

**AN ANALYSIS OF LEXICAL AND CONTEXTUAL  
MEANING OF ED SHEERAN'S SONG LYRICS AND  
ITS RELEVANCY IN UPGRADING LISTENING  
EXPERIENCES**

**THESIS**



**By**

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## ABSTRACT

**SUPRIHATIN.** 2021. *An Analysis of Lexical and Contextual Meaning and Its Relevancy in Upgrading Listening Experiences*. Thesis, Tarbiyah Faculty, State Institute for Islamic Studies of Ponorogo, Advisor Dr. Tintin Susilowati, M.Pd.

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English is an international language that used in various activities and purposes. The use of English is currently increasing. So, it is not surprising thing that English is firmly rooted in society life. In mastering English, there are four skill skills (Reading, Listening, Writing, and Speaking) to be mastered by the EFL learners. Listening skill is essential for learning since they enable students to acquire information and knowledge, and to achieve success in communicating with others. In this research, the researcher conducted a study about the lexical and contextual meaning analysis and its relevancy in upgrading listening skill. The researcher use the lexical and contextual meaning, because both of them are types of meaning that may be used in the song lyrics that is used in exercising listening. In this study, the researcher used the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song, because his songs were very popular.

This research aimed to find the word had both of lexical and contextual meaning in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics. The found words were interpreted lexically and contextually, so it can be understood about lexical meaning

and contextual meaning. The other aim of this research was to explain how the relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning in upgrading listening experiences.

This research was library research. It used qualitative method with descriptive qualitative design aimed to describe and analyze the lexical and contextual meaning in lyrics of songs and explain the relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning in upgrading listening experiences. Songs that used in this research were taken from Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Perfect", "Beautiful People", "Happier", and "Afterglow" that taken from three albums. In analyzed the lexical and contextual meaning, the researcher used Miles and Huberman theory. Beside analyzed the lexical and contextual meaning, the researcher also discussed about the relevancy of lexical and meaning of songs in upgrading listening experiences

The results of this research showed that there are 49 words which had both of lexical and contextual meaning in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's songs. It showed that, in interpreting the meaning, there was not only lexically but it might be done lexically. The other result described that there was a relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning of songs in upgrading listening experiences. By doing listening songs frequently, the learners can enrich their vocabularies and the meaning mastering lexically is increased, and builds the language sensitivity so it can improve the ability to explore the contextual meaning of a word that is in certain context.

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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Background of Study**

Language is a familiar term that human used in daily activity. Language is a communication holds an important role in human's life. All people use language to express their thoughts and emotions, made sense of complex and abstract thought, to learn how to communication with other, and people use language to fulfill the wants and needs. Language also used by people to give or get some information, without language human cannot understand each other. Language is the system of sound and word used by humans to express their thought and



feelings.<sup>1</sup> According to social media, language is the human capacity for acquiring and using complex systems of communication, so the researcher conclude that language is a way for humans to interact that able to give or get information each other easily.

Nowadays, language and music that occurs in song has connection each other, the capability of producing and enjoying language and music appears in every human society. Literary works like song is a familiar thing that almost all of people ever heard that interested to analyze. Song is any poem even there is an attention of it being set to music. Song has always played a big part of human's lives, brings emotions to life and also serves as a testimony of

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<sup>1</sup>Albert Sidney Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary of Current English* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), 662.

people from any land or time.<sup>2</sup> Song is a piece of music with words that are sung has a function to express thoughts and feelings. Through the song people can say anything and they also talk about everything in the lyric. In order to make expressive description about the idea or message in the song, the deep meaning and description of real life in this world are entered in the lyric by composers. In other hand, people prefer to hear or sing a song because it presents their feelings.

Discuss about song, it cannot be separated from lyric that is always closely related to meaning. Song is one of ways to communicate, and to realize the purpose of communication so need to understand the meaning. Almost all of people are necessarily

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<sup>2</sup>Suzanne L. Medina, *Using Music to Enhance Second Language Acquisition: From Theory to Practice. Language, Literacy, and Academic Development for English Language Learners* (Pearson Educational Publishing,2002)

interested in meaning and wonder about the meaning of a new word. Meaning is a part of language and with language people may give and take a comprehension about meaning. Song's lyric is usually simple so it is easier to understand. However the song composer uses non literal meanings in the lyric and as the result, people as the listener get some problem in understanding the meaning of the lyric. Song lyrics are composed by the composers to express their feeling. They often use non literal meaning to make lyrics of song more beautiful and meaningful.

One of the branches of linguistic that studies about meaning is Semantics. Semantics is the study of the meaning of the words and sentences. This study closely related to language acquisition. The purpose of semantics is to find out the correct

meaning of a word, phrase or sentence, and dismiss any confusing that would lead the reader to believe that a word has multiple meanings. Semantics allows the students to explore the meaning because when people dismiss or change one word from a sentence the whole meaning will change, or the sentence becomes ambiguous. Therefore, the meaning in a sentence becomes very important to clarify, where the sentence contains a literal or figurative meaning.

In this research, the researcher chooses the Ed Sheeran's songs, beside has a good voice Ed Sheeran also very popular on his skill to write a song. The romantic songs from this singer are success make the listener always enjoy and lulled in the strains that it touch hearts and emotions of the listeners. The lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song are very sweet that sounds pure and does not imitate the opus of others. Not only

romantic song, Ed Sheeran also has many songs that talk about life. In writing songs, Ed Sheeran does not just write what is in his imagination, because almost everything is based on his experience so the singer always success in presenting the contents of his songs to listeners, because Ed Sheeran is very good in choosing diction even though some words have figurative language.

This research is limited on lexical meanings and contextual meanings. The researcher wants to analyze the lexical and contextual meaning of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics. Lexical meaning (semantic/external meaning) is the meaning of the word when it stands alone, this means that lexical meaning is free from other aspects such as its usage and context.<sup>3</sup> Lexical meaning concerned with the relationship between

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<sup>3</sup> Mansoer Pateda, *Semantik Leksikal* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2001), 82.

words and meanings. The researcher concludes that lexical meaning have correlation to the dictionary because every meaning in the dictionary will be the example of lexical meaning. Contextual meaning is the meaning according to the context in a sentence. According to Requezo, contextual meaning is that whenever a linguistic expression cannot be straightforwardly interpreted that turn to context to find some extra cues in order to get the right meaning.<sup>4</sup> For example in the lyric of Ed Sheeran's song that titled "How Would You Feel" in "Devidé" (2017) album. The researcher chooses the lyric of the first stanza and take one word to analyze the lexical and contextual meaning of the word so can conclude the differences of them:

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<sup>4</sup> Maria D.P. Requezo, "The Role of Context in Word Meaning Construction: A Case Study," *International Journal of English Studies* , 1 (2007), 171

*You are the one girl*

*And you know that it's **true***

*I'm feeling younger*

*Every time that I'm alone with you*

In the lyrics above, the researcher take one word “true” to analyze. The lexical meaning of word “true” is consistent with fact or reality; not false; “the story is true”; “the true meaning of the statement”. The contextual meaning of “true” is made (its mean that, she has poisoned his mind.

In addition, song and listening have a close relation. Listening is a skill that consider difficult to master, because it requires more attention and concentration to understand the sound (listening to the material). It can be said that listening is not a passive skill; the process of listening is a complex

process in which many things occur simultaneously in the mind. Besides being complex, listening is far more difficult than many people imagine. One of the reasons why listening is difficult for EFL learners to master is, the EFL (English as Foreign Language) learners begin to learn English by reading, instead of listening. In fact, reading is different from listening, like writing is different from speaking.

Although listening skill is difficult to be mastered, the learners can upgrade their listening skill. One of ways in mastering listening skill is through the song. There reasons that songs might be helpful for learners. Besides the learners enjoy music activities, the music activities also help the learners to relax and are beneficial in learning a second language. Through the songs, learners also



can learn the meanings that are gotten from the lyrics

Therefore, based on the explanations above the researcher would like to conduct ***“An Analysis of Lexical and Contextual Meaning of Ed Sheeran’s Song Lyrics and Its Relevancy in Upgrading Listening Experiences”***. By doing this research, the researcher hopes the readers would be able to distinguish between lexical and contextual meaning in understanding the content of songs. The EFL learners can apply in other aspects so they do not conclude the meaning lexically only but may adjust the context. Besides that, by comprehending the lexical and contextual meaning on the lyrics of the songs, they get a positive relevancy in upgrading listening experiences.

## **B. Statements of The Problem**

Based on the background of the study, the research problems can be formulated as follows:

1. How is the lexical and contextual meaning found in Ed Sheeran's songs?
2. How is the relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning in upgrading listening experiences?

## **C. Objectives of The Research**

Based on those problem statements, the objectives of the research are:

1. To explain the lexical and contextual meaning analysis found in Ed Sheeran's song. .
2. To explain the relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning analysis of Ed Sheeran's song in upgrading listening experiences.

## **D. Significances of The Research**

The significances of this research are addressed theoretically and practically.

### **1. Theoretically:**

The results of this research are expected to be useful and give information about lexical and contextual meaning found in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics and its relevancy in upgrading listening experiences. Furthermore, this analysis may be valuable for people who want to know deeper than their knowledge on lexical and contextual meaning of song lyrics. They also may use the song as e media to upgrade their listening experiences.

### **2. Practically**

- a. For the teachers, the findings of this research are expected to be source of knowledge and

give more information to facilitate their teaching.

- b. For the students, the findings are expected to give more knowledge that helps them in mastering subject and help them in upgrading their listening experiences.
- c. For English Department Student especially who are studying semantics, this research can give some contribution to enlarge their understanding about lexical meaning and contextual meaning and they can upgrade their listening experiences. .
- d. The readers get more information about lexical and contextual meanings that found in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics.
- e. For the future researchers, this research can be used as a reference for their study.

## **E. Previous Research Result**

Research on analysis lexical and contextual meaning of song is not new anymore. Many researchers had researched the song lyrics to find out the lexical and contextual meaning contained within. Some researchers who conducted the research about lexical and contextual analysis of song lyrics are: (1) Siti Romlah Puji Rahayu Srudji (UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, 2014), (2) Dwiki Rifardi (UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, 2017), (3) Lady Teja Antemas (Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, 2018), (4) Ayatika Adawiyah (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta, 2017).

The first researcher named Siti Romlah, the researcher is a student of English Department Faculty of Letters and Humanities States Islamic University Sunan Ampel Surabaya. The researcher conducted the

study at 2014 entitled “A Semantic Analysis on Avril Lavigne’s Songs” which discussed about the lexical and contextual meanings found on Avril’s song lyrics. The researcher used descriptive qualitative approach to conduct the research and the data sources were the text of Avril Lavigne’s song lyrics. The researcher analyzed lexical and contextual meaning of the songs. Siti took 5 songs that talked about love story to analyze that was from different album, here are songs that used by Siti as the data sources of the research:<sup>5</sup> The list of songs can be seen on table 1.1

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<sup>5</sup> Siti Romlah PR. Srudji, “A Semantic Analysis of Avril Lavigne Songs”, (Thesis, UIN Sunan Ampel, Surabaya, 2014), 27.

Table 1.1 Lists of Avril Lavigne Songs

No	Title	Album
1.	When You Are Gone	The Best Damn Thing (2007)
2.	Wish You Were Here	Good Bye Lullaby (2011)
3.	Keep Holding On	The Best Damn Thing (2007)
4.	My Happy Ending	Under My Skin (2004)
5.	Everything Back but You	The Best damn Thing (2007)

The researcher collected the data based on steps. First, the researcher read the lyrics as data sources. Second, Siti selected the appropriate songs of Avril Lavigne in the lyrics of Avril Lavigne's songs. Next, the researcher chose five lyrics covered in the song. The last, the data were arranged systematically in accordance with the research focuses. To arrange the data, firstly the researcher defined about the lexical meaning and the second explained about contextual

meaning. According to Siti, lexical meaning is the meaning of the terms used in the lyrics of Avril Lavigne's songs described in the lexicon or dictionary. Meanwhile, the contextual meaning is the terms explained the actual meaning according to the situation in which they were used (in Avril song lyrics).

Siti Romlah had conclusion for the research that there were many terms had the different meanings between lexical meaning and contextual meaning. From the data, the researcher found that lexical and contextual meaning contained on Avril Lavigne's song lyrics. The researcher concluded that in understanding the contain of the song, the listener have to know not only lexical meaning but they also have to know the contextual meaning. After the researcher found out the lexical and contextual



meanings, the researcher give a short story about the song because, some people not only known about both of lexical and contextual meaning, they also known the short story. Besides that, the researcher gave the explanation about theme of the song.<sup>6</sup>

The second research was conducted by Dwiki Rifardi (UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, 2017) entitled “Study of Lexical Meaning on Bob Marley Songs”. This research aimed to identifying the lexical meaning and interpreting the contextual meaning in the lyrics of Bob Marley songs. The researcher used descriptive qualitative approach that described the data in the form of words and used the text of the lyrics to be analyzed. The data sources of the research

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<sup>6</sup> Siti Romlah PR. Srudji, “A Semantic Analysis of Avril Lavigne Songs”, (Thesis, UIN Sunan Ampel, Surabaya, 2014), 47-48.

were the text of the lyrics on Bob Marley song. The researcher analyzed the lexical and contextual meaning that found on the lyrics of Bob songs.

Table 1.2 Lists of Bob Marley Songs

No	Title	Album
1.	Redemption Songs	Uprising (1980)
2.	No Woman, No Cry	Live! (1975)
3.	Three Little Birds	Exodus (1997)
4.	One Love	Exodus (1997)
5.	Get Up Stand Up	Burnin (1973)

In data collecting technique, the researcher took four steps. First, the researcher found the data source that was taken from internet or books. Second, data was selected in appropriate songs in the lyrics of Bob Marley Songs. The third step, the researcher chose five lyrics covered in the song to be analyzed. The

last, the data were arranged systematically in accordance with the research focuses.

In this research, Dwiki Rifardi had some conclusion as the results. Dwiki conclude that people can easily in understanding the meaning by using semantic theory on lexical analysis. Based lexical analysis on the Bob's songs that researcher found the lexical meaning such as synonym, antonym, polysemy, hyponymy, denotation, and connotation in the songs. Musician used them to make the lyrics more beautiful by the composer.<sup>7</sup>

In chapter four, the analysis about the classification of lexical and contextual meaning was given by finding all of words that included in the lyrics of Bob Marley's songs. For lexical meaning,

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<sup>7</sup> Dwiki Rifardi, "Study of Lexical Meaning on Bob Marley Songs" (Thesis, UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim, Malang, 2017) , 68.

the researcher used dictionary to comprehend the meaning at each chosen word. Lexical meaning used on Bob Marley's songs had no certain meaning which generally described in the dictionary. The researcher explained those as suitable as written in general dictionary.

The researcher also concluded that listeners would interpret with various kinds of meanings. There were many terms that had different meanings between lexical meaning and contextual meaning, the researcher found that lexical and contextual meaning used in the lyrics of Bob Marley's songs. In understanding the meaning, people should not use the lexical meaning only but contextual meaning also had an important role in this case.<sup>8</sup>

The third research was conducted by Lady Teja

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<sup>8</sup> Dwiki Rifardi, "Study of Lexical Meaning on Bob Marley Songs" (Thesis, UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim, 2017), 69.

Antemas from University of Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Medan entitled “Analysis of Contextual Meaning Expression found in Mahaerzain Song Lyrics”. Lady Teja conducted the research in 2018. This research focused on Semantic especially in contextual meaning expression found in Mahaerzain song lyrics. The researcher used descriptive qualitative design to conduct the research because the data in the form of words rather than numbers and did an analysis on lyrics of the songs. The source of the data in this research was taken from the writing study in the form of books, journal, and the other sources that given the additional data that support the research. Another source of the data that got by the researcher were acquired from documents of lyrics that the researcher took from album “Thank you Allah”.

In this research, the researcher chose five songs to be analyzed, such as: *“Open Your Eyes, Thank You Allah, InshaAllah, Hold My Hand, and For The Rest of My Life”*. In collecting the data, the researcher listened and took notes technique that had two steps. Listening technique by listened all the song lyrics from the beginning until the end of the entire album. Then, the researcher took notes to find out the contextual meaning of the Mahaerzain’s song lyrics. In the technique of data analysis, the researcher chose different way than two researches before. In this research, the researcher refer to Ary’s book, Creswell (2007) stated that data analysis is spiral. First, the data are collected, they must be organized and managed. The researcher must be engage with the data through reading and reflecting. Then, the data is described, classified and interpreted.

Finally, the researcher represents or visualizes the data. In analyzing data, there are some steps: first, organizing and familiarizing, second are coding and reducing, and the third step are interpreting and representing.<sup>9</sup>

After doing the research, the researcher found out some conclusion. First, the contextual meaning exist in lyrics of Maherzain's songs. Most of words had more than one meaning. The meaning of word was determined through its contextual use. The researcher found three contextual meaning those were Linguistic meaning, semantic meaning and paradigmatic meaning. Found 9 linguistics context, 15 semantic context, and 4 pragmatic context. Linguistic context in this research was the case of deixis person. Second, the words had meaning based

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<sup>9</sup> Ary Donalrd, et al., *Introduction to Research in Education* 8<sup>th</sup> edition (Canada: Wardsworth Cengage Learning, 2010), 481.

on the context its self, each word had other meaning, so the lexical ambiguity arise in most of words. The researcher found out 15 data of the lexical ambiguity. The third conclusion as found out in the case of idiomatic, the researcher found 4 figure of speech in the five songs those were symbol, metaphor, simile and personification. The researcher found out 15 symbols, 16 metaphors, 3 similes and 4 personifications.<sup>10</sup>

The last previous study was conducted by Ayatika Adawiyah from Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta on a thesis entitled ***The Effectiveness of Popular Songs in Improving Students' Listening Skill.*** In this research, Ayatika conducted *A Quasi-experimental Study at The*

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<sup>10</sup> Lady Teja Antemas, "Analysis of Contextual Meaning Expression Found in Mahaerzain Song Lyrics," (Thesis, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Medan, 2018)



*Seventh Grade Student of Junior High School at SMP N 10 Tangerang Selatan).*<sup>11</sup>

Based on the study, Ayatika focused on the use of popular songs that familiar with students, whether the use of that media is effective or not in improving the students' listening skill. Research method that researcher used was a quantitative method which is officially about collecting the data to explain particular phenomenon. Quasi experimental was conducted by the researcher as the research design with two variables. The variables were the use of popular songs as the independent variable and students' listening skill as the dependent variable.

To collect the data, the researcher used a listening cloze test as the primary instrument. Meanwhile, on

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<sup>11</sup> Ayatika Adawiyah, *"The Effectiveness of Popular Songs in Improving Students' Listening Skill,"* (Thesis, UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta, 2017)

analyzing data, the researcher used t-test formula through SPSS (Special Package of The Social Sciences) version 22 software. The t-test was one of a number of hypothesis tests. Before calculated t-test, the researcher did normality and homogeneity test first.

All in all, the previous findings which were mentioned above had relevancies with this research. The similarity between this research with the other researches is focuses on analyze the lexical and contextual meaning of songs. Besides the similarity, this research also has differences from the other researches. The previous study were analyzed the lexical or contextual meaning of songs generally, but in this research the researcher try conduct not only to find out the lexical and contextual of song lyrics, this research also describe the relevancy of the lexical and contextual meaning analysis in upgrading listening

experiences.

## **F. Research Method**

In this discussion, the researcher wants to present the way to conduct the research and what method the researcher uses. It is important to determine the method of the research in order to keep research done systematically. It has very important role to make the concept of planning as a guidance of the research.

In this research, the researcher uses qualitative method because qualitative method can be regarded as a process based on the understanding that investigated a social phenomenon and human problems. Creswell stated that “Qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. The research

builds a complex holistic picture, analysis words, reports detailed views of informants, and conducted the study in natural setting.”<sup>12</sup> The other reason to use this method is the researcher analyzes the lexical and contextual meaning of the song lyrics. Therefore, qualitative method is suitable to use in this research.

This study belonged to library research which is a research used library sources to get the data.<sup>13</sup> On the other side, library research uses the library sources to collect and analyze the data. This research also classified as descriptive qualitative research design because is aimed to describe and analyze the lexical and contextual meaning in lyrics of Ed Sheeran’s songs. Descriptive research is the

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<sup>12</sup> John W. Creswell, *Qualitative Inquiry & Research Design 2<sup>nd</sup> edition* (Thousand Oaks, CA: sage Publications, 2007)

<sup>13</sup> Mestika Zeid, *Metode Penelitian Kepustakaan* (Jakarta: Yayasan Obor Indonesia, 2004), 1.

characteristic of data in qualitative research because it is taken from documents, audio-video recordings, transcripts, words, pictures, etc.<sup>14</sup>

In this research, the data are collected naturally by analyzing the lexical and contextual meaning of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics and the results of previous study about the use or the effectiveness of song to improve listening skill. The researcher plays a role as an observer. The details analyzed and presented in form of description. The researcher focuses on analyzing the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's songs entitled "Perfect, Beautiful People, Happier and Afterglow" and find the relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning in upgrading listening experiences.

The data are information or facts use in

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<sup>14</sup>Sugiyono, *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif Kualitatif dan R&D* (Bandung: Alfabeta,2011), 10.

discussing or deciding the answer of research question. The source of data in the study is the subjects from which the data can be collected for the purpose of research.<sup>15</sup> In this research the researcher uses two data; the first is primary data and second is secondary data. The researcher uses two primary data. The first primary data are the transcripts of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics, and the second primary data are the previous studies that were conducted by some researchers.

#### **G. Source of Data**

The data are information or facts use in discussing or deciding the answer of research question. The source of data in the study is the subjects from which the data can be collected for the purpose of research.<sup>15</sup> In this research the researcher uses two data; the first

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<sup>15</sup> Suharsimi Arikunto. *Prosedur Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2010), 129.

is primary data and second is secondary data. The researcher uses two primary data. The first primary data are the transcripts of Ed Sheeran's song lyrics, and the second primary data are the previous studies that were conducted by some researchers.

The researcher has chosen four songs to be analyzed in this research which are listed by the researcher on table 1.3. The chosen songs were taken from Ed Sheeran's album that researcher got from youtube:

Table 1.3 The List of Ed Sheeran's songs

No	Title	Album
1.	Perfect	÷ "Divide" (2017)
2.	Beautiful People	No.6 Collaborations project (2019)
3.	Happier	÷ Divide (2018)
4.	Afterglow	Afterglow (2020)

The secondary data is studying with the researcher's lecturer such as studying the semantics; lexical and contextual meaning is part of semantics, language and linguistics, etc. The researcher has sources of theory semantics are Charles W. Kreidler, Abdul Chaer and so on, more clearly and complete may see in references that show the books that researcher uses to support in conducting this thesis. Not only Semantics theory, the researcher also uses theory about lexical and contextual meaning from Abdul Chaer, Addison Wesley Longman, Nirit Kadmon, etc.

#### **H. Technique of Data Collection**

Data collection techniques are the way of collecting data used in this research. There are some steps employed to collect data used in this research. In



this research, the researcher uses qualitative approach which the data were in the form of utterances. Some steps of collecting the data in this research as follows:

1. Browse Ed Sheeran's songs

In the first step, the researcher browsed Ed Sheeran's songs through internet access.

2. Collecting Ed Sheeran's songs

In this point, collecting data is a method for collect the data that analyzed by the researcher. The researcher collects the data taken from Ed Sheeran's songs that taken from 3 albums

3. Selecting Ed Sheeran's song

The researcher selected 4 Ed Sheeran's songs to find out the lexical and contextual meanings with the titles are: Perfect, Beautiful Happier, and Afterglow. The researcher chooses selected 4 lyrics of songs from Ed Sheeran with different theme.

#### 4. Reading and understanding the lyrics.

In this step, the researcher read the lyrics not only once, but several times to comprehend the lyrics of the songs deeply.

#### 5. Identifying the words to be analyzed the lexical and contextual meaning.

After reading and understanding the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song, the researcher identified the words. The words were analyzed the lexical and contextual meaning found in Ed Sheeran's songs.

#### 6. Noting down the data classifying them.

After did the previous step, the researcher classified the data based on their analysis of lexical and contextual meanings.

In addition, the researcher also use the thesis that were written by the researchers before, the thesis are: The Use of Song Lyrics in Teaching Listening: A

Case Study of Junior High School Grade 8 in Bandung by Mellasari Hadian, A Study on The Correlation between Students' Vocabulary Mastery and Their Essay Writing Skill by Muhammad Faozy Fadlan, and A Semantic Analysis on Avril Lavigne Songs by Siti Romlah, Analysis of Contextual Meaning Expression found in Mahaerzain Song Lyrics by Lady Teja Antemas, and Study of Lexical Meaning on Bob Marley Songs by Dwiki Rifardi.

The researcher learned the previous study and takes the findings related to the effectiveness of song in upgrading listening skill, then the researcher makes a discussion from the findings from the study before. The last, the researcher make a conclusion as the results of this study.

## **I. Data Analysis Technique**

Data analysis is a process whereby the researcher systematically search and arrange the data in order to increase the researcher understanding of the data and to enable in presenting what they learned to others. Data analysis in qualitative research is a time-consuming and difficult process because typically the researcher faces massive amounts of field notes, interview, transcripts, audio recordings, video data, reflection, or information from document, all of which must be examined and interpreted.<sup>16</sup>

Data analysis is the phase that answer the problem of the research so to conduct this phase needs several times and difficult to get the results of data. To get the result of data, the researcher may uses some technique as Miles and Huberman said in

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<sup>16</sup> Donald Ary, et al., *Introduction to Research in Education* (USA: Wordsworth Thhomson Learning, 2010), 481.

Sugiono (2010): “The most serious and central difficult in the use of qualitative data is that methods of analysis are not well formula.”<sup>17</sup>

In this research, the researcher uses some techniques to analyze the data refer to Miles and Huberman theory, the techniques as follows:<sup>18</sup>

#### 1. Data Reduction

Data reduction is all of the data have collected are processed to know between the relevant and irrelevant. Therefore, data reduction is the data have gotten from the study and have explained, so the invalid data are omitted. It is done in order the data provided is appropriate to the problems of the research. In this research, data

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<sup>17</sup> Sugiono, *Memahami Penelitian Kualitatif Dilengkapi Contoh Proposal dan Laporan Penelitian* (Bandung: Alfabet, 2010) 87.

<sup>18</sup> Sugiono, *Memahami Penelitian Kualitatif Dilengkapi Contoh Proposal dan Laporan Penelitian* (Bandung: Alfabet, 2010).

reduction as the first step refers to the process of selecting lexical and contextual meaning in Ed Sheeran's songs. There is no reduction of the words that have selected by the researcher, it means all the words that contain lexical and contextual meanings found in songs are included in the discussion.

## 2. Data Display

Data display is the relevant data that are found by the researcher. The data gotten from the research that explained scientifically by the researcher clearly. In this research, the data display is an organized information that permits drawing and action taking. After analyzing whole data found from Ed Sheeran's songs, the researcher display the results of analysis by making the description of lexical and contextual

meaning of words that found in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics.

After the researcher read the lyrics of the songs, the researcher have selected the words that have lexical and contextual meaning. The number of words that researcher found as follows:

No	Title	Number of words
1	Perfect	17
2	Beautiful People	9
3	Happier	12
4	Afterglow	11

### 3. Conclusion

Conclusion is the answers for formulation of the problems. The conclusion answers the research problems that mention the lexical and contextual meaning in Ed Sheeran's song lyrics

and its relevancy in upgrading listening experiences. In this step, the conclusions are taken by recheck the data reduction and data display have done before. Therefore, the conclusion taken is directed and not deviated from the data analyzed.

In concluding about words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning found in Ed Sheeran Songs lyrics, the researcher uses some steps as follows:

1. Reading the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's songs carefully.
2. Finding the words that have both of lexical and contextual meaning to be analyzed.
3. Labeling the words of the lyrics based on the lexical and contextual meaning.
4. Determining the lexical and contextual



meaning of words.

5. Drawing conclusion based on the results.

## **J. Organization of The Thesis**

Organization of thesis is given to make the readers understand the content of thesis. The organization of this thesis consists of four chapters:

CHAPTER I: This chapter discuss about background of the study, problem statements, objective of the study and significant of the study, previous research results, research method, research approach, data sources, technique of the data collection, technique of data analysis, and the organization of the thesis.

CHAPTERT II: This chapter discuss about review of literature review of related literature, lexical meaning and contextual meaning of song, song with lyric, and listening skill.

CHAPTER III: This chapter discuss about the overview of the analyzed song and the biography of Ed Sheeran. It also discusses about condition EFL learners in listening experiences.

CHAPTER IV: This chapter covers about data and analysis of the statements of problem. This part provides about lexical and contextual meaning found in Ed Sheeran's songs and the explanation of each word that have chosen by the researcher. In this part also discuss the relevancy of lexical and contextual meaning in upgrading listening skill.

CHAPTER V: This chapter consists of conclusion of this research and suggestions from the researcher.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the researcher would like to present review of related literature which is contained the main theories of the study that support the theories of this research.

#### A. Semantic

##### 1. Definition of Semantic

The word “Semantics” comes from the Greek *sema* which means sign or symbol. The verbal form of semantics is *semaino* which means to mark or symbolize. The term sign or symbol in semantics is linguistics sign. According to Saussure, the linguistics sign consists of a signifier component which in the form of sound, and signified component

with a concept or meaning form.<sup>19</sup> At first, the word “Semantics” was used by a French philologist named Breal on 1883.

Semantics is agreed as the term used in the field of linguistics which studies the signifier with signified. In other words, semantics is a field of study in linguistics which studies the meaning contained in language units.<sup>20</sup> Moreover, semantics not only study meaning, but the relationship of one word to other word also learned in semantics that influences on humans and public. Tarigan stated that semantics covers the meaning of words, development and the changes of word.<sup>21</sup> Here are some definitions of semantics according to experts contained in a book

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<sup>19</sup> Abdul Chaer, *Pengantar Semantik Bahasa Indonesia* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2002)

<sup>20</sup> Fitri Amalia, Astri Widyaruli A, *Semantik: Konsep dan Contoh Analisis* (Malang: Madani, 2017), 4.

<sup>21</sup> Henry Guntur Tarigan, *Menulis: Suatu keterampilan Berbahasa* (Bandung: Angkasa, 1995)

by Fitri Amilia and Astri Widyaruli Anggraini about concepts and analysis of semantics:

- a. Semantics is the study of meaning (Aminudin, 2003)
- b. Semantics is the study of meaning, semantics is one of three levels of language analysis (phonology, grammatical, and semantics) (Chaer, 2002).
- c. Semantics is a sub discipline of linguistics that discusses meaning (Pateda, 2010).
- d. Semantics examines the theory of meaning that is a branch of linguistics that investigates the meaning (Verhaar, 1981).
- e. Semantics examines the relationship of signs with objects (Morrist,1938)

The term semantics is often defined as the study of meaning, and more accurately the definition of semantics is the study of the relationship between linguistics form and meaning. Semantics is difference from pragmatics, semantics is concerned

with the meaning of words and sentence as linguistics expression, in and of themselves, while pragmatics is concerned with those aspects of meaning that depend on or derive from the way in which the words and sentences are used.<sup>22</sup>

Based on the theories above, all experts have the same concept of semantics; the researcher concludes that semantics is study of meaning of language.

## 2. The Advantages of Semantics

Semantics plays an important role in language. Language activity is interpreted as communicating or speaking activity, either orally or in writing. In language activities, language used to convey the meaning. The meaning of language is

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<sup>22</sup> Paul R. Kroger, *Analyzing Meaning: An Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics* (Berlin: language Science Press, 2018), 4.

found in every word of the sentence that used when communicate. Knowledge of relationship between symbols or units of language to the meaning is indispensable in communication with language.<sup>23</sup>

The advantages of studying semantics really depend on human daily task.<sup>24</sup> That statement shows that learning semantics will be useful for all aspects, can be in acquisition, learning, and other activities. Semantic also useful for the profession that is all person have. Learning semantics is also useful at choosing words that have many changes and developments. Occasionally, language shows development with lots of new vocabulary. Each vocabulary has different meaning from other, so the people need semantics competence to choose right

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<sup>23</sup> Abdul Chaer, *Pengantar Semantik Bahasa Indonesia* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 1994)

<sup>24</sup> Abdul Chaer, *Pengantar Semantik Bahasa Indonesia* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2002)



vocabulary that appropriate with current development. Therefore, semantic makes easier to choose and use words with right meaning in conveying information to public.

Specifically, for students who will become educators, the advantages of learning semantics can be applied in teaching and learning activities. They may choose and sort words according to the education level of learners. Moreover, semantics is also useful for a journalist, reporter, or people who work in news scope. They get the semantics advantages in choosing right words so there is no misunderstanding from the readers. For the language researchers, semantics provides a lot of provisions theoretical in analyzing language phenomena. The semantics theories may help in discovering new theoretical concepts in semantics. Next, for the

researcher, semantics is useful to help them in choosing words to create literary works. Each choice of words has a different meaning. Every word is interpreted by the readers which may differ from one reader to another reader. A good researcher is able to present the right words, so the readers comprehend the author's point of view.<sup>25</sup>

Besides the advantages that researcher mentioned above, semantics also gives the advantage in society. All of human activities, there is always a word, sentence and the other form. Each form of language unit has a meaning that must be understood carefully. For example in communicating, understanding the meaning is the basis that can build fluency in communication. One concrete example there is a slogan with picture of someone who throws

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<sup>25</sup> Fitri Amalia, Astri Widyaruli A, *Semantik: Konsep dan Contoh Analisis* (Malang: Madani, 2017), 9-10.

the trash at the place and there is a statement “Keep It Clean!”, people who have semantic competence will understand with this statement that everyone in the area should not litter, but the people who do not have semantics competence cannot understand easily.

## **B. Meaning**

### **1. Definition of Meaning**

Meaning is the heart of language. Meaning plays as very important role in any situation of speech acts. Without meaning, all utterances of language are useless, language will be not exist without language. When a language is not intended to communicate meaning, there will be no interaction of thought as people do in daily life. According to Ulman in Pateda (2001), meaning is the relationship

between meaning and understanding.<sup>26</sup> Meaning is the link exists between the elements of language.<sup>27</sup>

The meaning of language is the main discussion of semantics. The meaning of language refers to what the people mean. Ullman stated that there is a relationship between name and meaning, when people imagine an object they will immediately say the object. Here the reciprocal relationship between sound and meaning, and this is what the word means.<sup>28</sup> In Djajasudarma, Lyons stated that studying or reporting the meaning of a word understands the study regards with relationship of meaning that makes a word different from other

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<sup>26</sup> Mansoer Pateda, *Semantik Leksikal* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2001), 82.

<sup>27</sup> T Fatimah Djajasudarma, *Semantik 2: Pemahaman Ilmu Makna* (Bandung: Refika Aditama, 1999), 5.

<sup>28</sup> Mansoer Pateda, *Linguistik: Sebuah Pengantar* (bandung: Angkasa, 1990), 45.

words.<sup>29</sup>

The concept of a word's meaning is closely linked to the concept of definition, which was first made explicit in Greek philosophy by Aristotle. Definitions have been particularly important for conceptual theories of meaning, which traditionally assumed a close link between concept and definition. Understanding of definition is necessary for any attempt to develop a conceptual theory in word meaning. Furthermore, when people think of a word meaning, they are inclined to think of something like the definition in a dictionary.<sup>30</sup> Meaning can be simply found in dictionaries that meaning is understood as the intended idea or the message that is intended or expressed or signified through

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<sup>29</sup> T. Fatimah Djajasudarma, *Semantik 1: Makna leksikal dan Gramatikal* (Bandung: Refika Aditama,

<sup>30</sup> Nick Riemer, *Introducing Semantics* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), 46.

language. Meaning is idea exists and coded in language, whether it is a word, phrase, clause, or sentence.<sup>31</sup>

From definitions mentioned above, the researcher concludes that meaning is a very important part that inseparable from semantics and always attached whatever people said. Meaning can be defined as definition of words. Meaning describes words so the meaning of one word is different from other words. For example in a communication, meaning plays an important role to convey the speaker purpose so the hearer can be well received by the listener.

## 2. Types of Meaning

Some people would like semantics to pursue the study of meaning in a wide sense of all that is

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<sup>31</sup> Zainurrahman, *Semantics: The Basic Notions* (Ternate, STKIP Kie Raha, 2015), 7-8.

communicated by language; others (among them many modern researchers within the frame work of general linguistics) limit semantics in practice to the study of logical or conceptual meaning. There are many theories about types of meanings the researcher found. In this discussion, the researcher classifies the meanings that have been summarized into 10 types as follows:

a. Lexical Meaning

Lexical meaning is an adjunctive form derived from the form of a noun lexicon (vocabulary). The unit of the lexicon is lexeme which is a meaningful unit of language.<sup>32</sup> Lexical meaning is a meaning whose the elements of language are as symbol of objects, events, and

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<sup>32</sup> Abdul Chaer, *Gramatika Bahasa Indonesia* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 1993), 62.

others.<sup>33</sup> Another opinion suggests that lexical meaning is the meaning of the word when the word stands alone especially in the affixed form that is more or less precise, as can be found in dictionary of certain language.<sup>34</sup> Lexical meaning is meaning belongs to or exists in lexeme even without any context. For example, the word “horse” has a lexical meaning as a type of animal with four legs that can be driven.<sup>35</sup> From the theories, the researcher concludes that lexical meaning is the sense of a speaker attaches to linguistic elements as symbol of actual objects and events. For example words such as boy, book, pen, have lexical meaning which may be found in dictionary. More clearly,

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<sup>33</sup> T Fatimah Djajasudarma, *Semantik 2: Pemahaman Ilmu Makna* (Bandung: Refika Aditama, 1999), 13.

<sup>34</sup> Mansoer Pateda, *Semantik Leksikal*, 199.

<sup>35</sup> Abdul Chaer, *Linguistik Umum* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2003), 289.



lexical meaning is the meaning based on dictionary.

More explanation about the example of word that has lexical meaning is; the phrase “the mouse got killed by the cat” contains the *word* mouse that has the lexical meaning of a rodent that can cause typhus. The word *mouse* in the sentence above refers to the animal mouse and not to others. The researcher sees these mice in dirty places and usually roams inside the house especially in hidden places. If people are not aware, these mice can damage foods and can cause disease when touched or eaten by humans.

b. Grammatical Meaning

Grammatical meaning (functional meaning, structural meaning, and internal meaning) is the relationship said to exist between linguistics

elements such as the word within the sentence.<sup>36</sup>

The sentence has several kinds of grammatical meanings. Every language has a grammatical system and different languages have somewhat different grammatical systems. The grammatical system of English makes possible the expression of meanings like these:<sup>37</sup>

1). Statement versus question:

A dog barked

Did a dog bark?

2). Affirmative versus negative:

A dog barked

A dog did not bark.

3). Past versus present:

A dog barked

A dog barks.

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<sup>36</sup> Hilman Pardede, *Semantics: A View to Logic of Language* (Pematang Siantar, 2016), 20.

<sup>37</sup> Charles W. Kreidler, *Introducing English Semantics* (New York and London: Taylor and Francis Group, 2002), 50.

4). Singular versus plural:

A dog barked                      Some dogs barked.

5). Indefinite versus definite:

A dog barked                      The dog barked.

From the grammatical systems above, it can be concluded that grammatical meaning are expressed in various ways. The arrangement of words (referring expression before the predicate, for instance), by the grammatical affixes like the *-s* attached to the noun *dog* and the *-ed* attached to the verb *bark*, and by the grammatical words or function words, like the ones illustrated in these sentences: *do* (in the form *did*), *not*, *a*, *some*, and *the*.

c. Contextual Meaning

Contextual meaning is linguistic meaning in context. The definition of contextual meaning is

defined by Chaer who stated that contextual meaning is the meaning of lexeme or word in a context. Meaning of contextual related to situation, place, time and the environment in which language is used.<sup>38</sup> Kadmon expresses that contextual meaning as each utterance occurs in a context. This context includes all sorts of things and previous utterances. There is a speech situation, including the location, the speakers, addressees, various salient objects, and more. The contextual meaning includes various topics in the conversation about the world in general and about the subject matter of the conversation in particular. Contextual meaning also includes assumptions that interlocutors make

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<sup>38</sup> Abdul Chaer, *Linguistik Umum*, 290.

about the beliefs and intention of each other.<sup>39</sup>

Here are the examples of contextual meaning:

- 1) Robert fell off the bike: the word “fell” in this sentence means drop down of the higher level to a lower level.
- 2) Jessica fell in the last test: the word “fell” has meaning as a significant decrease in score of the test.
- 3) Diana fell in love with my house: in this sentence, the word “fell” is defined as feel a sudden strong attraction for somebody.

Other example of contextual meaning is the sentence “*do you know the meaning of war?*” that

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<sup>39</sup> Nirit Kadmon, *Formal Pragmatics* (Britain: TJ International, Padstow, Cornwall, 2001), 9.

has two different contextual meanings. The first contextual meaning in the question sentence “*do you know the meaning of the word war is?*” The question sentence changes if expressed by a teacher to the students in the class. While the second contextual meaning is “*war produces death, injury, and suffering,*” if expressed by a war-wounded soldier to politicians who support the war.

In this discussion, contextual meaning is concluded as the meaning depends on the context of the sentence or language occurs. In understanding the contextual meaning, human should pay attention to the situation, time and place where the utterances occur so there is no misunderstanding about the meaning.

#### d. Conceptual Meaning

Conceptual meaning can be called as denotative meaning or logical meaning or cognitive meaning. This conceptual identifies the meaning based on literal concept, the literal concept found out by the meaning in dictionary. The conceptual meaning is the base for all the other types of meaning. Conceptual meaning is the literal meaning of word indicating the idea or concept to which it refers.<sup>40</sup> As more explanation, this is the example of conceptual meaning:

“Boy” is +human +male -adult

“Girl” is +human +female -adult

From the example above, conceptual meaning offers the representation on semantics based on

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<sup>40</sup> Geoffrey Leech, *Semantis: the Study of Meaning Second Edition* (Great Britain: The Chauser Press, 1981), 9-10.

their sentence and statement. Boy in conceptual meaning means as human with male gender and not adult. Girl in conceptual meaning means as human with female gender and not adult. That is how the conceptual meaning represents the words, sentence, and statement.

e. Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning is a meaning in the form figuratively and has sense of value, personal and social attitude, and criteria. Connotative meaning can be defined as additional meaning or figurative meaning. This type of meanings also has changes time to time. A word is called has a connotative meaning if the word has a sense of value, either positive or negative. While the word does not have sense of value, the word is said that have no



connotation.<sup>41</sup>

According to Leech, Connotative meaning is the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual context.<sup>42</sup> The differences between conceptual (denotative) meaning and connotative meaning are; conceptual meaning is a real meaning based on dictionary. This statement means that conceptual meaning interprets directly a word, phrase, or sentence according to dictionary. Meanwhile, connotative meaning is about getting a meaning from a word, phrase, or sentence according suggests, or what human associate the word with, that goes beyond the formal definitions.

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<sup>41</sup> Abdul Chaer, Pengantar *Semantik Bahasa Indonesia* (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2013), 65.

<sup>42</sup> Geoffrey Leech, *Semantis: the Study of Meaning Second Edition*, 12.

From the definition above, connotative meaning can be defined as feeling or idea that a word has. Usually, a series of words have the same basic definition (denotative definition), but completely have different connotations. These are the emotions or meanings implied by a word, phrase, or thing. This is an example of connotative meaning; first sentence “This clothing is affordable”, second sentence “This clothing is cheap”. Here, “affordable” sounds much better than “cheap,” because also implies low quality.

#### f. Social Meaning

Leech stresses that social meaning includes all social circumstances regarding the use of a piece of language.<sup>43</sup> Since these are closely related to various social groups who are parts of those

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<sup>43</sup> Geoffrey Leech, *Semantis: the Study of Meaning Second Edition*, 14

circumstances, David Crystal and Derek Davy established a classification of socio-stylistic variations vary according to:<sup>44</sup>

- 1) Dialect (the language of geographical region or social class)
- 2) Time (example: the language of the 18<sup>th</sup> century)
- 3) Province (language of law, science, advertising, etc.)
- 4) Status (polite, colloquial, slang, etc.)
- 5) Modality (language of memoranda, lectures, jokes, etc.)
- 6) Singularity (The style of Dickens, Hemingway, etc.)

Therefore, the words with the same conceptual meaning and social meaning are

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<sup>44</sup> David Crystal, Derek Davy, *Investigating English Style* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1969),66

particularly rare. Depending on the situation, the social meaning also include what is called the illocutionary force of an utterance, which can be interpreted as request, an apology, a threat, etc.

The researcher concludes that social meaning is the meaning which an expression conveys about the contexts or social circumstances of its use. Social meaning chiefly includes stylistic meaning of an utterance, for example:

- 1) Mother (formal), mom (informal)
- 2) Mama (child's language)
- 3) Dollar (neutral), buck (slang)
- 4) Father (formal), papa (informal), etc.

g. Affective Meaning

Another type of meaning which is closely related to the social meaning is affective meaning. Affective meaning deals with the way a language

can reflect personal feelings of the speaker that may include attitude to a listener or something that someone is talking about.<sup>45</sup> Affective meaning belongs to exclamatory feelings of the speaker or researcher.<sup>46</sup> Crystal stated that affective meaning is a term sometimes used in semantics as part of a classification of types of meaning: this meaning refers to the attitudinal element in meaning, as in the differing emotional association of lexical items.<sup>47</sup>

The affective meaning can conclude as the way people express their feelings, attitudes, and opinions when they are communicating. in affective

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<sup>45</sup> Geoffrey Leech, *Semantis: the Study of Meaning Second Edition*, 15.

<sup>46</sup> Nur Laili Yusuf, "A Study on The Associative Meanings of The Jakarta Post Weekender Magazine," Thesis, UIN Malang, Malang, 2010).

<sup>47</sup> David Crystal, *A Dictionary of Linguistic and Phonetics* (Massachusetts: Blackwell Publisher, 1997)

meaning, language is used to express personal feelings or attitude to the listener or to the subject matter of his discourse. For example: “I am terribly sorry but if you would be so kind as to lower your voice a little”

#### h. Reflected Meaning

In a case of reflected meaning, this type can be explained as the one appearing in situations of multiple conceptual meanings, when one sense of a word influences someone response to another sense.<sup>48</sup> Furthermore, the example of reflective meaning is taken from *The Comforter* and *The Holy Ghost* where, although both terms refer to the third element in the Holy Trinity, there are certain semantic differences between those two expressions. Thereby is *The Comforter* described as

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<sup>48</sup> Geoffrey Leech, *Semantics: the Study of Meaning Second Edition*, 16

something “warm and comforting” while *The Holy Ghost* is perceived as “awesome”.

i. Collocative Meaning

Mao defines Collocative meaning as associated with habitual co-occurrence of words that are conventionally attached to certain words.<sup>49</sup> The word *handsome* and *pretty* shares common ground in the meaning “good looking”, but may distinguish of the nouns that used to collocate. This statement means that collocative meaning consists of associations a word acquires on account of the meaning of words which tend to occur in its environments.<sup>50</sup>

Example: “Beautiful feeling”

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<sup>49</sup> <https://www.semanticsholar.org/paper/Associative-Meaning-in-Social-and-Cultural-Context-Mao/7708a2e1c2cc8742939e4376d2500795se0986af>

<sup>50</sup> Geoffrey Leech, *Semantics: the Study of Meaning Second Edition*, 17.

On above phrase, the word *beautiful* is physical appearance that is followed by *feeling* which is a mental sensibility. Therefore, the purposes of collocations are to enhance people understanding of meanings brought about from verbal communication, for collocative meaning is a broad term for the many example of co-occurrence.

j. Thematic Meaning

Thematic meaning concerns with the arrangement of words and thematic roles. This type of meaning refers to what is communicated by the way in which a speaker or a researcher organizes the message in terms of ordering focus and emphasis. The way words are sequenced in a phrase or clause or sentence is one of great significance. The subject position and the role when it is replaced



with the object in passive voices, can affect the semantic property of the utterance.<sup>51</sup>

The example of this type as follows:

- 1) Mrs. Bessie Smith donated the first prize.
- 2) The first prize was donated by Mrs. Bessie Smith.

Certainly, the sentences above have different communicative values in that they suggest different context. The first sentence (active sentence) seems to answer an implicit question “What did Mrs. Bessie Smith donate?”, while the second (passive) sentence seems to answer an implicit question “Who was the first prize donated by?” or more simply “Who donated the first prize?”. So, both of the sentences have different focus based on the

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<sup>51</sup> <https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Associative-Meaning-in-Social-and-Cultural-Context-Mao/7708a2e1c2cc8742939e4376d2500795se0986af>

speaker or researcher organizes the message, in term ordering, focus, and emphasis.

### C. Song

#### 1. The Definition of Song

Susan defined song as the part of music that is uttered through words.<sup>52</sup> Song and music are related each to other in order to make good symphony. Song is kind of voice which has rhythm and music id the rhythm.<sup>53</sup> Another definition of song is suggested in Longman Modern Dictionary which states song as the act of singing, short composition in which word and music combined together for unity.<sup>54</sup> This statement means that song cannot be separated from the music.

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<sup>52</sup> Susan Henneberg, *What Is A Song* (New York: Brittanica Educational Publishing, 2005), 4

<sup>53</sup> Luthfy Fajar Hidayah, *An Analysis of Indonesian Moral Values Found in The Song Lyrics Forgive Me Album By Maherzain*, Education, 5, 2005,167.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*, 170

Hardjana stated song is a variety of sounds that rhythmic (in speaking, singing, reading, and so on). Song is part of music that is a part of art. Song can be defined as a combination of rhythmic.<sup>55</sup> Therefore, some statements above has a conclusions that song is a combination of words and music which in representing the words, human convey their words through the tone as the main characteristics of song. Moreover, the researcher suggests that song is a story or messages which the singer wants to share to other through the beautiful tone.

According to Mark, song has some parts such as lyrics, beat, chorus, intro, riff, and tune.<sup>56</sup>

a. Lyric is the words of song.

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<sup>55</sup> Firman Galang K A, “Analisis lagu dan Makna Syair Karya Grup Band Be seven Steady Semarang”, (Skripsi, UNES, Semarang, 2015, 9.

<sup>56</sup> Mark Hancock, *Singing Grammar: Teaching Grammar Through Song* (UK: Cambridge University Press, 1998), 11.

- b. Beat is main rhythm of song.
- c. Chorus is part of song which is repeated after each verse.
- d. Intro is part of song before the singer begins.
- e. Riff is short repeated tune by one instrument such as the guitar.
- f. Tune is series of musical notes (the music, not the words).

## 2. Types of Songs

A song type is a category or genre of pieces of song and music that share a certain style or basic musical language. Music can also be categorized by non- musical criteria such as geographical origin. Some categories are not strictly genre and a single geographical category will often include a number of different genres.

Here are some types of song genres:<sup>57</sup>

a. Classic Song

Classic song is type of song written according to standard European form or structures, for example: Mozart and Beethoven.

b. Jazz Song

Jazz is type of song that developed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in which there is a strong lively beat and the players often improved (arranging the music as they play). The example of this song type is songs by John Coltrane.

c. Blues Song

Blues is a type of slow and sad song that developed from the songs of black slaves in the southern US, for example: The Rolling Stones.

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<sup>57</sup> *MacMillan Dictionary* (New York: MacMillan Publisher, 1999)

d. Country Song

Country song is type of popular song based on traditional music of the southern US, usually contains of singing, guitars, and violins, for example: Taylor Swift.

e. Techno Song

Techno song is type of dance song that developed in the 1980, consists of hard repeat beats, heavy drum sounds, and funk influences. Example of this song type is Alan Walker and Marshmello.

f. Reggae song

This type is defined as the type of song that developed in Jamaica in 1960 with songs about social and political subjects and heavy bass sounds. Song by Bob Marley is one of examples of this song type.

g. RAP song

RAP is type of song that has the way of talking using rhythm and rhyme, usually over a strong beat. Usually, the singer says the words contains on the song very quickly with comfortable tones. The example of this type is song by Eminem.

h. Pop song

Pop song is a type of song that usually played with electronic instruments. Nowadays, this type of song is very popular among the public because this song consists of short lyrics with a song beat and simple tunes that are easy to remember. Pop music is often simply called pop. The example of this song type is Perfect by Ed Sheeran which is the researcher used this song to analyze in this research.

## D. Lyric

Lyric are set of words that make up a song, usually consists of verses and choruses. A lyric is a paper written by someone who has imagination in composing beautiful words that have deep meaning. Hornby stated that lyrics is expressing a person's feeling or thought, connected with singing and written for a lyric poem is the words of song.<sup>58</sup>

In third edition of Cambridge Dictionary, lyric is a short poem which expresses the personal thoughts and feelings of the person who wrote it. Lyric can also interpreted as written words created specifically for music or for music which is specifically created. The other definition of lyric is stated by Wallace that defined lyric as the written words in song. Lyrics can be written during composition of a song or after the accompanying

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<sup>58</sup> Hornby, A.S, *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary 7<sup>th</sup> Edition* (London: Oxford University Press, 2000), 802.



music is composed.<sup>59</sup>

From the description above, it can be concluded that song lyrics are a form of literary work that expresses one's expression, feeling, thought, or imagination regarding something that one sees, feels and experiences. The combination of lyrics and music would be a wonderful song and comfortable to listen.

## **E. Listening Skill**

### **1. Definition of Listening Skill**

Listening is a complex, problem solving skill and it is more than just perception of sounds. Listening includes comprehension of meaning hearing words, phrases, clauses, sentences and connected discourse.<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> Wallace Steven, et al., "Rethinking The Value of Lyric Closure," *PMLA*, 2 (March 2011)

<sup>60</sup> Mehdi Nowruzi, *"The Instruction of Meta-Cognitive Listening Strategies and Its Impact on Listening Performance of High and Low-Test-Anxious Intermediate*

Furthermore, Listening is the activity of paying attention and trying to get the meaning of something heard.<sup>61</sup> This is a medium where children, young people and adults get most of their information, their understanding of the world and human affairs, their ideals, sense of value and appreciation.

Listening skill can be meant as ability to pay attention or to hear something. In addition, Michael Rost said listening in language teaching refers to a unique complex process that allows the listeners to understand spoken language by pacing, units of encoding, and paucing factually.<sup>62</sup> So, it can be said

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*Learner*" Journal of Studies in Learning and Teaching English, Vol.1, No.3, 2013, page 16

<sup>61</sup> Vidya Mandarani, "*Peningkatan Kemampuan Listening Comprehension Melalui Strategi Top-Down dan Bottom-Up*" Jurnal Pedagogi A I ISSN 2089-3833, Vol.5, No.5, Agustus 2016, 190

<sup>62</sup> Michael Rost, "Listening", Ronald carter and David Nunan (eds.), *The Cambridge Guide to Teaching English to Speakers to Other Language*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University press, 2001),7.

that listening is the ability to identify and understand what others are saying. Listening skill is important element in English language proficiency that has some factors inside and outside of the listener that will affect the output of this skill itself whether the information is received effectively or not.

## 2. Types of Listening

Listening skill, however, is not easy to master. There are many types of listening to know before somebody wants to learn the skill. Those are:<sup>63</sup>

### a. Intensive; focus on phonology, syntax, and lexis.

Learner pays close attention to what is actually said.

### b. Selective; focus on main ideas, pre-set task.

Learner attempts to extract key information and utilize information in a meaningful way.

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<sup>63</sup> Michael Rost, *Teaching and Researching Listening*, (Edinburg Gate: Pearson Education Limited, 2011), 2nd ed., page 182-183

- c. Interactive; focus on becoming active as a learner.

Learner interacts verbally with others to discover information or negotiate solutions.

- d. Extensive; focus on listening continuously, managing large amounts of listening input. Learner listens to longer extracts and performs meaning content tasks.

- e. Responsive, focus on learner response to input. Learner seeks opportunities to respond and convey her/his own opinions and ideas.

- f. Autonomous listening; focus on learner management of progress, navigation of “help” options. Learners selects own extracts and tasks, monitors own progress, decides on own patterns of interaction with others.

From the statement above, it can be concluded that listening has some types, the types of listening

are: Intensive, selective, interactive, extensive, responsive, and autonomous.

### 3. The Difficulties of Listening

Many of differences between listening and reading illustrate just why listening is considered a difficult skill. The difficulties can be grouped into four general categories: characteristics of the message, the delivery, the listener and the environment.<sup>64</sup>

Listening is usually a difficult skill for students to master. The first reason is that students do not have text in front of them to be seen if they do not understand information. Second is the accent and intonation of English native speakers. In addition, every country has regional dialects and accents that can confuse listeners. All this makes learning to

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<sup>64</sup> J.J. Wilson, How to Teach Listening, (New Mexico: USA,2008), 12.

listen to be a major challenge and it is not surprising that students can experience difficulties.<sup>65</sup>

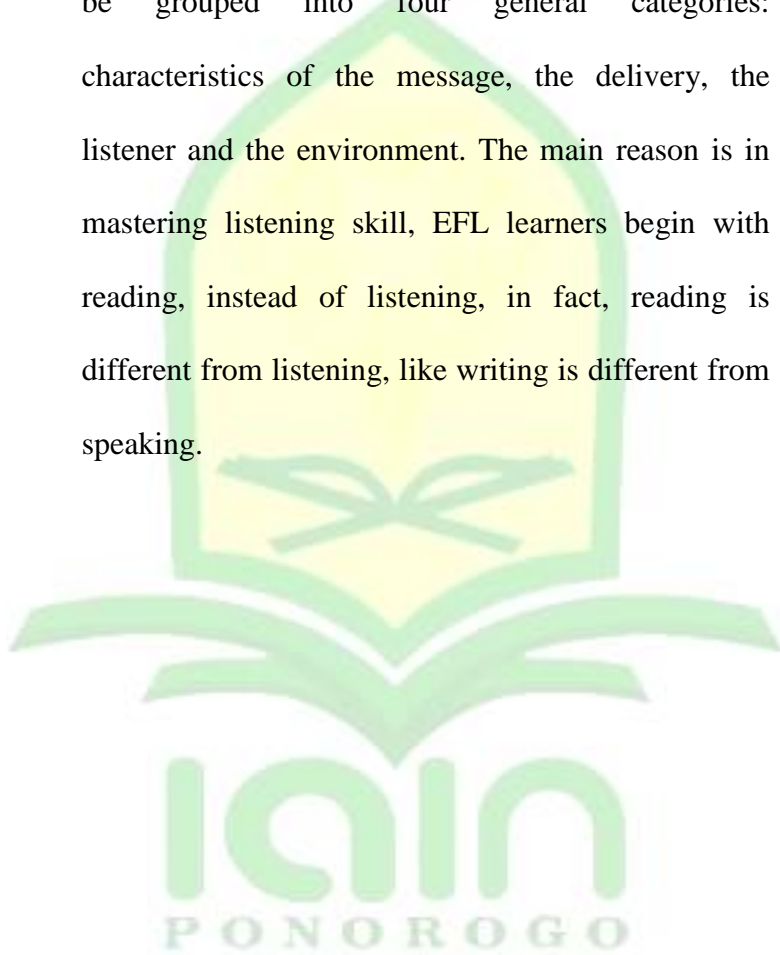
The other reasons, because listening requires more attention and concentration to understand the sound (listening to the material). It can be said that listening is not a passive skill; the process of listening is a complex process in which many things occur simultaneously in the mind. Besides being complex, listening is far more difficult than many people imagine. One of the reasons why listening is difficult for EFL learners to master is, the EFL (English as Foreign Language) learners begin to learn English by reading, instead of listening. In fact, reading is different from listening, like writing is different from speaking.<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>65</sup> Regita Cahayani Ginoga, "Using English Songs in Improving Listening Skill at Eighth Grade Students in MTs N 1 Manado," (Thesis, UIN Manado, 2020)

<sup>66</sup> Celce Muria (ed.), *Teaching English as a Second Language or Foreign Language 3rd edition*, (Boston: Thomson Learning, Inc., 2001), 92.

The researcher concludes that there are many reasons of listening difficulties. The difficulties can be grouped into four general categories: characteristics of the message, the delivery, the listener and the environment. The main reason is in mastering listening skill, EFL learners begin with reading, instead of listening, in fact, reading is different from listening, like writing is different from speaking.



## **CHAPTER III**

### **THE OVERVIEW OF ANALYZED SONG**

#### **A. Biography of Ed Sheeran**

Ed Sheeran has real name Edward Christopher Sheeran, born on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1991. Sheeran is a singer, composer, guitarist, record producer, and also an actor. sheeran was born in Halifax, West Yorkshire and raised in Framlingham, Suffolk. Ed Sheeran has an older brother named Matthew who works as a composer. Their parents, John and Imogen are from London. His paternal grandparents were Ireland who made up a very large Catholic family.

Sheeran sang in the choir at local church since the age is four years old, learned to play guitar while attending Rishworth School, and began writing songs while attending Thomas Mills High School in



Framlingham. Ed was accepted in the National youth theater in London as a teenager. He is patron of Youth Music Theater United Kingdom and at Access to music, where Ed Sheeran majored in Artist Development.

The struggle of this British singer is not easy. As a child, Sheeran had an operation that made him was difficult to speak. When Ed Sheeran was still in school, he was often bullied by his friends because of the way he spoke. Little Sheeran ended up being very quiet and shy at school. However, music can change the Ed Sheeran's life. By studying music, over time Sheeran confusion disappeared.

While still very young, Sheeran deepened his talent for making music and went from street to street to sing. He was not afraid to move from Framlingham to America without having a record company signed him. Sheeran slept on the streets and was also a homeless

person for two years. Ed Sheeran had slept in front of Buckingham Palace, precisely in the outer corner of the palace which had heating ducts. There, he finally wrote a song “Homeless”

At 16 years old, Sheeran moved to London and studied at one of the music university. However, when his study was over, he had no money to rent a place for live. Finally, for two years Ed Sheeran slept in the subway area and sometimes spent the night at his friend’s house. Ed Sheeran participated the Academy of Contemporary Music in Guldford as a scholar at the age of 18 in 2009.

In early 2011, Sheeran independently released an extended play entitled No. 5 Collaboration Projects. After signing with Asylum Records, his debut album “+” (plus), was released in September 2011. This album reached top of United Kingdom and Australia album

charts, peaked at number five in the United States and had been certified seven times platinum in the United Kingdom.

This album resulted a single “The A team”, which made Ed Sheeran got the Ivor Novello Award for Best Song Musically and Lyrically. At 2012, Sheeran won Brit Awards as Best British Male Solo Artist and British Breakthrough Act. “The A Team” was nominated for Song of The Year at Grammy Awards in 2013, where he performed the song with Elton John.

His second studio album “X” (multiply), was released in June 2014. This album reached number one at United Kingdom and United States. In 2015, “X” album won the Brit Award for Album of The Year, and he received the Ivor Novello Award for Song writer of The Year. His X’s single was “Thinking Out Loud” and got two Grammy Awards in May 2016 in the categories:

Song of the Year and Best Pop Solo Performance. X was named the best-selling album worldwide in 2015.

Sheeran's third album was "÷" (Divide) that released in March 2017. It debuted as number one in United Kingdom, United States and other countries. Both of singles from this album were "Shape of You" and "Castle on the Hill," were released in January 2017 and success in getting record in various countries, included the United Kingdom, Australia, and Germany, which reached the two positions of top in the chart.

Ed Sheeran had 10 top singles from United Kingdom singles Chart. The album broke 10 singles record that were in the top ten of a single album in the United Kingdom. His fourth single of divide album was "Perfect" peaked at number one in the United Kingdom and Australia, while "Perfect Duet", an acoustic version with Beyonce, peaked at number one in the United

States. In April 2018, ÷ was named as the best-selling album worldwide in 2017.

Sheeran sold more than 26 million copies of albums and 100 million copies of singles in the worldwide that made him as one of music artists with best-selling. Two of his albums entered the list of best-selling albums in United Kingdom album history: the X album reached number 20, and ÷ album at number 34. As an actor, Sheeran had played recurring roles in the Bastard Executioner and Home and Away. Ed Sheeran also appeared as a Lannister soldier on Game of Thrones.<sup>67</sup>

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<sup>67</sup>

<https://www.scribd.com/document/407543029/DOC-20190421-WA0030-docx>

## **B. The Overview of Ed Sheeran's Songs**

### **1. Perfect**

#### **a. Review of "Perfect" Song**

In 2017, Ed Sheeran had a great year with Ed's third album ÷ (divide) that was a mega success. One of spectacular singles in this album is "Perfect". Perfect is fourth single from ÷ album that was written and sung by renowned vocalist, Ed Sheeran. This single released in September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This song was a romantic ballad that talked about the love story of Ed Sheeran and Ed's girlfriend, Cherry Seaborn.


Cherry Seaborn was from Suffolk, United Kingdom, the place where Ed Sheeran grew up as Sheeran magnificently described in another "Divide" track "castle on The Hill". They knew each other from school as childhood and

reconnected with when Cherry Seaborn was working in New York. So, when the first verse said “Cause we were just kids when we fell in love”, this lyric referred to a long time love from back in England and Cherry Seaborn fitted the description. Both of Ed Sheeran and Cherry Seaborn have been in a relationship since July 2015, and they announced their engagement in January 2018.

Many people so love with this song, from teenagers to adults. People love this song because the lyrics have a love story which talked about childhood relationship at first, then they are separated each other and reconnected when they grew up. This song describes how much Ed Sheeran loves and appreciates Cherry Seaborn as girlfriend. Sheeran used many words to praise his girlfriend as a sign of gratitude. The diction of this

song is not complicated so people can understand easily.

b. The Lyrics of “Perfect” Song.



I found a love for me  
Oh darling, just dive right in and follow my lead  
Well, I found a girl, beautiful and sweet  
Oh, I never knew you were the someone waiting  
for me  
‘Cause we were just kids when we fell in love  
Not knowing what it was  
I will not give you up this time  
But darling, just kiss me slow, your heart is all I  
own  
And in your eyes, you're holding mine  
Baby, I'm dancing in the dark with you between my  
arms



Barefoot on the grass, listening to our favorite song

When you said you looked a mess, I whispered

underneath my breath

But you heard it, darling, you look perfect tonight

Well I found a woman, stronger than anyone I

know

She shares my dreams; I hope that someday I'll

share her home

I found a love, to carry more than just my secrets

To carry love, to carry children of our own

We are still kids, but we're so in love

Fighting against all odds

I know we'll be alright this time

Darling, just hold my hand

Be my girl, I'll be your man

I see my future in your eyes

Baby, I'm dancing in the dark, with you between  
my arms

Barefoot on the grass, listening to our favorite song

When I saw you in that dress, looking so beautiful

I don't deserve this, darling, you look perfect  
tonight

Baby, I'm dancing in the dark, with you between  
my arms

Barefoot on the grass, listening to our favorite song

I have faith in what I see

Now I know I have met an angel in person

And she looks perfect

I don't deserve this

You look perfect tonight

## 2. Beautiful People

### a. The Review of “Beautiful People” Song

“Beautiful people” is the first track on the 2019 of album “No.6 Collaborations Project” by Ed Sheeran. This song featured vocals by Khalid. Ed Sheeran released the song on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 along with a brand new music video. The song talked about two people who do not fit in with the cool and hip culture of today, but these people found each other and love each other even more being the misfits of the society.

The lyrics said that “we are not beautiful people,” possibly took on the idea of beautiful looks and glamour appearances. The music video showed a random couple been selected to spend a few days among the party. In these few days and nights, this couple did not fit in with the cool

culture at all. They stuck to their natural behavior and enjoyed being themselves.

Ed Sheeran sang about how fake some people lived their lives just to impress others. “Lamborghinis and their rented Hummers” represented a social class which these people could not afford, and that was easy for someone to get lost among all this glitz and glamour. Only those with a strong will power should prevail this test.

Ed Sheeran emphasized what kind of lives these people lead. Their riches were not real, their cool was made up, their homes were broken, families were dysfunctional and their futures were bleak. Khalid’s second verse on “Beautiful People,” said that “if you have your significant other by your side, that is all that matters, but do pray that you find your perfect match. Throughout

the song, Ed Sheeran emphasized on the fact they (the couple) were not beautiful. In this instance, these were the people who looked gorgeous, on the outside. Ed Sheeran set himself apart from this flock, because Sheeran was beautiful on the inside.

b. The Lyrics of “Beautiful People” Song.

We are, we are, we are  
L.A. on a Saturday night in the summer  
Sundown and they all come out  
Lamborghinis and their rented Hummers  
The party's on, so they're headin' downtown  
Everybody's lookin' for a come up  
And they wanna know what you're about  
Me in the middle with the one I am loving  
We're just tryna figure everything out  
We don't fit in well  
'Cause we are just ourselves



I could use some help  
Gettin' out of this conversation, yeah  
You look stunning, dear  
So don't ask that question here  
This is my only fear, that we become (hey)  
Beautiful people  
Drop top, designer clothes  
Front row at fashion shows  
"What d'you do?" and "Who d'you know?"  
Inside the world of beautiful people  
Champagne and rolled-up notes  
Prenups and broken homes  
Surrounded, but still alone  
Let's leave the party  
That's not who we are  
(We are, we are, we are)  
We are not beautiful

Yeah, that's not who we are

(We are, we are, we are)

We are not beautiful (beautiful)

L.A. (mmm) drove for hours last night

And we made it nowhere (nowhere, nowhere)

I see stars in your eyes

When we're halfway there (all night)

I'm not fazed by all them lights

And flashin' cameras

'Cause with my arms around you

There's no need to care

We don't fit in well


We are just ourselves

I could use some help

Gettin' out of this conversation, yeah

You look stunning, dear (ah)

So don't ask that question here



This is my only fear  
That we become (hey)  
Beautiful people  
Drop top, designer clothes  
Front row at fashion shows  
"What d'you do?" and "Who d'you know?"  
Inside the world of beautiful people  
Champagne and rolled-up notes  
Prenups and broken homes  
Surrounded, but still alone  
Let's leave the party  
That's not who we are  
(We are, we are, we are)  
We are not beautiful, yeah  
Yeah, that's not who we are  
We are not beautiful (beautiful)  
We are, we are, we are



### 3. Happier

#### a. The Review of “Happier” Song.

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Ed Sheeran had released a new single “Happier”. This song was written by Ed Sheeran, Ryan Tedder, and Benny Blanco based. “Happier” served as the fifth single released from Ed’s third studio album ÷ (Divide). This song was emotional and heart-wrenching from the song began, the sleek tune had a nostalgic feel with confusion and unbalanced emotional, the pain and hurt were conveyed by the singer through this song.

Sheeran talked through this song that there was a man who still loved his ex-girlfriend who looked happier with another man after a month apart with the first man. The first man felt so sad because his girlfriend left him, but he was also happy because the girl was happier with other man.

Although they were going on their separated ways,  
the man (first man) could not forget his ex-  
girlfriend and still wanted her and waited around  
for her. This man's loyalty was proven by the lyrics  
“if he breaks your heart like lovers do, just know  
that I will be waiting here for you”

This song was very popular, especially  
among youth such as students in Senior High  
School and colleges. They love this single because  
the story of this song relate with the phase they go  
through where they have a lot of twists and turns in  
living a love story like in this song.

b. The Lyrics of “Happier” Song.

Walking down 29th and Park

I saw you in another's arms

Only a month we've been apart

You look happier

Saw you walk inside a bar  
He said something to make you laugh  
I saw that both your smiles were twice as wide as  
ours

Yeah, you look happier, you do  
Ain't nobody hurt you like I hurt you  
But ain't nobody love you like I do  
Promise that I will not take it personal, baby  
If you're movin' on with someone new  
'Cause baby you look happier, you do  
My friends told me one day I'll feel it too  
And until then I'll smile to hide the truth  
But I know I was happier with you  
Sat in the corner of the room  
Everything's reminding me of you  
Nursing an empty bottle  
And telling myself you're happier, aren't you?

(Hey, yeah, hey, yeah, hey, yeah)

Oh, ain't nobody hurt you like I hurt you (hey,  
yeah, hey, yeah)

But ain't nobody need you like I do (hey, yeah,  
hey, yeah)

I know that there's others that deserve you (hey,  
yeah, hey, yeah)

But my darlin', I am still in love with you

But I guess you look happier, you do

My friends told me one day I'll feel it too

I could try to smile to hide the truth

But I know I was happier with you

Hey, yeah, hey, yeah, hey, yeah

Hey, yeah, hey, yeah, hey, yeah

Hey, yeah, hey, yeah, hey, yeah

Hey, yeah, hey, yeah, hey, yeah

'Cause baby, you look happier, you do

I knew one day you'd fall for someone new

But if he breaks your heart like lovers do

Just know that I'll be waiting here for you

#### 4. Afterglow

##### a. The Review of “Afterglow” Song.

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Ed Sheeran released a song titled afterglow. This beautiful ballad was completed with a music video and was dedicated to his wife Cherry Seaborn Sheeran. Special for this song, the artwork that was a painting done by Ed Sheeran himself done after his 2019 world tour ended.

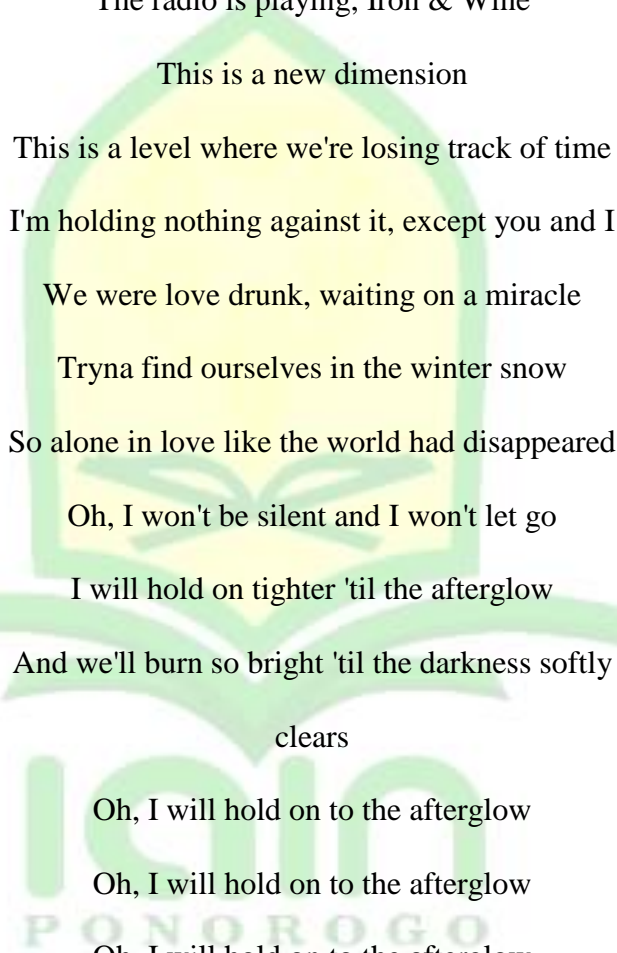
Throughout the lyrics, Ed Sheeran described how mesmerized he was by the beautiful soul next to him, his wife. Ed Sheeran painted a picture of a beautiful Saturday morning where the golden sunlight bathed her sitting in the patio. Ed Sheeran

would not mind all the times stopping around him because he would like to live in this moment forever.

In this song, weather played an important role to describe the dynamics of the relationship, from winter to summer and back to winter again. Relationship had their ups and downs, just like how changing weather posed people different challenges. However, love and trust were two important elements to protect the relationship from such adversities. Afterglow is a residual glow after the main light source has burnt out. Ed Sheeran promised that he would hold on to this love till the end of times.

b. The Lyrics of “Afterglow” Song.

Stop the clocks, it's amazing  
You should see the way the light dances off your  
head  
A million colours of hazel, golden and red  
Saturday morning is fading  
The sun's reflected by the coffee in your hand  
My eyes are caught in your gaze all over again  
We were love drunk, waiting on a miracle  
Tryna find ourselves in the winter snow  
So alone in love like the world had disappeared  
Oh, I won't be silent and I won't let go  
I will hold on tighter 'til the afterglow  
And we'll burn so bright 'til the darkness softly  
clears  
Oh, I will hold on to the afterglow  
Oh, I will hold on to the afterglow



The weather outside's changing  
The leaves are buried under six inches of white  
The radio is playing, Iron & Wine  
This is a new dimension  
This is a level where we're losing track of time  
I'm holding nothing against it, except you and I  
We were love drunk, waiting on a miracle  
Tryna find ourselves in the winter snow  
So alone in love like the world had disappeared  
Oh, I won't be silent and I won't let go  
I will hold on tighter 'til the afterglow  
And we'll burn so bright 'til the darkness softly  
clears  
Oh, I will hold on to the afterglow  
Oh, I will hold on to the afterglow  
Oh, I will hold on to the afterglow



## **CHAPTER IV**

### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

This part presents the data obtained from the data sources. The researcher uses the song lyrics and the previous studies related to the research focus as the data for analyze. In point A, the researcher conveyed the findings that have found by the researcher from the data, then the researcher discusses them in point B.

#### **A. Research Findings**

##### **1. The Findings of Lexical and Contextual Meaning in The Lyrics of Ed Sheeran's Songs**

After collecting the data from lyrics of Ed Sheeran's songs, the researcher analyzes the lyrics that appropriated with the research focuses. This findings has clues to describe one word that researcher wants to analyze. For example, the

researcher gives a clue for the first stanza as S1 and for the first line in stanza the researcher clues as L1. The next word continues these clues, so the readers are not confuse to read the findings and discussion of this research.

The next, after the researcher have found the words that have both of lexical and contextual meaning, the researcher collects the words for each stanza and then lists them in a table to make the readers understand the researcher's explanation easily. The lyrics are taken from Ed Sheeran's song entitled Perfect, Beautiful People, Happier, and Afterglow which are explained by the researcher as follows:

a. Perfect

The first data are "Perfect" lyrics in Divide "÷" album (2017). It has 8 stanzas, for the first

stanza covers four words which have both lexical and contextual meaning. It can be seen on table 4.1.1.

Table 4.1.1 Perfect (Stanza 1)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Love	S1 & L1	Strong feeling and deep affection for somebody.	The word “love” in this lyric has means as a girl who close with the singer in childhood, and now they meet again.

Continued table 4.1.1

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Dive	S1 & L2	Go head first into water/go under water	The singer asked the girl to live with him and spent the rest of their lives happily together.
3.	Sweet	S1 & L3	Having pleasant taste characteristic of sugar or honey; nor salt, sour or bitter.	The girl was someone who had an interest that made the singer loved her.

Continued table 4.1.1

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
4.	Waiting	S1 & L4	Stay where one is or delay doing until someone comes or something happens.	The word “waiting” here means as the girl’s loyalty to the singer (someone she loves)

The table 4.1.1 shows that in the first stanza, there are four words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words are love, dive, sweet and waiting.

Meanwhile, the use of lexical and contextual meaning at the second stanza of this song is seen on table 4.1.2.

Table 4.1.2 Perfect (Stanza 2)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Give you up (give up)	S2 & L3	Here, “give you up” is taken from a phrase “I will not give you up” which means someone will not stop doing or having something.	The singer would not waste the second chance that God had given to live together with the lover.

Continued table 4.1.2

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Eyes	S2 & L5	Either of the two organs of sight	The word “eyes” in this lyric means that both of the boy and girl had same feeling (love).

On the table 4.1.2, it shows that there are two words have found from the lyrics in the second stanza. The words are “give up” and “eyes” and both of them are have lexical and contextual meaning.

Next, the researcher also finds the words of “Perfect” lyrics in the third stanza which have both

of lexical and contextual meaning. The researcher collects the words and lists them into table 4.1.3.

So, it can be seen on the table as follows

Table 4.1.3 Perfect (Stanza 3)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Dark	S3 & L1	With no or very little light	The word “dark” describes as happy night that singer experienced with the girl.



Continued Table 4.1.3

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2	Listening	S3 & L2	Pay attention to something that somebody can hear.	Remembering or memorizing stories which the singer and the girl experienced in the past.
3.	Perfect	S3 & L4	Having everything necessary, complete and without faults.	The girl looked very beautiful so the singer was amazed to see her.

On the table 4.1.3 above, there are three words have found in the third stanza of Perfect

lyrics. Three of words that have found are having both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words are: dark, listening and perfect.

Meanwhile, in the fourth stanza also found the words which use both of lexical and contextual meaning that can be seen on the table 4.1.4.

Table 4.1.4 Perfect (Stanza 4)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Stronger	S4 & L1	Powerful and difficult to resist or defeat	The girl had a great loyalty to the man (the singer) so, she could stay in loving the man.

Continued Table 4.1.4

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Home	S4 & L2	A place where People live with their family.	The meaning of “home” for the phrase “share her home” is the singer had a commitment to marry the girl and made her happy.
3.	Secret	S4 & L3	Something that is known by only a few People.	The goodness and the badness of the man that no one else knew except his own girl.

The table 4.1.4 shows that there are three words which have lexical and contextual meaning are found in the fourth stanza of Perfect lyrics. The words that have found are: stronger, home, and secret.

In the fifth stanza, it also covers three words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The found words are listed into table 4.1.5.

Table 4.1.5 Perfect (Stanza 5)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Fighting	S5 & L2	Try hard to stop something bad to achieve something.	The man asked the girl to stay with him and deal whatever will happen in the future.

Continued Table 4..1.5

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Girl	S5 & L5	Female child, daughter, young woman.	The word “girl” means as girlfriend or more specifically means that man wanted the girl to be his wife.
3.	Future	S5 & L6	The time that will come after the present.	The man thought that he will live with the girl he loved happily.

From the table 4.1.5, it shows that there are some words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words that have found are fighting, girl, and future.

Meanwhile, the use of lexical and contextual meaning of the sixth stanza of this song is seen on table 4.1.6.

Table 4.1.6 Perfect (Stanza 6)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Deserve	S6 & L4	show qualities worthy of (a reaction which rewards or punishes as appropriate)	It describes about how glad the man was. The singer was very amazed to see his beautiful girl that night.

On table 4.1.6, it shows that there is only one word found in the sixth stanza of Perfect lyrics which has lexical and contextual meaning. The word is “deserve” that researcher has explained the meaning of this word on the table above.

Next, the seventh stanza covers only one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. It can be seen on table 4.1.7 as follows;

Table 4.1.7 Perfect (Stanza 7)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Angel	S7 & L4	Messenger of God	Beautiful or very kind person who the singer ever found in this world.

On the table 4.1.7, there is one word “Angel” which covers both of lexical and contextual meaning.

In the eighth stanza, there is no word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning, so there is no explanation about the lyrics of eighth stanza in this thesis. Totally, the lyrics of Perfect song have 17 words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words are separated based on each stanza by the researcher. Then, the researcher collects them into 7 tables in which there is an explanation for each word both lexically and contextually.

b. Beautiful People

In this part, the second data are taken from the lyrics of Beautiful People song. This song is one of single from No.6 Collaborations Project



which released on 2019. “Beautiful People” has 7 stanzas. In the first stanza, it covers one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. The explanation of the word can be seen on table 4.2.1.

Table 4.2.1 Beautiful People (Stanza 1)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Hummers	S1 & L3	Trademark, mainly North American a type of four-wheel-drive all-terrain military vehicle,	Lamborghinis and Hummers are described as luxury vehicles (cars) rented by rich People to attend the party.

In the table 4.2.1 above, it shows that there is one word that has both of lexical and contextual meaning. The word is “Hummer” which means as the luxury car.

Next, the use of lexical and contextual meaning also found in the lyrics of second stanza. It can be seen on table 4.2.2.

Table 4.2.2 Beautiful People (Stanza 2)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Middle	S2 & L3	Position on the middle of an object, group of objects, People, and etcetera.	In this word, there was a description that singer was having party with rich People and his girlfriend.

On table 4.2.2, there is only one word in the second stanza which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. The word is “Middle” that describes as having a party.

Meanwhile, in the third stanza, there also uses lexical and contextual meaning in presenting the lyrics of Beautiful People song. The use of lexical and contextual meaning is seen on table 4.2.3.

Table 4.2.3 Beautiful People (Stanza 3)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Help	S3 & L3	The fact of being useful.	The singer wanted something comfort him in the party.

Table 4.2.3 shows that there is only one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning found in the third stanza. The word is “help” that found in third line. The fourth stanza, the words cover both of lexical and contextual meaning are listed as on the table 4.2.4.

Table 4.2.4 Beautiful People (Stanza 4)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Beautiful (Beautiful People)	S4 & L2	Very pretty or attractive, giving pleasure to the senses	The word “beautiful” is taken from “beautiful People” phrase that means rich People or socialites with glamour style.

Continued Table 4.2.4

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2	Drop	S4 & L3	Fall or allow something to fall	Drop” that is taken from “drop top” means about People who had luxury cars.

Based on table 4.2.4, there are two words found in the fourth stanza from the lyrics of Beautiful People. The words have both of lexical and contextual meaning. They are: beautiful People, and drop.

In the fifth stanza, it also covers two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning.

The found words are listed into table 4.2.5.

Table 4.2.5 Beautiful People (Stanza 5)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Rolled-up	S5 & L2	Objects have been folded or wrapped into a cylindrical shape.	Rolled-up notes in this lyric means payment invoice to be paid by beautiful People.

Continued 4.2.5

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Prenup	S5 & L3	A  prenuptial  agreement	A private  agreement  between  couple, signed  before they  marry.

From the table 4.2.5, it shows that there are two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words that have found are: rolled-up, and prenups.

In the sixth stanza, there is no word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. Meanwhile, the use of lexical and contextual

meaning of the seventh stanza from this song is seen on table 4.2.6.

Table 4.2.6 Beautiful People (Stanza 7)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Star	S7 & L3	Large ball of burning gas seen as a point of light in the sky at night.	Something that made the man felt calm and comfortable when he saw that.
2.	Light	S7 & L5	Energy from the sun, a lamp, or etcetera that make it possible to see things.	Here, light means the glamor of sociality People.



The table 4.2.7, it shows that there are two words found in seventh stanza of Beautiful People lyrics. These words have both of lexical and contextual meaning. They are: star, and light.

From some tables that have mentioned by the researcher in findings of Beautiful People lyrics, the tables show that there are some words have both of lexical and contextual meaning. Totally, the lyrics of Beautiful People song have 9 words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words are separated based on each stanza by the researcher. Then, the researcher collects them into 6 tables in which there is an explanation for each word both lexically and contextually.

c. Happier

The third data are taken from Divide “÷” album (2018). The lyrics of this song have 8

stanzas which some of them have both lexical and contextual meaning. For the first stanza, it covers one word that is the researcher listed into table 4.3.2 as follows:

Table 4.3.1 Happier (Stanza 1)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Arms	S1 & L2	Either of the two long parts of body that connect the shoulder to the hand	“Arms” in this lyric have a meaning as a hug. It showed the girl had been happier with other man.

The table 4.3.1 shows that there is one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning in the first stanza of Happier lyrics. The word that

has found is “Arms”. Meanwhile, the use of lexical and contextual meaning at the second stanza of this song is seen on table 4.3.2.

Table 4.3.2 Happier (Stanza 2)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Laugh	S2 & L2	Make the sounds and movements of face that show someone is happy or think something is funny	Here, “laugh” means as the girl happiness with the new man.

Continued Table 4.3.2

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2	Wide	S2 & L2	Measuring a lot from one side to the other side.	The word “wide” shows the girl was very happy that time that looked from

On the table 4.3.2, it shows that there are two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning from the second stanza of this song. The found words are: laugh, and wide.

In the third stanza, there also uses lexical and contextual meaning in presenting the lyrics of Happier song. The use of lexical and contextual meaning is seen on table 4.3.3.

Table 4.3.3 Happier (Stanza 3)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Personal	S3 & L3	Not of or belonging to anyone else.	The word “personal” is taken from the phrase “will not take it personal”. Here, “personal” means the singer will not interfere about the happiness of the girl he loved with her new man.

Continued Table 4.3.3

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2	Moving	S3 & L4	Change  place or  position	The girl  didn't love  the singer  anymore, and  chose to love  other man.

From the table 4.3.3 above, it can be seen that there are two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning in the third stanza of Happier lyrics. The words that have found are: personal, and moving.

Next, in the fourth stanza, the word covers both of lexical and contextual meaning is listed as on the table 4.3.4.

Table 4.3.4 Beautiful People (Stanza 4)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Truth	S4 & L3	True facts about something, rather than things that have been invented or guessed.	The word “truth” here, means the sadness of the singer because the girl left him and she looked happier with other man.

Based on table 4.3.4, there is only one word found in the fourth stanza from the lyrics of Beautiful People. The found word has both of lexical and contextual meaning, and It is “Truth”.

In the fifth stanza, it covers two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The found words are listed into table 4.3.5.

Table 4.3.5 Happier (Stanza 5)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Reminding	S5 & L2	Help somebody to remember something important that they must do	“Reminding” means as memories of the singer and the girl he loved.



Continued Table 4.3.5

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Nursing	S5 & L3	Job or skill of caring for the sick	Nursing in this term means that singer was holding an empty bottle while thinking.

From the table 4.3.5, it shows that there are two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words that have found are: reminding, and nursing.

In the sixth stanza, there is one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. It can be seen on table 4.3.6.

Table 4.3.6 Happier (Stanza 6)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Love	S6 & L4	Strong feeling and deep affection for somebody	The word “love” describes that, the singer cannot move on from the girl left him.

Based on table 4.3.6, it shows that there is a word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. The word is “love” which found in fourth line of sixth stanza.

Meanwhile, the use of lexical and contextual meaning also found in the seventh stanza of this song. The word can be seen on table 4.3.7 as follows:

Table 4.3.7 Happier (Stanza 7)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Feel	S7 & L2	Experience a particular feeling or emotion	The word “feel” describes that singer will be happy as the girl happy with other man.

On the table 4.3.7, the use of lexical and contextual meaning is found in a word “feel” which found on second line of the seventh stanza.

Next, in the eighth stanza, the words covers both of lexical and contextual meaning are listed as on the table 4.3.8.

Table 4.3.8 Happier (Stanza 8)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Break	S9 & L3	Separate or cause to separate into pieces as a result of blow, shock, or strain.	When the new man made the girl sad, the singer would be there for the girl.
2.	Waiting	S9 & L4	Stay where someone is or delay doing something until somebody or something comes or happens.	“waiting” in this lyric describes the loyalty of the singer if sometime the girl would back to him.

Based on table 4.3.8, there are two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning, they are: break, and waiting.

From some tables that have mentioned by the researcher in findings of the lyrics in Happier song, the tables show that there are some words have both of lexical and contextual meaning. Totally, the lyrics of Happier have 12 words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words are separated based on each stanza by the researcher. Then, the researcher collects them into 8 tables in which there is an explanation for each word both lexically and contextually.

d. Afterglow

The fourth data are “Afterglow” lyrics that released in 2017. This song has 6 stanzas which some of them have both of lexical and contextual

meaning. For the first stanza, it covers three words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning.

The words can be seen on table 4.4.1.

Table 4.4.1 Afterglow (Stanza 1)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Clock	S1 & L1	Instrument for measuring and showing the time.	Clock in this lyric means as time.
2.	Light	S1 & L2	Energy from the sun, a lamp, or etcetera that make it possible to see things.	it means the woman had positive vibes that made man loved to see her.

Continued Table 4.4.1

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUA L MEANING
3	Color	S1 & L3	Appearance that things have that results from the way in which they reflect light.	In this lyric “a million colors of hazel, golden and red” shows that time of twilight that was almost dark (night)

The table 4.4.1 shows that there are three words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning in the first stanza of Afterglow lyrics. The word have found are: clock, light, and color.

Meanwhile, the use of lexical and contextual meaning at the second stanza of this song is seen on table 4.4.2.

Table 4.4.2 Afterglow (Stanza 2)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Reflected	S2 & L2	Throw back an image, heat, sound, and etcetera from a surface.	“reflected” describes that the singer and his wife was enjoying the twilight with his wife and a cup of coffee.

On the table 4.4.2, it shows that there is one word which has both of lexical and contextual



meaning from the second stanza of this song. The found word is “reflected”.

In the third stanza, there also uses lexical and contextual meaning in presenting the lyrics of Afterglow song. The use of lexical and contextual meaning is seen on table 4.4.3.

Table 4.4.3 Afterglow (Stanza 3)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Miracle	S3 & L1	Act or event that does not follow the laws of nature and is believed to be caused by God	The miracle means as happiness. The singer and his wife hoped that they would be happy together and forever.

Continued Table 4.4.3

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUA L MEANING
2.	Winter	S3 & L2	Coldest season of the year	Winter symbolizes as loneliness and the heart gone cold without love.

On the table 4.4.3 above, there are two words have found in the third stanza of Afterglow lyrics. Both of words that have found are having both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words are: Miracle and winter.

Meanwhile, in the fourth stanza also found the words which use both of lexical and contextual

meaning that can be seen on the table 4.4.4 in the next page.

Table 4.4.4 Afterglow (Stanza 4)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Afterglow	S4 & L2	Light or radiance remaining in the sky after the sun has set	The word “afterglow” shows as the singer feeling. He always felt very happy as long as he is together with his wife.

Continued Table 4.4.4

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
2.	Burn	S4 & L3	Fire  produces  flames and  heat while  consuming  material such  as a coal or  wood.	The singer  hoped that his  relationship with  the wife would  be good  whatever the  condition like  the light that  gave brightness  in the dark.

The table 4.4.4 above shows that there are two words which have lexical and contextual meaning are found in the fourth stanza of

Afterglow lyrics. The words that have found are:  
afterglow and burn.

In the fifth stanza, it also covers three words  
which have both of lexical and contextual meaning.

The found words are listed into table 4.4.5.

Table 4.4.5 Afterglow (Stanza 5)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	White	S5 & L2	Color of milk, the opposite of black.	“white” means as snow.
2	Weather	S5 & L3	Condition of sun, wind, and temperature	It describes the dynamics of the relationship

From the table 4.4.5, it shows that there are two words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words that have found are: white and weather.

In the sixth stanza, there is one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. It can be seen on table 4.4.6.

Table 4.4.6 Afterglow (Stanza 6)

NO	WORDS	STANZA & LINE	LEXICAL MEANING	COTEXTUAL MEANING
1.	Track	S6 & L2	Fasten or fix in place with tacks	Both of the singer and his wife were very happy with their togetherness

Based on the table 4.4.6 that have mentioned by the researcher, there are some words in the lyrics of Afterglow which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. Totally, the number of words have found by the researcher are 11 words. The words are separated based on each stanza by the researcher. Then, the researcher collects them into 6 tables in which there is an explanation for each word both lexically and contextually.

### **1. The Relevancy of Lexical and Contextual Meaning in Upgrading Listening Experiences**

As a foreign language, English has four skills (Reading, Listening, Writing, and Speaking) to be mastered by the students. Among these skills, listening is a skill that consider difficult to master by the EFL learners, because it requires more attention and concentration to understand the sound (listening

to the material). It can be said that listening is not a passive skill; the process of listening is a complex process in which many things occur simultaneously in the mind. Besides being complex, listening is far more difficult than many people imagine. It is important if students learn to their own desires, the possibility of their memories to store them in their long-term memories is very large. In this case, Peterson stated learning material must be interesting and something unusual or different.<sup>68</sup>

There are several reasons why listening is difficult for EFL learners to be mastered. The EFL learners begin to learn English by reading, instead of listening. In fact, reading is different from listening, like writing is different from speaking. Listeners

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<sup>68</sup> Celce Muria (ed.), *Teaching English as a Second Language or Foreign Language 3rd edition*, (Boston: Thomson Learning, Inc., 2001), 92.



must know the sound systems; otherwise, they cannot understand speech. Moreover, writing uses different language. Written English consists of neat, correct sentences, while speech does not.

Although listening is a difficult part of learning a foreign language especially English, it is necessary for EFL learners to master the listening skill. Nowadays, people who have good English are have plus point. The reason is, English is an international language that used in various activities and purposes. The use of English is currently increasing. So, it is not surprising thing that English is firmly rooted in society life.

Listening skill is essential for learning since they enable students to acquire information and knowledge, and to achieve success in communicating with others. Listening is a key to all

effective communication. Without the ability to listen effectively, messages are easily be misunderstanding. Through a good listening, an effective communication can be occurs. People are full ideas, experiences, and emotions. They love to talk to others and always look for others who can listen, so in this case listening is very important to be mastered.

In addition, listening plays a crucial role in developing emotional intelligence. When the learners actively listen to others, they empathize with them and understand their emotions. Emotional intelligence is the key to effective relationships, collaboration, teamwork and leadership. One of good things to start builds an emotional intelligence is by becoming a better listener. So, listening is a crucial skill should be mastered by the EFL learners.

Although listening is difficult to be mastered, it has important roles in learning English. Therefore, the EFL learners need to upgrade their listening skill for having good English.

One of ways in mastering listening skill is through the song. There are several reasons that songs might be helpful for learners. Besides the learners enjoy music activities, the music activities also help the learners to relax and are beneficial in learning a second language. Song is powerful stimulus for learners' engagement precisely because it speaks directly to their emotions while still allowing the learners to use their brains to analyze it and its effect. Brand & Li advocated in Mellasari (2015) that using song lyrics in helping to create a natural speaking environment that more closely to the intercultural communication skills is necessary

for students to understand English and to be understood by others. Song lyrics are embedded within a culture, its values, symbols, and beliefs.<sup>69</sup> Thus, according to them, exposure to song lyrics also teaches vocabulary, grammar, rhythmic speech, phrases, and meanings.

Brewster, et al stated that there are many advantages of using songs as learning resources.<sup>70</sup> First, the song is a linguistic resource. In this case, the song is a medium for introducing a new language, as well as a medium for communicating strengthening grammar and vocabulary. Second, the song is an affective or psychological resource. Besides fun, songs are also able to motivate students as well as

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<sup>69</sup> Mellasari Hadian,” The Use of Song Lyrics in Teaching Listening : A case Study of Junior High School Grade 8 in Bandung,” (Skripsi, UPI, Bandung, 2015)

<sup>70</sup> Brewster, et al., *The Primary English Teacher's Guide* (England: Penguin English,2002)

foster positive attitude about English. Third, song is a cognitive resource which helps in improving memory, concentration and coordination. The learners become more sensitive too rhyme as a tool to interpret meaning. Fourth, song can be a cultural resource and social resource. In this case, song provides advantages for pronunciation learning. Some important features of pronunciation such as stress, rhythm, and intonation can be trained naturally through the songs. So, there are four advantages of using songs as learning resources, such as: linguistic resource, affective or psychological resource, cognitive resource, and cultural resource.

In listening songs, it cannot be separated from understanding meaning. Furthermore, when the learners have a good ability in listening, they will be able distinguish lexical and contextual meaning from

the lyrics of the songs. Lexical meaning is the meaning of the word when the word stands alone especially in the affixed form that is more or less precise, as can be found in dictionary of certain language. Lexical meaning is meaning belongs to or exists in lexeme even without any context. Meanwhile, contextual meaning is the meaning of lexeme or word in a context. Meaning of contextual related to situation, place, time and the environment in which language is used. Both of lexical and contextual meaning are very important to comprehend so the learners are not confuse in understanding the meaning, because all song does not always presents the meaning lexically, but contextually.

In learning English, there are some elements must be mastered by the learners namely

pronunciation, grammar, spelling and vocabulary.

The latest element is regarded as the most crucial one. Hatch and Brown in Muhammad argued that vocabulary as a list or set of words which individual speakers of language might use, since vocabulary is a list, people may think the only system involved is that of alphabetical order.<sup>71</sup> So, it can be concluded without vocabulary, English learners are unable to develop the other language elements either pronunciation, grammar, or spelling. By doing listening songs frequently, the learners can enrich their vocabularies and the meaning mastering lexically is increased.

Besides lexical meaning, the lyrics of songs also have contextual meaning. Abdul Chaer in Siti

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<sup>71</sup> Muhammad Faozy Fadlan, "A Study on The Correlation between Students' Vocabulary Mastery and Their Essay Writing Skill," (Thesis, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto, 2015)

Romlah stated that contextual meaning is the meaning of a lexeme or word inside a context.<sup>72</sup> In interpreting song's lyrics, it is not always done lexically. Sometimes, the lexical meaning makes the purpose of the song is not conveyed to the listeners. Therefore, interpreting the lyrics contextually also needed which results the meaning based on situation and condition which are described in the song. In this case, by listening songs frequently also builds the language sensitivity so it can improve the ability to explore the contextual meaning of a word that is in certain context.

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<sup>72</sup> Siti Romlah R S, "A Semantic Analysis on Avril Lavigne Songs," (Thesis, UINSA, Surabaya, 2014)



## **B. Discussion of Research Findings**

Based on the research findings conveyed by the researcher above, there are some points about the findings that researcher wants to be discussed in this part.

### **1. Lexical and Contextual Meaning Found in The Lyrics of Ed Sheeran's Songs.**

#### **a. Perfect**

This song is written by Ed Sheeran as the singer. He wrote this song for his beloved girlfriend, Cherry Seaborn. Ed Sheeran released this song on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. "Perfect" is one of very popular song of Ed Sheeran's because it talked about love story wherein many people also experienced that. This song is sung by Ed Sheeran very calmly and successes in making the audience drift with this song. Perfect is a song

talked that Ed Sheeran is madly in love with Cherry Seaborn. The way Ed Sheeran tells through this song is easy for everyone who listens to understand.

In the lyrics of this song, there are found some words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The words which found by the researcher are collected into the tables as the researcher has mentioned above. This song has 8 stanzas. Perfect has the most number of words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning compared the other songs which the researcher also included in this research. The words have found are explained by the researcher in each stanza on a table. The words that are widely uses in this song are figurative words, so there are many contextual meanings found in the

lyrics of this song. This song has 17 words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. It can be concluded that in this song, there are many of words which use both of lexical and contextual meaning.

#### **b. Beautiful People**

“Beautiful People” is the second data of this research. This song featured vocals by Khalid. Ed Sheeran released the song on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The song talked about two people who do not fit in with the cool and hip culture of today, but these people found each other and love each other even more being the misfits of the society. In this song, Ed explained that people with their luxurious life attended a party, but their luxurious were not real. Most of them just pretended to be rich in order to have social class to get the others appreciation. Ed

also showed that he was not comfortable with the atmosphere described in the lyrics of the song. Luckily, he was accompanied by his girlfriend in the middle of the party so they felt better with her.

In the lyrics of this song, there are 7 stanzas with some words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. In the first to third stanza there is one word in each stanza which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. Meanwhile, in the fourth, fifth, and seventh stanza, there are two words in each stanza which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. Totally, a numbers of words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning in the lyrics of this song are 9 words. So, the researcher concluded that the words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning in this song are not dominant.

### **c. Happier**

This song was released on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Happier was written by Ed Sheeran, Ryan Tedder, and Benny Blanco. This song served as the fifth single released from Ed's third studio album ÷ (Divide). This song was emotional and heart-wrenching from the song began, the sleek tune had a nostalgic feel with confusion and unbalanced emotional, the pain and hurt were conveyed by the singer through this song.

"Happier" talked about failure and hurt in love. The singer positioned himself as someone who was abandoned by his girlfriend. A month after the singer and the girl separated, the singer saw his ex-girlfriend with someone else. The girl looked happier with the new man. Although he was very jealous, but the Ed Sheeran was also

happy of the woman he loved had found her happiness. The singer was a very loyal man. He said in his son, if one day the new man hurts the girl, the singer was there for the girl.

In the lyrics of this song, there are 8 stanzas with some words which have some lexical and contextual meaning. In the first stanza, there is one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. Meanwhile, in the second and third stanza there are two words in each stanza which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. One word with lexical and contextual meaning also found in fourth stanza. In the fifth stanza, there are two words which use the lexical and contextual meaning. The use of lexical and contextual meaning also found in sixth and seventh stanza, there is one word in each stanza.

The last, in eighth stanza, there is only one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. It can be concluded that in the lyrics of this song, the use of lexical and contextual meaning is quite a lot.

#### **d. Afterglow**

On December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Ed Sheeran released a song titled afterglow. This beautiful ballad was completed with a music video and was dedicated to his wife Cherry Seaborn Sheeran. Special for this song, the artwork that was a painting done by Ed Sheeran himself done after his 2019 world tour ended.

Throughout the lyrics, Ed Sheeran described how mesmerized he was by the beautiful soul next to him, his wife. Ed Sheerann painted a picture of a beautiful Saturday morning

where the golden sunlight bathed her sitting in the patio. Ed Sheeran would not mind all the times stopping around him because he would like to live in this moment forever.

In this song, it has 6 stanzas. There are some words of the lyrics which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. In the first stanza, there are three words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. For the second stanza, there is one word uses lexical and contextual meaning. From the third to fifth stanza, there are two words of each stanza which have both of lexical and contextual meaning. The last, in the sixth stanza, there is only one word which has both of lexical and contextual meaning. The number of use the lexical and contextual meaning in this song are 11 words. So, it can be concluded



that in the lyrics of this song, the use of lexical and contextual meaning is quite a lot.

## **2. The Relevancy of Lexical and Contextual Meaning in Upgrading Listening Experiences.**

Based on the findings in the previous part, listening is one of skill that must be mastered by the EFL (English as Foreign Language) learners. Listening is a skill that consider difficult to master by the EFL learners, because it requires more attention and concentration to understand the sound (listening to the material). Listening also has a complex process in which many things occur simultaneously in the mind. Besides being complex, listening is far more difficult than many people imagine.

Listening is difficult for EFL learners, because they begin to learn English by reading,

instead of listening. In fact, reading is different from listening, like writing is different from speaking. In addition, the learners feel difficult in listening because they do not make it as habit. The learners think that foreign language especially English is a language that is difficult to understand so they are not interest. Meanwhile, English is an international language which is people need to be mastered. Nowadays, English is used by almost of people in various activities and purposes. So, mastering English is something that is needed in order to keep up with the world development.

In mastering listening skill, the learners can use something the like so they can be interested in listening activities. One of things that may use is a song to exercise and upgrade the listening experiences. There are several reasons that songs

might be helpful for learners. Besides the learners enjoy music activities, the music activities also help the learners to relax and are beneficial in learning a second language. Song is powerful stimulus for learners' engagement precisely because it speaks directly to their emotions while still allowing the learners to use their brains to analyze it and its effect.

In a song, there is lyrics that have meanings either lexical or contextual meaning. Lexical meaning is meaning of a word or lexeme based on dictionary. Meanwhile, contextual meaning is the meaning of word in context. Learners who have a good ability in listening, they can understand the meaning of the song either lexically or contextually well. By doing listening frequently, the learners can enrich their vocabularies and the meaning mastering

lexically is increased. Besides that, the learners also can build the language sensitivity so it can improve the ability to explore the contextual meaning of a word that is in certain context.



## **CHAPTER V**

### **CLOSING**

#### **A. Conclusions**

In this part, the researcher presents the conclusion of the research based on the discussion explained in the previous chapter. Finally, the researcher concludes the results as follows:

1. The researcher found many of words which have both of lexical and contextual meaning in the lyrics of each song. Almost all of stanzas have words that used lexical and contextual meaning. It shows that in song lyrics, the way to interpret the meaning is not always lexically, but it is needed in interpreting meaning of song contextually, so the purpose of song can be conveyed to the listeners.
2. Lexical and contextual meaning have a relevancy in upgrading listening skill. By doing listening

frequently, the learners can enrich their vocabularies and the meaning mastering lexically is increased. Besides that, the learners also can build the language sensitivity so it can improve the ability to explore the contextual meaning of a word that is in certain context.

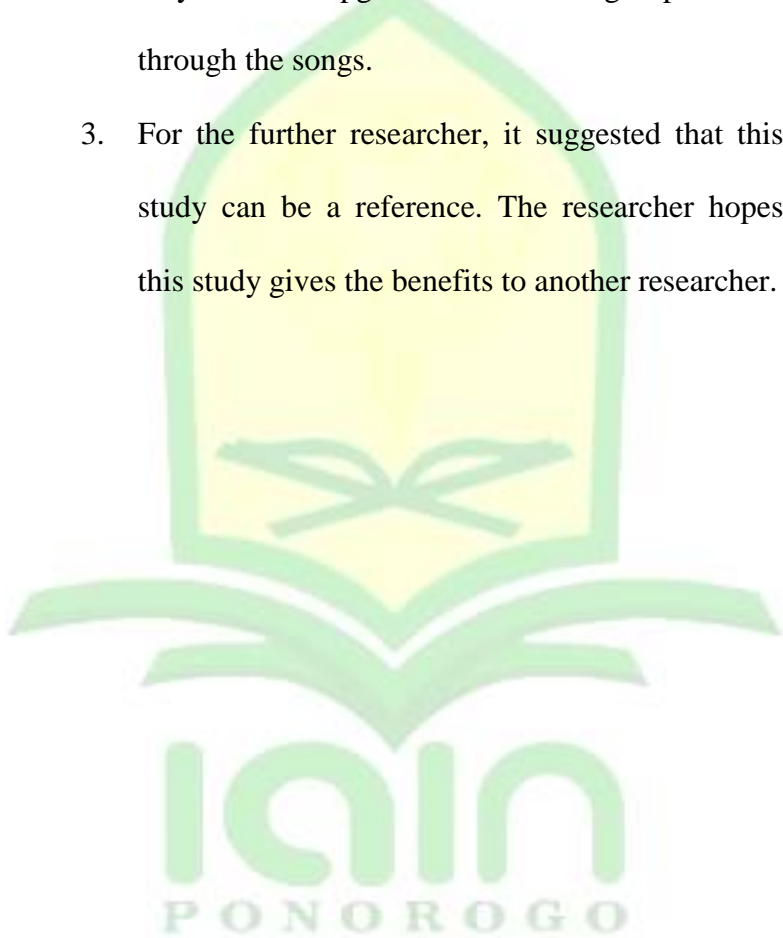
## **B. Suggestions**

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher would like to present some suggestions for teacher, students of English Department and for further researcher as follows:

1. For English teacher can use songs in teaching listening that related to lexical and contextual meaning, so the learners are more interesting with the subject.
2. For the students of English Department, the researcher hopes that students can find a way to

improve their comprehension about semantic especially in lexical and contextual meaning, and they also can upgrade their listening experiences through the songs.

3. For the further researcher, it suggested that this study can be a reference. The researcher hopes this study gives the benefits to another researcher.







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