

## **SYNONYMY OF THE SONG “TARUH” IN SELAMAT ULANG TAHUN ALBUM BY NADIN AMIZAH**

**Shobilatul Fadhilah**

Institute of Prima Bangsa Cirebon

### **Article History:**

Accepted 11 January 2025;

Revised 24 January 2025;

Approved 10 February 2025.

### **Abstract**

*This study explores the use of synonymy in the lyrics of the song “Taruh” by Nadin Amizah. The purpose of this study is to find out how the use of synonymous words and metaphorical expressions can enrich the meaning and deepen the emotions contained in the lyrics. Using a qualitative descriptive method, this study identified nine metaphors, of which four formed synonymous pairs. These synonymous pairs convey similar meanings but with different emotional nuances, thus adding depth to the listener's experience. In addition, two metaphors that did not have synonyms were analyzed to understand their emotional significance. The results show that synonymy and metaphor play an important role in revealing complex emotions and establishing a stronger emotional bond with the listener.*

**Keywords:** *Metaphor, Synonymy, Song Lyrics, Meaning Relations*

### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi pemanfaatan sinonimi dalam lirik lagu “Taruh” karya Nadin Amizah. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana penggunaan kata-kata bersinonim dan ekspresi metaforis dapat memperkaya makna serta memperdalam emosi yang terkandung dalam lirik. Menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif, penelitian ini mengidentifikasi sembilan metafora, di mana empat di antaranya membentuk pasangan sinonim. Pasangan sinonim ini menyampaikan makna yang mirip namun dengan nuansa emosional yang berbeda, sehingga menambah kedalaman pengalaman pendengar. Selain itu, dua metafora yang tidak memiliki sinonim dianalisis untuk memahami signifikansi emosionalnya. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa sinonimi dan metafora memainkan peran penting dalam mengungkap emosi kompleks dan membangun ikatan emosional yang lebih kuat dengan pendengar.

**Kata kunci:** Metafora, Sinonimi, Lirik Lagu, Hubungan Makna

## **INTRODUCTION**

In daily life, humans need communication to build relationships with other people in the community. Communication can be done in two ways, namely in writing and orally. Written communication is a form of indirect interaction, while oral communication involves direct interaction. In direct communication, conversations occur between individuals or groups.

Language is a tool used by humans, animals and other living things to communicate. Language is used by humans to convey ideas, thoughts, and feelings. The main function of language is as a means of communication and interaction between people. Language also has a close relationship with various types of literary works. One form of literary work that often reflects the expression of the author's heart is poetry. In poetry, a poet has the freedom to express his thoughts through a series of beautiful words. Related to poetry, song lyrics are also considered part of the genre of poetry literary works, because song lyrics have similarities with poetry but are presented in the form of songs.

Song lyrics are a means used by someone who is a songwriter to convey a message to listeners or music lovers. This message can be conveyed implicitly or overtly. In creating songs, creators usually show attractiveness and uniqueness through the choice of words used. There are lyrics that use metaphors and some use literal language. Language consisting of beautiful words is a form of expression of the author's soul. Literary works become more interesting if presented with beautiful language and have high aesthetic value. Aesthetic elements in literary works can increase the interest of readers or listeners due to the use of unique and interesting language styles, so as to distinguish them from the works of other authors.

Songs are one of the most effective media to be utilized in various learning activities. Apart from being a means of entertainment, songs can be used to improve poetry writing skills, as the lyrics often have rich literary elements, such as metaphor, symbolism and rhythm that can inspire students to express their ideas and feelings through poetry. Songs help students understand how to string words together into beautiful and meaningful expressions.

Several studies have analyzed metaphor and synonymy in literary works, especially in song lyrics, but there are still some research gaps that need to be filled. For example, (Alfiya, Perdana, Linarto, Purwaka, & Misnawati, 2023) explored metaphors in Sal Priadi's song lyrics, emphasizing how metaphorical expressions convey emotions but without analyzing synonymy. (Kusuma & Simatupang, 2022) examined semantic relationships in Ed Sheeran's *Equals* album, but did not highlight the interrelationship between metaphor and synonymy. (Putra, Qodriyati, & Maharani, 2024) conducted a lexical semantic analysis of NIKI's *Oceans and Engines* song, but the synonymy relationship was not studied in depth. (Amarya & Utami, 2023) discussed meaning relations in Mahalini Raharja's songs but focused more on antonymy and polysemy than synonymy and metaphor.

In addition, (Rahayu, Suwarti, & Widiyanto, 2022) analyzed antonyms in Pink Sweat's *At My Worst* song, while (Talohanas & Yuwana, 2023) examined lexical relations in Katy Perry's song lyrics, which discussed hyponymy and meronymy more than synonymy. In Indonesian music, studies such as those conducted by (Zahwania & Hindun, 2024) on Fourtwnty's *Zona Nyaman* songs and (Wijaya & Wartini, 2019) on Nahdlatul Wathan's struggle songs focus on lexical semantics but do not discuss the relationship between synonymy and metaphor in depth. Furthermore, (Nurlita, et al., 2024) analyzed metaphors in Chairil Anwar's poetry, providing insights into poetic expression but not connecting them with synonymy in song lyrics.

Furthermore, research by (Fitrah & Afria, 2024) on synonymy in Kerinci language shows that synonymy does not always have full meaning equivalence in various contexts, but has not linked it to song lyrics as a form of poetry. (Azzahra, Faarisah, & Nurjanah, 2023) analyzed metaphors in the songs *Satu Tuju* and *Kau Rumahku* by Raissa Anggiani, but have not identified how synonymy plays a role in strengthening metaphorical meaning. Meanwhile, (Fahraniyah, Alpin, & Hakim, 2024) examined the meaning in the poem *Cermin* by Hadi Mulyadi without discussing synonymy in song lyrics. Lastly, (Al Qorni & Tarihoran, 2024) examined conceptual metaphors in Adi K's *Love Letters for the Future Your* poetry collection, showing how metaphors are used to construct deep emotional meaning.

Given this research gap, this study aims to analyse the relationship between synonymy and metaphor in the lyrics of the song *Taruh* by Nadin Amizah. It aims to identify how synonymous word pairs function in this song's metaphors, as well as how variations in word choice affect emotional depth and thematic expression. By bridging the gap in previous research, this study provides a new perspective on how synonymy enriches metaphorical expression in song lyrics, thus deepening their emotional meaning and poetic value.

Relation refers to the semantic relationship that exists between a linguistic unit and another language unit. These language units can be words, expressions or sentences. The relationship reflects equality or similarity of meaning in the lexicon, so that the meaning relations in semantics include similarity of meaning, opposition, inclusion, multiplicity, or excess of meaning. According to (Chaer, 2015), relations meaning is defined as semantic relationships that occur between one language unit and another language unit.

In this article, the author will discuss the meaning relations of synonymy in songs that are indicators of metaphors found in the lyrics of the song "*Taruh*" by Nadin Amizah. Synonyms refer to the similarity in meaning between two or more words that have similar meanings, (Soedjito, 1989). Although synonyms are words that have similar meanings, they are rarely completely identical in all contexts. This difference arises because each word usually has unique nuances of meaning that more or less affect the meaning or emotion conveyed. In addition, the level of formality also affects the use of synonyms, for example, there are words that are more suitable for use in official situations, while their synonyms are more commonly used in everyday conversation. The specific context or situation can also determine which word is more appropriate, as the meaning or effect produced can vary even if the words are generally considered synonyms.

Metaphor is a way of using words with a meaning that is not literal, but rather builds an image through carefully designed comparisons or similarities to produce a new meaning. The concept of metaphor serves to map long-term memory combinations of interconnected lexical elements in the arrangement of sentences, clauses, or phrases, giving rise to new meanings. Understanding this meaning depends on the reader's ability to recognize and connect the concepts presented.

Metaphor was first discussed by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson in the book *Metaphor We Live By* (1980). According to them, metaphor is a way to understand or experience something through another term or concept. They emphasized that metaphor does not only function as a rhetorical tool in language, but also a basic method for humans in understanding and interpreting the world around them.

Lakoff and Johnson argue that metaphors not only function in language, but are also fundamental to how we understand the real world. According to them, metaphors go beyond the mere use of words in everyday conversation and are closely related to a deeper understanding of concepts. Their views have had a major influence in cognitive linguistics and philosophy of language, and changed our perspective on the importance of metaphors in language and human thought processes.

The purpose of this research is to analyze how the use of words that have similar meanings are arranged in the song to support its main theme. This research will also identify words that are used as synonyms in certain contexts, as well as explain how the change in words can affect the way listeners understand the song. By studying the use of similar words in the song *Taruh*,

this research seeks to understand how Nadin Amizah uses word variation to deepen the emotional message and strengthen the connection between the song and its listeners.

## METHOD

This research uses descriptive qualitative method to analyze the use of synonymy and metaphor in the lyrics of the song *Taruh* by Nadin Amizah. The qualitative method was chosen because it can explore the meaning contained in the text through in-depth analysis of the words and expressions used in the song lyrics (Creswell, 2014).

(Bogdan & Biklen, 2007) stated that qualitative research aims to understand phenomena based on participants' perspectives, in this case, how song lyrics shape listener emotional experiences. Meanwhile, (Denzin & Lincoln, 2018) asserts that qualitative methods emphasize subjective meaning, which is very relevant in research that focuses on analyzing metaphors and synonymy in literary works.

The research procedure began with listening to the song *Taruh* repeatedly to understand the overall meaning of the lyrics. Then, the lyrics were analyzed to identify the metaphors used in the song. Furthermore, the synonymy in the metaphors is mapped to understand how variations in words can change or deepen the emotional nuances to be conveyed.

Data analysis was conducted using a semantic approach to examine meaning relations in song lyrics. The data obtained is then classified based on the theory of synonymy and metaphor to understand the contribution of each element in building emotional messages in songs. Thus, this research not only provides an in-depth understanding of language use in song lyrics, but also enriches linguistic and literary studies in popular music.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the song "*Taruh*" sung by Nadin Amizah, we can find the use of metaphorical language styles that enrich the meaning of the lyrics through interrelated synonyms. The lyrics in this song often describe certain feelings or situations symbolically, utilizing figurative words to convey deep emotions. This song can be meant to mean anything depending on the listener.

After identifying the metaphors in the song, the next step is to pair each metaphor with phrases or words that share similar meanings or convey closely related ideas. This process involves carefully analyzing the context, word choice, and emotional undertones of each metaphor to determine how they align with other expressions in the lyrics. By establishing these connections, we can uncover deeper layers of meaning and explore how synonymous or closely related phrases work together to enhance the song's emotional and thematic impact.

Pairing metaphors with synonymous expressions allows for a richer interpretation of the lyrics, as it reveals the subtle nuances that different word choices bring to the overall message. For example, a single metaphor may evoke a specific feeling, while its synonymous counterpart might highlight a different aspect of the same emotional experience. This interplay between metaphors and their similar phrases creates a more dynamic and textured narrative within the song, offering listeners multiple ways to connect with and interpret the lyrics.

Additionally, identifying these synonymous relationships helps illustrate the songwriter's creative use of language. It showcases how seemingly simple words or phrases can be carefully chosen to express complex emotions, such as love, vulnerability, or uncertainty, in diverse ways. For listeners, these variations provide new emotional dimensions, allowing them to experience the song on a deeper and more personal level. By analyzing these pairings, we can better understand how metaphors and synonymy work hand in hand to elevate the song's lyrical beauty and emotional resonance.

1. Metaphor: *Mencintai bukan perkara kebal*

Synonymy: *Hancur lebih mudah dari bertahan*

Both phrases describe the fact that love is vulnerable. Loving is not immune to problems or pain, and it is easier for relationships or feelings to break down than to survive. This connection reveals the difficulties and challenges that come with love, where its vulnerability requires effort and care to remain intact.

2. Metaphor: *Berteriak di atas tenggorokan*

Synonymy: *Hujan serapah dan makian*

"*Berteriak di atas tenggorokan*" shows a strong effort to release trapped emotions, while "*Hujan serapah dan makian*" depicts the eruption of harsh words or anger in an intense and unstoppable way. Both of these two phrases express emotions that are difficult to release but eventually explode in the form of a fierce verbal attack.

3. Metaphor: *Yang masih kecil di mata semua*

Synonymy: *Walau tak terdengar masuk akal*

These phrases refer to relationships that are deemed impossible or expectations that are deemed unrealistic, but are still fought for despite being deemed unreasonable by others.

4. Metaphor: *Rasa takut masih kugenggam nyaman*

Synonymy: *Cinta dan jenisnya seperti seram*

Both of these phrases describe a person's ambivalent feelings towards love and loving can bring fear, but that fear becomes a part of the experience and comfort within the relationship.

From the nine metaphors identified in the lyrics of "Taruh," four of them can be grouped into synonymous pairs. Each of these pairs of metaphors depicts similar meanings despite using different word choices, which in turn creates new nuances in emotional messaging. The choice of different words in these synonymous pairs allows singers to express complex feelings in more diverse ways. For example, the metaphor describing feelings of longing or desire in this song uses two phrases that are almost identical in meaning, but the difference in word choice still gives a different emotional color, which can affect the way the listener perceives the song.

However, there are two metaphors that do not have corresponding synonym pairs, which adds depth and complexity to the interpretation of the song. The first metaphor is the phrase "*Melihat cinta berwarna keruh*". This phrase describes love that is filled with doubt or a loss of clarity of direction, an image that reflects a gloomy perspective on love. The use of the word "*keruh*" here gives a strong visual image of love that is not clear, filled with uncertainty and even confusion. The word carries a negative feel that signifies a feeling of confusion or even disillusionment towards the feeling of love itself, which is contrary to the romantic image that is often associated with love.

The second metaphor that does not have an obvious synonym pair is the *phrase* “*Seperti bertaruh apa kau dan aku akan jadi sama seperti itu.*” This phrase uses the metaphor of gambling to describe uncertainty and risk in relationships. In this context, gambling serves as a symbol of risky and uncertain decisions, illustrating the huge emotional stakes in a relationship. The use of this metaphor emphasizes the tension in a relationship that is fraught with speculation and uncertainty about a shared future. This comparison implies that there is something very much at stake, and the outcome of the relationship is unpredictable, providing a powerful image of the internal conflict faced by the individuals involved in the relationship.

In the lack of synonyms to replace the words, the meanings contained in these phrases become more poignant and profound. It shows that there are emotional experiences that are unique and cannot be completely equated with other feelings or circumstances, demonstrating that love and relationships can function in a very wide spectrum of human experience, from clarity to confusion, and from hope to uncertainty.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of meaning relations in the lyrics of the song “*Taruh*” sung by Nadin Amizah, it can be concluded that there are nine metaphorical data that have been identified. Of the nine metaphors, four metaphor pairs can be categorized as synonyms, where each pair describes a similar meaning, despite using different word choices. These metaphor pairs show the variety of language used to express similar ideas and feelings, but with different nuances.

In addition, there are also metaphorical data that do not have synonymous pairs. The first is the phrase “*Melihat cinta dalam warna keruh*”, then the second is the phrase “*Seperti bertaruh bahwa kau dan aku akan seperti itu*”. Both phrases are not included in the synonymy data.

Thus, this study reveals that synonymy in the song “*Taruh*” plays an important role in building an emotional atmosphere that engages the listener in a deeper musical experience. The appropriate and effective use of synonyms not only enriches the song text but also strengthens the message it wants to convey to the listener.

## REFERENCE

- Al Qorni, W., & Tarihoran, R. K. (2024). CONCEPTUAL METAPHOR IN THE POETRY COLLECTION LOVE LETTERS FOR THE FUTURE YOU BY ADI K : COGNITIVE. *PHILOLOGY Journal of English Language and Literature*, 111-120.
- Alfiya, Z., Perdana, I., Linarto, L., Purwaka, A., & Misnawati. (2023). Metafora Dalam Lirik Lagu Album Berhati Karya Sal Priadi. *Atmosfer: Jurnal Pendidikan, Bahasa, Sastra, Seni, Budaya, dan Sosial Humaniora*, 245-259.
- Amarya, N. Z., & Utami, S. (2023). RELASI MAKNA PADA LIRIK LAGU ALBUM MAHALINI KARYA MAHALINI RAHARJA. *TOTOBUANG*, 175-188.
- Azzahra, A., Faarisah, S., & Nurjanah, N. (2023). Analisis Metafora dalam Lirik Lagu Satu Tuju dan Kau Rumahku Karya Raissa Anggiani. *Journal of Language Education, Linguistics, and Culture*, 158-167.
- Chaer, A. (2015). *Linguistik Umum*. Jakarta: PT. Rineka Citra.
- Fahraniyah, A. F., Alpin, P. A., & Hakim, F. (2024). ANALISIS SEMANTIK MAKSUD PADA ANTOLOGI PUISI CERMIN KARYA HADI MULYADI. *JOURNAL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL STUDIES*, 12-19.

- Fitrah, Y., & Afria, R. (2024). THE ANALYSIS OF SYNONYM RELATION MEANING IN KERINCI LANGUAGE: A SEMANTIC STUDY. *JOLLT Journal of Languages and Language Teaching*, 404-415.
- Kusuma, J. A., & Simatupang, E. C. (2022). Sense Relations Analysis on Ed Sheeran's Equals Album: A Semantics Study. *Ethical Lingua*, 285-292.
- Nurlita, W., Zerlina, A. A., Rahma, A. D., Nazzaili, N. S., Handayani, N. F., Aulia, S. F., & Oktalianda, A. F. (2024). Analisis Majas Metafora dalam Puisi yang Terkandung dalam Puisi "Senja di Pelabuhan Kecil" Karya Chaeril Anwar. *Jurnal Kultur*, 64-69.
- Putra, A., Qodriyati, N. L., & Maharani, I. S. (2024). LEXICAL SEMANTIC ANALYSIS ON THE LYRICS OF NIKI'S SONG "OCEANS AND ENGINES". *VARIABLE RESEARCH JOURNAL*, 575-584.
- Rahayu, I. T., Suwarti, T., & Widiyanto, M. (2022). An Analysis of Antonyms Classification in a Song by Pink Sweats Entitled "At My Worst". *English Teaching, Literature, and Linguistics (ETERNAL) Conference Universitas PGRI Semarang, Faculty of Language and Arts Education, English Education Department*, 182-199.
- Soedjito. (1989). *Sinonim*. Bandung : Sinar Baru.
- Talohanas, S., & Yuwana, R. Y. (2023). SEMANTIC ANALYSIS: LEXICAL RELATIONS IN KATY PERRY'S SONG LYRICS. *Acceleration: Multidisciplinary Research Journal*, 192-199.
- Wijaya, H., & Wartini, L. S. (2019). Relasi Makna dalam Lirik Lagu Perjuangan Nahdlatul Wathan Karya TGKH. M. Zainuddin Abdul Majid (Kajian Semantik). *SEBASA: JURNAL PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SASTRA INDONESIA*, 41-54.
- Zahwania, R. L., & Hindun. (2024). Makna Leksikal dan Gramatikal dalam Lagu Zona Nyaman Fourtwnty (Kajian Semantik). *Syntax Admiration*, 2340-2349.