

Grammatical Deviations in The Lyrics in English Songs: Functions and Categories

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Abstract-The position of English in Indonesia as the first foreign language taught in formal educational institutions is getting more important and profitable but, as a matter of fact, only few people have good command of English. One of the obstacles faced in learning the English language is not mastering the grammatical knowledge of the language itself. This study is focused on syntax only because of the assumption that there are deviations of sentence structure in songs and it is focused on the structural deviation in English popular songs. The aim of this study is to identify and describe the forms of grammatical deviations and used in English songs. The data was collected by listening to the recorded songs while taking notes. After having collecting the data, they were put in cards to be classified according to the kinds of grammatical deviation. The data were analyzed based on the tagmemics by Cook (1969) to find out the forms of deviation on sentence structure. The result of the study showed that from the ten songs were taken from Golden Sweet Memories Collection, there were deviations mainly in syntax, such as inversions, abbreviations, ellipsis and repetitions. There are also some deviations concerning subject – verb agreement and tenses. Based on the result of this study, if we really want to have a good mastery of English, it is suggested that we not learn English sentence pattern from songs, however, we may use the songs as a technique in teaching English.

Keywords-*Grammatical Deviation; Language; English; Songs; Tagmemics*

I. INTRODUCTION

The position of English in Indonesia as the first foreign language taught in formal education institutions, the longer the benefits are felt. But the reality shows that mastery of English is still inadequate for some people. One of the obstacles faced in learning English is the lack of grammatical knowledge and language learning.

In Indonesian "grammar" is matched with tata bahasa. According to Leech et al. "... Grammar is set of rules which allows us to put up the words together in a certain way, but which do not allow other. At some level, speakers of a language must know these rules, otherwise they would not be able to put words together in a meaningful way ... "

So grammar is a set of rules that we must follow in compiling a sentence that is good and right. For example in English grammar, adjectives are placed before nouns. When we write the blue book is on the table, it is a correct sentence. (blue = adjective, book = noun); while book blue is on the table not the correct sentence, because it is not in accordance with the rules in English.

Based on the above explanation, it can be seen that the grammatical mastery of a language is very important. Ironically there are still many people who don't like grammar lessons. Grammar is considered boring because it is filled with rules or formulas that must be memorized, while what they want is how the language can be immediately used to communicate. The existence of such obstacles makes someone look for a way out.

One way to learn English grammar is through songs. This is in line with the opinion of Crosby "... The song can be used to teach the sound and the rhythm of English, to reinforce structure and vocabulary and more than that is have fun ..." Songs can be used to teach sounds and the rhythm of English to master the structure of language and vocabulary and more than that for pleasure [1].

Considering that songs are literary works, in this case artworks usually do not escape their aesthetic values. To get the aesthetic value made various ways that sometimes deviate from the existing rules.

This research is limited to the syntactic level because it is assumed that in the language of songs on English songs there are deviations. So that this is the object of linguistic study that is very interesting to study. As far as the knowledge of the researcher, based on the literature study, there has not been a specific study of syntactic deviations in song language on English songs.

II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

Based on the limitations of the problems that have been raised, the problem of this research is formulated as follows:

1. What is the grammatical deviations in the language of songs in English songs?
2. What are the forms of sentence structure deviations in the language of songs on English songs?

In accordance with the problems raised, the purpose of this study is:

1. Identify and describe grammatical deviations in the language of songs on English songs
2. Identify and describe forms of sentence deviations in the language of songs on English songs.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of literature has attracted the attention of researchers, especially those involved in the field of linguistic work. This is evidenced by the emergence of several works, including those written by:

1. Klarer which examines the analysis of literary language deviations, namely how knowledge about linguistics can be used in literary studies.[2]
2. Soidi entitled *The Study of Grammatical Errors in the Language of Japanese Language Students of the FPBS IKIP Manado Japanese Language Education Program*[3].
3. Romaija discusses language deviations in Chairil Anwar's poem 'I Am a Bitch Beast', Faculty of Letters, Sam Ratulangi University, Manado.
4. Woimbon discusses the analysis of grammatical structures in the hymns of Fanny Crosby's, namely the discovery of ancient English language forms in these hymns. Based on the results of library searches which are limited to the works of previous researchers, as described above it turns out that research specializes in the study of syntactic deviations in the language of songs on English songs has never been done[1]. Therefore this research still needs to be done.

To what extent the grammatical coverage referred to in this study, the author refers to the following limitations: "... Grammar is the total linguistic description of the language. Components in the grammar are: phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics ..." [4]. So grammar is a linguistic description of a language. The components in grammar are phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. The effort to understand the study of language in relation to grammatical irregularities in the language of songs in English songs, studied internally in this case is limited to the syntactic level.

In connection with syntax, Cook uses the tagmemic concept which analyzes units in grammar. These units consist of sentences, clauses, phrases, words, and morphemes. Based on the number of words and types of clauses found at the bottom of the sentence, sentences can be classified into single sentences (simple sentence) which have only one clause; complex sentence which consists of one free clause and at least one bound clause; compound sentences (compound sentence) consisting of several free clauses. The unit in the tagmemic analysis is a correlation between a functional gatra and the class of items that fill the lane. What is meant by function is grammatical relations; this function relates to forms in construction such as subjects, predicates, objects, and information such as sentence patterns. Clause level is the basis of a sentence that is potentially formed by these elements. The phrase level is limited as a group of words that do not contain subjects and

predicates that function as a single utterance section, grouped into verbal phrases, adjective phrases, adverbial phrases, and numeral phrases[5].

IV. METHOD

This research uses a descriptive method. Sudaryanto states that descriptive methods are methods that describe language as it is[6]. The procedure of this study produces descriptive data with the stages of research and techniques as follows:

G.1 Research Time and Research Location

The study was conducted in Manado for 3 months. Starting in March 2007 until May 2007.

G.2 Data Sources

The data source of this study was taken from a collection of English golden sweet memories songs. To discuss these songs selected by purposive sample. Sudjana states that the purposive sample is the taking of sample elements for specific purposes so as to meet the interests of researchers. The researcher determined ten songs contained in the collection of golden sweet memories because they were considered to have represented this research[7].

G.3. Data collection technique

The data collection technique taken in this study was listening to songs through tapes while taking notes. After the collected data is identified and declassified. This data card is classified and numbered in order to facilitate the analysis phase.

G.4. Data analysis technique

To obtain forms of sentence structure deviation in the language of songs on English songs are analyzed based on the tagmemic concept[5].

V. DISCUSSION

Chaer states that the tagmemic flow was pioneered by Kenneth L. Pike, a figure from the Summer Institute of Linguistics[8]. According to this flow the basic unit of Syntax is tagmem (this word comes from Greek which means arrangement). Tagmem is a correlation between grammatical functions or slots with a group of interchangeable word forms to fill the slot. The basic syntactic unit cannot be expressed with functions only, such as subject + predicate + object cannot be expressed by a series of forms only, such as the phrase objects + verb phrases + phrases of objects, but must be expressed together in a series of formulas such as :

S:N+ P:V +O:N

The formula is read: the function of the subject is filled by nominal followed by the predicate filled by verbal, and followed by the function of the object filled by nominal. In the language of songs on English songs there are sentences that experience irregularities. This can be seen from the example of the song that has been analyzed through the use of the tagmemic theory proposed by Cook) as follows[5]:

There Goes My Everything

I hear foot steps slowly walking...(1)

As they gently walk across a lonely floor
And a voice is softly saying

Darling this will be; good bye forever more

There goes my reason for living....(2)

There goes the one of my dreams...(2)

There goes my only possession...(2)

There goes my everything....(2)

As my mem'ry turns back the pages

can see the happy years we had before

Now he love that kept this old heart beating...(3)

I hear foot steps slowly walking

This sentence if analyzed tagmemically will be as follows:

I hear foot slowly walking steps

S : Pron P:v O : n Ket: Fr.adv

In this sentence, there is an inversion of the sentence structure. This is done for emphasis and for the need for rhythm use at the end of the song. This sentence's clear rule reads

I hear foot steps walking slowly

S : Pron P:v O : n

This sentence structure shows simple sentence form because it consists of only one clause.

2) There goes my reason for living

This sentence if analyzed tagmemically will be as follows:

There goes my reason for living

S:adv P:V Pel pred: N

2) There goes the one of my dreams

This sentence if analyzed tagmemically will be as follows:

There goes the one of my dreams

S : adv P: v Pel pred: N

(2) there goes my only possession

This sentence if analyzed tagmemically will be as follows:

There goes my only possession

S : adv P:v Pel Pred : N

(2) There goes my everything

This sentence if analyzed tagmemically will be as follows:

There goes my everything

S:adv P:V Pel pred: N

In the sentence there is a repetition of the word "there goes ". This is done as a suppressor and to convey expression. This

sentence structure shows the simple sentence form of an exclamative sentence (exclamation sentence).

(3) Now the love that kept this old heart beating

This sentence if analyzed tagmemically will be as follows:

Now the love that kept this old heart beating

Ket.adv S:N

This expression is not a complete sentence because it only consists of information and the subject which is given by the noun phrase which consists of derterminator words and modifier posts of this noun phrase, where ellipsis occurs. The actual rule of this sentence reads:

Now the love that has kept this old heart beating

Ket : advS : N

this sentence structure shows an expression, not a sentence because it is only an incomplete clause

VI. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The language of songs on English songs shows a deviation in the grammatical level especially in 1).Syntatic level 2) Such deviations are like; a) inversion that is reversing the grammatical arrangement of a sentence, clause or phrase. b) abbreviation is the shortening used in English poetry. c) ellipsis which is the removal of certain words used for concentration of feelings, giving strength to expressions and / or avoiding the use of unnecessary words. d) repetition, namely repetition of words or phrases as suppressants and to convey expressions and speakers or writers. In addition, there are also deviations concerning subject conformity - predicate (verb). Deviations occur with the aim of achieving aesthetic values, because to achieve these aesthetic values a song creator or singer has the freedom to create, including freedom to deviate from the rules or norms of grammar.

In making songs, it is expanded the deviation in the syntactic level in order to achieve the goal, namely the philosophical in a literary work. Based on the research it is known that there are still many linguistic elements that still need to be studied further. Therefore, it is recommended that further research is needed to study more about the use of language in song languages on English songs in terms of other aspects such as semantic analysis. This will enrich and contribute to development, especially in the field of language.

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