

The Onomatopoeia In Selected Poems By Edgar Allan Poe

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Abstract

Background of this research is the existence of onomatopoeia in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poems namely "The Bells" and "The Raven". The writer uses Ullman's theory as a reference to analyze the types of onomatopoeia and uses contextual meaning in interpreting the word onomatopoeia in context. The purpose of this study is to find the types of onomatopoeia and also to describe the contextual meaning of onomatopoeia words in selected poems by Edgar Allan Poe. Descriptive Qualitative method used in this research. The analysis begins by identifying words that are onomatopoeic and grouped based on Ullman's theory, namely primary (PO) and secondary (SO) types, then, identifying contextual meanings. This research resulted in 26 words, 15 words in the poem "The Bells" and 11 words in the poem "The Raven". The results of the analysis types of onomatopoeia are 17 words including primary onomatopoeia, and 9 words including secondary onomatopoeia. Analysis of the meaning in the Bells' Poem, all the words are produced from the sound of objects (Bells). While in The Raven's poem, it is found that there are human, animal (raven) voices and the sounds of other objects.

Keywords: Onomatopoeia, Poems, Contextual meaning

1. INTRODUCTION

Language has an important role in human life and is needed by humans as a means of communication. This communication is not only conveyed verbally but can also be expressed in writing, written communication can be conveyed through an idea, idea, aspiration, or inspiration for someone to express themselves. According to Keraf (1997) & Pamungkas (2012) explained that language can be used as a tool for expression, self-development, communication, integration and, social adaptation in certain environments or situations, and as a tool for exercising social control. Humans use language based on images or feelings of the heart by creating words in the form of sounds or sounds to communicate and adapt in a social environment (Mahdum, 2018).

Figurative language is used to express a sense of beauty and to emphasize the significance of the object being communicated. Figurative language is a highly casual term that is not used in the literal sense of the word (Budiargo & Haryanto, 2021). According to Sumadiria in (Prahetta, 2015) also states "figurative language is the way to express the thoughts through typical language which shows spirit and personality of the author (language user)". According to Prahetta (2015: 7) states "Figurative language is a language using figure of speech and it is language that could not be taken literally (or should not be taken literally only)". According to Reaske in (Prahetta, 2015) Figurative language has seven types, they are: Simile, Personification, Metaphor, Hyperbole, Symbol, Repetition, and Onomatopoeia.

According to Regot in (Muliawati & Yusnida, 2019) "Onomatopoeia is simply defined as a word that mimics the sound it names. It depicts one of the figures of speech or language features that imitates the natural sounds by words such as (crunch, gurgle, plunk, and splash)". Different from the definition according to the *Merriam Webster Dictionary* that "onomatopoeia is the naming of a thing or action by vocal imitation of the sound associated with it (such as buzz, hiss)" (Orrequia-Barea & Marín-Honor, 2020). Onomatopoeia means the name of an object that is derived from the imitation of sound produced by the object itself. Example, the word "hiss" is an imitation of the sound of a snake (Eliza, 2013). The sound imitation of each object sounds different so it will produce different words as well. If the sound of the object is the

sound of an animal, then the words must be animal sounds, and if the object sound is the sound of objects, humans, or sounds between two related objects, then the words must be similar to the sounds produced.

Based on Ullman’s theory there are two types of onomatopoeia, primary and secondary. According to Ullman in (Firdaus et al., 2021) “The primary onomatopoeia is the imitation of the sound through the sound is produced by object itself. The secondary onomatopoeia is the sound that occurs because of the relation between the sound of an object and its movement or based on the movement only”.

Example of primary onomatopoeia according to Thomas in (Carera et al., 2019):

Doorbell	ding dong
Phone	Bringg bringg
Alarm clock	RIINNNGGG

Example of secondary onomatopoeia according to Thomas in (Carera et al., 2019):

Sound of door knocking	Knock knock
Sound of drinking	Gulp gulp gulp
Lock turning	Click
Walking through puddles	Splash

“Poetry is literary work in which the expression of feelings and ideas is given intensity by the use of distinctive style and rhythm” (Sriningsih, 2017). Asmaul Khusnah stated that “Poem is form of literature that encompasses a great of emotions, feeling, or desire” (Maula, 2013). Tomlinson in (Ulfa, 2016), also stated that “Poetry is the expression of ideas and feelings through a rhythmical composition of imaginative and beautiful words selected for their sonorous effects”. This research examines two poems by Edgar Allan Poe entitled "The Bells" and "The Raven". The poem The Bells was published in 1849 and has 4 stanzas and is quite long. The poem The Bells tells the sound of bells, Edgar Allan uses 4 different types of bells in each verse of the poem and the sound of the bells sounds different according to the atmosphere and plot of each. The poem The Raven was published in 1845 and has 18 stanzas. This poem is a narrative poem and tells of a crow that always speaks mysteriously and is seen visiting a man who is grieving because his lover has just died. The Raven can talk and always says the same words over and over which makes the man annoyed. Edgar Allan's poems are poems that have an impression of mystery and horror in it. Many of his poems were based on inspiration from Edgar's own life. Edgar Allan's poems also captivate the hearts of his readers, have rhythms that are repeated to hypnotize readers, and easily imagine the stories that happened in these poems.

Meaning exists in any literary work, such as poetry/poems, novels, short stories, play scripts, films, and many others. Many experts express their opinion about the meaning and the types of meaning. Contextual meaning is meaning that appears based on context. Lyons defines contextual meaning, “Contextual meaning is the meaning of words according to the situations in which they are used” (Maimuna, 2008). The situation, context of place, time, and environment in which the language is used, can also be subject to contextual meaning. Thus, contextual meaning is very close to the situation and the language around the context (Chotimah & As Sabiq, 2021: 428). In this study, the writer observes, studies, and researches onomatopoeia words in the poem and finds out their contextual meaning. The writer chose two poems by Edgar Allan entitled "The Bells" and "The Raven" because these two poems mostly use onomatopoeia as figurative words that can liven up the atmosphere of the poem. This research uses the technique of observing the words in each stanza of the poem. This method is done to find every onomatopoeia word used by the poet in the poem by observing the words that are the sound of the sound. The writer also uses an online dictionary to help determine whether the words that have been found are words in the form of onomatopoeia.

The purpose of this thesis is to analyze the sound imitation words used in selected poems by Edgar Allan, these sound imitation words are called onomatopoeia. This study examines and finds the words and types of onomatopoeia used by poets in poem and describes the contextual meaning contained in the use of these onomatopoeia words. The purpose of this analysis is to gain a deeper understanding of onomatopoeia which is an imitation of the sound of an object or the relationship between objects, to recognize the types of onomatopoeia based on Ullman’s theory, and to better understand the meaning of the onomatopoeia words used in the poem in context. The poems The Bells and The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe were chosen as subjects in this study because the use of the word onomatopoeia in both poems is quite a lot, so that the meaning of each word arises according to the context of the story in the poem.

2.METHOD

In this study, the writer used a descriptive qualitative method, a method in which the writer described the types and meanings of onomatopoeia words. The data sources selected as the material for this study were two poems by Edgar Allan Poe entitled "The Bells" and "The Raven". The writer uses four research techniques: First, reading poetry. Second, identify words that have onomatopoeia. Third, record and classify the types of onomatopoeia words that have been chosen. Fourth, identify the meaning of the selected onomatopoeia words using an online dictionary.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Findings

There are two selected poems by Edgar Allan Poe which have been analyzed by the researcher: The Bells and The Raven as well as several word sounds are analyzed based on the types and contextual meanings contained in the following results tables:

The Types of Onomatopoeia in Poems

The Bells

Table 1. Types of Onomatopoeia in The Bells Poem

No	Onomatopoeia Word	Onomatopoeia Meaning	Types of Onomatopoeia
1.	Tinkle-tinkle-tinkle	A gentle, ringing sound	PO
2.	Tintinnabulation	The ringing of bells	PO
3.	Bells-bells-bells	Bell ringing sound	PO
4.	Jingling and Tinkling	Sound of sleigh bells	PO
5.	Shriek-shriek	Metal clinking sound	PO
6.	Clang, and clash, and roar	Sound of loud and sharp metallic, and loud screaming.	PO
7.	Twanging	Fast clinking sound	PO
8.	Jangling	A harsh metallic sound, or a harsh discordant sound	PO
9.	Wrangling	Sound of bickering	PO
10.	Swelling	Really loud clanging sound	PO
11.	Clamor and Clangor	A continuous loud and ringing of things	PO
12.	Tolling,tolling,tolling	Funeral bells	PO
13.	Throbbing	Loud thumping sound	PO

14.	Sobbing	Muffled sound of bells	PO
15.	Moaning and groaning	A long muffled sound	PO

The Raven

Table 2. Types of Onomatopoeia in The Raven Poem

No	Onomatopoeia Word	Onomatopoeia Meaning	Types of Onomatopoeia
1.	Tapping	Door knock	SO
2.	Rapping	Door knock	SO
3.	Muttered	Speak almost inaudibly	SO
4.	Rustling	Soft swish sound of an object	SO
5.	Whispered	Human voice, speak softly	SO
6.	Murmured	Human voice, low voice	SO
7.	Flutter	Flap wings rapidly	SO
8.	Nevermore	Sound of bird	PO
9.	Croaking	Hoarseness in bird	PO
10.	Tinkled	Soft ringing sound	SO
11.	Shrieked	Someone’s scream	SO

Onomatopoeia Word Type

Table 3. Data on Types of Onomatopoeia Words

Onomatopoeia Types	Word Count
Primary (PO)	17
Secondary (SO)	9
Total	26

The Contextual Meaning of Onomatopoeia in Poems

The Bells

Table 4. Contextual Meaning of Onomatopoeia in The Bells Poem

No	Onomatopoeia Word	Contextual Meaning
1.	How they tinkle-tinkle-tinkle In the icy air of night!	The sound of silver bells from the sled in the night
2.	To the tintinnabulation that so musically wells	Sound of bells ringing softly
3.	From the jingling and tinkling of the bells.	Sound of the bell jingling happily
4.	To swinging and the ringing of the bells-bells-bells	The bell rings repeatedly
5.	They can only shriek-shriek	Loud sound of bells (alarm)
6.	How they clang, and clash, and roar	The sound of the alarm is very loud, noisy, and screams a sign of danger.
7.	Yet the ear it fully knows, by the twanging	The ringing of the alarm sounded loud to the ears.
8.	Yet the ear distinctly tells, In the jangling,	The danger alarm sounds very loud and scary
9.	And the wrangling	Sound of bells shouted at each other with a very loud voice
10.	By the sinking or the swelling in the anger of the bells—	Enormous sound on the bell
11.	In the clamor and clangor of the bells!	Sound of the bell ringing loudly
12.	And who tolling, tolling, tolling, In that muffled monotone,	The sound of the bell of sorrow, the fear of terror
13.	In a sort of Runic rhyme, To the throbbing of the bells—	The gloomy ringing of bells
14.	To the sobbing of the bells;	The somber and sorrowful ringing of the bell
15.	To the moaning and groaning of the bells.	Funeral bells ringing, sounding sad and painful

The Raven

Table 5. Contextual Meaning of Onomatopoeia in The Raven Poem

No	Onomatopoeia Word	Contextual Meaning
1.	While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping	Sound of knock on the door from outside
2.	As of some one gently rapping , rapping at my chamber door.	Someone's soft knock on his door
3.	"Tis some visitor," I muttered , "tapping at my chamber door—	The man's voice asked and sounded muffled
4.	And the silken, sad, uncertain rustling of each purple curtain	Sound of scraping from each purple curtains
5.	And the only word there spoken was the whispered word, "Lenore?"	The man's voice said the words in a low voice
6.	This I whispered, and an echo murmured back the word, "Lenore!"—	The man's voice was muffled while thinking of someone
7.	when, with many a flirt and flutter In there stepped a stately Raven	Sound of the raven's wings in flying to float to and fro
8.	Quoth the Raven " Nevermore. "	The raven's answer
9.	Meant in croaking "Nevermore."	The raven's deepest hoarse voice as it answered
10.	Swung by Seraphim whose foot-falls tinkled on the tufted floor.	Sound of footsteps jingling and lightly moving on the floor
11.	"Be that word our sign of parting, bird or fiend!" I shrieked , upstarting—	Sound of a very loud scream by the man to the raven

Discussion

This research data was taken from selected poems by Edgar Allan Poe entitled The Bells and The Raven. Researchers found several words that are imitations of the original sound of the object (primary onomatopoeia) and imitations of sounds from relationships between objects or moving objects (secondary onomatopoeia). Data from the meaning of onomatopoeia, researchers used the help of online dictionaries to make it more accurate, and contextual meanings were obtained based on the context in each sentence of the two poems. From the results obtained above, researchers have found 26 onomatopoeia words from the two selected poems, 17 words are primary onomatopoeia types and 9 words are secondary onomatopoeia types. The contextual meaning of onomatopoeia words has been described based on the story context of the two poems.

There are two reasons why this research is different from previous studies. First, this study only uses two poems entitled *The Bells* and *The Raven* by poet Edgar Allan Poe. Edgar Allan Poe's poems are poems that have a horror and suspense genre. Second, analysis of types and meaning. The researcher used a grouping technique of two groups namely the onomatopoeia types group and the contextual meaning group. In the types group, the table contains the onomatopoeia words that have been found, the meaning of onomatopoeia words based on online dictionaries, and the type of onomatopoeia for each word. In the contextual meaning group, the table contains one poetry sentence containing the word onomatopoeia and the results of the contextual meaning analyzed by the researcher based on the context of the poetry sentence.

4. CONCLUSION

After analyzing and explaining the results, the writer concludes that the poems entitled "The Bells" and "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe have a total of 28 words of onomatopoeia. In the poem "The Bells" there are 17 onomatopoeic words and in the poem "The Raven" there are 11 onomatopoeic words. Based on the analysis of the types of onomatopoeic words according to Ullman's theory, there are 19 words that fall into the category of primary onomatopoeia and 9 words that fall into the category of secondary onomatopoeia.

Additionally, the writer also begins to conclude the words used in the poem "The Bells". All the words in this poem fall into the category of primary onomatopoeia because the imitation of the sound produced by an object "bells" is an imitation of the sound of an actual object. Each stanza has different imitation words because it adapts to the atmosphere and circumstances that occur in the poem. In contrast to the poem "The Raven", this poem has 2 types of words that are included in the category of primary onomatopoeia, because these words represent the original sound of a bird (Raven). After that, 7 types of words are included in the category of secondary onomatopoeia, because these words are imitations of a human voice, an action, and the movement of an object.

Based on an analysis of the contextual meaning of the onomatopoeic words, the poem "The Bells" has different meanings about the sound of a bell based on the circumstances and atmosphere created in each stanza, such as happy, scary, and full of sadness atmosphere. Meanwhile, the poem "The Raven" has a very mysterious meaning from the sound of the raven, the sound of moving objects, and other mysterious sounds. From the results of the analysis, the writer can conclude that onomatopoeia plays an important role in the poem. Onomatopoeia gives a shadow to a written work to make it more alive, and when reading it creates a real atmosphere, thus making the poem interesting to read. The poem using the word onomatopoeia can help the reader to imagine the sound of the words added to the text. In addition, onomatopoeia words also have a lot of stress and repeated sounds so that the conveying of ideas to the reader feels strong.

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