

ABSTRACT

This study presents an analysis of figurative language in Edgar Allan Poe's short story *The Tell-Tale Heart*. This study aimed to identify the types of figurative language, interpret their meanings, and examine their prevalence in the short story. This study used a descriptive qualitative method, with *The Tell-Tale Heart* serving as the unit of analysis. The data were collected by carefully reading the short story, identifying expressions containing figurative language, and systematically documenting the identified data. The analysis was conducted using Colston's (2015) theory of figurative language. The findings revealed seven types of figurative language: hyperbole, verbal irony, repetition, metaphor, simile, understatement, and idiom, with a total of 91 instances identified. Hyperbole was the most dominant type, while idiom was the least frequent type. The findings indicate that figurative language plays an important role in creating suspense and portraying the narrator's emotions, obsession, and psychological condition throughout the story. This study contributes to a better understanding of the use and meanings of figurative language in literary works, particularly short stories.

Keywords: *descriptive qualitative method, Edgar Allan Poe, figurative language, short story, The Tell-Tale Heart.*