

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

This research analyses the types and functions of hyperbole found in Billie Eilish's *Hit Me Hard and Soft* album, with 88 hyperbolic expressions identified in the ten official song lyrics. As discussed in Chapter IV, the findings lead to the following conclusions:

1. The researcher identified seven types of hyperbole in the album's song lyrics based on Claridge's (2011) classification: single word hyperbole (4.55%), phrasal hyperbole (13.64%), clausal hyperbole (45.45%), numerical hyperbole (3.41%), the role of superlative (2.27%), comparison hyperbole (9.09%), and repetition hyperbole (21.59%). The prominence of clausal hyperbole indicates that Billie Eilish tends to use extended clauses to convey exaggeration, enabling her to intensify emotions, enhance storytelling, and craft vivid imagery. Repetition hyperbole, on the other hand, plays a significant role in reinforcing key ideas and amplifying emotional resonance, reinforcing emotional intensity, and ensuring that key sentiments resonate more strongly with listeners. This pattern demonstrates that hyperbolic expressions are intentionally designed to maximize emotional depth and lyrical impact.
2. The researcher also analysed the functions of hyperbole in the lyrics using Leech's (1981) framework, identifying five primary functions: thematic meaning (9.09%), connotative meaning (13.64%), affective meaning (34.09%), social meaning (18.18%), and reflected meaning (25.0%). The dominant function is affective meaning, highlighting that hyperbole in Billie Eilish's lyrics is primarily used to evoke and amplify emotions, deepening the listener's connection to the song's themes. This approach aligns with Eilish's introspective and emotionally driven songwriting style. Additionally, this study did not find instances of conceptual meaning and collocative meaning. The absence of conceptual meaning, which typically

focuses on clarity and definition, suggests that Billie Eilish favours emotional intensity over straightforward explanations. Her use of hyperbole is aimed at heightening feelings rather than providing precise, literal interpretations. Similarly, the lack of collocative meaning, which depends on familiar word pairings and cultural context, indicates that Eilish's lyrics do not depend on common expressions, but instead employ expressive and evocative language that can resonate across diverse cultural contexts. This reinforces the idea that hyperbole in *Hit Me Hard and Soft* is focused on emotional expression and personal storytelling rather than conventional linguistic associations.

5.2. Recommendation

Based on the findings of this study, several recommendations can be put forward as follows:

1. For Readers

This study provides insights into how hyperbole functions in modern songwriting, particularly in Billie Eilish's music. Readers who are interested in music analysis, literary studies, or linguistics can use this research to develop a deeper appreciation of how song lyrics utilize exaggerated expressions to evoke emotions and reinforce thematic messages. By understanding the role of hyperbole, listeners can engage with song lyrics more critically, recognizing how specific word choices contribute to a song's emotional impact and narrative structure.

2. For Songwriters and Artists

This research highlights the effectiveness of hyperbole in enhancing lyrical depth and emotional expression. Songwriters and artists can use these findings to experiment with different types of hyperbole to strengthen their storytelling and connect with their audiences on a deeper level. Understanding how different types of hyperbole amplify emotions can help artists craft more impactful and memorable lyrics. Furthermore, this study encourages songwriters to explore creative ways of exaggeration that go

beyond conventional expressions, allowing them to develop a unique lyrical identity that resonates with listeners.

3. For Future Research

This study examined hyperbolic expressions in song lyrics, focusing on their types and functions. Future researchers interested in exploring hyperbole in music are encouraged to adopt different theoretical frameworks to analyse its use more effectively. Additionally, further research could investigate hyperbolic expressions across various musical styles and cultural contexts to reveal how different artists and genres utilize exaggeration to enhance lyrical meaning and emotional impact. Comparative studies across artists, genres, or languages may help identify distinct patterns in hyperbole usage and its influence on listener perception. Expanding the scope of hyperbolic analysis in music can contribute to a deeper understanding of its role in shaping lyrical meaning and artistic expression.

