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Synecdoche in English

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّمَا وَلِيُّكُمُ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا الَّذِينَ
يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ وَهُمْ رَاكِعُونَ

صدق الله العلي العظيم

(المائدة / ٥٥)

Dedication

To my Parents.

Acknowledgment

*First of all, I would like to express my deepest thanks and gratitude to my supervisor, **Lec. Shaimaa Emad** for her invaluable help with this paper. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with her.*

Introduction

This paper deals with synecdoche in English. Synecdoche defines as a figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole (for example, ABCs for Alphabet or the whole for a part) and it can be defined as a word or a phrase in which a part of something is used to represent a whole, or a whole is used to represent a part of something. Example, In Canada lost by two goals, "Canada" is used to represent the Canadian team. In synecdoche, a word denotes a meaning different from its literal one. The study deals with the problem of how to understand this different meaning and how to discover the relation between it and the literal meaning of the word being used.

This study consists of three main sections. The first main section which deals with what is a figure of speech and the second main section which is concerned with what is synecdoche. The third main section, deals with types of synecdoche. Finally, the conclusion sums up the finding of the research.

1- What Is a Figure of Speech?

A figure of speech which is also called " rhetorical figure or scheme is taken from form which is Greek word. A figure of speech is the expressive use of language when words are employed in a non-literal method to bring to mind figurative imagery, illuminating comparisons and resemblances (crystal, 2010:447). It is common to differentiate between literal and non-literal or figurative language .One usually considers certain meanings to be basic or literal language. Figurative, or non-literal, language is novel and creative, and signify other meanings, like:

(1) Give me a break.

(2)Get a life.

Non literal language is recurrent and part of normal speech but by pragmatic inference, hearers/readers recognize non-literal language and make inferences about its meaning.

The different kinds of such creative language use are called figures of speech (Hudson, 200:317).The figure of speech play an important role in creative writing and rhetorical expression. They have been used in all ages and all languages. In the old time, the Greek were the first to use figures of speech. They called them schema. They give a different and beautiful look of writing by exposing the inherent inter qualities. Also, a figure of speech can be divided into two categories: Tropes and schemes.

Tropes mean the meaning a word has other than its literal one. A trope means shift or transformation. In other words, using a word in a non-literal sense, such as in comparison for example when the romantic young lover compares his girlfriend's blue eyes to "corn flowers plant which has blue flowers. Light blue colour is limited to a blue flower (the literal meaning).

Synecdoche belongs to the category of tropes. Other figure of speech which are tropes are simile, metaphor, onomatopoeia, etc.

Schemes are figures of speech in which the departure from the standard form is mainly in the arrangement of words. Figures of speech which belong to the category of schemes are chiasmus,

apostrophe, chiasmus, antithesis, assonance, anaphora, polyptoton, etc.

(Deedari and Mansoure, 2006:266).

2-What Is synecdoche?

The term synecdoche is taken from *synekodoche* which is a Greek term. It means something understood in relation with another one (Baldick, Mey, 2009:888).

Synecdoche is considered as a type of metaphorical speech which refers to related things, for example, the part is employed to indicate the whole and the whole is employed to indicate the part. The speaker may give a word and through this word one knows what the speaker means, for example,

" wheels" refers to the car not because it is smiler to the car but because it is part of it. Another example of synecdoche is the word " bread" which refers to the food (Nordquist, 2006:1; Lodge, 2015:43).

Synecdoche is considered as a figure of speech by which a term which is global or universal is emploued for a less comprehensive one or vice versa. (Harvey,1967:795-796).There are many examples of synecdoche and these examples show that synecdoche involves what is called transference of meaning. This means that words are used to mean something different from its real meaning so the meaning is different from the word (Hebron ,2004:148).

Accordingly, synecdoche is defined as a semantic change and this change shifts the meaning of the word (Curzan and Emmons, 2004:117).

The context is something very important and without it there will be confusion about what the speaker or the writer is trying to say (McGuigan, 2007:175). If the word (wheels) is employed without a context, one doesn't know that it refers to a new car.

Many synedeché examples become part of language and they no longer seem as figurative examples (perrine.n.d,615).

The use of synecdoche represents a type of personification 'and this happens by making a human aspect attached to non-human things.This is used in reference to a political relations ,including" having afoot" used to mean a country or" the

wrong hands" used to describe opposing groups ,usually in the context of military power(Nord quist ;2006:63).

Metonymy is often mixed up with Synecdoche is similar to metonymy which is a figure of speech in which a term in which one thing is used to refer to the related things. In fact, synecdoche is considered as main class of metonymy (Khan; 2010:1).

Hornby (2015:803) defines metonymy as an act of referring to something by the name of something else that is very connected with it . An example is using the word " white house" to refer to the Us president so the white house is a thing used to refer to another thing which is "Us president".

Function of synecdoche

Like other figures of speech, synecdoche going beyond the literal sense of a word, emphasizes fresh insights (Cuddon :1991:890). By using synecdoche, one can make readers feel surprise by making them see any idea which is generally known as attracting in interesting way (McGuigan, 2007:176).

For example, they once sang in a 200-voice chorus.

Another function that synecdoche can achieve is symbolism. Symbolism means the use of symbols and a symbol means an object which carries a meaning which happens on the literal level and also stands for something else a figurative level (Juschka, 2014:30).

For example give me a hand emphasis is another function of synecdoche occurs in synecdoche of the part. A lot of poets use this function where the emphasis occurs only on the part (Metz, 2014:1). Robert Browning uses synecdoche in his poem My Last Duchess.

Synecdoche is also a device by which one can achieve vivid presentation (Walcukauski et al, 2001:136; Joseph, 2005:32).

For example the corridors of the building and salient.

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3. Types of synecdoche:

This section is a description of the types if synecdoche.

1. Synecdoche in which the whole stands for the part

This type is special. It occurs when one uses all of the things to refer to a part of it.

() A hospital tried to restore him.

(Muller, 2001:1)

is employed its parts: the doctors. the medical tools, ... etc.

The hospital (which is the whole)

2. Synecdoche in which genus stands for the species

This type of synecdoche uses the class to signify what it contains. An example is a synecdoche which puts the sort "water" for special "river" (Sloane, 2001: 763)

The boys were frightened by the cats in the zoo ('cats' refers to lions and tigers..) (Huang, 2005:179)

3. Synecdoche in which a plural stands for a singular

A synecdoche can use a plural to refer to singular in the Holy book, God refers to him self-using the plural which does not mean that there is more than one god (Arthur, 1994:84)

God said: let us make humanity in our form. In the example, God uses the pronouns (us) and (our) not to signify a plural but indicate a singular: one God only.

The synecdoche using the plural for singular is called 'kingly plural' or ' imperial plural'.

This type is rare and traditional. (Muflahi, 2014: 403)

4. Synecdoche in which the material stands for the object.

Synecdoche some times substitutes the object by the material or tools of which that object is made for example The word 'steel' is used to refer to 'Sword' ' knife, .. etc.'. The word 'paper' is employed to signify 'news papers' and 'magnizes'. The word 'silver', 'plastic' 'lead' which can be employed to stand for 'money', 'credit card' (Hebron, 2014:149)

5. Synecdoche in which the part stands for the whole

This type of synecdoche is used when one uses the part of some thing but means the whole thing. For example, Coleridge uses the 'western wave' in the following lines:

The western wave was all-flane
The day was well was night done!
Al most up on the western wave
Rested the brood bright sun

'The western wave' refers to the sea. It is part of the sea (synecdoche, 2016:1)

Doran (2013:63) states that the part standing for the whole ‘give the core of the things’ as in the synecdoche ‘He is all heart’. This minimizes the huge complication of some body’s character to the part of it. That part is fundamental in it to indicate a good personality of that person action and conduct.

6. Synecdoche in which the species stands for the genus

This type of synecdoche employs the member of a class to indicate the class to which it belongs. For example, the word ‘bread’ refers to any kind of food (Brown, 2007:462)

He gets his bread by his shop. Another example is using the word ‘sword’ to refer to any kind of arm. Similarly, the word ‘money’ is put to refer to any kind of wealth. In the following example, the word ‘money’ can be replaced by the word ‘dinar’

He had lots his last few dinars. (Sloane, 2001: 763)

7. Synecdoche in which the singular stands for the plural

This type of synecdoche refers to the replacement of singular item by a plural on, as in:

Columbus set sail for America

This example is substituted for Columbus and his staff set sail for America patients with AIDS is called the AIDS patient (Solane, 2001”763) children of parents who are divorced are referred to as the child of divorce (Fahnestock, 2011:102).

Conclusion:

Synecdoche is a particular form of figurative language. It occurs when a part of something represents a whole. Synecdoche is a rhetorical trope and a type of figurative speech. Synecdoche is used in different parts of one's life such as the part of body like 'heart' to refer to 'love' synecdoche also used in politics such as boots to refer to soldiers and in news paper, radio, T.V. and also in literature the function of synecdoche in literature is literary symbolism which is developed by the writers who employ synecdoche in their literary works. The writers give common ideas and objects meaning and draw reader's attention. The use of synecdoche helps writers to achieve brevity more and more this research concludes that like any other literary device, synecdoche, when used appropriately, adds a distinct colour to words making them appear vivid. To insert this 'life' factor to literary works writers describe simple ordinary things creatively with the aid of this literary device.

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