CHAPTER 2
THEORETICAL BASES

Concept of Poetry

Poetry is a form of literature that is arranged in lines and usually expresses its meaning in a tight, compact structure (Wolosky, 2001, p.5). Reaske states Poetry is an imaginative awareness of experience expressed through meaning, sound, and rhythmic language choices so as to evoke an emotional response. Poetry has been known to employ meter and rhyme, but this is by no means necessary. (Reaske, 1966, p.2)

The theories above lead me to conclusion that poem is a part of literary work which is poured forth with words. The words had inspired by the experience which has expression and meaning.

1. The Kinds of poetry

The kinds of poetry, they are narrative poetry, descriptive poetry and argumentative poetry (Wolosky, 2007, p.15)

a. Narrative poetry

Narrative poetry is poem in which details are organized chronologically. It may have some of the feature of a story such as a rising action in which conflict develops a climax in which the conflict takes a turn, and a falling action in which the conflict reaches a conclusion.

b. Descriptive poetry

Descriptive poetry is a poem presented in an arrangement of pictorial details or images. In a descriptive poem the poet reasons as accurately as possible the impression received through the senses.

c. Argumentative poetry

Argumentative poetry is a poem presents a preposition and then gives reasons to defend it. However, not many poems have an argumentative because a person who merely wants to present an argument can do so better in prose.

In the following of Dickinson’s poem the researcher analyzed that Dickinson’s poem is narrative poem:
How Happy is The Little Stone 1510
How happy is the little stone
That rambles in road alone
And doesn’t care about careers
And exigencies never fears
Whose coat of elemental brown
A passing universe pot on
And independent as the sun
Associates or glows alone
Fulfilling absolute decree
(Johnson. H. Thomas. 2012)

This poem talked to the reader about a little stone which has happy life. The little stone perhaps as the repletion of a free man who has happy life. From this poem the researcher took a conclusion that Dickinson’s poem is narrative poem.

Concept of Figurative language

Language employs various figures of speech. Some examples are metaphor, simile, hyperbola, personification. In general, Figurative language is kind of language which departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing persons or objects. Using figurative language is making imaginative description in fresh ways. It is usually immediately obvious whether writer is using figurative language or literal language (Les Sikos, 2004, p.33)

This figurative language is the most effective way to conduct the truth. Because, it gives the readers an imaginative feeling. Thus, it can be stated that figurative language is instrument of poetry.

Concept of Personification

a. Definition of Personification

As Woloskystated (2001) Personification is a figure of speech in which human qualities are attributed to an animal, object, or idea. Pay attention to the use of personification in the Lilian Morison’s poem below which it brings the waves to life

SURF 734
Surf
Waves want
To be wheels
They jump for it
And fail fall flat like pole vaultres
And sprawl arms outstretched
Foam finger
(Johnson. H. Thomas. 2012)
From the example above, it could be said that when an idea, object or animal is represented or
given human traits of form as a person, it is called personification. It is related with the statement that
personification is given to human qualities to an animal, object or idea so that it creates a vivid image
The other example, in Emily Dickinson’s poem Thomas Jonson (2012, p.26) entitle “The Sky is Low,
The Clouds are Mean” Nature is given human qualities. How can “clouds be mean?” Clouds don’t have
feelings, but we can imagine that if we saw black low clouds-especially if we’ve ever lived in the south
or Midwest where those type of clouds produce dangerous thunders storms-then we might characterize
those clouds as angry looking. Pay attention to the poetries below:

**The Sky is Low, The clouds are Means**
A travelling flake of snow
A cross a barn of through a rut
Debates it if will go
A narrow wind complains all day
How someone treated him;
Nature, like as, is sometimes caught
Without her dream

(Johnson.H.Thomas. 2012)

b. The kinds of personification

In literary work, the process of assigning human characteristic to non human object, abstraction,
or idea are always called personification. Attributing personal form to such non human object and ideas
is a standard theoretical device in poetry. Thus we frequently find poets addressing the moon as a lady,
referring to her beauty. According Wolosky (2001, p.96) There are two kinds of personification are
direct personification an indirect personification. Direct personification are consider to be direct
because these personification involve something that usually happened, even though it’s being
described in an unrealistic way. For example: The *wind didn’t really toss* branches against the roof but
it definitely caused them to talk of trees and land on the house. Direct personification tends to be more
powerful than indirect personification. The reason is that direct personification involves real, physical
action, emotion while indirect personification involves action that is imagined. Indirect personification involves our imagination. When I use it, instead of an object actually doing something, the author imagines that the object is doing something. There are specific two phrases that will help us to use indirect personification; they are “as” if “and” as “though”. To use them, mention a non-human object or animal in sentence. Put in action, put in “as if” or “as though”, and then complete the sentence. For example:

- The chair sat all alone against the wall, as if being accused.
- The flowers wavered back and forth in the breeze, as though they were filled with happiness.
- The lake sparkled, as if it held some sort of delightful secret.

Based on the explore above, I can take conclusion that the personification have two kinds, are direct and indirect personification. Both of these are the expression to give the life description of the inanimate object.