Tak Bertuan, July, 13th 2011*

- b. **Bung Hatta setia sebagai sahabat** hingga saat Bung Karno sekarat//

(the word "sebagai" shows the sentence is simile. Because there is a similar meaning between "faithful" and "friendship".)

*Episode: Sang Negarawan, February, 2nd 2011*

#### 2. Metaphor

- a. Negeri ini/ sebetulnya **negeri bola**// Puluhan tahun silam/ para pendiri bangsa sudah berkutat dengan **si kulit bundar**.

(*Negeri bola*, it doesn't mean there is a land like a ball or there are so many ball that we can find in this country, but negeri bola means this country, Indonesian people have been played soccer, long time ago. We can prove it from the history that said our founding fathers have been struggled with it.)

(*Si kulit bundar*, in literal meaning, means that a round skin. But the words si kulit bundar in that sentence refers to football).

*Episode: Hikayat Bola, January, 19th 2011*

- b. Sedangkan Pak Harto berjasa/ menarik “**mutiara-mutiara hitam**” Papua merumput di lapangan bola//

(mutiara-mutiara hitam, doesn't mean that there are so many pearls that Pak Harto got from Papua. But it means that Pak Harto found there are so many talented football player in Papua. The word mutiara or a pearl that refers to something special that is not easy to get, and the word “hitam” or black is the typical of people who live at the eastern of Indonesia )

*Episode: Hikayat Bola, January, 19 th 2011*

### 3. Symbol

There is no symbolism on data that has been taken.

### 4. Metonymy

- a. Kisruh mustinya tak perlu terjadi/ seandainya komite normalisasi/**pendukung rejim lama/dan kelompok 78**/ legowo membangun PSSI.

(from the words “pendukung rezim lama” and “kelompok 78”, Najwa want to make a group base on the same background of the people itself. People who support the old regime, she call it “pendukung rejim lama” and who are the member of a group “78”.

*Episode: Balada Bola, June 15th 2011*

- b. Atas permintaan MH Thamrin/ Sukarno yang baru bebas dari penjara sukamiskin/ membuka **kick-off** kompetisi pribumi pertama.

(kick off is the terms that always use in the Soccer Playing. So, kick off doesn't mean kicking a ball, but refers to soccer competition)

*Episode: Hikayat Bola, January 19th 2011*

### 5. Synecdoche

- a. **Sepelosok negeri**/ rindu timnas raih medali//

(the word “sepelosok” show the meaning “all of the Indonesian people” miss the achievement. Sepelosok represents the word “all”)

*Episode: Hikayat Bola, January 19th 2011*

- b. **Beatlemania/ Rastafaria/ John lennon/ U2/ atau sebutlah Jacko/ semua** membariskan rasa solidaritas manusia//

(The word “semua” represents all the musician created songs that show the human solidarity. Not only Beatlemania, Rastafaria, John Lennon, U2 and

Jacko , but there are so much musicians out there that has same goal with John Lenon cs. They are only the sample).

*Episode: Orkestra Politik, July 6th 2011*

6. Personification

- a. Dalam sejarah/ **musik** berlantun irama/ diharapkan sang penguasa/ **bisa menyambung tali kuasa//**

(we know that music is not a human, but on the sentence, music can acts like a human. We can see that from the sentence “musik bisa menyambung tali kuasa”)

*Episode: Orkestra Politik, July 6th 2011*

- b. Dahulu Pak Harto tak segan membrendel **media/** yang dianggap **mempermalukan wibawa//**

(from the sentence above, we can see that the writer used the word “mempermalukan”, even we know , media is not a human who could shamed Pak Harto. The problem is the user of that media who shame him, not the media as the inanimate thing).

*Episode: Pewarta Istana, July 27th 2011.*

7. Hyperbole

- a. Di masa SBY/ pers **kritis luar biasa.**

(the word “**luar biasa**” indicates the extraordinary condition that has create by pers to critize the goverment in SBY’s period)

*Episode: Pewarta Istana, July 27 th 2011.*

- b. Bung Hatta **rajin mengkritik/** namun tetap menghormati Sukarno sebagai presidennya.

(the word “**rajin**” makes the readers and listeners imagine, Bung Hatta was the only one assiduous person who always care and criticized everything that Sukarno did in his term).

*episode: Sang Negarawan, February 2nd 2011*

8. Apostrophe

- a. Chairil Anwar/ menulis sajak/”**Mereka** yang kini terbaring antara Krawang-Bekasi”/

“**Mereka**” on this sentences refers to all the people that has died because defend the country. They refers to “heroes”.

*Episode: Sang Negarawan, February 2nd 2011*



- b. “Kenang”/”kenanglah **kami**”/”teruskan”/”teruskan **jiwa kami**”/ ”menjaga **Bung Karno**”/ “menjaga **Bung Hatta**”/ “menjaga **Bung Syahrir**”//

(“Kami” refers to heroes that has sacrifice to Indonesia, but they were already dead)

(“**jiwa kami**” or their soul refers to their spirit or their passion that still exist even their bodies have been died)

(even the witer used the names “**Bung Karno, Bung Hatta and Bung Syahrir**”, but what the writer means here is the struggle of them during their life. They has died, indeed, but their struggle still alive. So we must keep their passion alive, forever)

*Episode: Sang Negarawan, February 2nd 2011.*

## 9. Allegory

- a. Penculikan di masa revolusi kemerdekaan/ terjadi karena perbedaan strategi perjuangan di antara **sayap kiri** maupun **sayap kanan**//

(On this case, Najwa Shihab did not talk about “*bird*” and “*its wings*”. “**Sayap kiri and sayap kanan**” indicates there were two alliance and each had different characters. “”Sayap kiri” was a group that had a different strategy with “sayap kanan” about the government system for the nation)

*Episode: Represi Culik, March 16th 2011*

- b. **Bunuh diri**/tragedy sunyi// **tempat dimana mati**/ **satu-satunya motivasi**//  
**Tempat sajak cinta/ mudah berakhir nista**// Atau opera anak manusia/ yang sayapnya patah/ lalu mengaku sampah//

(there are two meaning of “Bunuh diri” or suicide that the writer want to show. Firstly, Suicide ia a place where the motivation is death. It means if people do suicide, so their motivation is over too. Secondly, suicide makes the love story that was beautiful in the beginning change to be a worstest story)

*Episode: Arkeologi Bunuh Diri, October 12th 2011*

## 10. Paradox

- a. Aku **tiada**/maka aku **ada**//

(“tiada” and “ada” , two words that a contradicted meaning)

*Episode: Arkeologi Bunuh Diri, October, 12 th 2011*

- b. Mafia angka membenarkan/ semua punya “jasa”/ **mempercepat atau malah menghambat** proyek dan dana/ hingga jadi “negara dalam negara”//

(Mempercepat and menghambat, two words that has a contradicted condition)

*Episode: Mafia Angka, May, 25th 2011*

11. Understatement

- a. Rekayasa pidana demi kejar target perkara/ mengubah interogasi **penjahat kelas teri**/ jadi tontonan asik di televisi.

(we know that teri is a kind of smallest fish. So, “penjahat kelas teri” or petty criminals is a name that Najwa used to achieve a greater effect of the sentence by using understatement).

*Episode: Hukuman Tak Bertuan, July 13th 2011*

- b. Resep mereka **sederhana**//

(“**Sederhana**” or “simple” is the word to decrease the real meaning of “extraordinary”)

*Episode: Nyali Perintis, May 18th 2011*

12. Irony

- a. **Tak perlu main curang/ sembunyi dibalik sakralnya statuta dan birokrasi**//

(from the sentence, Najwa criticizing scandals that is always exist in PSSI. Status and power, they use to execute their conspiracy).

*Episode: Balada Bola, June 15th 2011*

- b. **Kalau hukum tak lebih dari sekedar pidana sandiwara penuh reka-reka**//

(the pessimistic attitude appears from the real meaning of the sentence. Najwa used pidana sandiwara, to say that Indonesian Law is just a drama and always be pretended. We can feel that Najwa satirize the system of law in Indonesia).

*Episode: Pidana Sandiwara, January 26th 2011.*

Besides those example above, there are several sentences on the data that the writer found, using more than one figurative language on one sentence. It means that Najwa Shihab tried to mix more than 2 the types of figurative language, just to enrich the sense of the message that she would express and convey to the audience as the listeners and the readers.

### Conclusion

By the discussion about the types of figurative language that is used in Mata Najwa notes, can be concluded that there are eleven types figurative language that found and Irony is the dominant. It means that most of notes of Mata Najwa Talk Show’s notes contain about insinuation to an object or circumstances. Najwa Shihab tried to

criticize something with a satirical manner to say the opposite meaning. She used irony to ridicule or mock someone, system or something in Indonesia.

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