

The Analysis of Environmental Metaphor Found in Holmes and Ammer's Collection: A Cognitive Linguistics Approach

Analisa Metafora Lingkungan dalam Buku Holmes dan Ammer: Pendekatan Kognitif

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Abstract

This study aimed to find out the category and the mapping of the source and target domains of the environmental metaphors in Holmes and Ammer's metaphor collection. The cognitive linguistics approach used a descriptive qualitative approach to find out the metaphors. Lakoff and Johnson's conceptual metaphor theory was used in this study. To conceptualise the relationships between the source and target domains and their meaning, the mapping was used to explain it. The study found nine data: four belong to structural metaphors, three belong to orientational metaphors, and two from ontological metaphors. The environmental category found were animals, plants, oceanic, weather, and terrestrial ecosystem.

Kata kunci:

Linguistik Kognitif, Metafora Konseptual, Domain Sumber dan Sasaran

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kategori dan pemetaan domain sasaran dan domain sumber dari metafora lingkungan yang ditemukan di buku Holmes dan Ammer. Deskriptif kualitatif digunakan untuk mencari metafora dengan pendekatan linguistik kognitif. Teori metafora konseptual dari Lakoff dan Johnson (2003) digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Penelitian berfokus untuk mengkonseptualisasikan hubungan antara domain sumber dan domain sasaran serta maknanya, pemetaan digunakan untuk menjelaskan tentang metafora lingkungan. Penelitian ini ditemukan sepuluh data: empat milik metafora struktural, tiga milik metafora orientasional, dan tiga dari metafora ontologis. Metafora lingkungan yang ditemukan antara lain tentang hewan, tumbuhan, ekosistem laut, cuaca, dan ekosistem terestrial. Metafora lingkungan yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah tentang hewan.

INTRODUCTION

Cognitive linguistics allows learning, reasoning, thinking, and remembering as part of linguistic behaviour. Saeed (1997) stated linguistic knowledge is part of general cognition. Cognitive linguistics creates and comprehends categories based on experience within the bodies. Cognitive linguistics emphasizes the significance of intermediate

informational structures in our interactions with the outside world (Geeraerts and Cuyckens, 2007).

One way to deal with cognitive linguistics is through metaphors. Cognitive linguists believe that the existence of metaphor in the language is the evidence of conceptual metaphors that indicate the transition from language to thought (Steen and Gibbs, 1999: 1). Lakoff and Johnson (2003) stated that the fundamental of metaphor lies in people's everyday life. It lies in how to think, create, understand, and experience the world. The primary purpose of metaphor is to draw comparisons. It also involves the transfer of elements from one concept to another (Lakoff & Johnson, 2003; Saeed, 1997: 370).

People's thought and life are manifested into the influence of the environmental elements. The characteristics can be influenced under physical and social environment. It can be topography, climate, the amount of rainfall, flora, fauna, religion, politic, and others (Sapir, 1912). Analysing how people communicate the language obtained from the surrounding environment using environmental metaphor can investigate the condition of language, environment, and human thought. According to Fill and Muhlhausler (2001, 3), Haugen defined a language ecology as the study of interactions between any given language and its environment. The environments in which they interact can be physical and sociocultural, resulting in the emergence of metaphors for people around the environment.

Lakoff and Johnson (2003) propose three conceptual metaphors: 1) a structural metaphor which is one concept is metaphorically presented in terms of another; 2) an orientational metaphor is a metaphor that arranges a whole system of concepts concerning one another rather than structuring one concept in terms of another, or it can be defined by the metaphor that "gives a concept of spatial orientation;" 3) the last is an ontological metaphor is a metaphor in which a projection of the concrete onto the abstract gives the nonhuman creature the characteristics of humans. These metaphor categories rely on the transference of one concept to another.

The transference of one notion to another is the source domain and target domain. Based on Kövecses (2010, 4-17; 2020), the source domain is metaphorical expressions used to understand another conceptual domain, which is frequently more physical or concrete and more clearly portrayed than the targets. While the speaker's target domain is the topic or notion that aims to represent or show the topic using metaphor, which is typically abstract and less described. To comprehend these domains, there are several systematic correspondences between the source and the target, which are referred to as mappings, where the constituent conceptual elements of b correspond to the constituent conceptual elements of a (Kövecses, 2010: 7).

Metaphor analysis mapping is used to understand sociocultural problems using a cognitive approach. Language metaphors result from thoughts, knowledge, interests, work, and views of life of the local community that produce language vocabularies (Nuzwaty, 2020: 11). Thus, the study that uses environmental metaphors in English to examines how language and the environment are related is limited. Therefore, this study chooses the environmental metaphor as the data source for this undergraduate thesis. It provides a wide range of information on metaphors and their context.

METHOD

This undergraduate thesis applies the qualitative method as the research design. The primary purpose of using the qualitative approach is to gain an in-depth analysis of the research topic, which is a metaphor that needs a descriptive analysis to understand better. The primary data of this study was obtained from the collection of "Idioms and Expressions" by Holmes, The American Heritage Dictionary of Idioms by Christine Ammer. They were

chosen as the primary data source because it consists of many metaphors related to the main discussion of this study, which is an environmental metaphor. The data was collected by doing the scanning and note-taking of environmental metaphors collection. The data was categorised into three conceptual metaphors: structural, orientational, and ontological. The data was analysed by mapping it into source and target domains. The data was analysed using Lakoff and Johnson's theory and supported by Kövecses (2010).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

The analysis was done by deciphering the data found into three conceptual metaphors in the books: *orientational*, *ontological*, and *structural*. Lakoff and Johnson (2003) states that metaphor lies in people's everyday life. Thus, metaphors can use the elements in the environment to describe something in surrounding, such as flora, fauna, and others mineral elements. According to Haugen, a community where humans inhabit, and interact with other environmental entities give names to these entities and understand their attributes to gain benefit (Nuzwaty, 2014; Garner, 2005).

The conceptual metaphors are defined as such an orientational metaphor which arranges an entire system of concepts about one another rather than structuring one concept in terms of another, which "gives a concept of spatial orientation." The term "orientational metaphor" comes from the fact that most metaphors that fulfil this objective have to do with fundamental human spatial orientations, such as up-down, centre-periphery, and others (Lakoff and Johnson, 2003). The ontological metaphor refers to people's experiences with entities, substances, and containers without defining which type of object, material, or container is intended. The ontological cognitive method transforms the target abstract notions into new abstract entities (Kövecses, 2010). While structural metaphor is where one notion is metaphorically expressed in terms of another (Lakoff and Johnson, 2003).

The study is further explained by mapping the source and the target domains. The mapping of the target and source domain is the constituent conceptual elements of b correspond to the constituent conceptual elements of a (Kövecses, 2010: 7). Metaphor analysis mapping is used to understand sociocultural problems using a cognitive approach. Language metaphors result from thoughts, knowledge, interests, work, and views of life of the local community that produce language vocabularies (Nuzwaty, 2020: 11). Below is the correspondence mapping of the three types of metaphors: structural, orientational, and ontological.

Tabel 1. Conceptual Metaphor Mapping

| No | Data | Environment al Metaphor | Conceptual Metaphor |
|----|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | I am trying to get Sylvia to <i>come out of her shell</i> and stop being so shy. I know there is a lovely girl inside, and I am trying to draw her out. | Animal | Orientational |
| 2 | I love looking at seed catalogues in the <i>dead of winter</i> when it is below zero outside. | Season | Ontological |
| 3 | Do not keep asking me questions and butting in on my conversations. Do not be such a <i>pest</i> . | Animal | Structural |

Discussion

Data 1

The metaphor of this data which is *coming out of one's shell* is a part of the animal in the environmental metaphor. As the definition of animal is a living thing that consumes

organic stuff and has specialized nervous systems and sensory organs that react quickly to stimuli (*Oxford Languages*, accessed on July 7 2023). The word *shell* shows that the metaphor is part of the animal. A shell is a tough outer layer or skeleton that can be employed as a preventive precaution for many creatures that lack a backbone. There are numerous creatures, both on land and in the water, that have shells (Basu, 2018; Nkansah et al., 2021).

The orientational metaphor is defined in the phrasal adverb *comes out*. The phrasal adverb contains two words: *come* and *out*. According to *Collins Dictionary* (accessed on July 14 2023), the definition of *come* is when someone goes to do a certain thing and moves to where somebody else is. While adverb *out* is a part of adverb prepositions. It is used to indicate motion from the inside to the outside of a space or container. The phrasal adverb *come out* indicates an activity or occurrence that involves appearing, being visible, or letting people know about or have access to something. It also refers to anything or someone emerging or becoming visible from a closed or hidden position. Based on the context of the data shows that the speaker expresses her concern about someone and tries to encourage her to not be shy and show herself. These situations trigger the intended person to make any change. To make her come out and overcome her shy feeling. The concept of *coming out* is used to indicate people who are originally reserved, timid, or distant. She slowly begins to reveal their actual nature, becoming more transparent, and engaging more in social activities. Thus, the concept of *coming up* is orientated to the spatial concept of UP.

Table 2. Conceptual Mapping of MORE IS UP

| Up (Source Domain) | More (Target Domain) |
|-----------------------|--|
| Up | More |
| Out | Moving from the inside of the tough shell to outside the world |
| Shell | Closed environment |

Following the definition of orientational metaphor that gives a spatial concept to the entire system. The characteristics of shelled-animal are used to elaborate the metaphor. The MORE IS UP conceptual orientational metaphor comes up to help interpret this environmental metaphor. The target domain uses the concept MORE. It indicates the growth, abundance, or intensity of a specific attribute, feature, or feeling. It shows that the subject of the compared metaphor has a larger quantity of the identified attribute. It is also defined by the literal meaning of the concept MORE which means bigger in degree or additional or further (*Dictionary.com*, accessed on July 14 2023).

The source domain uses the concept of UP because it correlates with good achievements or better values. It can be seen from how the environmental metaphor uses UP spatial orientation to relate to the characteristic of the *shell* concept. It is situated when the animals that have shells, such as crabs, as their features come to moult. The opening of animals' shells, such as crabs, can refer to progress or improvement. Therefore, the orientational metaphor is MORE IS UP because this expression represents someone's condition that willingly improves themselves by engaging with others in society. The word *out* emphasises the metaphorical phrase *come out of one's shell*, which indicates moving from the inside of the tough shell to outside the world.

Data 2

The data belongs to the ontological conceptual metaphor. It refers to people's experiences with entities, substances, and containers without defining which type of object, material, or container is intended. The substance of this metaphor refers to the adjective

dead and the noun *winter*. Winter in environment belongs to season. Winter is the coldest time of year. The effects of winter on the ecosystem are significant which can be beneficial or harmful. One benefit is that it balances the seasons. It would be challenging for vegetation and animals to survive without winter as it would get steadily warmer. Many animals spend the winter months in hibernation, using these months to bulk up for the remaining time of the year (*Impoff.com*, accessed August 13, 2023).

Winter can also be harmful. It carries many unfavourable weather extremes, such as heavy snowfall, ice residue, cold temperatures, and cold winds are all within reach. Winter storms are also responsible for severe weather-related accidents. For instance, ice roads increase the probability of car accidents, and continuous exposure to the cold raises the risk of hypothermia (*Weather.gov*, 2012). In this data, the concept of the *winter* is given the quality of humans as nonhuman beings. It shows from the word *dead*. Winter is not a human, but it has the characteristic of human beings that can be dead. Looking at the characteristics of the winter that is mapped in the concept of DEATH, the concept of *winter* is used to comprehend and express a comparably harsh, frigid, and hopeless circumstance. The context of the data shows that the speaker does something while the weather reaches zero degrees outside. The concept of *winter* is relevant to bad circumstances.

Table 2. Conceptual Mapping of WINTER IS DEATH

| Death (Source Domain) | Winter (Target Domain) |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Coldness | Cold temperature |
| Absence of activity | Reduced activity |
| Lifelessness | Stillness |

The conceptual metaphor is employed in the metaphor of the *dead of winter* to compare the characteristics of death to the characteristics of winter. Through the use of characteristics from the concept of death, this metaphor aids in the understanding and description of the difficult icy, and desolate circumstances of winter. In the metaphor, the winter season is shown as a period when life seems to decline with not many activities, a heavy environment, and sadness dominating. The target domain of winter is mapped into this ontological conceptual metaphor using human experiences, behaviours, and traits. By drawing comparisons between winter and death to its characteristics, this metaphor helps to comprehend and explain the heavy situation that happens.

Thus, comes up with the conceptual metaphor that WINTER IS DEATH. The concept of DEATH is used as the source domain because of its characteristics. Biology's cycle of life ends with death. It is the time when living things stop showing indications of life. Death is linked with immobility or inactivity. Death may be metaphorically compared to coldness, which stands for a loss of warmth and energy. Death usually brings a state of quietness and silence. It also can cause emotions of loneliness and sadness. Something or someone that has already been dead cannot grow or develop. The absence of growth and development, which are vital components of life, indicates death. These characteristics are mapped to the target domain of WINTER. Thus, winter stands for cold temperatures, reduced activity, and stillness. The metaphor *dead of winter* can capture the intensity and quiet situation of the winter and explain it using more concrete domain of DEATH that can be more easily understood.

Data 3

This structural metaphor belongs to the environmental metaphor which is part of animals. Pest is any living item that negatively affects people, be it an animal or a microorganism, is considered a pest. It might be a rodent, insect, fungus, or microorganism

(such as a virus or bacteria) (Maine.gov, 2022). A pest is defined lexically as an insect or tiny animal that causes harm to or damages crops.

Looking the context of the data shows a person asking someone to stop raising a question and disturbing the conversation that happens, thus comparing that person to a *pest*. Comparing something in terms of another concept is classified as a structural metaphor. According to Kövecses (2010: 46), the concept of the source domain is mapped onto the concept of the target domain through structural metaphors. Allow speakers to comprehend one domain using another term. The concept of *pests*, an animal that is unwanted in agricultural sections metaphorically describes an irritating or unwanted person based on the text. It is defined as something unwanted because it significantly affects the environment, health, and economy. The *pests* affect the environment's well-being because of the massive growth of the pests, such as insects, rodents, and birds. Animal pests have the potential to harm agricultural commodities like grain. They obtain their nourishment from human-produced sources like crops and preserved foods. It makes a decrease in the economy. Unlike moulds, insects do not create compounds that are obviously harmful or have significant flavours. Some metabolic byproducts that insects emit, such as quinones or uric acid, can occasionally cause unpleasant tastes and odours. They could also leave debris in the grains, such as excrement, or transmit dangerous germs to the grain (Richard-Molard, 2003).

Table 3. Conceptual Mapping of HUMAN BEHAVIOUR IS ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

| Animal Behaviour (Source Domain) | Human Behaviour (Target Domain) |
|---|--|
| The pests irritate human | Annoyed other people |
| Destroying crops | Ruining the ambience |
| Causing negativity | Causing discomfort to other people |
| Troublesome behaviours | Inconsiderate behaviour |

The behaviour of the pests serves as the foundation for this classification. They resembled human behaviour, which is being compared. Thus, comes up with the conceptual metaphor that HUMAN BEHAVIOUR IS ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR. The noun *pest* which is an animal concept is defined as a human behaviour concept in that tells an irritating or unwanted person. The metaphorical expression of *pests* is derived from humans associating human traits with animals and then reapplying these features to humans. After personifying animals, "human-based animal attributes" are employed to analyse human behaviour (Kovecses, 2010: 152). Therefore, the characteristics of *pests* are applied to show human behaviour that is similar to the related animals.

Based on the conceptual metaphor, the source domain is explained as ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR, which according to Sherman and Seeley (1998), refers to things an animal does, including their movements, other behaviours, and underlying cognitive functions. The study of animal behaviour examines how animals move through their surroundings, engage socially, learn about their surroundings, and maybe develop a cognitive knowledge of those surroundings (Swaisgood and Greggor, 2019). The behaviours of the *pest* are applied to the behaviour of the target domain which is HUMAN BEHAVIOUR, which refers to how humans interact and act.

The characteristics of the *pests* are clashing with people, a high rate of reproduction, and the major factor negatively affecting people, such as destroying crops or transmitting disease. The characteristics of *pests* which are to cause harm or disturb other living beings are employed to the characteristics of human behaviour, as the target domain, that cause discomfort or annoy other human beings.

The context highlights how interfering with discussions by the other person violates personal space. He is violating the boundaries of others. According to Van Edwards (2023), the characteristics of an annoying person include interrupting others, pestering them with questions, speaking excessively loudly, and using derogatory language. Therefore, from the context can be concluded that the speaker feels the other person is annoying him.

CONCLUSION

The analysis shows that the metaphor that uses environmental features as its aspects can be studied using conceptual metaphor. To make sentences easier to understand, metaphors use the concepts of the source domain and the target domain. The choice of the word metaphor can be taken from the surrounding environment that is close to people; thus, it is used to compare or define some actions that people do that can be explained by simple words into different concepts. The ability of people to reason and think makes human beings manage the experience that happens consciously or unconsciously into metaphors. Therefore, there exist connections between words and their associated concepts.

In its use, metaphor tends to change, build, and produce the truth; which results in the process of understanding the domains and the concepts of conceptual metaphor. The conceptual metaphor highlights the abstract concepts as the target domains and the concrete concepts as the source domains. From the understanding of the process of the concepts, the conceptual metaphor produces the mapping of the source domain and the target domain. The mappings allow the people to understand better the difference between the metaphors. In addition, because the focus of the analysis takes the data that has environmental elements, the mappings serve the processing of how the language or words build into metaphor.

Furthermore, from the ten data, that have been analysed using the theory conceptual metaphor of Lakoff and Johnson's (2003), found the three types of conceptual metaphor: structural metaphors, orientational, and ontological metaphors. Furthermore, the findings of metaphor use of environmental elements show that animal as a part of the element becomes the most dominant data. While the others are plants, oceanic, season, weather, and terrestrial ecosystem. The reason metaphor animal becomes the dominant ones because animal has a close relationship with human. Animals can be pets, cattle, or hunters. It makes their characteristics can be transferred to something that happens in human life.

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