

## Metaphor on Three Poems, Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams

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### Abstract

This study presents an analysis of metaphor on three poems, Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams. The objective of this study is: to find out the types and meaning from three poems. The analyses were based on the combination of Lakoff and Johnson's theory (2003), and Konvecses's theory (2010) to find out the kind's of metaphor and meaning of Invictus, The Road Not Taken, and Dream poems. What is the kind's of metaphor and meaning of line on Invictus, The Road Not Taken, and Dream poems. In this study, the researcher will use descriptive qualitative research. The findings of this study were directed to know what is the kind's of metaphor and meaning of Invictus, The Road Not Taken, and Dream poems. The result of this research is to show that the kind's of metaphor and the meaning of poetry

**Keywords:** Metaphor, Meaning, Poems

### 1. Introduction

As students majoring in English education it is only reasonable to realize that a work of literature is something very rich in meaning. It must be understandable to discern the meaning contained. Moreover, we are faced with a challenge that we will be teachers required to have competence in teaching literature, one of which is understanding of figurative language in poetry. Therefore, we must always be able to understand how or method of making contact with literature which in this case is poetry.

Verse is one of the scholarly works that utilize beat, rhyme, organizing by verse and lines that are exceptionally expressive (utilizing metaphorical dialect particularly in allegories) subsequently the dialect looks excellent and full of meaning. Speaking to all sentiments and shapes of an occasion composed by the creator itself, passed on through perusers and audience members.

According to Fletcher (2004), the truth that verse appears incapable to apply its expressive and speaking to powers without utilizing naturalistic terms. What we more often than not call idyllic symbolism tends to be inferred from principal pictures of nature, such as the rising moon or setting sun, hurrying waterways, wind-blown branches of trees, and all the unmistakable developments and appearances of creatures. By and large, there are three sorts of education, that are lyrics, exposition, and dramatization. Lyric is one of the most seasoned sorts. According to Bull (2008), lyric is piece of composing organized in lines, ordinarily with a normal beat and frequently with a design of rhymes.

In this research, the researcher will analyze some poetry from the English Book for senior high school. The researcher analyzes that poetry because that poetry is one of the English subjects that will teach. The purpose of this study to know the meaning of this poetry based on the metaphor that can be used to teach later. The advantages of this study are, we are not only read poetry, but we can understand the message of poetry because poetry uses beautiful language and difficult to understand. Because most all the students don't like to learn about poetry, some of the reason why the students don't like poetry is, the language of the poetry is hard to understand, it uses a lot of parables

that make the students don't like to read or learn about poetry. So, the researcher interest to analyze some poetry based on the metaphor meaning that can be subject to teach the students of Senior High School.

## **2. Literature Review**

### **Research Questions**

Based on the background of the study above, the writer formulated the problem by making the research question below:

1. What kinds of metaphor are found on Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems?
2. What is the meaning of each metaphor expressed on Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems?

### **Research Design**

This study using qualitative research exactly by using content analysis approach. The researcher tried to describe data representative in the form of words. This study used a qualitative research to study the problem because this study has purpose to find out what kinds of metaphors are found on Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems. It describe the explanation of text to explore the meaning of each metaphor expressed on that three poems. Content analysis focuses on analysing and interpreting recorded material to learn about human behaviour. The material may be public records, textbooks, letters, films, reports, or other documents. Content analysis usually begins with a question that the researcher believes can best be answered by studying documents.

### **Data and Source of the Data**

The source of the data of this study is Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems.

### **Research Instrument**

In this research, the key instrument is the researcher himself because the study is a qualitative design. The researcher used table to show the kinds of metaphors found and the interpret the meaning on kinds of metaphors used on Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems. All kinds of metaphors written on the table. The table have to crosscheck if there are any meaning on kinds of metaphor used in Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems that are reflected in the poems in order to have clear information about metaphors used in this study.

### **Data Collection Technique**

In this study, the researcher uses some steps of data collection techniques as follow:

1. Reading Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems in order to understand more deeply about the phrases in the poems.
2. Identifying the kinds of metaphor assumed on Invictus, The Road Not Taken and Dreams poems.

3. Subsequently, it was followed with categorizing the metaphor found based the type of metaphor and afterward, its analyzed and describe by applying the theory on the metaphor proposed by Lakoff and Johnson (2003), and Konvecses (2010).
4. Afterward, found out the meaning of metaphor that already classified on the table with their type.
5. Lastly, it was followed by taking note down all the metaphorical expression and it was found out the most actual meaning on *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* poems.

For the technique of collecting data, the researcher only uses documentation study. It is because the main orientation in this study is focus on the text. The collecting data of this research is conducted by content analysis as Cresswel (2012) suggest that “documents consist of public and private the qualitative researchers about a site or participants in a study. For example of public documents are minutes from meetings, official memos, records in the public domain, and archival material in libraries. Private documents consist of personal journals and diaries, letters, personal notes, and jottings individuals write to themselves”.

### **Data Analysis**

In this study the researcher will analyse data step by step. The data were analysed by using the following steps:

1. Analysing, the first is the researcher read the poems of *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* from some source book, e-book, and internet or article. After that, the researcher determined the poem which is analysed by looked for the poems content of metaphor.
2. Identification, the researcher read the entire of each poems and their background more than once to identify the metaphor comprehensively by considering the theory of metaphor to prevent mistake in choosing the data.
3. Classification, the researcher classified the metaphors in the poems which appropriate with every category such as: ontological metaphor, oriental metaphor, conceptual metaphor etc. The process of classification is based on the theory of conceptual metaphors by Lakoff and Johnson (2003), the metaphorical language which indicating everyday case is included some metaphor that have been analysed.
4. Interpretation. This step is part of “analysis” that shows on the data itself. The process of analysis is based on the theory of conceptual metaphors by Konvecses (2010). The meaning of each metaphor is analysed and interpreted based on the background of the poem and other source which provided information about the poem.

### **Data Analysis Technique**

In data analysis technique, the researcher used Flow Diagram proposed by Miles and Huberman (1994). The flow model consist of three current flows of activity: data reduction, data display, and conclusion/verification. Each step of the activity is described as follows:

1. Data reduction  
Data reduction is refers to the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting and transforming raw data that occur from the writing notes or transcription. In this process, the researcher selects and focus on *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* poems that identifies the kinds of metaphors using the theory of Lakoff and Johnson (2003). Then, the researcher analyse the kinds of metaphors that found on that three poems using the theory of Konvecses (2010).

2. Data Display

In this step, the researcher selected and categorized the data transcription that is suitable to the problem of the study. Moreover, the researcher display the data which have kinds of metaphors and the meaning of the metaphors found in *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* poems and selected the choice of phrase in text. After that, the data separated based on criterion of the kinds of metaphors. Then, the researcher analysed the meaning that construct the metaphors in the *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* poems.

3. Drawing Conclusion and Verification

Conclusion and verification are the final process. Conclusion verify as the analysis process. The researcher analysed based on the data display such as analysed the meaning that construct the metaphors used in *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* poems and selected the phrase and grouping it. It analysed from theory Lakoff and Johnson (2003), and Kovacs (2010). To avoid the bias from the researcher own conclusion drawing, the verification is needed to be done.

### Triangulation

According to Denzin (1994) triangulation is the combination of two or more data sources, investigators, methodological approaches, theoretical perspectives. According to Denzim (1994) states that there are four basic types of triangulation, they are:

1. Data Triangulation

Data triangulation is use of variety of data sources, including time, space and person in this study. The data source can based on the times the data are collected, the place, or setting and from whom the data are obtained.

2. Investigator Triangulation

Investigator triangulation is involves using more than one observer, interviewer, coder, or data analysis in the study.

3. Theoretical Triangulation

Theoretical triangulation is involves more than one theoretical scheme in interpretation of the phenomenon.

4. Methodological Triangulation

Methodological triangulation or data-analysis triangulation is the combination of two or more methods of analysing data. Triangulation is used when the conclusion is not convincing or inaccurate, in other word, triangulation used to find validity of the research and to avoid bias in the study. Based on the explanation above, the researcher used theory triangulation to overcome the weakness and biases that come from single theory.

### 3. Methods and Result

#### Findings

Based on data analysis of three poems, there are: structural metaphor (10), ontological metaphor (12), and orientational metaphor (0).

## Structural Metaphor

Structural metaphor is a metaphor where one concept is expressed in terms of another structured or concept. These involve the structuring of one kind of experience or activity in terms of another kind of experience or activity. In other words, the cognitive function of these metaphors is to enable speakers to understand target A by means the structure of source B. There were (10) data of structural metaphor as follows:

| NO. | Title of Poem             | S  | L  | Metaphorical Expression                       |
|-----|---------------------------|----|----|---|
| 1.  | <b>Invictus</b>           | S1 | L4 | <i>For my unconquerable soul</i>              |
|     |                           | S4 | L3 | <i>I am the master of my fate,</i>            |
|     |                           |    | L4 | <i>I am the captain of my soul.</i>           |
| 2.  | <b>The Road Not Taken</b> | S2 | L3 | <i>Because it was grassy and wanted wear,</i> |
|     |                           | S3 | L1 | <i>And both that morning equally lay</i>      |
|     |                           |    | L3 | <i>Oh, I kept the first for another day!</i>  |
| 3.  | <b>Dreams</b>             | S1 | L1 | <i>Hold fast to dreams</i>                    |
|     |                           |    | L2 | <i>For if dreams die</i>                      |
|     |                           |    | L3 | <i>Life is a broken-winged bird</i>           |
|     |                           |    | L4 | <i>That cannot fly.</i>                       |
|     |                           |    | L5 | <i>Hold fast to dreams</i>                    |
|     |                           |    | L6 | <i>For when dreams go</i>                     |

### **Ontological Metaphor**

Ontological metaphor is that one in which an abstraction like activity, emotion or idea is materialised or turned into an entity and is used as if it was an object. In our everyday interaction we experience with objects and substances and this experience provides the basis for a lot of ontological metaphors. To put it another way, we categorise unbounded and unstructured events, activities, ideas and emotions as concrete entities and substances. There were (12) data of ontological metaphors as follow.

### **Orientation Metaphor**

Oriental metaphor provides even less conceptual structure for target concept than ontological ones. The name *orientational metaphor* derives from the fact that most metaphors that serve this function have to do with basic human spatial orientations, such as up-down, central-periphery, and the like. There were (0) data of orientational metaphor.

## **4. Discussion**

There was a research question posited in this research. That is " What kinds of metaphor are found on *Invictus*, *The Road Not Taken* and *Dreams* poems? to answer the question, the researcher uses the theory from Lakoff and Johnson (2003) and Konvecses (2010). Lakoff and Johnson (2003) who classifies the three types of metaphors, they are Structural Metaphor, Orientational Metaphor, and Ontological Metaphor. There were 10 structural metaphor, 12 ontological metaphor, and 0 orientational metaphor.

Then, Konvecses (2010) said the source domain is a conceptual domain, where the portrayal of a metaphorical expression is used to understand other conceptual spheres. Whereas the target domain is a conceptual domain understood through the source domain, where a metaphor is applied to this domain. For example, in the poem *Invictus* the phrase "night" represents the feeling of suffering and pain that the author describes throughout his writing. "Night" is the darkest part of the day and therefor Henley compares night to agony, and that mean the speaker had in trouble.

## **5. Conclusion**

Based on the previous analysis on three poem, the meaning of poem can be found by using theory of Kovecses (2010: 20-), he set 13 kinds of common source domain and 13 kinds of common target domain. An example is, the phrase " Life is a barren field " on Dreams (line 7). The word "life" is classified in target domain because it belongs to the category life and death, and then the word "barren field" is classified in source domain because it belong to category buildings and construction. The meaning of the phrase " Life is a barren field " is the author describe if we let the dreams go, we can't feel the pleasure anymore. This image makes us see how hard it would be to get back on your feet after losing something as dearly important as your dreams.

In analyzing poem by categorized the kind of metaphor and the source domain and target domain can make analyzing poem specifically and focused on to the subject. From the explanation above, it could be summarized that to know the meaning of poetry, it was necessary to know the meaning of the poem. Although it is not easy to learn them without learning by heart.

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