

ABSTRACT

Afifah Widia Anggraini. 1225030006. Polysemy in Creating Humor on Saturday Night Live YouTube Channel. An Undergraduate Thesis. English Literature, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati. Advisors: 1. Prof. Dr. H. Agus Salim Mansyur, M.Pd. 2. Fouruz Huznatul Abqoriyyah, M.A.,

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The use of polysemy is a common linguistic strategy in humor, including political satire in Saturday Night Live (SNL) sketches. This study examines how polysemy contributes to humor by identifying its types and explaining how multiple meanings create incongruity. Using the theories of polysemy by Cruse (2000) and Lyons, as well as Attardo and Raskin's (1991) Incongruity Theory, this research applies a descriptive qualitative method to analyze 26 dialogues containing polysemous words from selected SNL political satire sketches. The findings reveal that non-linear polysemy is dominant, occurring in 24 cases, mainly through metaphor (18 data), Miscellaneous(5 data), and metonymy (1 data). Linear polysemy appears in only 2 cases, both classified as autohyponymy. Humor is generated through conflicts between literal and figurative meanings, contextual reinterpretation, and competing interpretations that create incongruity. The study concludes that polysemy plays a significant role in constructing humor in SNL political satire discourse.