CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL APPROACH AND FRAMEWORK

This chapter deals with the theory approach and discusses the supporting devices applied in this research. The following are some descriptions which are related to the topic discussed in this thesis. First, it is the theoretical approached that explains the approach which is used by the researcher. Second, it is the theoretical framework which covers the theories that applied on this research. It deals about semantics and its types of meaning.

A. Theoretical Approach

Theoretical Approach is the main device to be applied in order to analyze the data in the research. *Oxford Online Dictionary* defines theoretical as something that concerned with or involving the theory of a subject or area of study rather than its practical application, while approach means a way of dealing with a situation or problem. It can be concluded that theoretical approach is a theory that is used on behalf dealing with a problem. It makes the way of dealing more focus and directed. Dealing with that, the researcher uses semantic approach as the theoretical approach to be applied on this research.

Semantics is the area of linguistics dealing with the meaning of words or the meaning attached to words or symbols. This view places semantics at the core of communication in language. Indeed, there is no

communication without the sharing of meaning (Ogbulogo, 2012: 2). So, it has the types of meaning that is useful for this research to analyses song lyrics. That is way the researcher uses this kind of theoretical approach.

B. Theoretical Framework

1. Semantics

Semantics is derived from the Greek "ocμai ôéêüò" or semantikos, which has meaning as "significant". It could be from the Greek noun "sema" which means sign or signal, and from the verb "semaino" which means signal. Linguistics defined semantics as the study of meaning. Unfortunately, 'meaning' covers a variety of aspects of language, and there is no general agreement about the nature of meaning, what aspects of it may properly be included in semantics, or the way in which it should be described (Palmer, 1981).

Semantics simply implies the study of how meaning in language is produced or created. Semantics encompasses how words, phrases and sentences come together to make meaning in language. The term semantics simply means the study of meanings. It has been the subject of discourse for many years by philosophers and other scholars but later was introduced formally in literature in the late 1800s. (Ogbulogo, 2012: 1)

According to Kreidler (1998: 3) semantics is the systematic study of meaning and linguistic semantics is the study of how languages

organize and express meanings. Its means that, meaning in linguistic semantics was very needed for us to limit ourselves to the expression of meanings in a single language. Kreidler added there were three disciplines which were concerned with the systematic study of meaning. First is psychology, it means that psychologist were interest in how individual humans learn, how they retain, recall or loss information. Second is philosophy, the philosophies of language were concerned with how people know, how any particular fact that people know or accept as true was related to other possible facts. The last systematic study of meaning is about linguistic, linguistics want to understand how language works.

According to Leech, Semantics is providing two things. First, it is to provide for any given interpretation of a sentence, a configuration of abstract symbol which is its 'semantic representation'. Second, it is to distinguish the meaning from all other possible sentence meanings in the language, and to match that meaning with the right syntactic and phonological expression (Leech, 1975: 13)

Halliday stated that semantics is used to refer to one of these interface, that which represents the coding of the input to the linguistic system. The range of options at the semantic level is the potentially for encoding in language that which is not language (Halliday, 2003: 323)

Semantics is also related to communication theory. Information is carried and processed in the communication system passing through

the channel and the medium. The minimalisation of noise and the processing of feedback are aspects of the communication system. These are achieved by ensuring logical thinking. (Ogbulogo, 2012: 8)

2. **Meaning**

Meaning is the intention of the speaker or the desired communicative effect of the utterance. This approach to the notion of meaning is validated on the basis of the conviction that language is purposive, it means that in every language expression, there are particular ends which are intended to achieve. Language implies making the proper choices of linguistic forms for the communicative setting and cultural context. This definition depends on a theory that sees language as a symbolic tool of social interaction and human communication.

3. **Types of Meaning**

According to Leech on his book entitled *Semantics the Study of Meaning* (1974: 26), states that types of meaning are divided into: conceptual meaning, associative meaning, and thematic meaning. Associative meaning contains five terms: connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, and collocative meaning.

Table 2. Leech's Types of Meaning

1. Conceptual Meaning or Sense		Logical, cognitive, or denotative content
Associative Meaning	2. Connotative Meaning	What is communicated by virtue of what language refers to
	3. Social Meaning	What is communicated of the social circumstances of language use
	4. Affective Meaning	What is communicated of the feelings and attitudes of the speaker/ writer
	5. Reflected Meaning	What is communicated through association with another sense of the same expression
	6. Collocative Meaning	What is communicated through association with words which tend to occur in the environment of another word
7. Thematic Meaning		What is communicated by the way in which is organized in terms of order and emphasis.

Meanwhile, Kreidler on his book called *Introducing English Semantics* (1998: 41-57) stated that there are eight dimensions of meaning. There are:

1. Reference and Denotation

   Reference is the relation between a language expression such as this door, both doors, the dog, another dog and whatever the expression pertains to in a particular situation of language use, including what a speaker may imagine. It is the way speakers and hearers use an expression successfully.

   Denotation is the potential of a word like door or dog to enter into such language expressions. It is the knowledge they have that makes their use

   successful.

2. Connotation

   Connotation refers to the personal aspect of meaning, the emotional associations that the word arouses. Connotations vary according to the experience of individuals but, because people do have common experiences, some words have shared connotations.

3. Sense Relation

   Sense Relation meaning is more than denotation and connotation. What a word means depends on part on its associations with other words, the relational aspect.

4. Lexical and Grammatical Meaning

Lexical meaning refers to the sense (or meaning) of a word (or lexeme) as it appears in a dictionary. It is also known as semantic meaning, denotative meaning, and central meaning.

Grammatical meaning is the meaning conveyed in a sentence by word order and other grammatical signals. It is also called as structural meaning.

5. Morphemes

It is the technical term for a minimal meaningful part. For example, arm, chair, happy, guitar, lemon, shoe and horn are all morphemes; none of them can be divided into something smaller that is meaningful. They are free morphemes because they occur by themselves. The elements un-, -ist and -ade in unhappy, guitarist and lemonade respectively, are also morpheme. They are bound morphemes which are always attached to something else.

6. Homonymy and Polysemy

Homonymy is when pronunciation and spelling are identical but meanings are unrelated, such as *bank* 'a financial institution' and *bank* 'the edge of a stream.'

Polysemy has several (apparently) related meanings. The noun head, for instance, seems to have related meanings when speak of the head of a person, the head of a company, head of a

table or bed, a head of lettuce or cabbage. Imagine take the anatomical referent as the basic one, the other meanings can be seen as derived from the basic one, either reflecting the general shape of the human head or, more abstractly, the relation of the head to the rest of the body.

7. Lexical Ambiguity

It happens when homonyms can occur in the same position in utterance.

8. Sentence Meaning

The meaning of a sentence is derived from the meanings of its constituent lexemes and from the grammatical meanings it contains. So if the lexical and grammatical meanings expressed in a sentence, it is easy to reveal the meaning of the sentence, and vice versa. Second, at least if the sentence is a statement and the meaning of the sentence is understood, then it will easy to guess the conditions which are necessary for that sentence to be true.

4. Denotative Meaning

Chaer (2007: 292) stated that Denotative meaning is the real meaning possessed by a lexeme. Consequently, it is similar to lexical meaning. Later, Harimurti (1982: 32) defines denotative meaning as the meaning of a word or a group of work which is based on simple

relationship between language and manifestation in out of language. Denotative meaning is the original meaning and it is objective. It is biased on strong reference on out of language or based on certain conversation.

The correlation meaning between denotation and connotation is on their notation. Denotation has 'de' which means permanent and natural, while connotation has 'co' means together. Consequently, denotation is meaning which is known as its original appearance and connotation is meaning which has been added certain feeling, emotion, values, and responds (Parera, 2003: 97-98).

5. **Connotative Meaning**

According to Leech (1982: 14) connotative meaning is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual content, then Leech classifies connotation as follows:

1. Connotation is not specific to language, but it is shared with other communicative system such as visual art and music. Thus, music and auditory have connotative perception in meaning. For example, the word *baby* can be conjured up (more effectively, because the medium is directly representational) by a drawing of a baby, or imitation of a baby's cry. The overlap between linguistic and visual connotation is particularly noticeable in advertising where words

are often the lesser partners of illustrations in the task of conferring on a product of favorable associations.

2. Connotation is peripheral compared with conceptual meaning. It is said that connotation relatively unstable according to culture, hospital period, and experience of individual, so it makes vary considerably. The speakers who are speak exactly "the language", share the same conceptual framework equally the same syntax.

3. Connotation is indeterminate and open-ended to knowledge and belief about the universe: any characteristic of the referent identified subjectively or objectively, may contribute to the connotative meaning of the expression this denotes it. In contrast, it is taken as fundamental by anyone who studies conceptual meaning that the meaning of a word or sentences can be codified in terms of a limited set symbol. For example, I the form of a finite set of discrete features of meaning, and that the semantic representation of a sentence can be specified by means of a finite number of rules. This postulated of the finiteness and determinateness of conceptual content is not arbitrary, but it is modeled on the assumptions that linguistics generally make when analyzing other aspect of linguistic structure. Without such assumptions, one can scarcely attempt to describe language as coherent system at all.

Alwasilah (1985:147) divides the function of connotative meaning in lyrics songs into three: (1) to make the message more impressive and romantic. For example, kiss, flower, these word dominant with happiness; (2) to know the message of the whole songs; (3) to make the message more beautiful and suitable.

6. Theme

Theme is the explanation of the subject of the story. It is usually becomes the author's expression of the subject. Subject is what the story tells about, while theme is the description of the subject. For example, the subject of the story might be a war, while the theme might be the war that occurs in endless cycles that humanity is forced to repeat. The theme depends on the author's view of the subject. Moreover, the thoughts and actions of different characters may serve to express the theme. ("What Does Theme Mean in Literature?",2016: par 1 - 2)

Debbie Notari describes that theme is what the story means. It conveys message or big idea of the story and contains the critical belief of author's point of view in the novel, short story or poem. The belief is usually universal in natures, so it touches human experience in every race or language. Also, in a story could have more than one theme. ("What is Theme in Literature? Definition and Example",2016: par 1)

In this case, the researcher analyses song lyrics not a story, still the researcher will uses theme on the research. It is because song lyrics are almost the same with a story. Song lyrics have stories behind it.

7. **Song Lyrics**

   Collins English Dictionary Complete and Unabridged New Edition (2008: 1537) describes that the meaning of song is a piece of music, usually employing a verbal text, composed for the voice, especially one intended for performance by a soloist or the act of process of singing. Song is the media to express the emotion by musician. Later, the musicians add lyrics to make it more emotional and be more understandable by the hearers.

   The meaning of lyric itself is a short poem which expresses the personal thoughts and feelings of the person who wrote it or also known as the words of a song. Those meanings are based on the *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary Third Edition*. In conclusion, Song Lyrics are the lyrics or the words that are put on the piece of music to make the music more emotional and full of meaning.

8. Conceptual Framework

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                              │  Semantics   │
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              By Leech          ┌────┴────────┐        By Kreidler
                                │  Types of   │
                                │  Meaning    │
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Conceptual Meaning or Sense

Associative Meaning

Thematic Meaning

Lexical Ambiguity

Homonymy and Polysemy

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Connotative Meaning

Connotation

Reference and Denotation

Lexical and Grammatical

Reflected Meaning

Song Lyrics

Theme

That's the Spirit Album by Bring Me The Horizon