

## **CHAPTER III**

### **METHOD OF THE RESEARCH**

The present chapter addresses the method in carrying out the analysis of the figurative expression using linguistic-stylistics approach. The method is discussed under five headings. They are The Nature of the Research (3.1), The Source of the Data (3.2), The Selection of the Data (3.3), The Data (3.4) and The Steps of the Data Analysis (3.5).

#### **3.1 The Nature of the Research**

This research is naturally descriptive qualitative. This means that this research analyzes the data by describing the data in details. At the same time, research is qualitative because the data analyzed are not in the forms of numbers (or numeric) but they are in the form of words, phrases, or utterances or sentences.

Bogdan and Taylor (1975) in Moleong's book (2011: 4) define the qualitative methodology as research procedure which produces descriptive data in the form of words written or spoken of people behaviors which can be observed. In line with this definition, Kirk and Miller (1986: 9), in the same book, state that qualitative research is defining a particular tradition in social science that fundamentally depends on the observation to humans both in the region and in its terminologies. Other qualitative research authors, Denzin and Lincoln (1987), claim that qualitative research is a research that uses natural background, with the intention of interpreting phenomena and conducted by involving the various existing methods. Lastly, in Jane Richie's point of view which is stated in Moleong's book (2011: 6), qualitative research is an attempt to present the social

world and perspective on the world in terms of concepts, behavior, perception and the question of humans being investigated.

According to those definitions above, one can conclude that qualitative research is a research which aims to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the research subjects such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, and etcetera. Holistically, in descriptive way in the form of words and language, in a specific context that is naturally and by utilizing a variety of natural methods.

The present research was descriptive and qualitative in nature. It is due to the fact that the research examined the verbal humor in stand up comedy and its purpose was to discover the figurative expression mechanism applied in stand up comedy in terms of comedian's creation and perception.

### **3.2 The Source of the Data**

The source of the data in this research is in the form of stand up comedy video by Yakov Smirnoff. There are 25 (twenty five) classification utterances of the joke transcription taken from youtube.com. Out of these 25 (twenty five) jokes, only 16 (sixteen) of them will be pre-selected.

The source of the data is written data, collected from the utterances which contain jokes produced by Yakov Smirnoff in Stand up comedy. Yakov Smirnoff in the series of stand up comedy in America entitled "America! What A Country" wants to be analyzed which were broadcasted by Yakov Smirnoff~Very Funny (January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009). The researcher considered that 6 (six) minutes and 31 (thirty one) seconds duration of stand up comedy is enough to investigate the utterances.

Moreover, this script of stand up comedy is used because it could fulfill the data that are needed.

### **3.3 The Selection of the Data**

In selecting the data to be analyzed, the researcher picks up some utterances in form of jokes uttered by Yakov Smirnoff. Then, these jokes are listed in order. Only conversations that make the audiences laugh will be elected as the data to be analyzed. The data taken from video in youtube (2009) were rewritten and grouped according to the figurative expression used. There is not any questionnaire in this research. Kinds of electronic gadgets to help the research process were used. There are: Video player (GOM) and Laptop, which are used to play the utterances of stand up comedy by Yakov Smirnoff, GOM player is used to record the utterances and to make a transcription of it.

### **3.4 The Data**

The data obtained from the selection is in the form of jokes uttered by Yakov Smirnoff. The jokes are classified according to figurative used. The researchers collected some jokes which consist of some figurative expressions used like homophone, polysemy, satire, hyperbole and simile.

### **3.5 The Steps of the Data Analysis**

The data is analyzed, which are the jokes of Yakov Smirnoff in stand up comedy, based on Raskin's Theory (Incongruity), verbal humor theory and figurative expression theories which are conveyed by many linguists attached before. Hence, the scripts that exist in the jokes using the theory of Raskin are

described. Thus, the incongruity theory works the funniness in the jokes is described. In order to have a good analysis used several stages is used.

1. First step is the utterances in stand up comedy by Yakov Smirnoff entitled “America! What A Country” wants to be analyzed which were broadcasted by Yakov Smirnoff~Very Funny (January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009). There is subtitle in the video downloaded from Youtube. In order to obtain an accurate transcription, the researcher repeated this stage twice and frequently do paused the video every single speech uttered. Consequently, the audiences’ responses are also identified, such as: laughter (weak and strong laughter), applause and just smiling. Only those audience responses are caused by Yakov Smirnoff’s verbal jokes taken.
2. As it is mentioned in chapter one page twelve, which this research investigates jokes, if it is accorded to Raditya Dika in Studying-Comedy, particularly verbal jokes. Non-verbal jokes are excluded. For example: when Yakov Smirnoff creates funny expression with his parts of body (gesture), those kinds of acts were not used, non-verbal jokes, that exist in the stand up comedy. It may be humor and thus legitimate object of humor research, but linguistics cannot make a significant contribution to such research. It simply means that a linguistic theory of humor can not account for non linguistic phenomena (Raskin, 1985: 46). Even a non-verbal joke situation is accompanied by the text, it is just a component of the joke rather than its creator, and it is still non-verbal joke and thus falls beyond the scope of this research. Based on those definitions the writer underlined part of Yakov Smirnoff utterances which contain humor, that function as

the verbal humor. The main focus will be on figurative expression and the humor revealed by those figurative expressions of verbal humor.

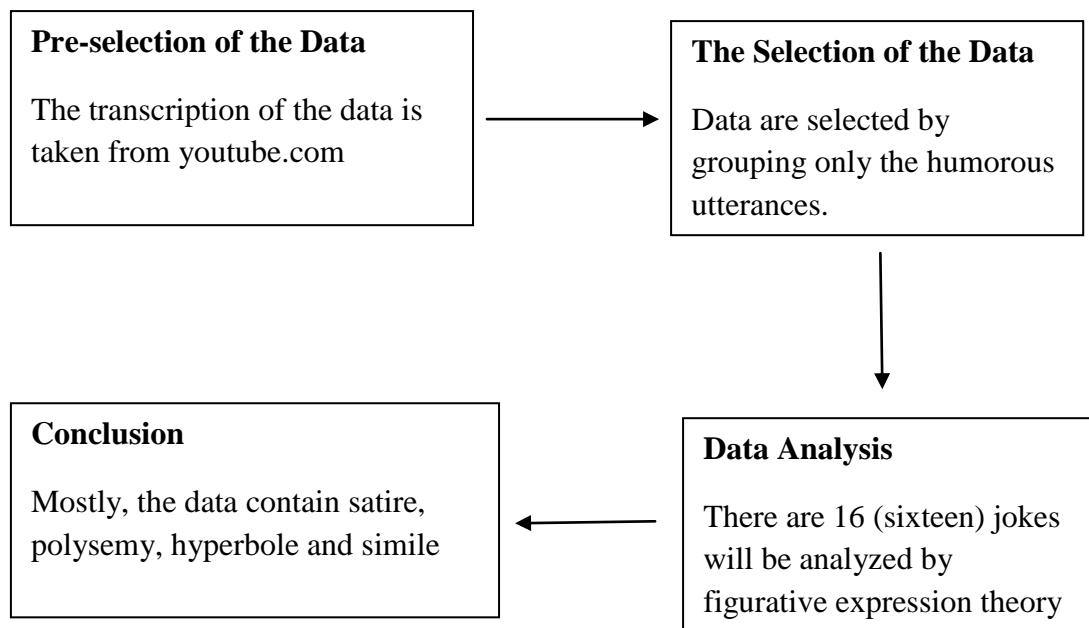
3. The next step is inserting several signs, which helped the researcher in staying on focus in doing her research.

... = more is said

(( )) = the action

There is no translation transcription in this research as the transcription has already taken in English form.

4. Afterward, the script that implied within the humor by examining Yakov Smirnoff's verbal jokes is revealed. The theory of figurative expression, incongruity from Raskin (1985) to support her analysis is used, as stated in the main theory. It is also supported by the one-liner jokes theory and SSTV which is stated in the supporting theory. The utterance is related to the pertinent information not contained in the previous discourse. The pertinent or related consists of various elements of her experience and knowledge of the world such as common sense, logical models, accepted patterns of humors, etcetera. Furthermore, analysis on how the incongruity works the funniness in the jokes by using the theory of Raskin as stated in definition of key terms and the main theory is also given.



The steps of 3.5 are assumed as the diagrams above

For example:

Joke 1

- (1.1) Y. S. : *I didn't speak English. It was hard, you know. Everybody was telling me different things to do, you know people would say: "You're gonna learn Pidgin English first and you'll be fine."*
- (1.2) : *So I used to go to parks.*
- (1.3) Audience : *((laugher))*
- (1.4) Y. S. : *and I learned "perr" (pigeon sound),*
- (1.5) Audience : *((laugher))*
- (1.6) Y. S. : *Then I learned how to crap on windshields.*
- (1.7) Audience : *((strong laugher))*

-Analysis-

In the example above, the researcher compressed all the information about the words and decided scripts that exist within the jokes. The utterances above show us the aversion of Yakov Smirnoff in practicing English. The first utterance

shows us the set-up in joke (like what has been explained by Raditya Dika in Chapter I). Then, it is followed three punchlines attached. For the first punch line is (1.2) *“So I used to go to parks”* it elicits laughter since the sentence in set-up *“You’re gonna learn Pidgin English first and you’ll be fine”* (1.1) indicates that Pidgin English in Yakov Smirnoff’s point of view is something that moves. It is replied by second and the last punch line, *“and I learned “perr” (pigeon sound)”* (1.4) and *“Then I learned how to crap on windshields.”* (1.6) Pidgin refers to an animal which usually craps on windshields. The humor of this joke is wordplay used by Yakof Smirnoff, it is called “pun” especially soundalike puns or Lems (2013: 27) called it as homophone. Homophone which is happening in this joke; “pidgin” and “pigeon”. Pidgin is a variety of language without native speakers which arises in a language contact situation of multilingualism, and which operates as a lingua franca (Trudgill, 2003: 103), however pigeon is an animal. In addition, the last punch line *“Then I learned how to crap on windshields”* (1.6) creates strong laughter in audiences, it is due to the audiences imagine if Yakov Smirnoff study English, he must crap on windshield, it is an animal (pigeon) behavior which is absolutely strange when human should do that. This surprise ending points to the incongruity theory in which humor is caused by the conflict between the audience’s expectation and the content of what is actually revealed by the punch line of the joke. There is incongruent component which is stated by Raskin, laughter arises from the view of two or more inconsistent, unsuitable, or incongruous parts or circumstances, considered as united in complex objector assemblage, or as acquiring a sort of mutual relation from the peculiar manner in which the mind takes notice of them (1985: 32).

Finally, the scripts and the Incongruity Theory that exists in the humor produced by Yakov Smirnoff in his stand up comedy is analyzed and found the reason.