

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an introductory section of the present study. It covers the background of the study, the purpose of the research, statements of problems, the scope of the study, significance of the study, research methodology, clarification of terms, and organization of the paper.

#### 1.1. Background of the Study

Verbal communication is a way to deliver messages from sender to receiver. Verbal communication tends to use spoken words and intonation to convey meaning (Levine & Adelman, 1993). This style of communication tends to collect the conversation point of information in-between the medium. One of the media is indicated in a song. Songs are often called as the emotion of languages (Farber, 2007). Songs can be used as a tool to share our feelings in verbal communication. For example, the songwriter creates a song not only as a media to entertain but also it uses to communicate with the listener by expressing or sharing his/her feelings through the songs that they write for the listener.

Naturally, it is not only songs that have essential roles, but lyrics also has essential roles. Through lyrics, the readers or listeners will know what kind of topic that is contained in a song. The expressive function of language can be found through implicit meaning that is realized in song lyrics. In song lyrics, the writers can freely express and communicate their emotions and feelings with their listeners. The song that shows the songwriter's feeling can be heard and read from one of the legendary English bands, Queen. Queen as one of the world's greatest rock bands and also known for its poetic lyrics that can be seen from almost all their songs which resulted in two Greatest Hits compilation album in 1981 and 1991 (Thomas & Lupton, 2011). Interpersonal

relationship can be obtained from Queen's *Greatest Hits* selected song lyrics to build a sense of belonging, which occurs when the singer succeeds in delivering the impression to a listener which is related to the listener's life experience that is being validated when the lyrics are telling what happened to the singer for them.

This analysis is based on Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach which is focused on the interpersonal meaning that can be seen through the selected song lyrics of Queen's *Greatest Hits* album. In terms of lyrical analysis, Susanto and Watik (2017) examined the contribution of interpersonal meaning in the lyrics of Christina Perri's album "Love strong" to the teaching of modern English grammar that could help the students to analyze the interpersonal meaning of the song lyrics whether it is their favourite song or their favourite singer. Also, the analysis of mood system in song lyrics as a part of the interpersonal meaning analysis are the tools which are used to allow the speaker to express their attitude toward what they are saying. In this sense, Marhamah (2014) revealed the wordings of the clause based on the elements of interpersonal meaning, which are focusing on the most dominant mood types, modality, and mood adjunct. The study completes how the interpersonal meaning analysis based on the mood system can express emotions of the speaker, developing chronologically of the content, making cause and effect or making movement from one attitude to a different attitude of the song lyrics.

Many previous types of research support the interpersonal meaning analysis. In this case, interpersonal meaning analysis has been applied to newsletters (Kartika & Wihadi, 2018; Yuliana & Imperiani, 2017), speech (Feng & Liu, 2010; Nur, 2015; Syafirah, 2017), cross-cultural conversation (Fitriana, 2015; Sunardi, 2016), and also song lyrics (Amalia & Pramudyawardhani, 2016; Marhamah, 2014; Putra, 2014; Susanto & Watik, 2017; Yuningsih, 2018).

This research aims to fill what previous researches have missed in terms of interpersonal meaning analysis. In addition, it will reveal how mood types and modality are realized in the song lyrics through an interpersonal meaning analysis, and it will be generated from the discourse effect appeared in the song lyrics with an academic justification from concordance software as a means of the reason behind the selection of song lyrics as the research data. To sum up, the importance of this research is expected to be useful for researchers who like songs and can help them to analyze it by using song lyrics as the research data and to open the research field, especially in Systemic Functional Linguistics approach.

## **1.2. Purposes of Research**

This research aims to realize the interpersonal meaning of Queen's *Greatest Hits* selected song lyrics focuses on mood types and value of modality. Also, it aims to generate the meaning realized from the interpersonal meaning analysis.

## **1.3. Statements of Problems**

These research questions would be covered in this study:

1. How is the interpersonal meaning realized in Queen's *Greatest Hits* selected song lyrics?
2. What meanings are generated from Queen's *Greatest Hits* selected song lyrics?

## **1.4. Scope of the Study**

To achieve the goal of the study, this research is limited to only investigating the interpersonal meaning in selected song lyrics from Queen's "Greatest Hits" album. More specifically, the study focuses only on the analysis of mood types and modality and the identification of the potential meanings realized that could be generated from this research.

## 1.5. Significance of the Study

The significance of this study will cover theoretical and practical benefits. Furthermore, the results of this study are expected to particularly strengthen the knowledge of interpersonal meaning that could lead to new potential meanings in song lyrics. For the latter, the result of this study is expected to gain the music connoisseurs' awareness that lyrics in a song could construct various meanings.

## 1.6. Research Methodology

This research uses a qualitative method to analyze interpersonal meaning realized in Queen's *Greatest Hits* selected song lyrics. It allows for insights into attitudes, behaviour, and experiences by describing and understanding the categorization of the data found in the analysis (Dawson, 2007). The qualitative method is chosen because it might generate new potential meaning from the song lyrics. In order to confirm, the research method is appropriate to achieve the research findings. This research also used concordance software *AntConc 3.5.7* as the supporting tool because it aims to look for the number of personal pronouns the first person 'I' that appeared in the song lyrics as media to prove the reason for the selection of research data.

This research also uses descriptive method to describe the interpretation result of this research. This method could identify the interpersonal relationship and shows the justification that exists inside the characteristics, attitudes, behaviour, or experiences that related to the research. Therefore, the descriptive method is suitable and relevant to be used in the research.

The data used in this study is compilation album of Queen entitled *Greatest Hits*. The album was released in 1981, and it covered selected Queen's best hits from 1974 to 1980 and got a reward as a best-selling album all the time in the UK (Thomas & Lupton, 2011). This present study analyzes the lyrics of five selected songs which has been tested into concordance software, there are *Bohemian Rhapsody*, *Somebody to*

*Love, Don't Stop Me Now, We Are the Champions, and You're My Best Friend.* These lyrics are chosen since those are contains a sense of interpersonal relations because it has a personal pronoun "I" that is used as the main subject and also it has various kinds of meanings.

### **1.7. Clarification of Terms**

Several terms are clarified below, which are as follows:

#### 1. Interpersonal Meaning

Interpersonal meaning is a way of acting. This meaning focuses on the interactivity of the language and concerns how we act upon one another through language (Halliday, 1994).

#### 2. Mood types

The mood is realized by the position of the Subject and the Finite in the clause. The mood has some elements, and there are two main categories in mood types which are indicative and imperative moods. Each of them has different arrangements and functions (Gerot & Wignell, 1994; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).

#### 3. Modality

Modality refers to a range of different ways in which speakers can temper or qualify their messages. There are two types of modality which are modalization and modulation (Eggins & Slade, 1997)

#### 4. Song lyrics

Eckstein (2010) describes lyrics is similar to poetry for which they deliver verbal language and also use of both characteristic in terms of rhetorical and

stylistic devices to tell tales, expressing ideas about life, also sometimes to imagine the language limitation over the use between ‘subject’ and ‘world’.

### **1.8. Organization of Paper**

This part presents the organization of this paper:

1. Chapter I: Introduction

This chapter presents an introductory section of the present study. It covers the background of the study, the purpose of the research, statements of problems, the scope of the study, significance of the study, research methodology, clarification of terms, and organization of the paper.

2. Chapter II: Literature Review

This chapter elaborates several theories used in this study. It covers the explanation of the interpersonal meaning, song lyrics, and storytelling.

3. Chapter III: Research Methodology

This chapter consists of the research methodology, which are research design, data collection, data analysis, and data presentation.

4. Chapter IV: Findings and Discussion

This chapter contains the results of the conducted research. This chapter also presents the answers following the research questions and the discussion of the findings.

5. Chapter V: Conclusions and Suggestions

This chapter provides the conclusion drawn from the interpretation of the research and some suggestions for further studies that could be developed from this research.