

## **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION**

### **Basic Consideration**

In many cultures, universally people view literary works as human works that are expressed through the aesthetic aspects. It has been considered as the result of creation based on the spontaneous emotion. Almost authors create a literary work as what they feel. They usually put their feeling on their work. Therefore, the literary work could be impressed and enjoyed more by readers and listeners. Advantegeously, it gives good values and positive energy to those who enjoy it because it has moral messages which could motivate who read the works.

In creating a literary work, people use various language styles. Keraf (1994, p.112-113) points out that language style covers an ability in using words, particularly showing speaker's soul and characters. As in formal side, Keraf divides language style into two parts, namely direct and indirect meanings. Direct meaning covers the meaning that is physically only similar with the utterance. However, indirect meaning has language deviation that evokes pressure, ornament, humor, seriousness, or other emotional effects. This part has been called as figure of speech.

Supporting to this case, figure of speech is divided into two groups, namely rhetorical language style and analogical language style. In rhetorical language style, figure of speech involved apostrof, eufemisme, litotes, hyperbol, paradox, and oximoron. Meanwhile, analogical language style covers metaphor, simile, alegory, personification, irony, sarcasm, and synecdoche.

The figure of speech or figurative language is mostly existed in literary works, one is poetry. Hornby (198, p.644) in Subhan (2005, p.1) defines that poetry as a part of creative writing in expressing feelings or insights in beautiful language, resembling a desire to share

experience. Therefore, figurative language is really necessary for being used by author to beautify his work and avoid vulgar words.

Poetry becomes one of the literary works that was very interesting to learn and analyze because of its beautifulness, and by these premises, poetry has been chosen as a subject of the present investigation. Robert Frost is considered as one of the contemporary poets.

Robert Frost is one of the most popular of American poets. He is one of the most uncommon with rural New England. He has got four rewards of Pulitzer Prize. Most of Robert Frost's Poems tells about life situation, condition of politics, etc. Therefore, it is necessary and very important to analyze and to investigate the simile which may appear in Robert Frost's poem. I choose the research because it has several reasons. Analyzing simile is helpful to get the real meaning and purpose of a poem. According to Brian P. Cleary (2009), simile could help you to say that someone and thing. Simile is helpful in describing people, things, and even places. They help you to paint a picture you can see inside your brain. Once you learn about them, they can change your writing habits. Analyzing simile will help them to know the figurative language especially for simile. By analyzing simile, I could learn how the simile is used and what does it mean, I also could learn the diction that use in poem, and by reading the poem it could enlarge the knowledge about figurative language because poem has a beautiful word in order to the reader can feel the different word in poem. And it would give a new knowledge for learning literature especially for poetry

According to Reaske in Minderop (2011, p. 82) states that a simile is a direct comparison between things which are not particularly similar in their essence. A poet introduces a simile through a connecting word which signal that a comparison is being made; the most frequently

used connectives are “like” and “as”, but “than” is also used. So simile is comparison something that use like or as.

Abrams (1999) states that in a simile, a comparison between two distinctly different things is explicitly indicated by the word “like” or “as”. Based on those explanations, it can be figured out that simile is a figure of speech using “like” and “as” to compare seemingly unlike things. There an example of simile that I found in Robert Frost’s poem “In Hardwood Groves”:

The same leaves over and over again!  
They fall from giving shade above  
To make one texture of faded brown  
And fit the earth **like** a leather glove.  
(Robert Frost’s)

In this poem, Frost compares between “the earth” and “leather glove”. In this case, the comparison of simile could be seen from two unlike things give same perception. The use of “leather glove” as the thing that is compared to “the earth”. According to Alex in “Australia on analysis and comments” on Hardwood Groves by Robert Frost (available at [www.americanpoems.com](http://www.americanpoems.com)), it is a poem about the cycle of life on Earth, and the human beings try to go through. He also said that the poems literal or surface meaning is a story of the life cycle of a tree, with the leaves falling and new leaves taking their place. This, he believed it is actually a large metaphor for the human life cycle, since human borns, grows up to he will be adult, and even he dies. Frost uses repetition heavily in this poem, as well as a common rhyming pattern to signify the repetition of human life. Besides, the comparison of simile could be seen in another poem as being we can see in the William Shakespeare’s poem:

“A Madrigal”  
Crabbed age and youth  
Cannot live together  
Youth is full of pleasance

Age is full of care  
**Youth like summer morn**  
**Age like winter weather**  
**Youth like summer brave**  
**Age like winter bare**  
(William Shakespeare)

From the fifth to the last line, William Shakespeare's used the same a simile of each lines "like" this simile showed that the symbol of beautiful person which was identically related with age and youth in the life. A person has different life because everybody has different characteristics such as care, brave and etc. All of them has been described in beautiful song.

Referring to those considerations, this research titled "*Simile on Robert Frost's Poems*". The analysis would be performed Robert Frost's poem in entire stanza and interpret its stanza through simile perspectives.

### **Problem Statement**

Based on the basic consideration above, the problem statement is formulated as follows:  
"How is simile reflected in Robert Frost's Poems?"

### **Objective of Research**

This writing has two aims. The first is to describe simile that isreflected in Robert Frost's Poem. The second purposes are to improve reader appreciation in understanding and comprehending Robert Frost's poem. The using of simile perspective expected would be enrich a form of analysis in literary work.

### **Significance of Research**

It is expected that this research contributes some significant progresses in learning about literary works especially poetry. The contribution of research could be described as follows:

## **Language Teaching**

In this part, this research is expected that could give benefit for lecturer in State University of Gorontalo, more particularly for Poetry lecturers to use this research as a reference for teaching about figurative language, especially in learning-teaching about simile. This research is also expected could give advantages for teachers that teach Bahasa Indonesia, prominently for those who teach about literary. In this case, this research could be a reference for teachers in teaching-learning process in the class.

## **Theory of Literature**

Hopefully, although this research is still far from the perfection, the researcher hopes this research could add some information for readers in understanding about simile. It is beneficially expected could give contribution as adding understanding about simile, particularly for readers, they could take some examples of simile in this research, and they could be useful reference for them.

In literature, one of materials that is discussed is figurative language. Everybody when will make literary work, they should pay attention some points such as the use of figurative language in order to beautify their work. For this reason, this research could give information to those who makes literary work in understanding about simile.

## **Theory of Language**

This research is basically talking about simile. There are some people consider that both metaphor and simile are same in general point of view. However, between metaphor and simile are not having similar understanding. Metaphor is identically giving a view toward the use of linking verb (am, is, are) without the use of “like” and “as” as we find in simile. Therefore, this research is adventagously giving suporting information for all readers that between metaphor and

simile are different each other. This research can give information about how the use of simile in Robert Frost's poems. It could give adding points for who wants to know more about simile.

### **Delimitation of Research**

Considering to background of research, this research focuses on figurative language as simile that is taken from Robert Frost's poems. They are required from Frost's writing titled "*Complete Robert Frost Poems*" (1964). It is then associated with the analysis of simile based on its structure or how the use of simile on the poems. In fact, there are several poems that were presented on his book, but the researcher just limites the poems as many as 10 poems. They were *A Lake Walk, A Prayer in Spring, Gathering Leaves, Going for Water, Neither Out Far Nor in Deep, Stars, Rose Pogonias, Demiurges Laugh, Ghost House, and A Patch of Old Snow*. Those poems were chosen by considering the use of simile inside.