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# AN ANALYSIS OF PERSONIFICATION IN ROBERT FROST'S POEMS

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## ABSTRACT

This research investigated the personification in Robert Frost's poems. The researcher analyzed five poems; *The Road not Taken*, *My November Guest*, *Stopping by Woods On Snowy Evening*, *Mending Wall* and *Storm Fear*. This research is descriptive qualitative particularly document research. The source this research was several of Robert Frost's poems. The data were in the form of sentences gained by doing several step. The first step was reading the poems. The second was understanding the poems. The third was underlining the phrase that contained of personification. The next step was identifying the data. After that, in analyzing the data, the researcher classified the sentences into personification and interpreted them. In conclusion, the researcher found of personification in the collected of Robert Frost's poems; *The Road Not Taken* has a sentence. *My November Guest* has a sentence. *Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening* has two sentences. *Mending Wall* has two sentences. *Storm Fear* has two sentences.

**Keyword:** personification

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Poem is a literary work with a compacted language, shortened, give the rhythm with the chime sound and selection of imaginative word [Waluyo 2013]. In relation to poem, the sender is a poet, the message is an experience to be presented whereas the medium is a language and the recipient is a reader. It can be concluded that poem is continuously changing as indicated by evaluation of taste and stylish idea of progress. It also highlight the personification in Robert Frost's poems, entitle; *The Road Not Taken*, *My November Guest*, *Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening* and *Storm Fear*.

Robert Lee Frost or Robert Frost [March, 26, 1874 -January 29, 1963] was an American poet. His work was initially published in England before it was publish in America. He is highly regarded for his realistic depictions of rural life in New England in the early twentieth century and his command of America colloquial speech. One of the most popular and critically respected American poet of the twentieth century, Frost was honored frequently during his life time, receiving four Pulitzer prizes for poetry. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1960 for his political works.

Several previous research investigated the Robert Frost's poems. First, the *Road Not Taken*, who analyzed about An Analysis Unit of Meaning in Robert Frost's Poems [Winda, 2017].

Second, Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening, who analyzed about symbol [Setiawan, 2014]. Last, Mending Wall who analyzed about metaphor, simile and symbol [Kartika 2020].

Personification is giving human characteristic to inanimate object, animal or idea, empowers inanimate object, inanimate things to act, to do, and spoken like human [Kennedy 2013; Nurgiantoro 2021; Keraf 2021]. The meaning of personification is to humanize or attach human values to something object or living things. From the statement above can be drawn to the conclusion that personification is a figure of speech that gives humanity or relegated nature to inanimate thing that simply has no human. Apart from being given inanimate from of speech, it can be applied to creatures other than human, such as plant and animal. The objective of this study is to find out of the personification in Robert Frost's poems. The researcher hope that the result of this research contributes to enriching the reader, knowledge and give the better understanding of personification.

## **2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

Personification make life painting on addition to clarifying and delivering a sharpening to concrete. Personification is a figure of speech that represented inanimate things or willing nature to a dead thing as it were having a human nature [Nurgiantoro, 2012]. [Kennedy, 2013] States that personification is giving human characteristic to inanimate object, animal or idea. It is make the reader imagine thing. Apart from being given an inanimate from or speech it can be applied to creatures other than humans, such as plant and animal.

There are main characteristic of the figure of personification make different from other figurative language.

1. The use of human word choice is glued to something other than human.
2. Aimed to describe something with a more concrete image than usual writing.
3. As comparison that gives the effect of human behavior to besides humans.

The example of the sentence of personification:

“Throughout Indonesia still there, pancasila will accompany his journey”

Personification on the data quote is the obligation of linguistic markers embodied with pancasila as if having the nature of human as the human. The trait is that the pancasila can function as living beings do. From the few statement above, we can understand the personification is a style of writing in a literary work in which inanimate things can do, thing as living creatures. In other word, the process of changing the image of inanimate object as human being.

### 3. RESEARCH METHOD

This research is qualitative document research. The data gained through documentation. The subject of this research is Robert Frost's poems, entitled; *The Road Not Taken*, *My November Guest*, *Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening*, *Mending Wall* and *Storm Fear*. Since the research is qualitative document research, the data is interpreted with words or reading those poems. The researcher read those poems and understand the meaning after that underlining the phrase or words that contain of personification. Last in analyzing the data, the researcher classified the sentences into personification, analyzed the sentence and interpreted them.

### 4. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this research, the researcher found personification used in Robert Frost's poems; *The Road Not Taken*, *My November Guest*, *Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening*, *Mending Wall* and *Storm Fear*.

#### 1. The Road Not Taken

The example of the sentence of personification in this poem "because it was grassy and wanted wear [line 8]". It refer to *road*. In fact the road cannot want. The narrator has personified "road" in the third line on the second stanza, as if the *road* is human want to wear and tear. The narrator think that at the time the road will better because at the moment *road* were grassy and wanted wear.

#### 2. My November Guest

The example of the sentence of personification in this poem, "my sorrow when she's here with me" [line 1]. As the poem commences, sorrow is personified as a woman and someone whom the poet dearly loves. In the first line "my sorrow when she's here with me" marks the peak of the poet's togetherness with sorrow.

#### 3. Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening

The example of the sentences of personification in this poem are; first "My little horse must think it queer" [line 5]. In this line the narrator assert that his *Horse* be able thinking like human. Second "To ask if here have some mistake" [line 10]. In this line the narrator assert that his *horse* be able to asking and talking like human.

#### 4. Mending Wall

The example of the sentences of personification in this poem are; first, "my apple trees will never across" [line 25]. In this line is personification represented by word "apple trees". Apple trees is a plant that cannot move, but in this sentence the narrator describes the apple trees can doing like human. Second, "He only says, good fences make a good neighbor" [line 27]. We know that *fences* is a thing, but this sentence explain that fences can make a good neighbor. The narrator gives *fences* human characteristic.

#### 5. Storm Fear

The example of the sentences of personification in this poem are; first, "When the wind work against us in the dark" [line 1]. The narrator describes the wind like human, who can working. Second, "And whisper with a short of stifled bark" [line 4]. This sentence is personification represented by word *whisper*.

It is difficult to believe the wind can whisper however, we know that wind is the air that move and inanimate object.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this research, it can be concluded that there is one sentence in <sup>10</sup>the poem of *The Road Not Taken*, one sentence in the poem of *My November Guest*, two sentences in the poem of *Stopping by Woods on Snowy Evening*, two sentences in the poem of *Mending Wall* and two sentences in the poem of *Storm Fear*. There are many inanimate object shows in those poems.

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