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## Simile in Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets

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**Abstract** This research focused on simile analysis and meaning on Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets novel. Simile is a figurative language that makes a comparison, showing similarities between two different things. Qualitative research is used in conducting this research. The result of the research has found 55 sentences of Simile on Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets from chapter one up to chapter nine. The author used Simile to describe emotion of characters, to explain circumstances and to raise the interesting impression in the novel.

**Keywords:** Figurative Language; Simile; Harry Potter; Novel; Semantic.

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**Abstrak** Penelitian ini fokus pada analisis majas simile dan maknanya dalam novel Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets. Simile adalah majas yang membandingkan dengan menunjukkan persamaan antara dua benda. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif. Hasil penelitian ini telah menemukan 55 kalimat majas simile pada novel Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets dari bab satu sampai bab sembilan. Penulis menggunakan simile untuk menunjukkan emosi para tokoh, menjelaskan situasi dalam novel dan memunculkan kesan menarik dalam novel.

**Kata Kunci:** Majas; Simile; Harry Potter; Novel; Semantik.

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## INTRODUCTION

Semantic is one of linguistics studies that focus on aspect of meaning. Semantics stands at the very centre of linguistics quest to understand the nature of language and human language abilities (Goddard, 2011). Semantic goals are to describe the meaning of linguistics elements (Al-Khalidi, 2020) such as meaning of the words, phrases, sentences and includes the meaning of development of words and changes (Hidayati, 2020). Meaning itself is the messages that includes in the words, phrases or sentences. Meaning will explain what in having mind as a purpose. It is designed for a certain purposes, importance and depends on the words that followed (Habibi, 2016). There will be no language without meaning.

The notion of meaning is expressed by sentences, utterances and their components. Meaning is the content conveyed in communication by language, the messages or thought in the mind of speaker that is encoded in language and sent to a hearer who decodes it (McGregor, 2010). There is actually earning or hidden meaning desire in a word or sentence by a speaker (Habibi, 2016). Sometimes, speaker not to make words means what do not mean or different from words mean. It means that speaker talks non literally. Non literal uses of language are traditionally called figurative of language.

Figurative language is language that uses words or expression with a meaning different from literal interpretation. It is change from the ordinary manner of expression, using words in other than their literal sense to enhance the way a thought is express (Habibi, 2016) . When a writer or speaker uses figurative language, he is simply stating the facts as they are. Figurative language is giving an effect to language that is considered ordinary or standard and these figures are essential to the way we think and perceive the world (Harun, Yusuf, & Karnafi, 2020), make the languages have more beautiful words and rich in meaning (Damayanti, 2018). Figurative language is a way to engage the readers, ushering them through writing with a more creative tone and meaning.

Figurative language can be found in both oral speech and text. But it will sound odd when people start talking figuratively with others. That is why figurative language is often used by people implicitly in written language with references literary works (Khairunisa, Diergeyasa, & Putri, 2020). It means that

literature has wide meaning depends on the kind of the literature itself (Royeni, 2020). Novel is the example of literary works where language is figuratively used. It consisted of arrangement of sentences with full of meaning behind them. The writer usually use figurative in novel to make writing would be a good because it played the varieties of sentences. Figurative language can embellish sound and narrative, noncritical, explaining an overview, emphasis on narrative or emotion, reviving the picture and evoke impression and atmosphere (Royeni, 2020).

Novel gives the sense of drama not for just making the readers' interest in the story but also dealing imaginatively with human experience, usually through a connected sequence of events involving a group of persons in a specific setting. Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets is one of famous novel that interest readers because of stylistics of sentences by consisting of figurative language. These sentences require readers to use imagination in figuring out the writers' meaning as a product of creative imagination. Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets displayed some figurative languages in the script to show the qualities of characters vivid. Moments of magic in the novel are often described with images from everyday life, to make them possible to visualize. One of the figurative languages in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret is simile.

Simile is a figures of speech that is commonly used in the literary works includes novel (Lubis, Tambunan, Widya, Manullang, & Damanik, 2020). It is a kind figure of speech that makes a comparison by showing similarities between two different things. It is designed to create an unusual, interesting, emotional or other effect often using words such as "like", "as", and "than", or by a verb as "appears" or "seems". It is a comparison of one thing with another (Damayanti, 2018), (Harun et al., 2020), and (Bjorklund, 2020). A writer uses similes to enable the readers to imagine in their mind what the writer is saying (Azizah, 2019) and (Fatimah, Amri, & Rusan, 2020). The use of above words in simile will help to draw the resemblance.

Simile is a comparison with things that are clear or real, usually comparing between humans and other objects. For examples, 1) The boy was a brave as a lion in the jungle, it means, the boy has strong courage, the sentences use "as" to show simile expression (Aprilianti, 2020). 2) My eyes are usually as brown as my

hazelnut hair, it is categorized as simile, because as it can be seen that “as...as...” is a conjunction which pointing the simile. This example is comparing two different objects, that are comparing the color of the eyes and the hair that has the same color. In the society, all knows that hazelnut is kind of beans which has brown color (Tiarawati & Ningsih, 2019). 3) My love is like a red, red rose, it is categorized as simile, because pointing by word “like”. Here a person is compared to a flower in a way that suggests they have certain features in common such as beauty, fragility, and so on (Fadillah, 2017).

This research focuses on simile in Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets novel because the researcher wants to find out the meaning of the writers’ simile in this novel. Researcher interested in simile because it can make sentences more beautiful. Simile uses words to compare one and another as vividly as possible. Researcher can imagine such things from simile sentences. Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets full of beautiful arrangement of words by using simile. The author creates a vivid scene and magic to catch reader interesting. J.K Rowling uses plant similes to describe several scenes such as Garden gnomes are as "small and leathery looking, with a large, knobby, bald head exactly like a potato" .When Malfoy is spattered with swelling solution, his head droops "with the weight of a nose like a small melon" and many other scenes " (Rebecca, 2019).

## **METHOD**

This research used qualitative research. The data obtained from the Novel Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets from chapter one up to chapter nine. The collected data are analyzed in accordance with theories chosen, and described based on the figurative language. The data were collected by some steps. First, the researcher read the novels to find out and gather which sentences include as simile. Then, the data collected arrange into notes and make a sign based on chapter. After that, the entire sentences simile was typed into table to make sure all the sentences as simile. The data which collected were analyzed by using Cresswell theory, there are 1) organizing and preparing data, 2) reading data, 3) coding data, 4) generating description of data, 5) representing data, 6) and interpreting data (Creswell, 2012).

The researcher prepared and organized the data which is the text of Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. Preparing all the sentences in simile form that has been collected before. Then, read all through the simile sentences to get detailed understanding about the meaning. After that, the researcher coding the sentences, number and page to make it easy in analyzing for instance 1/sim/3, it means 1 for number of sentence, **sim** for simile and 3 for page. When the researcher get coding, the data were generated by identifying and interconnecting. The researcher provided a table that will show how the description and themes represented in qualitative narrative and the researcher made an interpretation about the data that found.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Simile is a figure of speech that comparing two different things, to make the description more vivid and emphatic. This research focused on finding simile in novel Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secret chapter one up to chapter nine and analyze the meaning contains on the simile.

### 1. Simile in Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets

Based on the result analysis, it had found there are 55 sentences include in simile in this novel. The findings presents in the table to show all the sentences.

**Table 1**  
**Simile in Harry Potter**

NO	SENTENCE	CODE (NO/CODE/PAGE)
1	Uncle Vernon sat back down, <b>breathing like a winded rhinoceros</b> and watching Harry closely out of the corners of his small, sharp eyes. ( <i>Line,2</i> )	1/Sim/3
2	Ever since Harry had come home for the summer holidays, <b>Uncle Vernon had been treating him like a bomb that might go on at any moment</b> , because Harry Potter wasn't a normal boy. ( <i>Line, 6</i> )	2/Sim/3
3	He missed Hogwarts so much <b>it was like having a constant stomachache</b> ( <i>Lines,13-14</i> )	3/Sim/3

NO	SENTENCE	CODE (NO/CODE/PAGE)
4	<b>Harry looked nothing like the rest of the family.</b> <i>(Line,5)</i>	4/Sim/4
5	...he was back with <b>the Dursleys for the summer, back to being treated like a dog that had rolled in something smelly.</b> <i>(Lines, 4-5)</i>	5/Sim/5
6	Harry noticed that <b>it was wearing what looked like an old pillowcase,</b> with rips for arm- and leg-holes. <i>(Line, 11)</i>	6/Sim/12
7	Harry, trying to say "Shh!" and look comforting at the same time, <b>ushered Dobby back onto the bed where he sat hiccoughing, looking like a large and very ugly doll.</b> <i>(Line, 27)</i>	7/Sim/13
8	"Offend Dobby!" choked the elf. "Dobby has never been asked to sit down by a wizard- <b>like an equal-</b> " <i>(Line,24)</i>	8/Sim/13
9	"Harry Potter is humble and modest," said Dobby reverently, <b>his orb-like eyes aglow</b> <i>(Line, 15)</i>	9/Sim/15
10	Dobby leaned toward Harry, <b>his eyes wide as headlights.</b> <i>(Line, 23)</i>	10/Sim/15
11	<b>With a crack like a whip,</b> Dobby vanished <i>(Line,27)</i>	11/Sim/19
12	<b>Mrs. Mason screamed like a banshee</b> and ran from the house shouting about lunatics. <i>(Line,16)</i>	12/Sim/20
13	He was <b>bearing down on Harry like a great bulldog,</b> <i>(Line,21)</i>	13/Sim/21
14	<b>And laughing like a maniac,</b> he dragged Harry back upstairs. <i>(Line,25)</i>	14/Sim/21
15	<b>Uncle Vernon was as bad as his word.</b> <i>(Line, 26)</i>	15/Sim/21
16	For a split second, Uncle Vernon stood framed in the doorway; then <b>he let out a bellow like an angry bull,</b> <i>(Line, 17)</i>	16/Sim/27
17	George handed the hairpin to Ron and, a moment	17/Sim/28

NO	SENTENCE	CODE (NO/CODE/PAGE)
	later, <b>Hedwig soared joyfully out of the window to glide alongside them like a ghost.</b> ( <u>Line, 11</u> )	
18	Mrs. Weasley was marching across the yard, scattering chickens, and for a short, plump, kind-faced woman, it was remarkable how much <b>she looked like a sabre-toothed tiger.</b> ( <u>Line, 27</u> )	18/Sim/32
19	<b>It was certainly nothing like Santa Claus.</b> ( <u>Line, 2</u> )	19/Sim/37
20	<b>It was small and leathery looking, with a large, knobby, bald head exactly like a potato.</b> ( <u>Line, 3</u> )	20/Sim/37
21	<b>...started to swing it in great circles like a lasso.</b> ( <u>Line, 8</u> )	21/Sim/37
22	Mrs. Weasley had appeared, <b>holding a long poker like a sword.</b> ( <u>Line,28</u> )	22/Sim/38
23	“Let’s leave them to it,” Ron muttered to Harry as <b>Mrs. Weasley swelled like a bullfrog.</b> ( <u>Line, 27</u> )	23/Sim/39
24	Harry stepped in, his head almost touching the sloping ceiling, and blinked. <b>It was like walking into a furnace:</b> ( <u>Line, 9</u> )	24/Sim/40
25	She dived under the table to retrieve the bowl and emerged with <b>her face glowing like the setting sun.</b> ( <u>Line, 11</u> )	25/Sim/43
26	<b>the fire felt like a warm breeze</b> ( <u>Line, 26</u> )	26/Sim/48
27	“Mr. Malfoy, what a pleasure to see you again,” said Mr. Borgin <b>in a voice as oily as his hair.</b> ( <u>Line, 4</u> )	27/Sim/51
28	An aged witch stood in front of him, holding <b>a tray of what looked horribly like whole human fingernails</b> ( <u>Lines, 5-6</u> )	28/Sim/54
29	<b>Ron went as red as Ginny</b> ( <u>Line, 24</u> )	29/Sim/61
30	<b>The Hogwarts Express was streaking along below them like a scarlet snake.</b> ( <u>Lines, 11-12</u> )	30/Sim/71
31	a great city alive with <b>cars like multicolored ants</b>	31/Sim/72

NO	SENTENCE	CODE (NO/CODE/PAGE)
	<i>(Line, 7)</i>	
32	Harry looked around just in time to see a <b>branch as thick as a python</b> smash into it. <i>(Line, 5)</i>	32/Sim/75
33	... <b>a branch as thick as a battering ram</b> ... <i>(Line, 10)</i>	33/Sim/75
34	...leaving them alone with <b>Pro-fessor McGonagall, who was still eyeing them like a wrathful eagle</b> . <i>(Line, 9)</i>	34/Sim/82
35	“Night” Harry called back to <b>Hermione, who was wearing a scowl just like Percy’s</b> . <i>(Line, 9)</i>	35/Sim/85
36	<b>Harry and Ron sat stunned, as though a tidal wave had just passed over them</b> <i>(Line, 25)</i>	36/Sim/88
37	<b>His brain felt like a wrung sponge</b> . <i>(Line, 11)</i>	37/Sim/95
38	“Write home for another one,” Harry suggested, as the wand let off a <b>volley of bangs like fire cracker</b> <i>(Line,16)</i>	38/Sim/95
39	...piped <b>Colin, whose entire body was about as thick as Crabbe’s neck</b> . <i>(Line, 11)</i>	39/Sim/97
40	...and voices so shrill <b>it was like listening to a lot of budgies arguing</b> . <i>(Line, 27)</i>	40/Sim/101
41	<b>The pixies shot in every direction like rockets</b> . <i>(Line, 5)</i>	41/Sim/102
42	Harry didn’t know how to get rid of him. <b>It was like having an extremely talkative shadow</b> . <i>(Line, 22)</i>	42/Sim/106
43	... <b>wiggle over the diagram like caterpillars</b> . <i>(Line,14)</i>	43/Sim/108
44	They reported that the Slytherin team was no more than seven greenish blurs, <b>shooting through the air like missiles</b> . <i>(Line,5)</i>	44/Sim/123
45	<b>He was pale as smoke</b> , <i>(Line, 16)</i>	45/Sim/123
46	...found himself gazing into a <b>pair of lamp-like yellow eyes</b> . <i>(Line, 24)</i>	46/Sim/124
47	He wished he hadn’t; <b>it was like stepping through an</b>	47/Sim/129

NO	SENTENCE	CODE (NO/CODE/PAGE)
	<b>icy shower.</b> ( <u>Line, 17</u> )	
48	As Harry shivered and drew his robes tightly around him, <b>he heard what sounded like a thousand fingernails scraping an enormous blackboard.</b> ( <u>Line, 26</u> )	48/Sim/131
49	Their breath rose in a mist before them; <b>it was like stepping into a freezer</b> ( <u>Line, 13</u> )	49/Sim/132
50	<b>She was stiff as a board,</b> her eyes wide and staring. ( <u>Line, 9</u> )	50/Sim/139
51	Professor Binns opened his notes and began <b>to read in a flat drone like an old vacuum cleaner</b> until nearly everyone in the class was in a deep stupor ( <u>Line,23</u> )	51/Sim/148
52	He cleared his throat with <b>small noise like snapping</b> ( <u>Line, 15</u> )	52/Sim/149
53	Professor Binns paused again, pursing his lips, <b>looking like a wrinkled old tortoise.</b> ( <u>Line, 24</u> )	53/Sim/150
54	<b>A long, silvery thread was dangling like a rope,</b> as though they had all climbed it in their hurry to get outside. ( <u>Line, 19</u> )	54/Sim/154
55	And he strode off, <b>the back of his neck as red as Ron's ear.</b> ( <u>Line, 6</u> )	55/Sim/158

Table 1 consists of 55 sentences of simile from result analysis in that novel. The meaning of simile is based on context of sentences. On this occasion, the researcher presented some data in explaining the meaning of simile based on 55 sentences.

## **2. Interpreting Meaning of Simile in Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets**

### **Data (1/Sim/3)**

Uncle Vernon sat back down, **breathing like a winded rhinoceros** and watching Harry closely out of the corners of his small, sharp eyes. The situation based on the novel, Uncle Vernon is mad at Harry because he said the “magic word”. The sentence “breathing like a winded rhinoceros” is categorized as Simile. The word ‘like’ at the sentence is pointing a Simile. The author compare two different objects, Uncle Vernon’s breathing to winded rhinoceros or a breathless rhinoceros. Uncle Vernon as Human and rhinoceros as an animal are compared as the way to breath. The author compare them to make emphasizes uncle Vernon breath quickly. The author wants to show the readers how furious Uncle Vernon until he is breathless.

### **Data (3/Sim/3)**

He missed Hogwarts so much **it was like having a constant stomachache**. The situation based on the novel, Harry Potter was wizard, a wizard fresh from his first year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, the Dursleys were unhappy to have him back in his summer holiday, they treat Harry with no good. The only place that he thinks that treat him better is in Hogwarts, that’s why Harry missed Hogwarts so much.

The sentence “He missed Hogwarts so much it was like having a constant stomachache” is considered as Simile. The word “like” at the sentence is pointing Simile. The author compares two different feeling, a longing to stomachache. Missing/ longing feeling is a strong feeling of need or desire for someone or something and constant stomachache is a common condition that causes bouts of stomach cramps, bloating, diarrhea or constipation, the pain is often relieved when the patient go to toilet. Through this Simile, the author wants to describe that Harry’s longing for Hogwarts is painful, and the pain would disappear if He goes to Hogwarts.

### **Data (9/Sim/15)**

Dobby leaned toward Harry, **his eyes wide as headlights**. The situation based on the novel, Dobby prevents Harry to go back to Hogwarts, he said it is dangerous for him to be back because there is a plot to kill Harry Potter. That elf-

house wants to tell something to Harry, he leaned closer to him with his big eyes. The sentence "his eyes wide as headlamps" is considered as Simile. The word "like" at the sentence is pointing to Simile. The author compares two different objects. Dobby's eyes ball to headlamp. The author have emphasized that his eyes are so big and look on in surprise, the word wide as make sentences more emphatic and vivid by lighting of headlamp.

**Data (11/Sim/20)**

**Mrs. Mason screamed like a banshee....** The situation based on the novel, the Dursleys held dinner, they invited the Mason family with the intention that Uncle Vernon would get the deal. They tried to make good impression to Mason family but it get ruined when Dobby used a spell and the made Decree for the Reasonable Restriction of Underage sorcery thinks that Harry just did a spell, they sent a message via an owl, unfortunately the letter fell on Mrs. Mason's head, it is freaked her out.

The sentence "Mrs. Mason screamed like a banshee" is categorized as Simile. The word "like" at the sentence is pointing to Simile. The author compares Mrs. Mason's screaming to a banshee, it is a spirit in the form of wailing woman who appears to or heard by one of family member to indicate that one of the is going to died, banshee shrieks splitting the ears. Through this Simile, the author wants to show the readers that Mrs. Mason's screaming is splitting the ears and to describe how panic she is because Mrs. Mason is afraid of bird.

**Data (44/Sim/123)**

He was pale as smoke, The situation based on the novel, Harry met Nearly Headless Nick in the corridor, he just finished his Quidditch practice, the weather is raining, it makes his robe muddy. The sentence above is considered as Simile. The word "as" at the sentence is pointing to Simile. The color of smoke like pale white is compared to the face of fear when seeing a ghost. The author compares Nearly Headless Nick to a smoke, the author wants to show the readers that ghost is transparent, you could see right through him.

**Data (49/Sim/39)**

**She was stiff as a board**, her eyes wide and staring. The situation based on the novel, Mrs. Norris petrified by someone/something that no one knows who

do that to the cat. The sentence above is categorized as Simile. The word “as” at the sentence is pointing as Simile; the author compares Mrs. Norris to a board. The comparison to interpret a woman who feeling so sad and can do nothing to find out the fact about the situation happen. Through this Simile, the author wants to describe the condition of the cat after petrified.

Basically, the sentences on Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secret are categorized into simile based on the characteristics of simile itself. These sentences are signed by word ‘like’, ‘as...as’, and ‘as’. The author used simile to compare the two things that are different enough from each other on the sentences. It was purposed to readers’ imagination as if the characters of novel alive. An author compared two different things as an image created for the reader to allow greater meaning and understanding logic or truth in such a comparison. Simile can evoke emotion of reader in realization of comparison is valid and reflects a level of truth they may not have understood before. It is the reason that simile is an essential literary device for a writer or an author.

The previous studied also has found that using figurative language such as simile is a way of an author for conveying the beauty of messages which is used in novel. Simile also function as an alternative ways for reader to think that the world in novel (Hussain, 2014). The comparison presented in can be clear and unclear similarity. The clear comparison conveyed obviously that contain details of similarity, while unclear similarity conveyed that does not details the similarity (Padillah, Firmawan, & Purwaningsih, 2017). Simile give aesthetic effect so the readers will be more interested to know and imagine the meaning conveyed. It is similar with the result of this research that is simile was used to attract reader attention of sentences by comparing some characters with animals, things and condition. The condition of magic in that novel presenting by simile and make readers think that magic is real and occur in the real world.

Simile in novel will create tone and communicate emotion and create an abstract thinking (Napitupulu & Rusli, 2019); (S & Preethi, 2020). It is lined with researcher result in her research that tone and communicate emotion is characterized as being vivid and descriptive. An author of Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets compared by using simile on the scene to describe that ghost

is transparent, and it could see. Then, an author helps readers to play an abstract idea as if all the mystics in the scene are alive and truth.

## CONCLUSION

An author uses creative ideas to enrich her writing in composing a literary works as purposed to impress the readers. Novel as a kind of literary works is created by arranging an art in every sentence. J.K Rowling in her novel Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets use simile to beautify the language in that novel. She tried to attract the readers' imagination about the scenes by comparing two things as if alive. She invites readers to enter and feel the world.

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