

FINAL REPORT

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE SHORT STORY "THE GIFT OF THE MAGI"



**To fulfill one of the graduation requirements for the D-III English Study Program
Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya**

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POLITEKNIK NEGERI SRIWIJAYA
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APPROVAL PAGE

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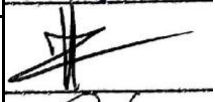
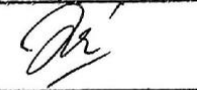
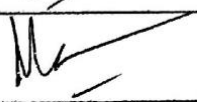


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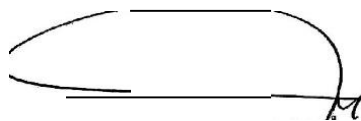
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PLAGIARISM-FREE DECLARATION

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Declare that this scientific document Final Report does not contain any parts of other scientific works that have been submitted to obtain an academic degree at any Higher Education Institution. Additionally, there are no works or opinions written or published by others/institutions, except those properly cited and listed in the references.

I hereby declare that this scientific document is free from any elements of plagiarism. Should this Final Report later be proven to be plagiarism of another author's work and/or deliberately submitted others' work or opinions as my own, I am willing to accept academic and/or legal sanctions in accordance with applicable regulation.

Palimbang, 23rd June 2026



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PREFACE

The writer would like to express sincere gratitude to Allah SWT. for His endless blessings and guidance, which have made it possible to complete this final report entitled “Figurative Language Used in the Short Story *The Gift of the Magi*”. This final report was written to fulfil one of the graduation requirements for the D-III English Study Program, Language and Tourism, Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya. This final report is divided into five main chapters, namely introduction, literature review, research methodology, results and discussion, and conclusion.

The writer realizes that this final report is still far from perfect due to limited knowledge, experience, and ability. Therefore, constructive suggestions and feedback are highly appreciated in order to improve this work in the future. The writer hopes that this final report can provide useful information and insights for students, readers, and anyone who is interested in language and literary studies. It is also expected that this work may serve as a reference for further research and contribute positively to academic development.

Rini Cahya Wulandari

ABSTRACT

This research examined the use of figurative language in the short story “The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry. Figurative language plays an important role in literary works as it enhances meaning, creates imagery, and evokes emotional responses. The objectives of this research were to identify the types of figurative language, to analyze their meanings within the context of the narrative, and to determine the most frequently found type of figurative language in the story. This research employed a descriptive qualitative method, with the unit of analysis consisting of words, phrases, and sentences containing figurative language. The data were collected through close reading, rereading, and note-taking, and were classified based on Perrine’s theory. The analysis focused on interpreting each figurative expression based on its context and its contribution to the story. The study revealed ten types of figurative language, with simile as the most frequently found type, and showed how they convey deeper meanings, emotional impact, and the theme of love and sacrifice.

Keywords: *figurative language, meaning, o. henry, short story, the gift of the magi.*

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