

Onomatopoeia Variation Among Cultures: An Exploration in Selected Children's Story Books

Syahruni Junaid¹, Ahmad Muzzammil¹, Aan Mujizat¹, Citra Andini²

¹ Alauddin State Islamic University of Makassar, Indonesia

² Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

*Correspondence: syahruni.junaid@uin-alauddin.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This research is about onomatopoeia in children's books in each country, the differences in the use of onomatopoeia in children's books from various countries also reflect the rich linguistic and cultural diversity throughout the world. The sounds perceived and expressed by children from various cultures reflect the unique ways of the societies in perceiving and interacting with the world around it. This research aimed to reveal onomatopoeia in children's storybooks, and analyze how onomatopoeia is used in storybooks from different cultures among countries in different continents. This research used a qualitative descriptive method. The results of this research revealed the types of onomatopoeia in children's storybooks in different countries and how it occurred, as well as providing insight into linguistic and cultural diversity in children's literature around the world and how it reflects children's unique views and interactions surrounding environment.

ARTICLE HISTORY

Published December 1st 2023



KEYWORDS

Children's Story Books; Culture; Onomatopoeia.

ARTICLE LICENCE

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1. Introduction

Children get pleasure from every element in literature, one of them is through the style of every story. Style is used in all literary works, including books for children and adults. Children's and adult literature have distinct qualities. Furthermore, Hunt (2006, p. 3-4) contends that children's books differ from adult books in that they are written for a different audience, with different skills, needs, and reading styles; similarly, children experience texts in ways that are often unknown, but that many of us suspect to be very rich and complex.

Writers of most children's storybooks must make their stories more vivid and intriguing for children. It required stories that arouse the imagination and fancy (Lanta et al., 2022; Hidayat et al., 2023; Nahdhiyah et al., 2023). There are many stories in the world written in many styles that we will share with the youngsters various stories, various problems, different morals for the youngsters, and, most importantly, varied writing styles. Moreover, children learn about the history of another country, as well as the various styles of each narrative. All of them are delivered in a package named style. In children's storybooks, it refers to the manner in which writers communicate the story in order for children as readers or audiences to understand it.

Style has two devices that can make the story more interesting. Connotation, imagery, figurative language, hyperbole, and symbol are examples of style devices, while onomatopoeia, alliteration, assonance, consonance, and rhythm are examples of sound devices (Junaid et al., 2023; Rahman, 2017; Andini, 2017).

There are various sounds in everyday life that resemble the sound made by an object, such as the sound of the telephone "ring-ring" or the sound of a horn "toot! toot!." Furthermore, there are animal sounds, such as the "woof" of a dog or the "meow" of a cat, among others. Other sounds can also be derived from action, such as the sound of growl "Grrr", or Pain "Ouch". Such sound can be arbitrarily represented into words that imitate the sound of an object, an animal or an action. Words that imitate sounds connected with objects or actions are created by the writers. In their storytelling, they use onomatopoeic words. This research interesting to do because this research revealed onomatopoeia in the children story books, and to analyzed how the onomatopoeia used in the story books from different cultures.

1.1. Previous Studies

In literature, onomatopoeia is used to enrich the reader's experience by describing sounds or events in a more lively and detailed way. The researcher finds there are some previous studies or findings which have a relationship and are relevant to this research, as follows:

To the other research, Kinasih researched the same topic as this research in 2018. Her research was entitled "A Stylistic Analysis of Onomatopoeia in Walt Disney's 5 Minutes Princess Stories Book". A stylistic approach is used to analyze onomatopoeia in this story book with a qualitative descriptive method. Based on her analysis, in Walt Disney's 5 Minute Princess Storybook, it was found that lexical and non-lexical onomatopoeia were more effective in conveying ideas to children because they are more commonly used in everyday language. In addition, onomatopoeia has the power to make children, as readers or viewers, learn and imagine how things happen in the story. So, it can be concluded that onomatopoeia can build a child's imagination in understanding the contents of the story (Kinasih, 2018).

Meanwhile, other research still discusses onomatopoeia in the literature contained in the selected poems. Ghufran Abdul-Hameed Ali in his research entitled "The Use of Onomatopoeia in Literature: Selected Poems" in 2018. His research discusses the problem of the relationship between onomatopoeia and arbitrariness and how poets use onomatopoeic words in literature. It also discusses why the poets used these words and in their own way. Then, this study concluded that onomatopoeia is a beautiful phenomenon that is found in all languages and every day there is always something new according to the objects and objects that are found or used and the use of onomatopoeia by poets is used to access the reader's sense of hearing and create rich and beautiful sound samples (Ali, 2019).

Moreover, in the research "Onomatopoeic Analysis in the Graphic Novel Si Toyeb by Husni Assaerozi" by Dwi Randy in 2019. This research adopted a descriptive qualitative method in analyzing and using hermeneutic techniques in data collection. His research tried to find out the onomatopoeia and meaning contained in the graphic novel. The result of his research is that there are three types of onomatopoeia, namely onomatopoeia produced by humans, objects and sounds in everyday life (Randy, 2019).

The similarity of this thesis with the previous findings above is talking about the style term of onomatopoeia used and the object of the research. Some of them are analyzing children's stories, poem and of course the novel. In contrary, among the previous findings above, the researcher will focus on the devices of style of onomatopoeia and the differences between Western and Eastern style in writing. Additionally, this research also uses different data sources from those previous findings then the object of this research is folktale.

1.2. Onomatopoeia

According to Hadi (2013, p. 187), onomatopoeia is considered as language icon from different cultures. It means that, the use of onomatopoeia may vary across cultures. It is then makes the researcher interesting in doing this research to find how onomatopoeia used in story book across some cultures over the world. (Gaudioso, 2020; Vallamatova, 2021; Huwaida & Yulia, 2018)

Furthermore, Lukens (2003, p. 185) stated that basically words, how an author says something as opposed to what he or she says. Sometimes the author tries to explain something by using another way to explain it, in function to make attractive reader. Furthermore, it is supported by Leech and Short (style in Fiction, 1981, p. 13) describes style similarly-as a way in which language is used. How the author uses a thousand words to be more attractive for the reader.

1.3. Children's Books

There are various types of children's books, one of which is known as a children's storybook. A children's storybook is a story with illustrations and written text that conveys a message. This book covers a wide range of topics, most of which are based on real-life experiences. In this novel, the characters are mostly humans and animals. A children's storybook comprises literary characteristics such as location, plot, topic, character, and point of view.

Style in children's storybooks relates to how writers express the story so that children as readers or audiences may understand it. Most children's storybook authors must make their stories more vivid and appealing to children. It demand stories that pique the interest and pique their creativity. The writers construct words that replicate sounds and are associated with objects or actions (Farkas et al., 2020.; Abbas et al., 2023). The style of the book can be used to pique the children's attention and curiosity in the book they read, because the children will discover something new. Lukens (2003, p. 185) defines style as "how an author says something as opposed to what he or she says." It signifies that the author attempts to allude to and explain something in other words. The author employs beautiful words to pique

the reader's interest and make the sentence enjoyable. That is the part of what style is for. Thus, each author brings their own in their writing because as we know that, in creating a story, an author will bring their backgrounds that influence them directly, such as their family background, education, culture, country, religion, and others.

1.4. Stylistics

According to Candria, (2019) stylistics is an approach to the analysis of (literary) texts using linguistic description. Stylistics spans the borders of the two subjects, literature and linguistics. As a result, stylistics can sometimes look like either linguistics or literary criticism, depending upon where you are standing when you are looking at it.

To do stylistics, according to Simpson (2004, p. 3) is to explore language, and more specifically, to explore creativity in language use and its contribution for meaning construction. Doing stylistics thereby enriches our ways of thinking about language and; exploring language offers a considerable purchase on our understanding of literary texts.

2. Methodology

This research used descriptive qualitative method. The purpose is to describe the stylistic of onomatopoeia in Western and Eastern folktales. In short, qualitative research can be interpreted as a method carried out by individuals in their interactions with the world. Focusing on data analysis with descriptive methods, this research uses interpretive qualitative research as the basis. Interpretive qualitative is a form of interpretive inquiry in which researchers make interpretations of what they see, hear, and know (Creswell & Creswell, 2017) . Data analysis procedures and data analysis techniques applied in this descriptive are qualitative research. The procedures and techniques carried out using onomatopoeia approach.

2.1. Data Source

In this research can include folklore from various countries which contain the use of onomatopoeia. Sources of this data can be books, articles, oral recordings, or relevant electronic sources.

2.2. Data Collection Techniques

It used searches in libraries and online sources to collect relevant children's stories. Data can also be collected through interviews with sources who have knowledge of folklore and the use of onomatopoeia in them.

2.3. Data Analysis Procedure

The data analysis process in interpretive qualitative research like this might include the following steps:

- a. Transcription and organization of data, including relevant onomatopoeia quotes
- b. Making interpretations of how onomatopoeia is used in the context of folklore
- c. Developing findings and patterns from the data
- d. Compare and contrast data from various folklore from various countries
- e. Interpreting the results of the analysis and compiling the findings in a narrative that explains the stylistics of onomatopoeia in children's stories in various countries

3. Result and Discussion

Based on the Onomatopoeia theory by Bredin in his book *Onomatopoeia as a Figure and a Linguistic Principle* (1996), there are three types of nostalgia that are used as indicators related to onomatopoeia forms. Direct, associative and exemplary are the types of onomatopoeia. In presenting the data, the researcher used the LP abbreviation for the title of the Three Little Pigs, PP abbreviation for the title of Lon Po Po, then for the title of The Little Mermaid is LM, the next is RS abbreviation for the title The Rainsdrop's Story, then DW abbreviation for Diary of A Wombat, next Bear Snores on's abbreviation is BS, SJ abbreviation for Sheep in a Jeep, AN for the title Anansi and the last HS abbreviation for Handa's Surprise, and followed with P for the page number of the story books.

- a. Three Little Pigs (England)

Data 1

The wolf knocked on the door of the straw house "Little pig, little pig, let me come in", called the wolf. "not by the hair on my chiny-chin-chin," replied the pign. "Then I've huff and puff and blow

your house in" cried the wolf (LP, P. 10) – Associative.

"Huff and puff", from the quote above it can be seen that the wolf tries to enter the little pig's house by constantly knocking on the little pig's door. But because the wolf didn't get an answer from inside the house, finally the wolf was annoyed and sighed deeply. is an idiomatic expression used to describe someone who is breathing hard and fast, often because they are tired, angry, or upset. This expression can also refer to exerting effort to do something that requires a lot of effort or effort. Although "huff and puff" does not directly imitate a specific sound like direct onomatopoeia, they do have an associative relationship with the way people breathe loudly and quickly, so they fall into the category of associative onomatopoeia.

The wolf knocked on the door of the straw house "Little pig, little pig, let come in", called the wolf (LP, P.10) – Exemplary

Data 2

The wolf knocked on the door of the straw house "Little pig, little pig, let come in", called the wolf (LP, P.10) – Exemplary

The quotes above describe that the wolf keeps trying to open the door of the house of the three little pigs. "Knocked" is the sound used to imitate or describe the sound of a knock on a door. This is an example of onomatopoeia in English, i.e. words imitating their natural sound. When someone knocks on the door, a "knock-knock" sound is used to approximate the sound of the knock either verbally or in text form. In the case of "knocked," this phrase is used as an example of the sound of a typical door knock. Therefore, "knock-knock" belongs to the category of onomatopoeia exemplary.

b. The Little Mermaid (Europe)

Data 3

Now the waves grew in size and black clouds could be seen on the horizon and far away lightning flashed. A storm was brewing (LM, P.4) – Exemplary

Starting from the sea which shows the life of a mermaid. The quotation above shows that the sea condition is not calm or there is a storm. The waves were hitting strong and the wind was blowing hard. Not only that, lightning flashed all over. "flashed" becomes part of onomatopoeia when it is used descriptively to describe the sound of a rapid explosion or a sudden flash of light, as in situations such as a flash of lightning or an explosion emitting a bright light. In this case, "flash" could be an onomatopoeic sound to describe a rapidly occurring flash of light i.e. lightning that strikes when a thunderstorm is coming.

Onomatopoeia exemplary is a type of onomatopoeia that represents or is an example of a certain sound or sound, although it does not accurately imitate the sound itself. The words in this category provide a general description or representation of the sound in question.

c. Lon Po Po (Asian)

Data 4

At dusk, disguised as an old woman, he came up to the house of the children and knocked on the door twice: bang, bang. Knocked on the door twice bang. bang ... (PP, P.1) – Exemplary

Based on the quotation above, you can see that the old woman in Lon Po Po's story visits every house where there are small children and knocks on every door. The tapping sound sounds like "bang... bang...". In onomatopoeia, "bang" is used to represent an explosive sound or a sudden, loud sound produced by a crash or explosion. The "bang" sound is usually loud and booming. The knocking sound made the children in the village feel afraid because it sounded unusual and quite loud.

Data 5

They shouted, "Po Po, Po Po, come in!" At the moment he entered the door the wolf blew out the candle (PP, P. 1) – Exemplary

The quote above describes a situation where after there was a knock and they tried to find out what happened but then the wolf blew out the candles with the intention of keeping the room dark. When the wolf blows out the candle

and makes a blow that describes the breath. In onomatopoeia, "blew" is the sound used to imitate or describe the sound of the wind blowing or blowing forcefully. "Blew" is the working form of the English word "blow", which refers to the action of wind or air moving quickly and producing a distinctive sound.

d. The Rainsdrop's Story (Australia)

Data 6

On certain of the camels, in a kind of tent, rode a number of dark-eyed ladies, dressed in the most gorgeous silks and satins, their faces partly veiled, their little feet encased in dainty slippers, but always their flashing teeth and shining eyes to show that they were happy (RS, P.58) – Exemplary

Onomatopoeia exemplary is the type of onomatopoeia in the quotation above for the word flashing which represents or is an example of the sound or sound of flashing light shining, although it does not accurately imitate the sound itself. Words in this category give general descriptions or representations of sound intended to describe the sound of a rapid explosion or sudden flash of light, as in situations such as a flash of lightning or an explosion emitting a bright light.

e. Diary of a Wombat (Australia)

Data 7

Evening: Someone has filled in my new hole. Soon dug it out again (DW, P.24) – Exemplary

From this quote, we can feel the action of the wombat digging a hole and then filling in the hole, only to then dig the hole again. The word "dug" more precisely belongs to the category of exemplary onomatopoeia. Explicit onomatopoeia (exemplary) is a type in which the word itself sounds similar to the sound or sounds represented by the word. The word "dug" itself does not perfectly mimic the sound that occurs when digging the ground, but has sound elements that are similar to the movement or act of digging.

Data 8

Monday. Morning: slept. Afternoon: Felt energetic. Wet things flapped against (DW, P.30) – Associative

The story quote above describes something that the wombat does on Monday morning, is to enjoy his sleep. But later in the day the wombats become more lively. Wet things flapped against, this is a description of the action that happened in the afternoon. There are "wet things" that are "flapped against" (flickering or vibrating against) things. "Flapped" is classified as an associative onomatopoeia. Associative onomatopoeia is a type in which words describe something related to the sound or sound they represent, even if they do not directly imitate that sound. The word "flapped" describes a flickering or vibrating motion, which can be associated with the sound that is made when something moves rapidly or vibrates.

f. Bear Snores On (United States)

Data 9

Mouse sips wee slurps. Hare burps big BURPS! (BS, P.7) Direct

Mouse sips wee slurps: This quotation describes a mouse drinking something (possibly a liquid) in small, quick sips. The use of "wee slurps" might suggest that the mouse is drinking in a delicate or dainty manner. Hare burps big BURPS: In this part, a hare (a type of rabbit) is depicted burping loudly and with intensity, producing "big BURPS." The alliteration of "burps big BURPS" adds to the playful sound of the phrase. In this case, "slurps" is a type of "direct onomatopoeia" in that it directly mimics the sounds associated with the act of drinking at a louder and faster rate than normal drinking. When we hear or read the word "slurps," we can imagine the sound that occurs when fluids are rapidly absorbed or sucked in. This quality of sound is associated with the act of drinking being intense or maybe even a little rough, and it describes the action in real time.

Data 10

BEAR ROARS and he RUMBLES! BEAR JUMPS and he STOMPS. (BS, P.14) Exemplary

This section depicts a bear struggling and showing off its strength. "BEAR ROARS" refers to a bear making a powerful roar and depicting its rage or dominance. "the RUMBLES" depicts a bear making a low roar, like the sound of an earthquake or the sound of a large animal moving heavily. These two words describe the bear as a powerful creature capable of making electrifying sounds.

In this case, "RUMBLES" is an onomatopoeia of the "exemplary" type because it directly and clearly refers to sounds associated with a characteristic vibration or rumbling. When we read "RUMBLES," we quickly imagine the sound that occurs when an object moves or shifts with weight or when a vibration occurs. This word conjures the image of a low rumbling sound, such as the sound of a distant earthquake or the sound produced by a large vehicle passing by.

4. Conclusion

Children's books from different countries have different onomatopoeia because of the way each country expresses certain sounds and situations. This is influenced by local language and culture, so the onomatopoeia used to describe animal sounds, nature or emotions can differ from one country to another.

Apart from that, onomatopoeia can also be used to describe various situations or actions, such as the sound of laughing, crying, or even the sound of rain. Each country has its own unique way of expressing these things, so there are differences in the onomatopoeia used in children's books from different countries. This is an example of how language and culture can influence the way we express and experience the world around us, and why children's books from different countries differ in their richness in their use of onomatopoeia.

Therefore, onomatopoeia in children's books is a reflection of each country's cultural and linguistic identity, revealing how children are taught to feel and communicate with their environment through distinctive words and sounds.

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