FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE ARCTIC MONKEYS' SONGS

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Received: 21 Juni 2024 **Reviewed:** 25 Juni 2024 **Accepted:** 30 Juni 2024 **Abstract:** This research explores the use of figurative language in songs to convey emotions and deeper meanings, enhancing the imagery and emotional impact of lyrics. The study focuses on the Arctic Monkeys' album AM and aims to categorize the various types of figurative language found in the songs while interpreting their meanings. The qualitative descriptive approach was chosen for its effectiveness in summarizing and analyzing lyrical content. The findings identify six main categories of figurative language throughout the album. Out of 38 instances, 6 are metaphors, 7 are similes, 9 are personifications, 5 are metonymies, 3 are synecdoches, and 8 are hyperboles. The results indicate that personification and hyperbole are the most commonly used types of figurative language in the album's lyrics. This study highlights how figurative language in AM contributes to the emotional depth and vivid imagery of the songs, enhancing the listener's experience by adding layers of meaning to the lyrics.

Keywords: Album AM, Arctic Monkeys, Figurative Language, Song Lyrics

Abstrak: Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi penggunaan bahasa kiasan dalam lagu-lagu untuk menyampaikan emosi dan makna yang lebih dalam, yang memperkuat citra dan dampak emosional lirik. Studi ini berfokus pada album AM milik Arctic Monkeys dan bertujuan untuk mengkategorikan berbagai jenis bahasa kiasan yang ditemukan dalam lagu-lagu, serta menafsirkan maknanya. Pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif digunakan dalam penelitian ini, karena dianggap efektif untuk merangkum dan menganalisis isi lirik. Temuan penelitian ini mengidentifikasi enam kategori utama bahasa kiasan dalam album tersebut. Dari total 38 data, terdapat 6 metafora, 7 simile, 9 personifikasi, 5 metonimi, 3 sinekdoke, dan 8 hiperbola. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa personifikasi dan hiperbola adalah jenis bahasa kiasan yang paling sering digunakan dalam lirik album tersebut. Penelitian ini menyoroti bagaimana bahasa kiasan dalam AM berkontribusi pada kedalaman emosional dan citra yang jelas dalam lagu-lagu, yang memperkaya pengalaman pendengar dengan menambahkan lapisan makna pada lirik.

Kata kunci: Album AM, Arctic Monkeys, Bahasa Kiasan, Lirik Lagu

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is how humans communicate and is much more than spoken or written words. People use language to express their thoughts and ideas. States that human power and existence originate from language (Perelman, 1996) Communication and mutual understanding are facilitated among individuals who share a common language when multilingualism is present. This suggests the ability to produce sounds with specific meanings and to comprehend or interpret sounds produced by others. However, speech by itself does not constitute language. Language is an essential component of human civilization. Language is an inseparable part of human society. People cannot avoid connecting in their daily lives since they are social beings. Sometimes they convey a different message by using phrases that are implied. According to Wahyu and Syaputri (2023), verbal, written, and audiovisual communication are all methods that humans may use to communicate with one another. There are several ways to communicate, such as through literary works (songs, poems, short stories, and novels), social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Email), and direct communication (speaking with someone face to face). Authors employ language to express their thoughts, feelings, views, and personal lives to readers and listeners. They create a variety of literary works, including songs, poems, short stories, and novels, where generally the message or true meaning of the words is implied using figurative language (Syaputri & Leonardo, 2019), figurative language is commonly employed in song lyrics and other literary works. Listeners must comprehend the lyrics to understand the song's meaning and intention. Song lyrics use unique language to blend with the musical tone and give the song an artistic impression (Neisya et al., 2023). In essence, the song is utilized as a means of expression as it may convey emotions and ideas in addition to serving as a kind of amusement.

Furthermore, songs serve as a teaching tool that strives to inform and broaden information and a motivating tool that inspires fervor or encouragement (Neisya et al., 2023). Lyrics are crucial in clearly delivering a song's message (Aprilia et al., 2023). The song's lyrics are written using phrases that convey the songwriter's emotions and how they inspire creative works (Mahendra et al., 2023). The inferred message in song lyrics is expressed through figurative language, which uses nonliteral words with concealed meanings.

A term or phrase having a concealed meaning is known as figurative language. Figurative language refers to using words or sentences in a way that deviates from their actual meaning to explain or convey a more complicated meaning. According to Syaputri and Leonardo (2019), figurative language is utilized in literary works like song lyrics and is described as any means of conveying anything different than in an ordinary way. Figurative language refers to the unique manner in which various speech figures concretize the meaning that speakers convey by their spoken words (Gibbs, 2023). One literary device employed by authors to immerse the reader in a work of fiction is figurative language (Yanto & Siga, 2023). Figurative language refers to the use of language in a way that departs from its literal sense to simplify or explain difficult concepts. This figure of speech frequently makes use of analogies to effectively describe or express a point (Azmi et al., 2023). This figurative language can also be used to refer to certain meanings without having to state them directly. For example, when an author wants to write a literary work, the author will need figurative words in his work to convey through figurative language; likewise, in song lyrics, where the author writes a specific purpose to convey the hidden meaning of the song. There is a lot of figurative language found in song lyrics, especially in the album "AM" by Arctic Monkeys.

The following are studies that have been out previously by some researchers.

Firstly, the research was written by (Setiawati & Maryani, 2018) "An Analysis of Figurative Language in Taylor Swift's Song Lyrics". Used the theory of Kennedy (1983, p. 481). The figurative language found consisted of simile, metaphor, hyperbole, paradox, irony, and personification.

Secondly, write by (Puspitorini & Hamdani, 2021) "An Analysis of Figurative Language on the Lyric of Coldplay's Selected Songs", used the theory of figurative language based on Knickerbocker and Reninger's theory (1963), based on their book entitled Interpreting Literature. In this research, there were four types of figurative language found in five Coldplay songs their lyrics, such as metaphor, synecdoche, hyperbole, and symbol.

Thirdly, write by (Cahyani et al., 2021)"Uncover the Meaning of Figurative Language in BTS Selected Song Lyrics" employed Leech's (1981) theory of meaning to determine the meaning of figurative language and the theories of Keraf (2006) and Kennedy (1983) to identify the many forms of figurative language. According to this study, BTS songs use a variety of figurative language devices, including metonymy, metaphor, hyperbole, symbol, and synecdoche.

Lastly, write by (Ni Wayan Swarniti, 2022)"Analysis of Figurative Language in Easy on Me Song Lyrics", used the figurative language theory of Miller and Greenberg (1981). The notion of figurative language was used to assess each piece of data. The findings of this study indicated that there were four personification-

related Comparative Figurative facts in Language. Figurative language that contradicts itself: paradox (1 data), litotes (2 data), and hyperbole (3 data). This data set contained the following examples of Correlative Figurative Language: allusion (1 data), ellipsis (2 data), metonymy (2 data), and symbol (8 data). A symbol included the majority of the data in the data source. Figurative language is used in the lyrics of this song. That signifies that the lyrics attempted to convey a thought or emotion via the use of metaphorical language. creatively. Put another way, the lyrics of this song attempted to evoke strong feelings and a unique vision.

Based on the research above, the researchers sees that there are differences and similarities between previous studies and this study. The differences exist in the objects and theories used, while the similarity is researching figurative language in the song lyrics. First, Setiawati & Maryani (2018) took data on Taylor Swift's song lyrics based on Kennedy's theory (1983), second, Puspitorini & Hamdani (2021) took data on Coldplay song lyrics based on the theory of Knickerbocker and Renninger (1963), third, Cahyani et al (2021) took data on BTS song lyrics, using the theories of Keraf (2006) and Kennedy (1983), the last one, Ni Wayan Swarniti (2022), took data on the lyrics of the song "Easy On Me" by Adele and based it on the theory of Miller and Greenberg (1981). Meanwhile, the researcher used objects and theories that are different from the four studies above, hence, according to the researcher, this research needs to be carried out.

The use of figurative language is to give phrases deeper meanings and to make them more

vivid and expressive. These serve to increase the song's clarity, color, and persuasiveness and enhance the drama and beauty of the lines. These studies sought to identify distinct object analyses that differed from those of the current study. Thus, research on the songs of Arctic Monkeys is of interest.

The songs of Arctic Monkeys were chosen as the object because they have figurative language and phrases. English rock band Arctic Monkeys was founded in the Sheffield neighborhood of High Green in 2002. Their debut album was ranked as the 30th greatest debut album of all time by Rolling Stone in 2013. Additionally, it was the band's fastest-selling debut album in UK chart history. In addition to being nominated in 2007, 2013, and 2018, they won the Mercury Prize in 2006 for their debut album and have been nominated for five Grammy Awards. The band has performed as the main actors at Glastonbury twice, in 2007 and 2013, among other festivals (Dookiehead, 2012). It is fascinating to examine the figurative language used in the songs. For example, in the song "I Wanna Be Yours", where the song lyrics "at least as deep as the Pacific Ocean". In these lyrics, the singer uses simile, because in the lyrics there is the word "as" which is a form of a simile. The research problem of this study is to identify the types of figurative language present in the songs of the Arctic Monkeys, particularly in the AM album, and to analyze the meanings conveyed through these figurative expressions. This research seeks to explore how these linguistic devices enhance the thematic and emotional depth of the lyrics. Thus, the purpose of this study was to identify the types of figurative language in the

album "AM" by Arctic Monkeys and to analyze the true significance of those forms.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this research, the researchers used a descriptive qualitative method. According to Suryana (2012), The descriptive method is a method used to search for elements. characteristics, and properties of a phenomenon. The descriptive method is implemented by collecting data, analyzing the data, and interpreting it. In the qualitative study, the researcher collected the data through some methods.

The object of this study was Arctic Monkeys songs in the album "AM" 2013. The researchers chose six songs containing many words with multiple meanings such as figurative language. Those six songs are R U Mine?, Arabella, Fireside, Snap Out of It, Do I Wanna Know?, and Why'd You Only Call Me When You're High?. Lyrically, "AM" is an album about dissatisfaction and infatuation (Jones, 2013)

2.1 Techniques for Collecting the Data

The tracks from the album "AM" by Arctic Monkeys served as the study's data source. The researchers took several steps in this research. Through the following steps:

In collecting data, the researchers searched the songs on the "AM" album Arctic Monkeys on the internet. Then, the researchers listened and read every song lyric from the "AM" album. After that, the researchers identified the data by listening to the song repeatedly, noting down the figurative language found contained in the lyrics, and classifying them based on the types of figurative language.

2.2 Techniques for Analyzing the Data

To analyze the data of this study, there were several steps that the researchers have taken in this research. Through the following steps: The researchers used descriptive qualitative to find out the data because analyzed figurative language by reading each song's lyrics in the album "AM" by Arctic Monkeys. Then, the researchers classified the types of figurative language. Next, the researchers described them based on theories from Mezo (1999).

According to (Mezo, 1999), there were seven types of figurative language such as:

1. Metaphor is a "direct" comparison, explicit or implicit, between two different things. (these things must have some features in common)

2. A simile is an "indirect" comparison between two different things using the word "like" or "as" or an equivalent term.

3. Personification is the process of equating a real or abstract non-human entity with a human being. It imbues anything inhuman with human traits or features.

4. Metonymy is the substitution of several words or terms that are closely related to or related to the literal word or term in question.

5. Synecdoche is the substitution of one portion for the entire, the whole for the part, or an individual for a class. A species can be substituted for a class, an individual for a genus, or the other way around, or a substance for an object. The second of the two elements is the actual word or phrase. 6. Hyperbole is an over-exaggeration of the literal- an exaggeration.

7. Litotes are an understatement of the literal- an exaggeration.

3. RESULT

There were 6 types of figurative language in the album "AM" by Arctic Monkeys, namely metaphor, simile, personification, metonymy, synecdoche, and hyperbole. All the data that obtained was presented by the researchers as follows:

Table 1. The List of Figurative Language inThe Album AM

No	Types of Figurative	Number	
	Language		
1.	Metaphor	6	
2.	Simile	7	
3.	Personification	9	
4.	Metonymy	5	
5.	Synecdoche	3	
6.	Hyperbole	8	
	Total	38	

The researchers discovered 6 different forms of figurative language in every song on the "AM" album based on the results, which were shown in Table 1. The list of figurative language in the album "AM" is based on Mezo's theory (1999). According to Mezo, figurative language is divided into 7 types: metaphor, simile, personification, metonymy, synecdoche, hyperbole, and litotes. The number of figurative languages found in the "AM" album is 38 data figurative languages, the number is categorized into 6 metaphors, 7 similes, 9 personifications, 5 metonymy, 3 synecdoche", and 8 hyperbole. This number shows that the most widely used figurative language in the album "AM" is personification and hyperbole. The researcher considered the predominance of this kind of figurative language in literature, which stems from the idea of the "AM" album.

Lyrically, the album "AM" is an album that talks about dissatisfaction and infatuation in love life, obsessions, broke, or a buddy always admired. The primary sources of dissatisfaction are realizing that it is too late to pursue a relationship and being anguished in not knowing if emotions for someone are reciprocated. is Therefore. it understandable why personification and hyperbole are the most obvious in this album. To clarify the meaning of figurative language in Arctic Monkeys' album "AM" in this part where the researchers explained the meaning of 4 songs in the form of a table below.

 Table. 2 The Meaning of Figurative Language in The Song R U Mine?

No	Lyrics	Types of Figurative Language	Meaning
1.	I'm a puppet on a string	Metaphor	The reason he is comparing himself to a puppet is that he feels like he is under control and the things he is doing are just to impress her.
2.	I go crazy cause here isn't	Hyperbole	In the word I go crazy, the speaker makes

	where I		an exaggerated
	wanna be		statement to
			emphasize their
			point.
3.	She's a	Metaphor	The word silver
	silver		lining refers to
	lining		something
	climbing		perfect, it gives
	on my		clearness or
	desire		recognizes
			shrouded
			likenesses
			between two
			thoughts which
			she and silver
			lining. The
			meaning of this
			lyric is the
			precious woman
			who is self-
			reliant and
			perky.
			who is self

 Table. 3 The Meaning of Figurative Language

 in The Song Arabella

No	Lyrics	Types of Figurative Language	Meaning
1.	My days end best when the sunset gets itself behind	Metaphor	The word sunset is straightforward comparing it between two distinct things. In this case, sunset is compared to the end of a pleasant day. The song's meaning is that the songwriter states that the best moment of the day is when the day ends, which is marked by sunset.
2.	The horizon tries but it's just not as kind on the eyes as Arabella	Simile	The lyrics use a metaphor to compare Arabella's beauty to the beauty of nature. The horizon is a symbol of something vast, and majestic,

Jurnal Ilmiah Bina Bahasa Vol.17 No.1, Juni 2024:88-99

				and usually considered visually attractive. Tries but it's just not as kind on the eyes as Arabella is a comparison that states that although the horizon is beautiful, Arabella's beauty is far beyond it. this means that the songwriter wants to describe Arabella's beauty as something extraordinary, even more	Tabl	galaxy's edge	opping of Figure	edge. It describes her lips as something extremely attractive, mysterious, and mesmerizing, like the boundless beauty of the galaxy's edge, it also implies that a kiss from his lover is an extraordinary and unforgettable experience, like exploring boundless space.
				amazing than natural views that are usually considered	Table No		eaning of Figura The Song <i>Firesia</i> 	
				stunning.			Figurative Language	
3.	She's made outer space	of	Metaphor	Outer space is often associated with something mysterious, unpredictable, and far from human understanding. By calling Arabella made of outer space, the songwriter describes her as a figure full of mystery, difficult to understand, and who attracts attention. These lyrics create an image of Arabella as an extraordinary, fascinating, and elusive figure, just like outer space itself.	1.	There's this image of you and I, and it goes dancing by	Personification	The words dancing by give life to the image, as if it has consciousness and moves freely. The meaning of these lyrics describes memories of a relationship that has ended. The image of the ex- lover keeps appearing in the singer's mind as if he can see the two of them dancing happily. This shows that these memories are very strong and recurring, even disturbing his
4.	And lips like	her are the	Simile	These lyrics use a simile to compare her lips to the galaxy's				and night. Even though the relationship has

Figurative Language Used in The Arctic Monkeys Songs (Een Laila Sari, Komala Dwi Syaputri) 94

			ended, those beautiful memories are still alive in his mind
2.	Like in my heart there's that hotel suite	Simile	mind. By comparing the heart to a hotel suite, the singer creates an image of deep feelings and a strong attachment to someone. This suggests that the person in question has "occupied" the singer's heart for a long time, as if they had a permanent residence there. The figurative meaning is a deep feeling and strong dependence on someone as if they are the main occupant of the singer's heart. It depicts an intense and meaningful relationship where the person has a great influence on the singer's emotional life.
3.	When you're losing and your fuse is fireside?	Personification	Fuse is usually associated with explosions, while fireside is a warm and comfortable place. This sharp contrast depicts a very unstable emotional state. Someone is on the verge of an emotional explosion (fuse), but also longs for comfort and

(fireside). These
lyrics describe
the feelings of
someone who is
struggling with
mixed
emotions,
including anger,
sadness, and
longing. They
feel like they are
missing
something
important, and
their emotions
are at their
breaking point,
ready to explode
at any time.

Table. 5 The Meaning of Figurative Language In The Song Snap Out Of It

No	Lyrics	Types of Figurative Language	Meaning
1.	If that watch don't continue to swing	Personification	In the context of the song, these lyrics refer to the concept of time passing by. The watch and its swing symbolize life moving forward. By saying if that watch don't continue to swing the songwriter implies that iff time stops or does not pass, he will still wait for his lover to wake up from his current emotional state.
2.	Under a spell, you're hypnotize d	Synecdoche	Under a spell this expression describes someone who is unconscious or influenced by external forces. Hypnotized this word reinforces the image of a person's

Jurnal Ilmiah Bina Bahasa Vol.17 No.1, Juni 2024:88-99

3. Darling, how could you be so blind?	Hyperbole	inability to think clearly or make rational decisions. It is as if they are in a trance, or the meaning of these lyrics describes someone who is bound by an unhealthy condition and cannot see reality clearly. They are in some kind of illusion and need to "wake up" from that state. The word blind in these lyrics gives the impression that the person cannot see the	2.	Crawlin' back to you	Hyperbole	rather than the fact that she has colour in her cheeks. The usual reason for this is embarrassment. Crawlin' is an action that shows weakness and dependency. Back to you indicates a strong attachment and desire to return to someone, even though there may be doubt or uncertainty. Overall, these lyrics describe the feeling of someone feeling drawn back to
blind?		cannot see the situation clearly or is not aware of something important.				someone feeling drawn back to someone, even though they are aware that the relationship
		These lyrics express the speaker's				may not be healthy or fulfilling
		speaker's frustration and incomprehensio n towards his partner's actions. The speaker feels that their partner is in denial or does not want to see reality	3.	It's just I'm constantl y on the cusp of tryin' to kiss you	Hyperbole	fulfilling.On the cusprefers to beingextremely closeto something, orliterary on theedgeofsomething; inthiscase, itrefersattemptingto
Table. 6 The Mea	ning of Figu	rative Language				mend a damaged

Table. 6 The Meaning of Figurative Language In The Song Do I Wanna Know?

No	Lyrics	Types of Figurative Language	Meaning
1.	Have you got colour in your cheeks?	Metonymy	The term colour refers to flushing, which is a psychological indication brought on by blood flowing to the cheeks,

Table. 7 The Meaning of Figurative Language
in The Song Why'd You Only Call Me When
You're High?

relationship.

No	Lyrics	Types of Figurative	Meaning
		Language	
1.	The	Personification	Mirror's image
	mirror's		is a
	image		representation
	tells me		of oneself or a
			person's

Figurative Language Used in The Arctic Monkeys Songs (Een Laila Sari, Komala Dwi Syaputri) 96

	it's home		physical
	time		condition.
			Home time
			usually refers to
			the time to rest
			or return to your
			place of
			residence. In the
			context of this
			song, the phrase
			the mirror's
			image tells me
			it's home time
			has a meaning
			that suggests
			that the singer is
			observing
			himself, perhaps
			tired, perhaps
			late at night, and
			feels that it is
			time to end the
			situation.
2.	Why'd	Metonymy	The word high
	you only	5 5	in this context
	call me		can be
	when		interpreted as an
	you're		extreme
	high?		emotional state,
	e		be it happy, sad,
			angry, or even
			hopeless. These
			lyrics express
			•
			teelings of
			feelings of frustration and
			frustration and
			frustration and confusion
			frustration and confusion towards
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is only looking for
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is only looking for attention or
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is only looking for attention or support in a
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is only looking for attention or support in a given situation,
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is only looking for attention or support in a given situation, without any
			frustration and confusion towards someone who is only looking for attention or support in a given situation,

Firstly, **metaphor** is used, in the song R U Mine is the lyrics **"I'm a puppet on a string"**. The reason he is comparing himself to **a puppet** is that he feels like he is under control and the things he is doing are just to impress her. Based on Mezo (1999) theories, metaphor is a direct comparison between two different things or these things must have some features in common. Secondly, a **simile** is an indirect comparison between two different things using the word "like" or "as" or equivalent terms (Mezo, 1999). Such as in the song Arabella lyrics **"and her lips are like the galaxy's edge"** This used a simile to compare **her lips** to **the galaxy's edge**. It describes her lips as something extremely attractive, mysterious, and mesmerizing, like the boundless beauty of the galaxy's edge.

Thirdly, **personification** is used, such as in the song Why'd You Only Call Me When You're High lyrics **"The mirror's image tells me it's home time"** A **Mirror's image** is a representation of oneself or a person's physical condition. **Home time** usually refers to the time to rest or return to your place of residence. In the context of this song, the phrase **the mirror's image tells me it is home time** suggests the meaning that the singer is observing himself, perhaps tired, perhaps late at night, and feels that it is time to end the situation. Based on Mezo (1999) theories, personification is the process of equating a real or abstract non-human entity with a human being.

Fourthly, **metonymy** is the substitution of some word or term closely related to or associated with the literal word or term meant (Mezo, 1999). Such as in the song Knee Socks lyrics **"when the zeroes line up on the 24-hour clock" 24-hour clock** is a time that rotates continuously without stopping. While **zeroes** refer to the **number zero**, which is often associated with the beginning or zero point. Thus, this phrase describes a moment when time seems to restart from the starting point, or when two elements of time (perhaps past and future, or two different situations) coincide. This is a crucial moment, full of potential, and can be interpreted as a turning point in a story or relationship.

Fifthly, **synecdoche** is the replacement of a part for the whole, the whole for the part, or an individual for a class Mezo (1999). Such as in the song Snap Out of It lyrics **"Under a spell, you're hypnotized" Under a spell** this expression describes someone unconscious or influenced by external forces. **Hypnotized** this word reinforces the image of a person's inability to think clearly or make rational decisions. It is as if they are in a trance, or the meaning of these lyrics describes someone bound by an unhealthy condition and unable to see reality clearly. They are in an illusion and need to "wake up" from that state.

Sixthly, **hyperbole** is an overstatement of the literal or an exaggeration Mezo (1999), such as in the song Do I wanna know? Lyrics "**crawlin back to you" Crawlin'** is an action that shows weakness and dependency. **Back to you** indicates a strong attachment and desire to return to someone, even though there may be doubt or uncertainty. Overall, these lyrics describe the feeling of someone feeling drawn back to someone, even though they are aware that the relationship may not be healthy or fulfilling.

4. CONCLUSION

The "AM" album contains 38 figurative languages, categorized into 6 metaphors, 7 similes, 9 personifications, 5 metonymy, 3 synecdoche, and 8 hyperboles, according to Mezo's theory (1999). Personification and hyperbole are the most common types of figurative language in the album, which reflects

album's theme of dissatisfaction and the infatuation in love life. The primary sources of dissatisfaction are the realization that one acted too late to pursue a relationship and the uncertainty of whether their emotions are reciprocated. The album's lyrics focus on the dissatisfaction and infatuation with a new person, a girl recently broken up with, or a admired buddy, highlighting the importance of personification and hyperbole in conveying these emotions.

Overall, one may argue that the utilization of figurative language enhances the listener's comprehension of the lyrics. The narrative and emotions would not be conveyed if the song's lyrics did not make extensive and appropriate use of figurative language.

The researchers advised that to study figurative language in music, one must be familiar with the different types of it, listen to the song several times to become acquainted with the lyrics, and then choose the right song to analyze because songs have many words that can have different meanings, and use online resources such as articles and journals to validate the conclusions and examine the research methodology. This will reduce confusion and streamline the analysis process.

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