

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

From the presentation and the analysis of the data, the writer concludes that Leech's theory of seven types of meaning can be applied to Bon Jovi's seventh album *These Days*, especially on the songs that titled *These Days* and *(It's Hard) Letting You Go*. All those seven types of meaning are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, stylistic meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning.

Leech said that we could, by carefully distinguishing types of meaning, show how all those types fit into the total composite effect of linguistic communication, and show how methods of study appropriate to one type may not be appropriate to another. All those seven types of meaning may not be a complete catalogue that account for a piece of language that is communicated. However, they are the most important categories. This study proves that Leech's seven types of meaning can be applied to song lyrics, in the sense that by using the idea we can understand what is conveyed by song lyrics. So, the seven types of meaning might also be applied to other kinds of texts, such as dramas, poems, short stories, operas, etc, meaning that the understanding of those texts can also be derived from a thorough analysis of the seven types of meaning contained in their sentences.

In this study, some interesting results appear. The song lyrics belong to Bon Jovi that is known as a rock music band. Most people assume that rock music deals with drugs, noise, loudness, yelling, swear words, etc. As it turns out, however, by analyzing the lyrics in terms of Leech's seven types of meaning, we can clearly observed that rock music is not only a matter of noise, loudness or yelling. There is

much more in it than just the 'harsh' image it creates. Furthermore, we can understand thoroughly what the singer (or songwriter) intends to convey beyond the lyrics and what he actually conveys through the words that he uses in his songs.

In conceptual meaning, the song lyrics, *These Days* and *(It's Hard) Letting You Go*, are analyzed literally by using *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*. In this analysis, conceptual meaning provides any given interpretation of a sentence, and shows exactly what we need to know if we want to distinguish that meaning from all other possible sentence meaning in the language, and make sure that the meaning suits the context in which the expression is used both syntactically and phonologically. Here, the writer is decoding, that is listening to a sentence and interpreting it. However, in analyzing the conceptual meaning of the song lyrics, it is unavoidable that the writer sometimes finds some sentences with illogical meaning.

In connotative meaning, the writer finds some more interesting results. In fact, by analyzing the connotative meaning of the song lyrics, she can figure out what the singer (or songwriter) has experienced in the real world that is associated to expressions that he uses in his songs. The singer (or songwriter) writes the lyrics according to anything that he has seen, heard, felt, etc, or anything that somebody else has seen heard or felt. There are cases where the connotative meaning is quite contradictory and overlapping to its conceptual one.

In stylistic meaning, the writer finds out that in writing the lyrics, the singer (or songwriter) is often influenced by the language of Black English, both syntactically and lexically. This phenomenon conveys about the social circumstances of its use. The lyrics also tell us something of the geographical or social origin of the singer (or song writer) through our recognition of different dimensions and levels of usage within the language. Therefore, we may assume that in writing the lyrics, the

singer (or songwriter) identifies himself as ordinary people, Black people in particular. So, the language that he uses in writing the lyrics is less formal, and often breaks the Standard American English, although actually the grammar of BE and SAE are basically identical except for a few syntactic and phonological rules, which produces surface differences.

Another phenomenon that can be found in analyzing the stylistic meaning is that some of the expressions are taken from the Bible. The singer (or songwriter) has made some changes before he rewrites them.

In affective meaning, the expressions that are used in the lyrics often reflect the personal feelings of the singer (or songwriter), including his attitude to the listener, or his attitude to something he is talking about. By analyzing the affective meaning of the song lyrics, we know that his feeling plays an important role. We can recognize through the expressions used in the lyrics, whether he feels angry, anxious, desperate, confused, etc.

In reflected meaning, the singer (or songwriter) tries to elicit that sense of a word which forms part of our response to another sense. He uses some words that already have a different particular sense. When we hear the words, we automatically relate part of our response to another sense. The singer (or songwriter) often tries to elicit another sense of a word both connotatively and conceptually, so that it is sometimes quite confusing.

In collocative meaning, we can see that some words are collocating. The collocative meaning that the writer gets from the lyrics is sometimes the typical kind of life and surrounding that the singer (or songwriter) wants to portrait through his songs.

In thematic meaning, the writer finds some more interesting results that we often do not realize while we are interpreting any kinds of texts or expressions. Here, the singer (or songwriter) writes his songs in such a way by cleverly organizing the message, in terms of ordering, focus, and emphasis. By making some alternative grammatical or syntactical constructions, he would easily communicate the message or theme of his songs that he wants to transfer. Here, the thematic meaning is the most important category that can help the listener to understand thoroughly what the singer (or songwriter) intends to convey beyond the lyrics and what he actually conveys through the words that he uses in his songs.

From the way seven types of meaning develop the meaning of the song lyrics, the writer concludes that Leech's theory has helped us to reveal and to understand thoroughly what the singer (or songwriter) intends to convey and what he actually conveys. This is especially apparent through its thematic meaning, although all those seven types of meaning are connected to each other.

From the analysis of those two lyrics, especially that of *These Days*, it is obvious that Bon Jovi's seventh album tells something about many things that happens at the moment. Those events have also happened in the past, and will probably happen in the future. *These Days*, as the hit and the title of the album, both explicitly and implicitly represents the whole content of the album.

In short, it is the writer's opinion that, semantically, analyzing texts in terms of the seven types of meaning as proposed by Leech can result in a thorough understanding of those texts. Therefore she recommends that this type of semantic analysis be seen as an alternative way in trying to get the ultimate understanding of any text. This includes the understanding of poetry, novels and drama. The writer

would also like to encourage other researchers to apply this approach to find out about hidden message in any kind of text.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY