

**A SEMANTIC ANALYSIS ON CELINE DION'S SONG IN
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, HOW DOES A MOMENT LAST FOREVER,
AND A NEW DAY HAS COME**



THESIS

**Submitted as the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement For *Sarjana Pendidikan*
(*S.Pd*) Degree in English Education Mataram University**

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MATARAM UNIVERSITY**

2018



**KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN NASIONAL
UNIVERSITAS MATARAM
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN**
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JOURNAL APPROVAL

Entitled

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THE IMPORTANCE OF SEMANTICS ANALYSIS IN CELINE DION'S SONG

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Abstract

The purpose of this semantic analysis is to know and be able to practice the role of diction choice in communication with the accompaniment of learning the use of language in semantics. This analysis was started at July 10, 2018. The approach used in this analysis is the descriptive qualitative approach in which it is used to find the indication, facts and the absolute events. Therefore, this analysis focused on analyzing the texts in the lyrics and providing data in words data description. The data of the analysis is from three songs in which they are in different album. The first to be analyzed in the lyrics was the lexical meaning and then followed by the contextual meaning where it focused more on the lexical meaning of each lyric. The result of the analysis showed that the lyrics of the three songs contain a deep context of social life relation. Besides, both lexical and contextual meanings are not closely related in the analysis and it means that the contextual meaning of the lyrics plays more value in the analysis.

Keyword: *semantics, analysis, descriptive qualitative, text, lyric, song, lexical meaning, contextual meaning.*

1. Introduction

Semantics is one of branches in Linguistics and semantic is a systematic study of meaning. People learn semantics in many level and complexity to be able to use the role of it in delivering the message of communication since it developed in 1970 until now. Semantics is not only learned by students, but also teachers and language learners because it contains benefit that may help them understanding the meaning of each single thing around them which relates to their need in schools and daily communication. Students need to learn semantics because it may help them knowing and understanding the material given and the teachers also need to learn semantics because they have to be able to explain correctly to the students about the material which is hard to accept by the students, it is also a must for language learners to learn it because it may ease them in solving their school problems.

Semantics is also a bridge to communicate with other people in order to get the same idea. It is a need to deliver the language correct and well to other people to have the same idea or meaning. Semantics is also useful and good to learn when it is applied in literary work such as song, poem, or prose but this analysis focuses on song because song contains lessons in form of semantics (a study of meaning), the diction, cohesiveness, and cohesion. The reason to analyze song is because many people around the world like listening to the songs but they sometimes have difficulties in getting the meaning of the language. In addition, song also can entertain people that include the implied meaning which have to be delivered to community.

1.1 Statement of Problem

1.1.1 What lexical meaning of words described in the lyrics of Celine Dion's songs?

1.1.2 What contextual meaning of words that implied in the lyrics of Celine Dion's songs?

1.2 Objectives of Study

1.2.1 To describe the lexical meaning of words in the lyrics of Celine Dion's songs.

1.2.2 To describe what contextual meaning implied in the lyrics of Celine Dion's songs.

1. Literature Review

The term semantic is a systematic study of meaning and linguistic semantics is the study of how language organize and express meanings. This means that a meaning in linguistic semantics is needed to limit ourselves from interpreting words as the expression of thought freely. In constructing the meaning, a word may have more than one meaning. The meaning is usually in literal form, but words may have meanings based on the context which is stated in a sentence. A context determines a set of meanings which corresponds to each sentence. There are words that only have meanings when they are in a sentence that usually bound to the context of sentence

and those words may have meanings when they are already accompanied with the other words whether in front or behind. It is known that the meaning of a word is fully reflected by its context. It is the same as here that the meaning of the word is constituted by its contextual relations, literal and non-literal meanings. Therefore, there exist a distinction in a participation as well as modes of participation that was made. In order to accomplish the distinction, any part of a sentence which bears meanings and combine of the other constituents. Meaning can be the idea or concept which is usually transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the listener by embodying them with one same language or different language.

1.1 Kinds of Meaning

Charles W. Kreidler (1998:41) stated that "Semantic is considered with aspect of meaning in language". Meaning is categorized into some reference. Kreidler stated also that there are several dimensions of meaning in lexical meaning that include reference and denotation, connotation, sense relations, lexical and grammatical meaning, morphemes, homonymy, polysemy, lexical ambiguity, sentence and meaning. On the other hand, contextual meaning is discussed with the term *pragmatic meaning*. Contextual meaning itself cannot be separated from literal and non-literal meanings which will be discussed.

2.2 Meaning Relation

In any language, the semantic relationship or relation among words are related to language unit. According to Charles W. Kreidler (1998) relations of meaning (lexical) can be categorized as: lexical fields, kinship, hyponymy, synonymy, antonymy, binary and non-binary antonyms, a comparison of four relations, converse antonyms, symmetry and reciprocity, and expressions of quantity. This part discusses five categorizes as lexical fields, kinship, hyponymy, synonymy, and antonymy because they can represent the most important theories of meaning relations in semantics.

1.2 Previous Study

Marhamah (2014) conducted her analysis on interpersonal meaning analysis of Muse song lyrics in *Black Holes and Revelation Album*. The finding is about the types of interpersonal meaning in the lyrics of Muse album *Black Holes and Revelations*. It discussed the interpersonal meaning in the transcript which were identified and analyzed. The analysis was concentrated on the analysis of Mood and Residue. The Mood consists of subject and finite.

Another analysis of semantics is by Krisano (2017) who conducted his analysis entitled "The Semantic Features of English Verbs Containing Meaning 'To Help'". The finding was gotten by using the theory of

synonym. The example is words *accommodate and help* which describes a need to provide somebody with a room or place to sleep, live or sit, to provide what is needed or wanted for. Besides, the study discussed also about the features of semantic to identify analyzed verbs by using comparison among three factors which are ‘content, circumstance, and reason’. The example of content is *information* with the circumstance ‘dangerous/harmful situation’ while the reason is to provide/give somebody with something.

2. Method

This study used a descriptive qualitative approach. The qualitative approach is a research procedure which presents the result in descriptive data including written and oral words from the research objectives (books or language learners). Besides, the descriptive qualitative approach is used to find the indication, facts, and the absolute events. It is begun by studying the lexical and contextual meanings in order to reach the objectives of the research easily.

In this analysis, there are 3 songs which are taken from different album. The albums are Beauty and The Beast: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack, Beauty and The Beast, and A New Day Has Come in which the songs are Beauty and The Beast, How Does A Moment Last Forever, and A New Day Has Come. The data of the song is in lyric form as below:

Beauty and The Beast
Céline Dion, Peabo Bryson

Tale as old as time True as
it can be
Barely even friends
Then somebody bends Unexpectedly

Just a little change
Small to say the least
Both a little scared
Neither one prepared

Beauty and the beast

Ever just the same
Ever a surprise
Ever as before and ever just as sure as the sun will rise

Ever just the same
Ever a surprise
Ever as before
Ever just as sure
As the sun will rise

Tale as old as time
Tune as old as song
Bitter sweet and strange
Finding you can change
Learning you were wrong

Certain as the sun

(Certain as the sun) Rising
in the east

(Tale as old as time)

Song as old as rhyme

Beauty and the beast

Tale as old as time

(Song as old as rhyme) Beauty
and the beast

Writers: Howard Elliott Ashman & Alan Menken

How Does A Moment Last Forever

Celine Dion

How does a moment last forever?

How can a story never die?

It is love we must hold onto

Never easy, but we try

Sometimes our happiness is captured

Somehow, our time and place stand still

Love lives on inside our hearts and always will

Minutes turn to hours, days to years then gone

But when all else has been forgotten Still

our song lives on

Maybe some moments weren't so perfect

Maybe some memories not so sweet

But we have to know some bad times Or

our lives are incomplete

Then when the shadows overtake us
Just when we feel all hope is gone
We'll hear our song and know once more Our
love lives on

How does a moment last forever?
How does our happiness endure?
Through the darkest of our troubles
Love is beauty, love is pure
Love pays no mind to desolation
It flows like a river through the soul
Protects, proceeds, and perseveres
And makes us whole
Minutes turn to hours, days to years then gone
But when all else has been forgotten
Still our song lives on
How does a moment last forever: When
our song lives on
Writers: Tim Rice & Alan Menken

A New Day Has Come

Céline Dion

A new day
A new day
I was waiting for so long
For a miracle to come Everyone
told me to be strong Hold on and
don't shed a tear

Through the darkness and good times
I knew I'd make it through
And the world thought I had it all But I
was waiting for you

Hush now
I see a light in the sky
Oh, it's almost blinding me
I can't believe
I've been touched by an angel with love

Let the rain come down and wash away my tears
Let it fill my soul and drown my fears
Let it shatter the walls for a new, new sun

A new day has come
Where it was dark now there's light
Where there was pain now there's joy
Where there was weakness, I found my strength All in
the eyes of a boy

Hush now
I see a light in the sky
Oh, it's almost blinding me
I can't believe
I've been touched by an angel with love
Let the rain come down and wash away my tears
Let it fill my soul and drown my fears
Let it shatter the walls for a new, new sun

A new day has

Let the rain come down and wash away my tears
Let it fill my soul and drown my fears
Let it shatter the walls for a new, new sun

A new day has come
Ohhh, a light
Hush now
I see a light in your eyes
All in the eyes of the boy

I can't believe
I've been touched by an angel with love

I can't believe
I've been touched by an angel with love

Hush now
Hush now

Writers: Aldo Nova Caporuscio & Stephan Moccio

After collecting the data, then it is analyzed in steps such as reading and listening the data and then find out the meaning of necessary words which are determined by the relation to the background story and the theme, this is much related by looking at the cohesion of the theme to the song and then it is made for making criteria of words basis in listing the words which are the core elements.

Next, separating words which have no real meaning relates to the context (background story & the theme). After that, describing the words meaning in those lyrics using lexical meaning that are found from dictionaries and relate them to the context (background story & the theme). And then, describing the contextual

meaning from the words in the lyrics of Celine Dion's songs. Finally, the conclusion is drawn based on the result.

3. Finding and Discussion

The finding focuses on Celine Dion's songs "Beauty and The Beast, How Does A Moment Last Forever, and A New Day Has Come". In the analysis of the song, words and word phrase to explain and describe the other contents of the term in the lyrics.

4.1.1 Beauty and The Beast

The theme of this song is Trust. The theme is also in correlation with the background of the song that tells about the history of the two characters' meeting which ends in marriage. The two characters met for the first time coincidentally and then through times they build a relationship with a belief that The Beast can change to be a good person with good personality with the help of Beauty. Beauty shows The Beast that she trusts on him to be able to change and then it happens. Their relationship is tested by the unexpected problems that finally solved together and they marry then.

Lexical and Contextual Meaning Analysis

a. Beauty is the quality of being pleasing to the senses or to the mind (Hornby, 2015:212). Besides, the contextual meaning of "beauty" is the

good personality of a person which can influence and attract other people to change to become better.

Beast is a person who is cruel and whose behavior is uncontrolled (Hornby, 2015:119). While the contextual meaning of “beast” is the bad personality of a person that make other people afraid of the cruelty, afraid of being hurt or bad things that might happen to them because of the bad personality of a person.

- c. Friend is a person you know well and like, and who is not usually a member of you family (Hornby, 2015:628). Although word “friend” means someone you know well, this context tells that “friend” here is the person you have just met and you hate him. This word also contains figurative language which is a *paradox* which shows the opposition between the word told and the fact.
- d. Somebody bends. Word “somebody” means someone who is not known well but still become a part of a life. While word “bend” means incline the body downwards but the contextual meaning of it is that the man gives up on his destiny that he is now falling in love with “Beauty” and also gives up from his bad personality that he then change becoming a good person.
- e. Change is used to replace one thing, person, service (Hornby, 2015:243). In line 6 “*just a little change*”, it is different to understand the contextual meaning of this word because it is used to say that a man is changing his behavior and change everything bad in his life with the better things to have a better life.

- f. Bitter sweet is the word usually used to say that something is bringing pleasure and mixed with sadness (Hornby, 2015: 144). It has a contextual meaning of statement “*bitter sweet and strange*” which means the two characters pass hard bad and good experiences and they find many kinds of memories from their experiences.

4.1.2 How Does A Moment Last Forever

The theme of this song is about nostalgia. It is in relation with the background story of this song which is about knowing the truth of the reason to keep a secret about someone’s death in order to not make other people sad. Thus, this song is about nostalgia moment.

Lexical and Contextual Meaning Analysis

- a. Happiness is known as a great feeling of pleasure which comes from the heart where it is felt warm and makes men feeling good. The contextual meaning of happiness can be known through its association with the other words in its line “*sometimes our happiness is captured*”. Word “happiness” here means the picture of life or the experience of the people which is not only a feeling but actual events.
- b. Heart is the place in a person where the feelings and emotions are thought to be, especially when it is connected with love. In this context, heart is not only a place of feeling but also covers all times, all experiences, all thoughts, and everything in a life of someone.

- c. All is the word used to say everything which is considered. The contextual meaning of “all” can be seen if we look at the lyric “*but when all else has been forgotten*”, the word “all” covers every single thing happened which were remembered or not remembered by the one.
- d. Song is known as a piece of music that is sung but it has another meaning in the context. The contextual meaning of “song” is the belief, the love, the self that can remind us who we are exactly. It is seen through lyric in line 10 stated “*still our song lives on*”.
- e. Moment has a contextual meaning that is a short event happened long time ago. It is seen through lyric “maybe some moments weren’t so perfect” that means everything happened were not always happened as a man expected, it is a fate.
- f. Beauty has a contextual meaning which is seen through lyric “*love is beauty*” means that the beauty itself is about convincing someone that it is a feeling of warm and comfortable because it is not only about good looking, it is more about good feeling in this context.
- g. Pure is the word used to day about something natural, with no addition. But the contextual meaning of pure is seen through lyric “*love is pure*” which means that love comes and exist the way human being cannot expect it, the way love is only love, nothing bad in it.

- h. Whole is another word used to say “perfect” while the contextual meaning of “whole” is stating that we (the people) are not sad anymore, the sadness is gone and make them perfect because they have protected the one they love.

4.1.3 A New Day Has Come

The theme of this song is about a waiting. The theme is in line with the background of this song which is about a waiting for a baby born and a new return of the singer after the hiatus for two years to focus on her family. This song describes the happiness of the singer of her first child.

Lexical and Contextual Meaning Analysis

- a. Day is a time of 24 hours but it has more meaning in the contextual side which is becoming a time that is important for celebrating the born day of a baby, the return of someone and the day of happiness that the prayers are finally granted.
- b. Miracle is an act or event that does not follow the laws of nature and is believed to be caused by God. The contextual meaning of “miracle” can be related first by seeing the lyric in line “for a miracle to come” which is correlated with the previous line lyric “I was waiting for so long” and then “miracle” is something wished to happen although it is difficult or impossible which is waited for a long time.

- c. Light is an expression in somebody's eyes which shows what they are thinking or feeling. Word "light" itself contains contextual meaning that is used to say that there is a possible chance in her life to have a baby and it brings good news for her family and public.
- d. Angel is known as a spirit who is believed as the servant of God and is sent by God to deliver message or perform a task. It is different if we make meaning based on the context, because the contextual meaning of "angel" is a person with a kind pure heart and good behave. An angel is then interpreted a new born baby who is pure, clean, kind, and everything natural is in the baby that people usually think of a baby as an angel.
- e. Eyes are the organs in the face that people see with. The contextual meaning of "eyes" is not the organs as a part of body but it is the boy himself that is all seen by people as the miracle which was thought impossible to exist.
- f. Boy is a male child or a young man person (Hornby, 2015:174). It has contextual meaning which is saying that he is a new newborn child who has no strength even to protect himself but he is the angel that many people were waiting for. His born was the miracle that people

4.2 Discussion

4.2.1 Beauty and The Beast

The discussion is done based on the analysis of theme and the background of the song. The theme of this song is about Trust while the background of the song is about the meeting of the two characters who are being told from the coincidental meeting until their marriage.

The discussion is made according to the cohesion of the words with the theme. It first begins with word “friend” in line 3 “barely even friends” that describes the first relationship between the two characters as the strangers which then into a friend that one of them “The Beast” gives up on his destiny that he is falling in love with Beauty and also he changes himself to become a better kind person. It is related with lyric line 6 “just a little change” in which the word “change” means that The Beast changes his bad behavior to be a good one because it is impossible saying that “change” means replacing something or person. It is drawn in the lyric that they are both scared of something (problem) unexpected but still facing it although they are not prepared at all. And in line 10 stated “Beauty and The Beast”, the phrase describes the two different personality of the characters, one is Belle as “Beauty” whose personality is attracting people to do something good because she has a good personality that makes people respect and love her. It is in opposition with Beast’s personality which is bad, cruel and hard

that make people afraid of him moreover his behavior is uncontrolled. However, their different personality and behavior do not make them selfish because they realize that they have to stay together to solve the problem coming to them. In line 11 to 13, the lyrics describe that the change of Beast's behavior and personality does not make Beauty (Belle) hates him because the personality is created since a long time ago and is trapped inside a heart because of the problem that only can be solved with the change of Beast. It is a trust of Beauty that finally changes the fate of Beast and shown by lyric in line 18 "as the sun will rise". They both have passed hard bad and good experiences that make many kinds of memories shown by lyric in line 21 "bitter sweet and strange" because the statement drawst their experiences.

4.2.2 How Does A Moment Last Forever

The discussion is done based on the analysis of theme and the background of the song because the theme is about nostalgia. Its background story of creating the song is to tell the truth of the father's reason to keep a secret from his daughter about his wife's death. It begins with word "happiness" which is stated in line 5 of the lyric, happiness here is not only a feeling but also a picture of life or the experience of the people contain all thing happened in the past and are precious to remember. It is in relation with line 1 "how does a moment last forever?" that a moment stated there is a really precious thing

happened that becomes a reason to keep a secret contains love of parents to make their daughter's safe. That a moment is about sacrifice and the story never dies. That "love lives on people's hearts and always will" is stated in line 7 where word "heart" covers everything like times, experiences, events, thoughts where they are staying like the first happening.

In line 11 stated "maybe some moments weren't so perfect". Word "moments" in that line does not mean something like time but means the events happen in a life in which those moments are not always perfect like a man expected because something happens does not based on what a man creates but based on the fate of them. The next line (line 12) describes that memories created on those moments are not so sweet but still "our love lives on" in line 17 telling that they hear to their song which word "song" means their belief, their love and themselves that make them still holding on to love and because everything happened in the past, the things that teach them that something imperfect and bad memories do not change our heart and our belief to still being a good person.

In line 20 "how does our happiness endure?" is a question for the everlasting because happiness brings good feeling to people that it can endure because people have love in their hearts and they have passed times and troubles which make them stronger, realizing that love is beauty and pure. Love is beauty means that people realize that love can convince other people that "beauty" is not only a physical form of a thing's description moreover it is about a warm

comfortable feeling. This is also supported by word “pure” which means something happens naturally, without any addition that in this context is about love that comes and exist the way human being cannot expect it, the way love is only love, nothing bad in it. And when people are brave to protect, proceed and preserve the one they love even though they have to face bad things and being forgotten, they feel perfect.

4.2.3 A New Day Has Come

The theme of this song is about a waiting. The theme is in line with the background of this song which is about a waiting and a new return of the singer after the hiatus for two years to focus on her family. This song describes the happiness of the singer of her first child.

It starts with word “day” which has meaning not only a time of 24 hours but also a time that is full of precious moments such for celebrating the new born baby and the return of the singer to music industry. It is followed by lyric in line 3 stated “I was waiting for so long” as a statement to say that she was waiting the new day comes because she tried many ways to get prayers granted. The word “miracle” which is usually known as spirit sent by God also has a contextual meaning as something impossible and rarely granted and it might a prize from God. This miracle can be said as the prize because she was waiting and did many efforts to stay strong.

Something which is waited for a long time and through darkness and good times can finally bring a happy ending that the prayers are granted. Word “light” is used to say that there is a possible chance in her life to have a baby and it brings good news for her family and public which are sometimes unbelievable and it is then followed by the born of a baby in word use “angel”. Although angel is known as a spirit sent by God, in this context it is a new born baby because a new born baby is purely angelical because he has no sin and cannot do something bad consciously.

The born of the baby is like the rain which come down and washed away the sadness and bad times in the past and a new day comes with new hopes and plan in the future as the new sun arise. It is supported by the lyric in line 22 “where there was weakness, I found my strength” as in other words mean that the strength is found through lyric in line 23 “all in the eyes of a boy”. The word “eyes” here does not mean the eye as the organs of a body because it means the boy himself, not the organs. It is then completed by word “boy” as the representation of a new born baby who has no strength but people think and believe he is a miracle in form of a little angel sent by God.

4. Conclusions

The term lexical and contextual meanings are important to know the analysis done in this thesis. Lexical meaning itself is the meaning of words that are usually the meaning given by dictionary while contextual meaning is the meaning of words that

are seen through the situation and it is about the knowledge of who is speaking, who is listening, what objects are being discussed and general facts of the world.

The first song is entitled Beauty and The Beast. The theme of this song is Trust. The words which are chosen are based on the theme and the background story of the song. The first song lyric chosen words are connected with the contextual meaning with description in conclusion is described that a trust to somebody can change a person's behavior or personality in which it is from bad behavior into good personality. And love helps a person trusting somebody.

The second song is How Does A Moment Last Forever with nostalgia theme. The words which have lexical meaning are chosen are based on the theme and the background story of the song that is about a sacrifice of a mother and love of a father to his daughter while the contextual meaning is known based on the correlation to the lexical meaning. This song lyric words tells a contextual meaning of all lyric in conclusion stated that a secret is kept as a secret to not hurt the feeling of another person until the secret is known.

The last song is A New Day Has Come with a waiting theme and still relate to the background story. The song lyric words were chosen based on the cohesion to theme and background story and the lexical and contextual meaning are concluded to say that a new day is a prize after a long time waiting for the miracle to happen. The miracle is given in form of the born of a child and the return of the singer to music industry.

Suggestion

In the result of the research, I propose some suggestions because I expect that this research is useful for other research. It was important for other researchers to conduct their research not only limited on two kinds of discussion above but also expands deeply the analysis about semantics. Finally, I realize that this is still far from a perfect. So, I will listen to all of good criticism and suggestion about this research in under to be better.

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