METAPHORS IN CHILDREN’S SHORT STORIES

ABSTRACT

Keywords: Metaphor, Structural, Ontological, Orientational

Metaphor is usually found in literary works such as: poetry, short story, fiction, etc. In this research, the writer wants to describe metaphor in children short stories. This research aims at describing the kinds of metaphor in children’s short stories and the meaning of metaphor itself. There are 20 short stories used as source of data. This research use qualitative and quantitative method. To get the data the writer read the children’s short stories carefully and underlined the sentences which are identified as metaphors. The data were presented in pie chart and tables as well as percentage. The result of this research showed that there are three kinds of metaphor in this short story namely: structural metaphor, ontological metaphor, and orientational metaphor. There are 157 metaphors found in the short stories. They include 70 ontological metaphors, 60 structural metaphors, and 27 orientational metaphors. Ontological metaphors were the largest number of metaphor used since this story is for young children. Ontological metaphors put human entities into non-human things. It helped children understand the story and get the message. Since the meaning of metaphor is the outside of the metaphor itself we cannot get the meaning of metaphor inside the metaphor itself. We also cannot get the meaning of metaphor literally we can get the meaning of metaphor contextually.

INTRODUCTION

Metaphorical language is a kind of figurative language. Figurative language is a kind of language used in a way that is different from the usual meaning, in order to create a particular mental image. Figurative languages are divided into many forms such as: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, etc. Figurative language has different forms with formal language, so we usually find some difficulties to interpret the meaning of that language. We cannot get the meaning of the figurative language by translating the language literally. All of us, every day, speak, write and think in metaphors. In fact, it is hard to imagine how we would get by without them. And because figurative comparisons lie at the heart of language and thought, they have been pinned down and picked apart by scholars in a wide variety of disciplines.
This research focuses on the use of metaphors in children’s short stories. This research explains kinds of metaphors used in children short stories and its meaning equivalence. The number of using metaphor in each story will be showed. The writer wants to introduce metaphorical language into the readers. Nowadays, metaphor still consider as a weird and uncommon language.

This research entitled “Metaphor in Children Short Stories”. This research will enrich the vocabulary because metaphor used different styles of language. The vocabulary which is used in children short stories are simple words but it needs a lot of understanding to get the meaning.

**Problem Formulation**

There are three problems in this research, i.e.:

1. What are the metaphors utilized in the short story?
2. How many metaphors are utilized in children short stories?
3. What is the translation of the metaphors in Indonesian?

**Aim of the Research**

The aims of this research are:

1. To find out the metaphors utilized in the short story
2. To explain the number of metaphors used in children short stories
3. To find out the translation of metaphor in children short stories

**THEORETICAL REVIEW**

**Definition of Metaphor**

Metaphor expressed the concepts through language not isolated from each other. It makes metaphor as good examples of these interconnections. Grady (1996:278) said that metaphor is the understanding of one concept in terms of another. This definition shows to us that metaphors have
Grady defines metaphor based on the form of metaphors. In other hand, Lakoff and Johnson (2003:28) define metaphor as a comparison that show how two things that are not alike in most ways are similar in another important way. Lakoff and Johnson also explain that metaphors are widely used in context to describe personal meaning. This definition related with Kridalaksana (2008:152) he defines metaphor in ‘Kamus Linguistik’ as the using of others word or expression for other objects or concepts based on similarity or analogy.

**Kinds of Metaphor**

Koveceses classified conceptual metaphor according to the cognitive functions that they perform. On this basis, three general kinds of conceptual metaphor have been distinguished: structural, ontological, and orientational.

**Structural Metaphor**

In this kind of metaphor, the source domain provides a relatively rich knowledge structure for the target concept. In other words, the cognitive function of these metaphors is to enable speakers to understand target A by means of the structure of source B. most structural metaphors provide this kind of structuring and understanding for their target concepts.

**Ontological Metaphors**

Ontological metaphors provide much less cognitive structuring for target concepts than structural ones do. Their cognitive job seems to be “merely” giving an ontological status to general categories of abstract target concepts. In general, ontological metaphors enable us to see more sharply delineated structure where there is very little or none.

**Orientational Metaphors**

Orientational metaphors provide even less conceptual structure for target
concepts than ontological ones. Their cognitive job, instead, is to make a set of target concepts coherent in our conceptual system. The name “orientational metaphor” derives from the fact that most metaphors that serve this function have to do with basic human spatial orientations, such as up-down, center-periphery, etc.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**Research Design**

This research used qualitative and quantitative method. Generally, qualitative research is a research method for a problem which is not designed or arranged used statistical procedure. This research uses percentage research as quantitative method. Therefore this research called qualitative and quantitative research.

**Source of the Data**

The source of data in this research is the English Children’s Short Stories which were taken from internet. The writer only used twenty children’s short stories and the stories were taken from three main sites retrieved on Monday, 9th May 2011. The sources of the data are as follows.


RESULT OF STUDY

Types of metaphor

Metaphors which were found in children's short stories are 157 metaphors divided into three categories; 70 structural metaphors, 27 orientational metaphors, and 60 ontological metaphors. The data are put in the form of pie chart below:

Figure 4.1 chart of metaphor in children's short stories

Structural Metaphor

Structural metaphor provides relatively rich knowledge structure for the target concepts. Structural metaphor usually uses two things which are compared. In these short stories, the writer found 60 structural metaphors they are put in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Metaphor</th>
<th>Short Story</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Timmy <em>was in tears</em></td>
<td>Be Good to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ontological Metaphor

Ontological metaphors enable us to see more sharply delineated structure where there is very little or none.

The examples of ontological metaphors which are found in the short stories are presented in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Metaphor</th>
<th>Short Story</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Octopus felt <strong>heartily relieved</strong> when he was finally set free</td>
<td>An Octopus in Trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Octopus, <strong>remembering</strong> how the little fish had helped him</td>
<td>An Octopus in Trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>The little fish told</strong></td>
<td>An Octopus in Trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>The Octopus spent the whole night thinking</strong></td>
<td>An Octopus in Trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>The huge fish was chasing</strong> the kind little fish who had untied him</td>
<td>An Octopus in Trouble</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Orientational Metaphors**

Orientational metaphors provide even less conceptual structure for target concepts than ontological ones. Their cognitive job, instead, is to make a set of target concepts coherent in our conceptual system. The name “orientational metaphor” derives from the fact that most metaphors that serve this function have to do with basic human spatial orientations, such as up-down, center-periphery, etc. The examples of orientational metaphor which are found in the children’s short stories are presented in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Metaphor</th>
<th>Short Story</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Someone <strong>fell ill</strong></td>
<td>Be Good to Your Enemies II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If anyone **fell ill** at night

Be Good to Your Enemies II

He rushed to find that Juan’s son had **fallen ill**

Be Good to Your Enemies II

When **night fell**, he slept on a nice blanket inside his kennel

Be Good to Your Enemies III

When **day broke** he had his food served before him in no time

Be Good to Your Enemies III

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Types of metaphor</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>An Octopus in Trouble</td>
<td>Structural metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orientational metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ontological metaphor</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Be Good to Your Enemies I</td>
<td>Structural metaphor</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orientational metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ontological metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Be Good to Your Enemies II</td>
<td>Structural metaphor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orientational metaphor</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ontological metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Be Good to Your Enemies III</td>
<td>Structural metaphor</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orientational metaphor</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ontological metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chocolate Tears</td>
<td>Structural metaphor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orientational metaphor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ontological metaphor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Equivalence of Metaphors in Indonesian

### Structural Metaphors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Timmy <em>was in tears</em></td>
<td>Timmy <em>menangis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>He <em>took pity</em> on the boy</td>
<td>Ia <em>kasihan</em> pada anak itu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>This <em>opened Timmy’s eyes</em></td>
<td>Hal tersebut <em>membuka mata Timmy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Sammy <em>gave him back only love in return</em></td>
<td>Sammy <em>membalasnya dengan rasa sayang</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td><em>Our behavior may just change themselves for the better</em></td>
<td><em>Perilaku kita bisa mengubah diri mereka menjadi lebih baik.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ontological Metaphors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td><em>The Octopus felt heartily relieved when he was finally set free</em></td>
<td><em>Gurita merasa sungguh lega ketika akhirnya ia bebas</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td><em>The Octopus, remembering how the little fish had helped him</em></td>
<td><em>Gurita tersebut ingat bagaimana ikan kecil itu telah membantunya,</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td><em>The little fish told them all</em></td>
<td><em>Ikan kecil mengatakan kepada mereka semua</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Orientational Metaphors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Metaphor</th>
<th>Short Story</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td><em>Someone fell ill</em></td>
<td>Seseorang <em>jatuh sakit</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td><em>If anyone fell ill at night</em></td>
<td>Jika ada yang <em>jatuh sakit di malam hari</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td><em>He rushed to find that Juan’s son had fallen ill</em></td>
<td>*Ia segera mengetahui bahwa anak laki-laki Pak Juan <em>jatuh sakit</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td><em>When night fell, he slept on a nice blanket inside his kennel</em></td>
<td><em>Ketika malam tiba, ia tidur di atas selimut yang bagus di dalam kandang</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td><em>When day broke he had his food</em></td>
<td><em>Ketika pagi hari, makanannya diberikan tepat waktu</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
served before him in no time

Discussion

Ontological Metaphor

The ontological metaphors, are based on the experience with Physical objects. Those experiences can be identified and categorised as entities restricted by a surface. So we can categorise those things that normally do not have such a boundary by using those entities. We set up artificial boundaries. A very important group of ontological metaphors are those that describe something as a person, a personification. The ontological which are found in this short story as following:

a. The Octopus felt heartily relieved when he was finally set free.

b. A good rain washes the world.

c. The toy jumped out of his hands and said.

d. The door, in turn, was happy to have the chance to be a proper door again, and to graciously accept the discomforts of a job as hard as being a door.

e. The spring could see

Ontological metaphor is the most metaphor used in the short stories. They used ontological metaphor because it tells about animal such as: octopus, hare, tortoise, fish, mouse, and cat. Ontological metaphor also used for things such as: door, pen, book, spring, colors, and robot. The personification of the octopus and the little fish are include as ontological metaphor as George Lakoff said in his book “Metaphors we live by”. Human entities which are put on the short story are felt heartily relieved, thinking, remembering, and told. The animal doesn’t have that ability in reality. In this short story the ability appeared. It is not suitable with the reality. Ontological metaphors are used here to make the story
can be understand more easily by children. The reader of this short story are children so, it helps the children to know what the animal have done in the story are possible to do by us in our life. Human entities also put in the things such as: climb, jump, see, happy, speak, gracious, and so on.

**Structural Metaphor**

A structural metaphor is called a **spatial metaphor** when the structure or space is one that a human being typically moves through. A structural metaphor is a **conventional metaphor** in which one concept is understood and expressed in terms of another structured, sharply defined concept. That means that certain aspects get special attention whereas other ones are out of sight. Different parts of experiences which are complex but too abstract are conceptualised with the help of simple but known experiences. These are structural metaphor in children’s short stories:

a. Timmy was in tears.

b. A lazy person by nature.

c. Those sweet encounters came a **mountain of friends** that filled her life.

d. Fiona **smiled from ear to ear**.

e. He would catch scorpions with his **bare hands**.

In this short story the writer found structural metaphor only. From the example above we can see that structural metaphor usually have two things. Structural metaphor used to compare two things. In the first sentence “Timmy was in tears” here Timmy and tears are two things are compared. Actually, the meaning of this metaphor was Timmy cried. It did not mean that Timmy had similarity with tears. The second sentence until the last show to us the comparison between a lazy person and nature, mountain and friends, smile and ear, hands and bare. All the words are not the
A lazy person by nature means that the person has become lazy since he or she was born. Mountain of friends means that we have many friends than the others. Smiled from ear to ear is an expression which is means that she or he felt really happy. Bare hands means that we touch something used our palm directly.

**Orientational Metaphor**

Another group is the orientational metaphors. Those metaphors are based on the orientation in space. Therefore, a spatial relationship is made for a concept. This relationship is normally based on our experiences of the physical space we have. Orientational metaphors in children’s short stories as following:

a. Someone fell ill.

b. When **night fell**, he slept on a nice blanket inside his kennel.

c. His jaw dropped.

d. They **ran down** her cheeks.

e. She **put up** with all of Fiona’s dislikes and problems.

The first type of metaphor in this short story is orientational metaphor. Orientational metaphor serve the function have to do with human spatial orientations. In this sentence the human spatial orientation is “fell”. Fell here include as downward orientations. Usually, downward orientations tend to negative evaluation. The negative evaluation in this sentence is there is something wrong with the health of someone’s body. When people had something wrong the healthy usually it made the family or friends around them. So, this orientational metaphor had downward orientation and tends to negative evaluation because it made people around them sad.

The next sentence, we have night fell. It means that the day was changed
usually when people did not prepare for the next day they will worry to face that day. It also tends to negative evaluation.

In the other sentence we have jaw dropped. His jaw did not mean fell in the floor but it was shock expression for someone who get the situation different with his intention.

In forth sentence, ran down her cheeks means crying. The tears drop into the cheeks. It also tends to negative evaluation because the person was cried.

The last put up here means that the person can become a friend to share about all problems of Fiona. The word up usually tends to positive evaluation alike in this sentence the person can be trusted with Fiona.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

Based on the finding of this research, the writer draw conclusion that the largest number of metaphors in these short stories are Ontological metaphors. This findings show to us that the children need imagination to understand the story. Ontological used things or animal as the object and then put human entities there. By putting human entities in the animal or things it helped children to know the story and get the meaning of the story. Metaphors which are found in children’s short stories still used easy words. They also showed to us that the readers influenced the word choice.

The writer found metaphor mostly in the color of friendship story. This story used structural metaphor and ontological metaphor because the characters of the story are color. They are personified. Many human entities put in the color such as: speak, join hands, chuckled, interrupted, smile and so on. These make children imagine the colors as human because they can do the activities like human. As we
know in the reality, they cannot do like what
they do in the story. That is the function of
metaphor in this short story.

To find out the meaning of
metaphor, the writer used context as the
basis of meaning. The writer concluded the
meaning of metaphor is the outside of the
metaphor itself we cannot get the meaning
of metaphor inside the metaphor itself. We
also cannot get the meaning of metaphor
literally we can get the meaning of metaphor
contextually.

Suggestion

In this research, the writer discussed
about the conceptual metaphor. Actually,
metaphor still has many divisions. The
writer suggests for the next researcher who
is interested in analyzing of metaphor, it is
better for the researcher to analyze metaphor
based on the part of speech. Metaphor based
on the part of speech such as: noun, verb,
adjective, and adverb.

BIBLIOGRAPHY