# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction of the research. It consist of background of the research, statement of problems, research purposes, research significances, definition of key terms and organization of writing.

### 1.1. Background of the Research

The stand up comedy show that appear in Netflix, was attended by so many comedians in there. Hannah Gadsby, Dave Chappelle, Hasan Minhaj, and many more stand up comedians. Every comedians have their own style when they do the stand up comedy. And also every people have the different type for choose their favorite stand up comedians. Dave Chappelle or David Khari Webber Chappelle is an American stand up comedian, actor, writer, and producer who born August 24,1973 in Washington DC, US. On November 21, 2016, Netflix announced that they would be releasing three new stand up comedy specials from Chappelle in 2017. The first two specials were released on March 21, 2017, and the third special, equanimity, was filmed in September 2017.

Comedy is one of the choices for some people to relieve their stress. The pressure and the problem of their life, make comedy entertain their soul and reduce their problems. Although it does not directly reduce the burden on people life, the humor of comedy makes people forget their problems and not overthink their problems. The variety of comedy make people feel free to choose what kind of comedy they like. Lots of media from comedy that we can find, from pictures, sentences, to videos from comedy makers. There are some comedy show that many people like, one of that is stand up comedy. Stand up comedy is comedy show that brings by people in stage in front of audiences and give the jokes material to audience without any conversation between the comedian and the audience.

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Popular and successful stand up comedy staged by the best comics, stand up comedy performer, is not the result of simple process. For five minutes show of stand up comedy, some comics might go through terrifying an experience as any stand-up comedian to white-knuckle their way through (Pinchevsky, 2020). Stand up comedy that people choose for relieving their stress is complicated. There are many elements in order to make the audience get the point of the show. In This research, the focus is the element of language used when the comics perform.

Of course to perform the action on the stage comedy is not as easy as imagined. A comedian also needs to make jokes objects that will make the audience interested. With interesting jokes and also skills in using the right language style will make stand up comedy shows more interesting. Therefore, many famous comedians use language style when they appear in a show.

Nurdianto, (2019) said that stand-up comedy as one of the products of humor are rife discussed by the general public today can be interpreted as 'standing comedy' or 'single comedy'. Stand-up comedy has the specificity that jokes material brought on stage by comic in front of audience live. Stand up comedy become the one of comedy that many people like, because the material of humor of stand up comedy is different beside other kind of comedy. Stand up comedy is the comedy that brought by comedian while standing on the stage, and tell the funny stories, one-liners or short jokes, and anecdotes, which are often called "bits", in order to make their audience laugh, that's why the name of this comedy is stand up comedy.

(Nilsen, 2000) said on Schwarz, (2010) the history of stand up comedy is from the burlesque and vaudeville. While burlesque and vaudeville also include music and various actions other than the pronounced part, stand-up comedy was derived only from the spoken part of the show. Stand up comedy more often uses connotative or implied sentences than clear sentences. Based on what is being discussed by comedians, of course it can be studied based on the language used.

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This research uses semantic studies to determine the meaning of the words used by stand-up comedians in a show.

The stand up comedy shows can people saw in many platform, but in this research the writer use Netflix platform to search the stand up comedy shows. Netflix it self is the platform based streaming service that allows the members to watch TV show and movies without advertisement on any internet connected device. Netflix was established in August 29 1997 at California, USA, with Reed Hastings and Marc Randolph as a founder, and the CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Netflix until now is Ted Sarandos. In Netflix we can watch every videos, from movies, cartoons, documentary, until stand up comedy shows. Netflix is one of the platform which can reach easily in this country. You just have to be a member then you can watch everything in Netflix without any advertisement.

The material of stand up comedy is unusual in other comedy. Mostly the material that used of stand up comedy is about politics, race, or issues. From that material, most people thing that stand up comedy can not be understood easily without known what is happening in that situation or history from the region origin of the comics. In this research, the writer will try to analyze the linguistic style used in most stand up comedy scripts especially figurative language. Because stand up comedy itself has a unique linguistic style so it requires an analysis of figurative language in the material from the stand up comedy.

Stand up comedy is a comedy that only relies on a story told by a comedian on stage. Therefore, when performing, a comedian must make variations in his language so that what is conveyed can liven up the atmosphere, because as we know that a stand-up comedian only appears alone without any props. And figurative language is one way for a stand-up comedian to tell a joke or story. Because figurative language can change the material represented indirectly, then every joke spoken by a comedian takes time to be understood by the audience. Figurative

language is part of the semantics, linguistics acknowledge about meaning. How the meaning can change according to context and also according to the language style used.

According to (Saeed, 1997) on Amelia, (2014) semantics as showing how people communicate meaning with pieces of language. Not, though, that this is only part of large enterprise of investigating how people understand meaning. From that statement, we know that language must have meaning because the purpose of communication is to understand a language and convey information. Therefore, every language will have meaning and language will be useless if it does not have meaning, which means language and meaning are related.

Figurative Language is a conspicuous departure from what users of a language apprehend as the standard meaning of words, or else the standard order of words, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect (Abrams, 1999). Figurative language is any way of saying something other than the ordinary way, and some rhetoricians have classified as many as 250 separate figures (Perrine, 1969). By figurative language, a concept of an actual object is represented indirectly. Figurative language means the language or expression that used and has different meaning with what it is mean. Glucksberg on Fhadilla, (2019) said that figurative language has particular meaning that is different from the literal meaning. Figurative language has a deeper meaning from the literal meaning that makes figurative language cannot be analyzed only from the literal meaning. The use of figurative language made the language more variative and has a deep meaning and also make the material of the humor funnier. Figurative language itself can we find in daily like when people speak, or in writing for example on novel or short story. So, when figurative language used in stand up comedy, the jokes that brought by the comedians are more attractive than don't use it.

Besides the use of figurative language also there are some function and purpose of use of it. As we know that figurative language mostly use in poetry and something like that. In daily, figurative language can use by people for add the other meaning of what they want to talk, or if you want to hide the meaning of what you want to say, figurative language can make it easier and more attractive. (Puspidalia, 2015) Said that figurative language is useful for generating certain impressions and atmospheres, certain sensory responses and beautifying meaningful narratives to support the delivery of one's intentions and clarify the picture of ideas so that they are clear, lively, intensive and interesting through comparison. However, figurative language in everyday life is different from figurative language in literary works.

In this research use Netflix as the source of the data of the stand up comedy show that use as an object. The reason why use Netflix beside other source is because in Netflix we can search any show of stand up comedy and also the transcript or caption of the show is complete and structured than other platform like youtube or another.

Before this research, of course there are so many research about figurative language. The writer use example from the thesis from UIN Bandung alumni as an example. So, here are some examples of previous research on figurative language:

The previous research about figurative language has been done by Abubakar, (2017) with title *"Figurative language used in Mr. Big's Big Bigger Biggest."* This research was concern of the figurative language that appears on the album by Mr. Big namely Big Bigger Biggest. Many figurative language can find in this research they are: 5 similes, 4 metaphor, 7 personifications and 3 ironies, 15 hyperbole.

The other previous research about figurative language has been done by Laudza, (2013) with the title "*Figurative Language in The S.I.G.I.T's Visible Idea of Perfection*" this research is about the figurative language that appears on the song

of the musician named The S.I.G.I.T. The writer was concern about figurative language in his object and many figurative language that writer found in his object.

The another previous research who take figurative language has been done by Santiana, (2016) with title "*The figurative language in song lyrics of Adele's album "25".*" that she choose. This research is about the figurative language that used in the album by Adele. The research concern about the figurative language that mostly use in song lyrics. And for the result, based on the data analysis about figurative language in song's lyrics of Adelle's album "25" in the previous sub-chapter, the result shows there are four kinds of figurative languages found in seven song lyrics such as: metaphor (17), hyperbole (17), euphemism (4), and simile (6).

The other previous research about this figurative language is in the thesis with title "*An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in Markus Zusak's Novel The Book Thief*" were done by Ilma Wahyuni (2017). The research is about the novel written by Markus Zusak. The result of this thesis are the use of metaphor, simile, irony, hyperbole, personification, symbol, and another in the analysis of the data.

The other previos research about the figurative language is in the thesis with title *"Function of Comparative Figurative Language Found in The Utterances Produced By The Elemental Spirits in Dota 2"* were done by Daniel Jerry Christian (2019). This research is about the function of comparative figurative language that appear in Dota 2. The result of this research are twenty five comparative figurative found, there are 4 metaphor, 17 personification and 4 simile.

Many research about the figurative language which chosen by other writer, but for the writer the object of this research still rarely used by people. So, the writer of this research choose this object for help other people to know more about the analysis about figurative language that use on stand up comedy material.

From the explanation above, the object of this research which is stand up comedy, will be analyzed using the semantic method, namely figurative language. The writer hope that this research can be useful for people know about figurative language, and also know how to understand the material of stand up comedy that mostly use the figurative language.

## 1.2. Statements of problem

There a lot of figurative language research before and of course it become the interesting material. But for the figurative language object there is rarely use stand up comedy as an object. People just enjoyed the stand up comedy show without known the language style that use for make the stand up comedy materials more attractive and interesting for audiences. So, in this research will be focus to analyze the language style or figurative language that use in stand up comedy materials by two research questions, they are:

1. What types of figurative language are used in stand up comedy?
2. How is the meaning affected by the used figurative language in stand up comedy?

## 1.3. Research Purposes

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the writer focuses on figurative language that found in *stand up comedy* on Netflix, so the writer intended:

1. To find out the language style that used in stand up comedy.
2. To analyze the function of figurative language that used on stand up comedy.

### 1.4. Research Significances

The importance of this research is made by the writer with two parts, namely based on theoretically and based on practically.

1. Theoretically, the advantage of this research is to give more information about the figurative language. The most important is to give information how to analysis the figurative language that used on stand up comedy materials. And also the writer hope that this research can become the reference for other people who want to analyze this material,

2. Practically, the searcher hope that the reader who has interested on this research can practice how to analyze when watching a stand up comedy show. In another, the writer hope that reader can practically used the figurative language for increasing their language skill when they want to make a work or something like that.

### 1.5. Key of Terms

**Figurative Language:** figurative language is words that are very informal, not in the true sense of the word; Figurative words are used to give a sense of beauty and emphasize the importance of what is being conveyed. Figurative language is usually used in certain conditions and also often used in everyday life. Mostly used to add a certain meaning in a conversation.

**Stand up Comedy:** Stand-up comedy is a comedy genre in which the comedian performs a comedy on stage alone, usually in front of a live audience, by means of a monologue on a topic. People who do this activity are called comics, comics, or stand-up comics. Stand up comedy shows can be accessed on various platforms, both on television and on the internet. With easy access, stand up comedy is watched by a lot of people and makes stand up comedy one of the shows favored by the public.

## 1.6. Organization of Writing

This paper is divided into five chapters. They are:

Chapter I:   **Introduction,** this chapter consists of background of the research, statement of problem, research purposes, research significances, definition of key terms and the organization of writing itself.

Chapter II:   **Theoritical Framework**, this chapter deals with the theories relating and supporting of the research analysis to get a precise result. The theories consist of semantics theory, figurative language theory, types of figurative language theory and function of figurative language.

Chapter III:   **Research method,** this chapter contains of research design, object of the research, source of data, technique of collecting data and technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV:   **Finding and discussion** that elaborates of data analysis related to the finding and the further discussion the data that will be presented in this part.

Chapter V:   **Conclusion and suggestion.** It includes the conclusion and suggestion of data analysis related to the finding the data that will be presented in this part.