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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

To understand literature well, we must understand its meaning because literary words are sometimes different from ordinary words so it could be a literary work, so understanding meaning is very important for us to know. The understanding of meaning is known as semantics. Semantics (from Greek: semantics, to interpret, to give meaning, from sema, sign) is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning contained in a language, code, or another type of representation. Semantics is the systematic study of meaning, and linguistic semantics is the study of how language organizes and expresses meaning (Kreidler 2002:3). It means, a person needs semantics as an initial provision before knowing other sciences, one of which is like literature to be able to understand literature well because the role of semantics is very important in literary studies, especially in the study of meaning in style and the background of the process of its presence. Literary works also have elements of human speech that are also related to semantics. Human speech is usually made more beautiful by using figurative language. Therefore, figurative language is often used by writers or poets in beautifying a work of both writing and speech, so that what is produced can give a more attractive impression to readers and listeners.

Generally, figures of speech are considered to be used only in literary works. Figurative language can be found unconsciously in various forms of language use. According to John Keats, figurative language is defined as an attempt to read the beauty of imagination from a logical thought process narrative. Then, there are several kinds of figurative language, namely metaphor. Metaphor is one of the beautiful uses of comparison as part of figurative language. Metaphor has been defined by many scholars in various ways. Metaphor, according to Lakoff & Johnson (2003), is a literary device in poetry that constructs figurative meaning by equating two unrelated concepts or objects. Lakoff & Johnson (2003:6) state metaphor as understanding something through the concept of understanding something else. Metaphors are used by humans in everyday life, not only

present in language but also in actions and thoughts Lakoff & Johnson, (2003:4). Therefore, the researcher uses poetry as the object of research by using metaphor.

Based on the conceptual metaphor theory proposed by Lakoff & Johnson (2003), metaphors are divided into several parts, namely orientational metaphors, ontological metaphors, structural metaphors, and conceptual metaphors. Lakoff (2003:5) says that The process of understanding or organizing an abstract form through its relationship to a concrete form is called conceptual metaphor. Conceptual metaphor is often used in poetry. Conceptual meaning in semantics is meaning that corresponds to the concept, meaning that corresponds to the referent, and meaning that is free from any association or relationship. According to Lakoff (2003), a conceptual metaphor is a way of understanding one concept about another, which then reflects how the two concepts are organized in our minds. Therefore, the researcher uses poetry as the object of research by using metaphor with the focus of research on the use of conceptual metaphors in a poem.

One can express one's heart and anxieties as well as certain disappointments or joys. Through poetry, one can convey symbolic messages for specific purposes. Poetry is the result of literary art whose words are composed using figurative words used by the author which are conceptual metaphors. Literary works are generally divided into three genres, namely poetry, prose, and drama. Among the three genres, poetry is the most widely used literary work. In poetry, figurative language serves to build the soul according to the poet's intended meaning. Often the figurative language used by poets is to beautify a written work. Figurative language that is widely used in poetry is metaphor as used by John Keats in his poems because Keats' poems use conceptual metaphors the most or conceptual metaphors are more dominant than other types of metaphors. Conceptual metaphor is a way of thinking and understanding the world around us through the use of metaphors or similes, where abstract or complex concepts are explained or understood through concrete or tangible concepts. Conceptual metaphors play an important role in how we think, communicate and understand the everyday world. The use of conceptual metaphor extends the understanding of abstract concepts, communication, thinking, creativity, literary analysis, and culture. By using metaphors, we can broaden our understanding of the world around us, enrich the way we think, and expand our ability to communicate effectively and creatively.

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John Keats was an English poet of the second generation of Romantic poets, along with Lord Byron and Percy Bysshe Shelley and was one of the poets who often used metaphors depicted through words in his poetry. The famous English poet John Keats was born on October 31, 1795, and died on February 23, 1821, from tuberculosis at the age of 25. He was a medical student at the United Hospital in London before he decided to devote himself entirely to poetry, (Casaccia & Borghi 2022). Moreover, instead of conveying moral or social messages, Keats' poetry emphasized beauty and individual expression, (Rowland 2016). Prominent writers of the time attended the memorial service held at Hampstead Parish Church to honor Keats' death in Rome in 1821, which marked the end of his life, Friedman (2022).

In the book entitled " *The Poetical Works of John Keats*" “John Keats published three volumes of poems by himself, while many of his works are not summarized in a volume or album and not even all of them have been detected” Forman (1896:335). Keats' first volume was published in 1817, and there are 32 poems composed. This volume contains a mixture of youthful poetry and some of Keats' most famous works, such as "*I Stand On Tiptoe" and "Sleep and Poetry*." It reflects the early phase of Keats' career, covering a wide range of themes and styles. In addition, the first volume of John Keats' poetry was on the theme of beauty. In the first volume of John Keats' poetry, various works express the beauty of nature and personal experiences. Some examples of his works are *"O Solitude! If I with thee must dwell," "Sonnet 1," "Sonnet 2," "Sonnet 3*," and so on. These works reflect themes of natural beauty and deep personal feelings, Forman (1896).

His second volume "*Endymion*" was published in 1818. "*Endymion*" has three poems and they are long narrative poems. they are “*A Thing Of Beauty Is A Joy For Ever; “O Sovereign Power Of Love! O Grief! O Balm”; “There Are Who Lord It O'er Their Fellow-Men With Most Prevailing Tinsel”*; and *Muse Of My Native Land! Loftiest Muse!*.” In addition, the second volume has a theme of beauty and fantasy. This work tells the love story between Endymion, a young man, and the Moon Goddess. In this work, Keats expresses the beauty of nature and the world of fantasy with beautiful and imaginative language. Furthermore, this work features Keats' exploration of mythology and love in

narrative form. The poem is also known for its romantic and imaginative elements (Forman 1896).

Finally, the third volume contains 16 poems, "*Lamia, Isabella, Eve St. Agnes, and other poems*" with the publication year of 1820. In addition, this volume contains some of Keats' most famous works, including "*Ode on a Nightingale*," *"Ode on a Grecian Urn," and "To Autumn.*" These poems are characterized by sensual imagery and conflict, as well as impressive consonant and vowel rhythms. Thus the poems make extensive use of metaphorical figurative language such as conceptual metaphor, as they cover a wide range of themes, from natural beauty to stories involving feelings of sadness and fantasy worlds. In Keats' third volume of poetry, through an in-depth analysis of the themes, language styles, and messages contained in Keats' poems, as well as the aesthetic, philosophical, and emotional values that characterize Romantic literature. In addition, by studying Keats' poetry, we can also explore how the poet responded to the social, political and cultural conditions of his time. Thus, an analysis of Keats' third volume of poetry can provide a deep insight into a valuable and inspiring literary legacy.

In the winter of 1818, Keats cared for his brother who suffered from tuberculosis, but it is widely believed that Keats contracted tuberculosis from caring for Tom. After his brother's death, Keats' friend Charles Brown invited him to stay with him at Wentworth Place. While staying with Charles Brown, later Keats met Fanny Brawne, a close neighbor in Hampstead and the two fell in love tragically and hopelessly. His relationship with Fanny had a decisive influence on Keats' development. She seems to have been a remarkable young woman, assertive in character, generous, and also kind to Keats. But she expected more, perhaps more than she could give to anyone, as is evident from the letters she composed. The passionate love letters between the two were later published. They were engaged but never married. The year 1819 is often referred to as the 'Big Year' as he wrote many poems, which are now considered his greatest works in their third volume. However, before Keats' died in 1820, Keats began to experience some of the more serious symptoms of tuberculosis, leaving him increasingly weak and eventually dead. John Keats' completed his last poem within nine months, Forman (1896).

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The poems in Keats' third volume describe his miserable life, his dream fantasies, and even the beauty of his experiences with his lover, Fanny Brawne, the woman he loved dearly. The author believes that this book has some clear conceptual metaphors which is the reason for making this research further explored. Conceptual metaphors play an important role in the way we think, communicate, and understand the world around us. Therefore, conceptual metaphors form the basis of many aspects of human thought, including how we understand time, events, causality, morality, and other concepts. Conceptual metaphors assist us in understanding complex or abstract ideas in a more comprehensible way through analogies with simpler or tangible concepts and help us understand the world around us in a more creative, intuitive and profound way. In addition, to illustrate the use of conceptual metaphors in John Keats' poetry, here is an example of a poem titled "*Ode to a Nightingale"* that uses conceptual metaphors. In this poem, Keats explores the subject of immortality, drawing a comparison between human mortality and the nightingale's eternal song.

Conceptual Metaphor: "*Thou was not born for death, "**Immortal Bird!**"* (Line 61, 1819)

The metaphor "***Immortal Bird***" is used to describe a nightingale bird that is immortal and not limited by time. The conceptual metaphor "*Immortal*" describes something eternal, not limited by time, or everlasting and "*Bird*" is a symbol of freedom, beauty, and elegance in many cultures and literature. The nightingale in the poem symbolizes immortality, beauty, and freedom unaffected by aging or death. Keats uses this metaphor to express his longing for something eternal and pure amid a life filled with human suffering and limitations. This immortal bird becomes a symbol of beauty and freedom that is not bound by the limitations of time and space, creating a feeling of awe and a desire to escape the mortal realities of life.

There is same related previous study used in this research. The first previous research was entitled "*Conceptual Metaphor of Love John keats' Poetry: A Cognitive Stylistic Study*" by (Abdulhusain I. A, 2024). The purpose of this study is to explore the conceptual metaphor of love in John Keats' poems and show the relationship between language, cognition, emotion and style in understanding the conceptual metaphor of love. The second previous study was entitled "*Metaphorical expressions in Emily Dickinson's poems"* by

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(Cenita & Erly, Nurmaily 2020). The aims of the study are to find the metaphor inside three poems by Emily Dickinson and identify the implicit meaning behind those metaphors. The third previous study was titled "*John Keats' Odes: A Balm to a Tired some Soul: With Reference to Ode to Psyche, Ode on a Grecian Urn, Ode on Melancholy, and Ode to Autumn*" by Mukherjee (2021). The aim of his study was to explore John Keats' odes, specifically "*Ode to Psyche," "Ode on a Grecian Urn," "Ode on Melancholy," and "Ode to Autumn,*" and their significance in understanding the meaning of existence, the dialogue between transience and eternity, and the ability to see life in its wholeness. This study has same object, namely John Keats' poems, but he did not use metaphor to analyze them. The four previous study was titled "*Metaphorical expression used in poems on poetry and gahwa's Instagram"* by Afdilla. M (2023). Although this previous study has the same theory about metaphor, but her object was different from current study, which is John Keats' poems. Based on the description explained and supporting previous studies, the writer Intends to investigate the conceptual metaphor through the title "Conceptual Metaphor Found in John Keats' Poems".

1.2 Statement of Problem

How is conceptual metaphor applied in John Keats' poems?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The researcher understands and observes the material about the use of conceptual metaphor types in poetry and determines how many types of conceptual metaphors are used. Search for various references from journals and other books to answer these questions.

To explain the application of conceptual metaphor found in John Keats' poems.

1.4 Significance of the Study

1. Theoretically

Theoretically, this research can add insight into metaphors in poetic works, especially in studying figurative languages in literary work. Moreover, it can also be a source of reference for future research, and this research provides benefits for readers to increase their knowledge, which may be a further basis for further research that is also

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interested in researching the same field with a different focus of purpose. This research can also enrich knowledge in the field of linguistics, especially in metaphors or types that are focused on conceptual metaphors.

2. Practically

The findings of this research become a guidance for the author and for the readers, which can be used as a reference in making poetry using conceptual metaphors. This research can be a good reference for further research whose research field also discusses conceptual metaphors. This research provides benefits to readers in order to understand how someone uses language that is more beautifully spoken through conceptual metaphors in everyday life and for writers.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

Scope: This research focuses on the field of semantics that discusses figurative language but with a focus on conceptual metaphor.

Limitation: This study uses phrases or statements as data that belong to conceptual metaphors in the poems used by John Keats in the third volume consisting of sixteen poems.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Metaphor: Metaphor is a literary device used in poetry to establish a metaphorical meaning by equating two unrelated concepts or objects (Lakoff & Johnsen, 2003).

John Keats: John Keats', a renowned poet from England, lived from 1795 and died on 1821 (Casaccia & Borghi, 2022).

Poem: Most human societies use poem or poetry, which is a language form that is broken up into lines. Because it makes use of the limited working memory of humans, it is a respected method of language use. Different aspects that rely on the line, like metre, rhyme, alliteration, and parallelism, are processed in working memory (Fabb, 2015).

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