

**LANGUAGE STYLE IN THE SONG LYRIC TAKING IT BACK BY****MEGHAN TRAINOR****Muftia Zakia Mawaddah, Dewi Nurmala**

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**Abstract**

*Language used to convey meaning in the form of communication, literature, and also in the creation of a written work. In the language there are language styles that are used to add aesthetics of speech or writing. This also applies to lyric of a song, because the lyrics are a written work. To find out the use of the language styles, the researcher analyzed the lyrics of the song Taking It Back by Meghan Trainor. This research use qualitative research and analysed the data with Gorys Keraf's theory which states that language style consists of two aspects that are language style based on the structure of sentences and language style based on meaning. There are nineteen songs that analysed thenseventeen types of language style that identified in it. Repetition is widely identified in every lyrics. There are three types of Repetition in this research that are Epizeuxis, Anaphora, and Epistrophe. The researcher found sixteen another language style based on meaning with Denotation and Connotation meaning in each lyrics. There are Irony, Sinism, Sarcasm, Paradox, Antithesis, Hyperboles, Apofasis, Simile, Aliteration, Methapore, Asonantion, Eponym, Satire, Epitet, Personification and Alution.*

**Keywords :** *Language Style, Song Lyric, Taking It Back, Meghan Trainor*

**Abstrak**

*Bahasa digunakan untuk menyampaikan makna dalam bentuk komunikasi, sastra, dan juga dalam penciptaan karya tertulis. Dalam bahasa ada gaya bahasa yang digunakan untuk menambahkan estetika bicara atau menulis. Hal ini juga berlaku untuk lirik lagu, karena lirik adalah karya tertulis. Untuk mengetahui penggunaan gaya bahasa, peneliti menganalisis lirik lagu Taking It Back oleh Meghan Trainor. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dan menganalisis data dengan teori Gorys Keraf yang menyatakan bahwa gaya bahasa terdiri dari dua aspek yang merupakan gaya bahasa yang didasarkan pada struktur kalimat dan gaya bahasa berdasarkan makna. Ada sembilan belas lagu yang kemudian menganalisis tujuh belas jenis gaya bahasa yang diidentifikasi di dalamnya. Pengulangan secara luas diidentifikasi dalam setiap lirik. Ada tiga jenis Repetisi dalam penelitian ini yaitu Epizeuxis, Anaphora, dan Epistrophe. Peneliti menemukan enam belas gaya bahasa lain berdasarkan makna dengan makna Denotasi dan Konotasi di setiap lirik. Ada Ironi, Sinisme, Sarkasme, Paradox, Antitesis, Hyperboles, Apofasis, Simile, Aliterasi, Metapore, Asonansi, Eponim, Satire, Epitet, Personifikasi dan Alution.*

**Kata kunci :** *Gaya bahasa, Lirik lagu, Taking It Back, Meghan Trainor*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a crucial tool in human communication, with 6,909 different languages. It is governed by a system of sounds and meanings, which shape the language into a good and understandable one. Language has meaning because it is for human communication and conveys certain intentions from a speaker to listeners. Language style plays an important role in determining the aesthetic value of literary works, such as novels, poetry, and lyrics. This research focuses on Meghan Trainor's song Taking it Back, which explains her situation as a mother. The language style found in the song lyrics directly and indirectly explains her situation after becoming a mother. The research identifies the types of language styles found in the song lyrics and the meaning contained in the lyrics. The scope of the research is limited to the type of language style found in the song lyrics and the meaning contained in the lyrics. The research objectives are to describe the language style in the song lyrics and the meaning of language styles in the song lyrics. The significance of this research is to provide readers with an understanding of the types of linguistic styles and make it easier for other researchers to collect references with the same or intersecting research themes.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

Research is an essential academic activity that aims to find out the results of a problem and advance knowledge. It can be divided into two types: Quantitative Research, which collects data in numerical form, and Qualitative Research, which uses words or sentences to obtain results. Data are observations or evidence, and they can be classified into qualitative and quantitative categories. The researcher use Qualitative research to analysed the data. The techniques of Collecting data for this research, the researcher collected data from a collection of lyrics on the album Taking it Back by Meghan Trainor and obtained it from an internet website. The data was organized into Word files and stored in Google Drive folders before being printed into hardcopy. After Collecting data researcher analyse the data. This part is a process of systematically searching for and compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes, and other materials to understand and inform findings. In this research, the researcher used Gorys Keraf Theory and Domain Analysis Data Presentation Techniques. Domain Analysis is useful for obtaining a general picture or comprehensive understanding, closely related to Qualitative research. After obtaining valid data analysis results, the data was presented in an orderly manner, classifying and presenting the data according to the main problem.

### 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This research analyzes the language styles in the lyrics of Meghan Trainor's "Taking It Back." The researcher uses Gorys Keraf's theory to identify 42 types of language styles in the lyrics. The analysis reveals three types of Repetisi: Epizeuxis, Anaphora, and Epistrofa. In the 19 lyrics, there are 234 Epizeuxis, 31 Anaphora, and 11 Epistrofa. In addition to Repetition, 16 other language styles were identified in the lyrics. Three of the 19 lyrics are unidentified. In Sensitive, there are 1 Irony, 1 Sinisism, 1 Sarcasm, and 1 Paradox. In Made You Look, there are 5 Antithesis, 3 Hiperbole, and 3 Apofasis. In Don't I Make It Look Easy, there are 3 Apofasis. In Shook, there are 1 Hiperbole, 1 Alution, and 1 Simile. In Bad For Me, there are 3 Paradox and 2 Aliteration. In Superwoman, there are 2 Antithesis, 2 Eponim, 2 Simile. In Breezy, there are 4 Aliteration, 8 Simile, 1 Metaphora, 3 Asonantion. In Growing Up, there are 1 Alution, 1 Apofasis, 1 Metaphora, 1 Satire, and 1 Aliteration. The total number of language styles identified is 16: 1 Irony, 1 Sinisism, 2 Sarcasm, 10 Paradox, 7 Antithesis, 10 Hiperbole, 4 Apofasis, 27 Simile, 21 Aliteration, 3 Methapore, 3 Asonantion, 9 Eponim, 2 Satire, 1 Epitet, 15 Personification, and 3 Alution.

#### 1. Language Style Based on Structure of Sentence

This study identifies three types of repetition language styles: Epizeuxis, Anaphora, and Epistrofa, based on Gorys Keraf's (2021) theory. These styles are based on sentence structure and can be identified by the order of the sentence or saying. The analysis provides a comprehensive understanding of these language styles.

##### a. Epizeuxis

#### 1) Sensitive Song

Researchers discovered a rehearsal style of epizeuxis in Meghan Trainor's song Sensitive, with 21 epizeuxis found in its temples. The opening lyrics describe the atmosphere, while the lyrics "If you don't know what you did (don't know what you did)" reveal someone's ignorance and guilt. The next lyrics "Full of it (full of it)" confirm the friend's lies, while "And you played all your games (all your games)" reveal the friend's plan to lie. The writer breaks their friendship after lying to herself, asking her friend to leave her life. The song concludes with "You're full of it (full of it) Ohh-oh," reaffirming the friend's liarity to the listeners.

#### 2) Shook song

The researcher identified 19 Epizeuxis language lyrics in the Shook song, which are repeated in every temple. The first line uses the word "got you shook" to emphasize shock and surprise. The second line uses the word "booty like this" to emphasize the speaker's unique beauty. The third line uses Epizeuxis to express the speaker's bad behavior towards her partner. The final line expresses the speaker's desire for her partner's name to be on their lips.

### **3) Mama Want to Mambo Song**

The lyrics of the song "Mama Want to Mambo" contain 34 Epizeuxis, expressing the singer's desire to dance Mambo, a Cuban dance. The lyrics repeat the word "Mambo" and emphasize the dance's origins. The singer also uses phrases like "spin me 'round and around" and "I've been running, running' round and round" to describe her dancing style. The lyrics also emphasize the discomfort of going to Mambo dance, the importance of natural beauty, and the gradual nature of Mambo dance.

### **4) Taking It Back Song**

The song Taking It Back features 14 Epizeuxis with several identical lyrics. The first lyric, "Takin' it back, back to the days they made that good shit," reflects the writer's desire to go back to the past. The second lyric, "It's gon' put you in the mood," suggests that something can change someone's mood. The third lyric, "Cause you can't even lie," emphasizes the writer's belief in the power of emotions. The final lyric, "And meet me on the dancefloor," reaffirms the desire to dance with peers and request music bass from a Disc Jockey.

### **5) Remind Me Song**

The song "Remind Me" features 22 Epizeuxis with several identical lyrics. The first line, "And my thoughts stay running, running, running," confirms the writer's intention to escape her problems. The second line, "Heartbreaks keep coming, coming, coming," implies that she will have heartbreaks. The third line, "Come and find me (find me), I need you to remind me, remind my lost," affirms her desire to be remembered. The fourth line, "Remind me (remind me)," signifies her desire for someone to hold her hand. The fifth line, "When all my emotions unfoldin'," suggests her unstable emotions. The final line, "I need you to remind me, remind Me," signifies that only the person she wants can remind her.

## **b. Anaphora**

### **1) Drama Queen Song**

The Drama Queen song features three Anaphoras, with some repeating in each stanza. The first line, "Go ahead, kiss it, if you wanna," suggests the writer is asking someone to kiss him immediately. The second line, "A good love like this then you gotta," emphasizes the definition of genuine love, highlighting the love in the song.

### **2) Lucky Song**

Lucky song features four repeated lyric phrases: "Don't mess this up by bein' too shy," "Don't mess this up by sayin' goodbye," and "Let's have a Good Time."

### **3) Don't I Make It Look Easy Song**

The song Don't I make it look easy features four Anaphoras, repeated in each temple. The lyrics ask the listener if they make things easy or not, with the word "Don't I" at the beginning affirming the writer's question. The song is a powerful and thought-provoking piece.

### **4) While we are young**

In While We Are Young song contains 4 Anaphoras in lyrics that are the same lyrics and are repeated in each stanza. The stanza is in the middle and the end. The lyrics are "Don't worry, girl Don't worry your life away (Before it's gone)" In the lyrics in the song While We Are Young the author repeats the words "don't Worry" at the beginning of the sentence to affirm that there is no need to worry about something that happens. She says this to calm the girls who are saddened by the life problems they face.

### **5) Bad For Me**

The song Bad For Me features 1 Anaphora in the first Stanza lyrics, "Damn, it's hard for me to let go someone I held so close, mm Damn, It's Hard for Me to draw that line And leave you on the other side" expressing shock and curse for a life event. The repetition of "Damn" signifies the author's difficult decision.

### c. Epistroph

#### 1) Drama Queen Song

The researcher discovered an Epistrophic language style in Drama Queen's lyrics, specifically the phrase "You wipe my tears for me You're always here for me," emphasizing the author's gratitude for someone's support during her sadness.

#### 2) Remind Me Song

The researcher rediscovered the Epistroph in the song "Remind Me," featuring two Epistrophes. The lyrics are "Help me put all this behind me (behind me), 'Cause all that I need is inside me (inside me), and only your love can remind me (remind me)" The lyrics are repeated on different stanzas, implying the author needs help to forget their problem, needs to be reminded of their inner self, and requires the love of others to do so.

#### 3) Lucky Song

In this song titled Lucky, the researcher re-discovered the Epistroph the type of repetition with a total of 7 Epistrophes. The lyrics are from the first temple to the last. The lyrics are "You're gonna get lucky tonight I want you to touch me tonight". The repetition of the word "tonight" at the end of the lyrics affirms the time that will happen for a fortune for someone and the author's desire to touch the person. Then there are other lyrics such as "Whoa, baby, you got it (uh-huh) Yeah, if you want it ( uh-huh)" The repeat of the words "It" in the late lyrics have a different meaning. "Want it" means someone will get something from the writer if someone wants to.

#### 4) Dancing about It Song

In the song titled Dancing about It, the researcher re-discovered the language style of the epistrophic type with the number of 1 epistrofes on the first stanza. The lyrics are "Be careful what you say to me (what you tell to me) 'Cause that bullshit don't sit right with me" The repetition of "Me" at the end of the lyrics has a different meaning. In the word "say to me" means the author insists that one must keep the word and language when speaking with her. The word "with me" means the writer will not feel offended or become weak by the bad words or comments of someone.

## 2. Language Style Based on Meaning

The researcher used Gorys Keraf's theory to analyze data on Meghan Trainor's songs, identifying Repetition Style, Language style, meaning, denotations, and connotations. The

study identified various language styles, meanings, denotations, and connotations in each song. The Rainbow song has 8 Similes, Metaphore, and Hyperboles, while Breezy has 4 Aliterations, 8 Similes, Methapore, and Asonantions. Superwoman has 2 Antithesises, Eponim, and 2 Similes. Special Delivery has 15 Personifications, 3 Similes, and 1 Alution. The identified lyrics explain the meanings individually.

### **1) Rainbow song**

The lyrics of "Rainbow" feature 12 Similes and 4 Hiperboles, with one metaphore identified. The song has 30 meanings of Denotation and 17 Connotations. The words "Rainbow" and "You're as colorful as a rainbow" are a Simile language style, implying a person's amazing talent or advantage. "You're as bright as the moon" is a Moon language style, implying a person's brightness. "Go and show 'em all your rainbow" is a Rainbow language style, implying an amazing talent. "You're emotional, but you the baddest bish" is a Baddest Bish language style, implying a person's strength despite their sensitivity. "And this world is cold" is a Connotation meaning, conveying the cruel world. The lyrics also include four Hiperboles, with "Cause this world's gonna love you" being an exaggerated word.

### **2) Breezy Song**

The researcher analyzed the lyrics of "Breezy" and identified four language styles: Aliterations, Similes, Metaphora, and Asonantion. The lyric "Take your worries up off your mind, Leave your stress and pain behind" is an aliteration, referring to the author's belief in ignoring problems. The lyrics "After every storm the sun gon' shine" and "And when you see clouds, Cover your skies" are similar, with clouds representing problems and life, and skies representing life. The lyric "Nuff love and respect for me people Treat everybody equal" is an Aliteration, expressing the author's entitlement to be loved. The lyric "Make you feel so comfortable (yes) Ah you no have a be miserable (now)" is an Aliteration, describing the author's belief in a warm and pleasant personality. The lyric "Know if we keep it breezy Life can be so easy" is an Asonantion, indicating the author's belief that relaxation and happiness make difficulties easier. The lyric "Just be grateful that you woke up Put that happiness in your cup" is an Aliteration, implying the author's belief in gratitude and happiness. The final analysis revealed the Asonantion language style in the lyric "Repeat after me I'm cool as can be," which encourages the reader to repeat the words to strengthen self-love.

### **3) Superwoman Song**

The lyrics of Superwoman feature 2 Antithesises, 2 Similes, and 1 Eponim, with 18 meanings of Denotation and 7 connotations. The antithesis "Call me Superwoman but I know I'm not that strong Mhm-hm-hm" contradicts the idea of Superwoman being a hero with powers. The Simile "And if I'm superwoman" is a simile language, while the Eponym "My only villain is myself" implies the writer's own lusts and emotions.

#### **4) Special Delivery Song**

The research analyzed the lyrics of the song "Special Delivery" and identified three types of language: 15 Personifications, 3 Similes, and 1 Alution. The first personification lyric, "Baby, I'm a special delivery just for you," represents the writer's dedication to her husband. The second personification lyric, "To get your attention, I'm shiny and new," demonstrates the writer's innovative approach to serving her husband. The third personification lyric, "Baby, you got me flyin'," conveys misbehavior due to her husband. The fourth personification lyric, "That donka donk, that's what you want," uses a simile to emphasize the writer's actions in accordance with her husband's wishes.

#### **5) Grow Up Song**

The study identifies 5 types of language in the lyrics of the song Grow Up: Alution, Satire, Apofasis, Metaphora, and Aliteration. Alution language style conveys the attractiveness of a person by matching them with Frank Sinatra, Metaphoric language style signifies luck, Apophysical language style implies a person's attractiveness, and satire language style suggests immaturity. Aliteration language style suggests a person should become an adult man, while aliteration language style encourages a person to become a grown man. The lyrics aim to convey the author's message of a handsome person.

### **4. CONCLUSIONS**

The researcher found that Meghan Trainor's lyrics use repetition to affirm the meaning of the song, with Epizeuxis being the most common type. The meaning of the lyric is conveyed through denotation and connotation, with denotation being the most common. Meghan uses repetition to explain her intentions continuously, making it easy for readers to understand her feelings and intentions. This research highlights the importance of



understanding the meaning of the lyric in the context of Meghan Trainor, a mother and caregiver.

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