CHAPTER II

THEORY AND METHODS

In this chapter, the author of this study will discuss about the theory and methods being used in this study in order to analyze the poetry "*Mother and Poet*" by Elizabeth Browning.

2.1 Theory

This chapter will discuss about the theory used in this research.

2.1.1 Literary Works

Literary works are written expressions of art that use words, numbers, or other symbols like musical notation or alphabetic letters to convey themselves. Books, pamphlets, essays, lectures, speeches, and computer programs can all be considered among them. They are a part of the body of literature from that time period or culture.

Literary work employs language as instrument. Bressler (2011) uses the example of those who provide etymological answers to the question "What Is Literature?" in order to define the genre. They contend that since the Latin word *litera*, which means **letter**, is the root of the English term **literature**, anything that is written counts as literature. Furthermore, he also cites another group of critics that narrow the definition by defining literature as written text that contains imaginative or creative work of art. Contrasting to the previous group of authors,

another group of authors define literature as a written work valued by the readers regardless of the prescribed criteria used to define it. Therefore, Bressler refers literature as a piece of art that "concretizes in story form a variety of human values, emotions, actions, and ideas."

2.1.2 Poem

Poem, according to **Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (2017)** is a written work that uses rhymes to convey feelings, thoughts, and experiences, usually in brief lines. According to Baldwin (2021), poem is usually written while employing types of rhyme scheme or metrical pattern. It is typically organized into stanzas, which are collections of lines.

2.1.3 Poetry

Poetry is a broad topic that has existed for as long as history itself, wherever religion is practiced, and according to certain definitions, may even be the first and main form of language. Nemerov (2023) stated that poetry refers to a type of literature that invokes a centralized imaginative awareness of experience or a certain emotional reaction by word choices that are structured according to their rhythm, meaning, and tone.

2.1.4 Stylistics

Short (1996: 1) defines stylistics as "a method for analyzing literary texts through the use of linguistic description." Stylistics connects the two disciplines of literature and linguistics. As a result, stylistics can be improved. Depending on the context, it can appear to be either linguistics or literary criticism. When he looks at it, the individual is standing.

In agreement with Short, Widdowson (1975: 3) defines stylistics as a field that serves as a bridge between two disciplines: linguistics and literary criticism. Literary criticism's ultimate goal is to understand and evaluate literary works as works of art, but linguistics' primary focus is with the codes themselves, and specific messages are of relevance only inasmuch as they demonstrate how the codes are produced.

Then, according to Simpson (2004: 3), Stylistic is a technique of inquiry that focuses on investigating language, particularly the innovative aspects of language usage and its contribution to production of meaning. This approach has a significant reflective capability because of the fact that it can provide insights into the language system from which it originated. Stylistics teaches us about language's "rules" because it frequently examines texts in which those rules have been pushed or strained to their breaking point. As a result, performing stylistic analysis broadens people's perspectives on language, and examining language broadens people's understanding of literary texts.

According to the above scholars' definition and descriptions, it can be said that stylistics is a linguistic approach to literature, explaining the relation between language and artistic function. Every analysis of style is an attempt to discover the artistic basics underlying an author's choice of language. By employing stylistics approach, the author of this study can analyze the aspects to determine the meaning behind the poetry "*Mother and Poet*" written by Elizabeth Browning

2.1.5 Style

Stylistics can be described as the study of style from the standpoint of simple word production. Even in terms of literary texts, the concept of style and its definition in terms of various features have been hotly debated. According to Guggenheim (2018), style can be defined simply as the manner in which a writer employs language to establish the tone and significance of a piece. Word choice, diction, grammar, repetition, any figurative language (such as metaphor, simile, personification, apostrophe, metonymy, synecdoche, and so on), etc., could all be considered in this. Style is a term used in discussions of literature that mostly refers to the type of language a writer uses.

According to Leech and Short (1981: 52), the term style refers to the area of language use, such as the choices made by a given author, in a particular genre, or in a particular book. When individuals claim style refers to how language is used, they are referring to Ferdinand de Saussure's parole and langue notion. Parole refers to how an individual user of a langue conducts a code reference for that language while the langue is studying the language's overall features. This means that style in this case refers to the way a writer uses language to interact with readers in a particular literary work.

According to the definition given by the experts above, style is the way a writer uses language in a particular literary work. The process of selecting and combining elements in a fictional work is referred to as style. That is, it refers to the writer's word choices (diction) and how they are organized in sentences and longer units of speech.

2.1.6 Figurative Language in Stylistics

Yu (2020) stated that figurative language is traditionally understood to serve ornamental purposes, adding unique aesthetic value to a speech or writing. As a result, figurative language is fresh and imaginative as opposed to literal language, which is commonplace and traditional. **Literal** refers to a meaning that is independent of a figurative extension from another meaning, whereas **figurative** refers to a use that is extended from a literal usage.

In order to gain strength and freshness of expression, Holman and Harmon (1986: 202) defines figurative language as an international departure from the normal order, construction, or meaning of the words in order to create an effect, described by analogy, or discover and illustrate similarities or otherwise dissimilar things. Then, according to Wales (2001: 176) figurative language or figure of speech is a method that breaks linguistic laws by contrasting two or more dissimilar things.

Then, according to Thomas R. Arp (2014), figurative language is a technique of conveying something using words that are not normally employed to describe the object. It is utilized to emphasize the true meaning of the term by adding more dimensions. He further claims that figurative language in a literary work serves to compel readers to engage in imaginative activity because the words employed in figurative language do not have a sensible meaning on their own. To completely comprehend the substance of the statement, readers must investigate the connections between words or sentence by sentence.

Simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, oxymoron, hyperbole, overstatement, understatement, synecdoche, and irony are all examples of figurative language, according to Richard Gill in Mastering English Literature (1995: 24). This thesis focuses on figurative language in the forms of metonymy, anaphora, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, simile, allusion. The reason behind the focus on those seven types of figurative language is because of the limited time in the process of writing this study. The description of the figurative languages focused on this study will be shown below:

1. Metonymy

Metonymy, according to Perrine (1963:6), is the usage of something that is closely related to what is being said in a sentence. In line with Perrine, Wren and Martin (1995: 337) stated in a more detailed manner that metonymy (literary, a change of name) designates an object by the name of anything that is commonly connected with it.

2. Anaphora

Anaphora is a figurative language in which the use of word is used to refers back to a word used earlier. Mitkov (2002) defined anaphora as co-referencing one expression with its prior. It occurs when a word or phrase appears at the start of several stanzas or lines. The information required to interpret the phrase is provided by the antecedent. For example, in this new political movement, John is more likely expand his influence rather than dissolving them. John is referred to as his and the influence as them. Furthermore, anaphora can also be described as the repetition of

a word or expression in the beginning of a succeeding phrases, clauses, sentences, or poems specifically for rhetorical or poetic effect (Merriam-Websters, 2016)

3. Metaphor

Metaphor, according to Arp (2014), is a figurative language employed when we want to create an indirect comparison between two items. Metaphoric language is employed to convey a fresh and distinct meaning. As a result, metaphor serves largely to improve aesthetic diversity and color. Then, according to Goatly (1997: 166) metaphor is employed to create phrase variations. It can be employed to strengthen the reader's global imagination.

4. Hyperbole

Burgers et al. (2016) stated that an expression that is more extreme than justified given its ontological referent is the definition of hyperbole. Hyperbole is an outlandish exaggeration of an object's quality use to emphasize the importance of a truth or feeling. It is created by a variety of effects, such as comedy or solemnity, imaginative or restrained, compelling or unconvincing. Exaggeration like this is employed in literature for emphasis or vivid description. Hyperbole can be used to accentuate or dramatize a person's thoughts or feelings.

5. Personification

Personification, according to Kennedy (1979: 495), is a figure of speech in which inanimate objects are given human features and attributes in order to generate dramatic consequences. In line with Kennedy, Melion et al. (2016) stated that personification as a rhetorical figure in which something not human is given a human characteristic or identity. Furthermore, according to Gill (1995: 30), the poet

believes that the dead thing is alive and possesses human-like abilities. It's as though people interpret the connection between sensation and scenery as bringing the live nature of the natural world closer to us.

6. Simile

Simile is a metaphorical language used when people want to explain the likeness of two items (in shape, color, qualities, etc.) directly using connectors such as *like*, *as*, *than*, *similar to*, *resembles*, or *seems*, according to Thomas R. Arp (2014). According to Gill (1995: 25), two different items are directly contrasted by utilizing connectors like "*like*" or "*as*" to make it simpler for readers to recognize that it is the figurative language of simile.

7. Allusion

Abrams (1971) defined allusion as "a brief reference, indirect, to a person, place or event, or to another literary work or passage." Irwin (2001), in his article stated that according to oxford dictionary, allusion is a covert, implied, or indirect reference. The usage of allusion is vast in literature since it is a great way of establishing a relationship between things, time periods, or ideas. Allusion can also be used for characterization. For example, an attractive couple of men and women can be alluded to Rome and Juliet.

2.1.7 Meaning

Though it is commonly accepted that meaning falls under the purview of linguistics, meaning is not confined to any one field of study or discipline. Martín et al. (2018) stated that meaning is a fundamental idea in all translation. Whatever our understanding of the nature of translation may be, it usually involves an assumed

relationship between a translation and its original, whether that link is full or partial, remote or even too close. It is true that natural or formal language is considered when determining an object's meaning in a language. According to linguistic theory, meaning is what is conveyed to the reader or listener and what is articulated by the writer or speaker while they are speaking or writing on the same subject.

According to Keraf (2006), Meaning can generally be separated into two categories: Denotative and Connotative. The explanation will be shown as below:

1. Denotative Meaning

Denotative meaning is so named because it refers to a specific notion, concept, or referent. A word's denotative meaning is its literal meaning. Denotative meaning can also be called conceptual meaning. Language's conceptual meaning is typically arranged according to contrastive characteristics (Leech, 1981). For example, the definition of the word **woman** may be defined female human, while **man** could be defined as male human. It is independent of the reference and refers to the logical meaning of the statement. In short, denotative meaning refers to the literal meaning of a word.

2. Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning is any additional meaning that a word may have for a person depending on their upbringing and prior experiences. In comparison to denotative meaning, it is significantly more individualized, subjective, and context-dependent. Connotative meaning describes the feelings and assessments that a person connects to a term. In short, connotative meaning describes the feelings and assessments that a person connects to a term.

According to Leech (1974), connotative meaning is an expression's communication value based on what is meant. Connotative meaning extends beyond dictionary definitions and is related to the perspectives of individuals, groups, and communities.

2.2 Methods

This section will discuss about the method used in this study

2.2.1 The Type of Study

This study used a descriptive qualitative research design to conduct a descriptive study. Qualitative research, according to Bogdan and Biklen (1982: 28), is "descriptive. The information gathered is in the form of words or images rather than statistics. The written research findings include data quotes that are utilized to highlight and support the presentation." Meanwhile, Selinger and Shohamy (1989: 124) claim that descriptive research "entails a set of procedures for identifying, delineating, and describing naturally occurring phenomena without the need of experimental manipulation."

The phenomena or situation being described in this study was Downing's poetry "*Mother and Poet.*" This study used a descriptive qualitative research approach to discover how Browning used metaphorical language in his poetry.

2.2.2 The Technique of Data Collection

According to Bogdan and Biklen (1982: 67), "when collecting data, the researcher selects specific subjects to include in his study because those subjects are thought to help expand the growing theory." The data collection method used in this study was note-taking and purposive sampling. The information was taken from words in

Elizabeth Downing's poetry "*Mother and Poet*", while the sample is specifically limited to the sentence where any types of seven figurative languages occurred.

In order to support the analysis, additional references originating from various journals, articles, and books are cited. Purposive sampling is used in this research to reach the objectives by focusing on the seven types of figurative languages, namely, metonymy, anaphora, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, simile, and allusion. The research procedures are then provided in the following order:

1. Reading the text of the poetry;

2. Identifying the sentences where the figurative languages influence the meaning of the poetry;

3. Classifying the types of figurative language which are used in the sentences of the poetry.

2.2.3 The Technique of Data Analysis

Data analysis, is a process of categorizing, describing, and synthesizing, (Wiersma, 1995: 281). There are five research methodologies for analyzing data in qualitative research (Vanderstoep and Johnston, 2009: 199). Ethnography, phenomenology, case studies, textual analysis, and applied research are the five methods. The researcher used textual analysis in this study because he used the theories offered in the previous chapter to examine the data. As a result, the ideas served as a guide for interpreting the facts. Following that, the following data analysis approaches are presented:

1. after being collected, the data were categorized into several types of figurative language;

2. the researcher analyzed and interpreted each data by identifying the figurative language contained in the poetry in order to answer the research questions;

3. the researcher reported the findings of the research through textual descriptions; and

4. finally, the researcher drew the conclusion.

Table 1. Sample of collected data.

No.	Sentence	Figurative language							Explanation
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	To teach them … It stings There! *I* made them indeed Speak Plain the word *country. I* taught them, no doubt, That a country's a thing men should die for at need. The Tyrant cast out					X			**The tyrant** in this stanza is not actually a figure or a person. Concerning the theme and context of the poetry, the author of this poetry used the term **The tyrant** to personify the war.

1. Metonymy   5. Personification

2. Anaphora   6. Simile

3. Metaphor   7. Allusion

4. Hyperbole