



ANALYSIS OF THEME-RHEME AND LOGICAL RELATIONS OF THE SONG LYRICS IN THE ALBUM OF “FOLKLORE” BY TAYLOR SWIFT

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Abstract

The study of language refers to discourse analysis. Discourse analysis performs an approach of an analysis connected to the language pattern of a text used in the analysis, it requires linguistic competence. Thematic structure and Grammar are an important role in a sentence. In addition, the Thematic Structure which made up of two parts: Theme and Rheme, The researcher also selects conjunction, which is a component of English grammar. The research was done using the qualitative method. The purpose of this research is to understand and explain about kinds of Themes and Conjunction devices found in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift. The data was collected through research, reading, collecting, seeing and recording. In this research, the researcher took 10 song lyrics from the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift taken by purposive sampling. There are two results of the research, first, the researcher found 745 types of Theme which acquired from 10 song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift which were divided into 4 categories. The categories are Topical Theme has 436 occurrences (59%), Interpersonal Theme has 17 occurrences (2%), Textual Theme has 143 occurrences (19%) and Multiple Theme has 149 occurrences (20%). Second, the researcher can conclude that four types of conjunction devices are found in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift. The using conjunction device found in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift is 69 (46%) of additive, 28 (19%) adversative, 44 (30%) causal, and 7 (5%) temporal. Based on the results, the researcher found that the most common Theme and conjunctions found in the song lyrics in the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift are Topical Themes and Additives Conjunction.

INTRODUCTION

There are many ways to express ideas among people in communication, for instance: spoken language, written language, and gesture. Language is inseparable from a human being, therefore language is used as a tool of communication to deliver thoughts, and emotions and a means of communicating with other people (Budiati, Hardiyani, & Haryani, 2021). The use of language is governed by the conventional rules shared by the speaker of the language. People cannot live without language because it is really to communicate and convey information in life. The word language here is applied to language as a system of human communication. Language is one of the most fundamental parts of mankind as a means of communication, especially in societal interaction.

The song is one of the mediums of expression used to express one’s thoughts about any particular subject. When a songwriter creates a song, she tends to have special meanings and thoughts attached to it, which she aims to be understood and accepted by the audience and listeners. Each songwriter has their style based on the songwriter’s language proficiency and

background. A good songwriter will give strong attention to the language used, and it should be appreciated that in fact, it is not an easy feat at all to produce a good song.

As people communicate, whether in written or spoken mode, they try to organize what they say or write well to ease their reader or listener to understand the message. The way of organizing this message or information is called thematic structure. It is made up of two parts: Theme and Rheme. The theme is the message's starting point in the clause or point of departure, whereas Rheme is the remainder of the clause that develops from the Theme (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004: 64-65). In this study, the theme is a linguistic category distinct from the common Theme or topic (Bloor & Bloor, 2004).

In addition to the thematic structure, grammar is an element of language and has an important role in a sentence. Grammar's most important skill is part of speech, which includes nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, pronouns, articles, and interjections. Conjunctions will be the focus of this research, has meaning words that are used to connect one word to another, one expression to another, one sentence to another, and so on. The function of a conjunction is to join words, phrases, clauses, and sentences together to form unity sentences, create coherence, and then develop the composition.

Based on the background of the research, the writer choose discourse analysis of song lyrics. The researcher is interested in analyzing discourse toward the lyrics in Taylor Swift's album *Folklore* by focusing on the theme-rheme and logical relations developed by the songwriters.

METHOD

This research was descriptive qualitative which is categorized into content analysis with specific reference to thematic structure realized in clause (Theme and Rheme). Descriptive research is a research design in which the researcher collects, arranges, and interprets the data to solve problems (Surakhamad, 1985). Sarwono stated that Qualitative research brings the researcher blend with objective research, the purpose this way is the researcher can understand the phenomenon that they studied (2006).

To avoid wider scoops of this study, the research was focused on a discourse analysis of Theme-Rheme and logical relations on the song lyrics in the album of "Folklore" by Taylor Swift.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research findings above, there are four types of Theme and four types of Conjunction elaborated in this research to analyze Theme-Rheme and Logical Relations of the Song Lyrics in the Album "Folklore" by Taylor Swift.

The first data show 745 types of Themes found in the Song Lyrics in the Album "Folklore" by Taylor Swift. The data are divided into 4 categories. The categories are Topical, Textual, Interpersonal, and Multiple Themes. According to the data, the most dominant type of Theme in this research is the Topical Theme. It can be seen from the frequency and percentage of data, Topical Theme has 436 occurrences (59%), Interpersonal Theme has 17 occurrences (2%), Textual Theme has 143 occurrences (19%) and the Multiple Theme has 149 occurrences (20%).

Each category has its subcategories. First, the Topical Theme is divided into participants, process, and circumstance. The most common errors found in Topical Theme is participants with 312 occurrences (72%). The frequency and percentage of Topical Themes can be seen as follows.

Table 1. Percentage of Topical Theme in the song lyrics in the album of "Folklore" by Taylor Swift

	Participants	Process	Circumstance
Occurence	312 (72%)	53(12%)	71(16%)

Table 2. Examples of Participants in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>I</i>	<i>had</i>	<i>a marvelous time</i>
Subject	Finite	Object
Topical		
THEME	RHEME	

Table 3. Examples of Process in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>Laughing</i>	<i>but</i>	<i>the jokes</i>	<i>not funny at all</i>
Verb	Conjunct	Object	Complement
Topical			
THEME	RHEME		

Table 4. Examples of Circumstances in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>Never</i>	<i>have</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>ever before</i>
Circ: freq	Finite	Subject	Circ: time
Topical			
THEME	RHEME		

Second, the Interpersonal Theme is divided into a mood, finite, and vocative. The most common error found in Interpersonal Themes is mood with 11 occurrences (65%). The frequency and percentage of Interpersonal Themes can be seen as follows.

Table 5. Percentage of Interpersonal Theme in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

	Mood	Finite	Vocative
Occurrence	11 (65%)	6 (35%)	0 (0%)

Table 6. Examples of Mood in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>I think</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>'ve</i>	<i>seen</i>	<i>this film</i>	<i>before</i>
Adj:mood	Subject	Finite	Verb	Object	Circ:time
Interpersonal	Topical				
THEME		RHEME			

Table 7. Examples of Finite in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>But</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>remember</i>
Conjunct	Finite	Subject	Verb
Textual	Interpersonal	Topical	
THEME		RHEME	

Third, Textual Theme is divided into conjunctive and continuative. The most common error found in Textual Theme is conjunctive with 143 occurrences (100%). The frequency and percentage of Interpersonal Themes can be seen as follows.

Table 8. Percentage of Textual Theme in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

	Conjunctive	Continuative
Occurrence	143 (100%)	0 (0%)

Table 9. Examples of Conjunctive in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>And</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>'d</i>	<i>come back to me</i>
Conjunct	Subject	Finite	Complement
Textual	Topical		
THEME		RHEME	

The last is Multiple Theme which is divided into Textual-Topical, Interpersonal-Topical, and Textual-Interpersonal-Topical. The most common error found in Multiple Theme is Textual-Topical

with 132 occurrences (89%). The frequency and percentage of Interpersonal Themes can be seen as follows.

Table 10. Percentage of Multiple Theme in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

	Textual Topical	Interpersonal Topical	Textual Interpersonal Topical
Occurrence	132 (89%)	12 (8%)	5 (3%)

Table 11. Examples of Textual-Topical in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>And</i>	<i>it</i>	<i>'s</i>	<i>alright</i>	<i>now</i>
Conjunct	Subject	Finite	Circ:manner	Circ:time
Textual	Topical			
THEME		RHEME		

Table 12. Examples of Interpersonal-Topical in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>I guess</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>know</i>
Adj:mood	Subject	Circ:freq	Verb
Interpersonal	Topical		
THEME		RHEME	

Table 13. Examples of Textual-Interpersonal-Topical in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

<i>And</i>	<i>I think</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>should</i>	<i>come live</i>	<i>with me</i>
Conjunct	Adj:mood	Subject	Finite	Verb	Complement
Textual	Interpersonal	Topical			
THEME			RHEME		

The second data, based on the analysis that has been done by the researcher, the researcher can conclude that four types of conjunction devices are found in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift. The using conjunction device found in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift is 69 of additive, 28 adversative, 44 causal, and 7 temporal. The highest percentage of the use Conjunction device found in the song lyrics in the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift was 69 of additive. The frequency and percentage of conjunctive can be seen as follows.

Table 14. The result of the Conjunction device found in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

Participants	Kinds of conjunction device found in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift				Total
	Additive	Adversative	Causal	Temporal	
The 1	8	7	3	-	18
Cardigan	9	4	3	-	16
The Last Great American Dynasty	8	1	-	1	10
Exile	6	1	11	-	18
My Tears Ricochet	9	2	4	-	15
Mirrorball	4	3	5	-	12
Seven	8	1	2	1	12
August	9	4	13	3	29
This is Me Trying	5	4	1	-	10
Invisible String	3	1	2	2	8
Total	69	28	44	7	148
Percentage	46%	19%	30%	5%	100%

Table 19. The Analysis of the Additive in the Conjunction Device in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

Participants	Clause	Explanatory
The 1	<i>I guess you never know, never know and if you wanted me you really should've showed and if you never bleeding you're never gonna grow and it's alright now</i>	The above sentence contains an additive device “ <i>and</i> ”. It connects or adds the ideas between clause “ <i>you never know and if you wanted me</i> ” “ <i>you never know and if you never bleed</i> ” “ <i>you never know and it's alright now</i> ” and that the redundancy of the conjunction “ <i>and</i> ” is used as literary aspects of the song lyrics

Table 20. The Analysis of the Adversative in the Conjunction Device in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

Participants	Clause	Explanatory
The 1	<i>Been saying yes instead of no</i>	The writer used “ <i>instead</i> ” as the conjunction because the sentence is showing two contras clauses namely “ <i>yes instead of no</i> ”

Table 21. The Analysis of the Causal in the Conjunction Device in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

Participants	Causal	Explanatory
The 1	<i>In my defense, I have none for never leaving well enough alone</i>	The writer used “ <i>for</i> ” as the conjunction because the sentence introduce result, reason or purpose to the content mentioned previously namely “ <i>have none for never leaving well enough</i> ”

Table 22. The Analysis of the Temporal in the Conjunction Device in the song lyrics in the album of “Folklore” by Taylor Swift

Participants	Clause	Explanatory
The Last Great American Dynasty	<i>Free of women with madness, their men and bad habits and then it was bought by me</i>	The sentence above includes the conjunction then as the one kind of temporal device. This conjunction shows the time “ <i>then it was bought by me</i> ”

CONCLUSION

The findings of the study revealed that all theme types and conjunctive adjuncts were present in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift in frequent numbers. The theme types are topical, textual, and interpersonal. The highest number of occurrences was the topical theme which is mainly constituted by participants. The second highest number of occurrences was the textual theme which is mainly constituted by conjunctive adjuncts. The least number of occurrence of theme type found in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift was the interpersonal theme which is mainly constituted by mood clause.

With the high number of topical themes in the song lyrics of the Album “Folklore” by Taylor Swift, there is a high tendency to choose subjects as the starting points of their messages in the song lyrics. The use of textual themes contributes to the connection of ideas in students’

essays. Meanwhile, the use of interpersonal themes allows the students to maintain their relationship with readers.

The conjunctive adjuncts present in the song lyrics of the Album "Folklore" by Taylor Swift are Additive, Adversative, Causal, and Temporal. The highest number of occurrences is the Additive adjunct which is mainly constituted by and. The least number of occurrences of conjunctive adjunct found in the song lyrics of the Album "Folklore" by Taylor Swift is the Temporal which is mainly constituted by then..

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