CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Language has an important role for human life. People use language as a tool to express their feeling, ideas, desire, and also to build relationship with other people. Hornby (1972:473) says, "Language is human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, feelings, and desire by means of a system sounds and sound symbols." It means that language is a way of human communication that uses a system sound and symbol. Other definition given by Wardaught, he (1977:3) says that Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used by human communication. It means that language as a system that contains system of sound and system of meaning. Human use language to communicate and interact each other. Communication involves our habits in daily activity, in information, attitudes, biases, and knowledge which interrelate to determine what we will say and how we will react. They interact with environment through communication.

According to Andersen, he (1972: 4) says that communication is one of the broadest defines it as any information-sharing activity. It means that communication is activity of human being that doing interaction to get information and sharing each other. In this case, communication is not only

in oral communication but also in written communication. In oral communication is usually given and received through conversation while written communication people give information and sharing their ideas, their feeling. Written communication includes e-mails, song, lyric, poem, novel, text chats, SMS and anything else conveyed through written symbols.

In this thesis, the writer chooses the song as object of the research. Song is the most common thing for people in daily life because song can give various impacts to the hearer. Song is usually followed by musical instrument. So, the song can make the hearer more interested in hearing it, such as in Avril Lavigne's songs. The writer chooses Avril Lavigne's songs because Avril lavigne is a songwriter and also a singer from Canada, she was born on September 27th, 1984. She is one of the best singer in the world. There are many teenagers know her songs. She has known her potency in music when she was two years old. She places the second position in her first album in USA on June 4th, 2002, and places the first position in Australia, Canada, England and other countries. Her talent in music has been admitted in many countries. Her beautiful songs lyric that makes people interested to hear it.

Lyric usually uses figure of speech to make a deep and great meaning. In this thesis, the writer only focuses on figure of speech. Perrin (1974:49) says that figure of speech is the usual way of uttering something which can be said that speaker intentionally refers to another meaning from one thing which is said. It means that figure of speech can give various meaning to the object.

According to Perrin, she (1974: 616) says that there are four reason that figure of speech often provides a more effective means of saying what we means than does direct statement. First, figure of speech affords us imaginative pleasure. It means that people in the world have different imagination in drawing anything. Second, figure of speech are a way of bringing additional imagery into verse, of making the abstract concrete, of making poetry more sensuous. It means that the author of the poem or lyric can interest imagination of the reader so the poem or lyric can be looked more interesting. Third, figures of speech are a way of adding emotional intensity to otherwise merely informative statements and conveying attitudes along with information. It means that figures of speech can appear her/ his ideas, feeling and emotion into poem or lyric. Finally, figures of speech are a means of concentration, a way of saying much in brief compass. It means that figures of speech need our ability to concentrate in interpreting the key term in lyric or poem to make good interpretations.

From the reasons above, the writer tries to analyze the reason of figures of speech that used by people. Most of people use figure of speech to avoid the direct statement. They prefer to say in non-literal meaning because

they feel interested to know what the speaker or the writer means. People try to interpret deeper meaning like reading lyric. One of the necessary abilities for reading song lyric is the ability to interpret the key term in the lyric. To understanding the meaning of lyric, it can be studied through semantics. James and Michel (2007: 1) say that semantics is study of meaning in language. Semantics tries to analyze the words, phrases, and sentence meaning.

Most of people express their ideas, feelings and emotions into lyrics. One of the examples is Avril Lavigne. She expresses it in writing the song lyric. Her lyrics contain some beautiful language. Based on the previous statement, the writer is interested to analyze the figure of speech in Avril Lavigne's songs.

1.2 Statement of The Problem

- 1. What kinds of figure of speech are used by Avril Lavigne's songs?
- 2. What are the reasons of figure of speech that found in Avril Lavigne's songs?

1.3 Objective of The Study

- 1. To describe the figurative language applied in Avril Lavigne's songs.
- To reveal the reasons of figure of speech used in Avril Lavigne's songs.

1.4 Significance of The Study

The writer expects that the reader can understand the kinds of figures of speech and understand the reasons of figures of speech that used in song. This study gives two contributions: theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study is expected to be sources of studying meaning through the song's lyric in semantics study, especially in figures of speech and the reasons of figures of speech that found in Avril Lavigne's songs. Practically, this study is expected to be references, especially the student of English Letters at Adab Faculty, the state Islamic university of Sunan Ampel Surabaya who interested to analyze figures of speech and the reasons of figures of speech that found in song lyrics.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this research focuses on semantics study, especially in figures of speech that classified in twelve kinds: they are irony, understatement, paradox, apostrophe, hyperbole, allegory, symbol, metonymy, synecdoche, personification, simile, and metaphor. To avoid the broadening of discussion, the writer limits the research only in eight songs of Avril Lavigne and the reasons of figures of speech that are used in the first Album Avril Lavigne's song lyrics "let's go". Eight titles of

Avril Lavignes songs are "Anything but ordinary, I'm with you, Mobile, Complicated, Things I'll never say, Too much to ask, Naked, Skater boy."

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

There are some terms used in this research which need to be defined:

- 1. Semantics : study of meaning, and since meaning in part of language, semantic is part of linguistics (Palmer, 1976: 1).
- 2. Figure of speech: figures of speech is used to describe

 expressions that conform to a particular pattern

 or form and these patterns, each of which has a

 special name, have become the tools of rhetoric

 and poetry (Robert and Jacob, 1986: 590).
- 3. Avril Lavigne's song: Avril Lavigne is a singer of pop-punk from kanada by Alternative rock and pop-rock released the first album "Let Go" in 2002.