

The meaning of Koto in Kono Oto Tomare's Anime Movie: Roland Barthes Semiotic Approach

Theokarizia Sagitha Eka Devi

Dian Nuswantoro University

312201900864@mhs.dinus.ac.id

Tri Mulyani Wahyuningsih

Dian Nuswantoro University

tri.mulyani@dsn.dinus.ac.id

***Abstract.** This research titled 'The meaning of Koto in Kono Oto Tomare's anime movie'. This movie is an adaption from manga Kono Oto Tomare! written by Amyuu. This movie tells about the struggles of Tokise's high school student which joined in Tokise's Koto Club to defended their club from disbanded by vice principal. Method which used in this research is descriptive-qualitative method. For data analysis used Roland Barthes Semiotic theory. Roland Barthes Semiotic has two step of signification, first step has denotation, and then developed it into the second step that is connotation or myths.*

***Keywords:** Meaning, Kono Oto Tomare, Roland Barthes Semiotic*

INTRODUCTION

Kono Oto Tomare movie tells about some Tokise's high school student that is joined in Koto's club which is struggles to defended their Koto's club after their vice principal planed for disbanded their club. Thanks to their persistence and hard work at practicing to perform on the ceremonial of a new student, their Koto's club can survive. This movie has meaning that in our life of course we might need a teamwork, like what the Tokise's Koto club student do. By working together, then our dreams and goals can reach easily even there is much problem.

In literature research, semiotic mostly used in various literature research. Sambas Syukriadi (in his book titled Antropology Communication) argue that semiotic is a branch of sciend that is related to the study of sign and everything related to signs. As well as Eco Umberto (1979) which define that semiotic as a science which learn about wide object in a row, incident, culture as a sign. Basis of the largest semiotic research is according to Ferdinand de Saussure and Charles Sanders Peirce which are linguistic and semiotic experts. Then followed by other semiotic experts such as Roland Barthes who argue about signifier and signified.

Roland Barthes known as the successor of Saussure who uses signifier and signified techniques. Barthes uses two stage of signification, that is denotative meaning (true meaning) and connotative meaning (figurative meaning). Signs in the first part include signifier, signified, and the sign. Then the sign in the first part becomes a sign in the second part, it's called connotation or myth. Myth according to Barthes argue isn't an idea, object, or concept, but signification in a form, speech, and all that is considered discourse.

Researcher wants to analyze these data using Roland Barthes theory. The reason is these topic was being important for catching the moral message in Kono Oto Tomare's movie which has relevant to applied on human life.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Researchers using several website for searching journal. Then found 1 literature review using the same method entitled 'Analysis of Kandoushi Yobikake in the Anime Kono Oto Tomare! Season 1'. In this literature there is similarity in method of analysis, that is descriptive-qualitative analysis method. Data which used is also similar to researcher data which analyzed that is Kono Oto Tomare's movie.

RESEARCH METHOD(S)

The method used to analyze using descriptive qualitative analysis. The data used is the scene in the Kono Oto Tomare's movie. The theory used is Roland Barthes's theory with two stages of signification, the first stage uses denotation, then the second stage uses connotation or myth.

FINDINGS AND DUSCUSSION

Kono Oto Tomare's movie is about working together to fight the evil voices in our hearts and minds to achieve our goals. It has been depicted through the students who are members of the Tokise High School Koto's Club. They are try hard to defend the Koto club from being disbanded by their vice principal. They work with persistent in practicing Koto so that they can prove that their club is still worthy.



Scene 01, 00:13:37 “The Koto club students performing their Koto on stage to prove that they are worthy.”

Denotation	Connotation	Myth
Koto club students playing Koto on stage during the new student admission ceremony.	Showed that they have been practicing together for that moment of the admission ceremony to defend their Koto club.	It’s hoped that with their performance, the sound of their playing Koto can reach out to the audience and convince everyone that Koto club isn’t deserve to be underestimated.

Analysis :

Based on these data, the first stage of signifiacnce is the denotation which shown through the image in scene 01 when the Koto club students are playing Koto on stage during the new student admission ceremony. They are work together to keep their Koto club from being disbanded by the vice principal. At first they are underestimated, but after they start playing their Koto, the audience is amazed by their performance. In the end, their efforts were successful because they managed to prove to everyone that the Koto Tokise club wasn’t a joking Koto club. From here a connotation sign or myth can be seen, that by working together, even tough problems will be solved. The key to a successful team is trust in each other.



Scene 02, 00:16:26 “Satowa refused Kazusa’s invitation for joining Himesaka Koto’s club. She’s a student of the Himesaka Girls’ Academy, who was a member of Koto Himesaka’s club and a big fan of Satowa.”

Denotation	Connotation	Myth
In the Koto club room of Tokise High School, Satowa was standing in front of Kazusa and Fumi. Satowa refused Kazusa's invitation to join the Himesaka Girls' Academy Koto Club.	Satowa felt comfortable with his friends in the Koto Tokise's club. After all the work they'd put in together, Satowa certainly didn't want to leave it all behind just for the sake of his own success.	In life there will always be failures and successes because the wheel of life will keep turning. We must learn from the process.

Analysis :

Based on these data, the first stage of signifiacnce is the denotation, which is shown by the scene when Kazusa visits the Tokise High School Koto's club to persuade Satowa to join her school's Koto club that is the Himesaka Women's Academy Koto club. But Satowa refused to do so. And from here the second stage of signification is found, that is connotation or myth, which is shown by Satowa's refusal of Kazusa's invitation to join because Satowa gave the reason that Satowa felt comfortable with her friends in the Koto Tokise club. Satowa does not want to just because he himself is talented and proficient, then leave his friends to pursue his own success. Because in life the wheel of life will continue to turn. Failure and success will always coexist. We must not forget to try, not just want instant success.



Scene 03, 00:15:48 "Hiro, a member of the Koto Tokise's club, is standing in front of his Koto club friends telling them a lot of lies and false gossip to make them untrusting each other and make their friendship breaking down."

Denotation	Connotation	Mitos
The Koto club members are gathered in front of the club room. Hiro stands in front of his friends and spreads false rumors and lies to destroy their friendship.	Hiro envies their close and open friendship. Bad past experiences make Hiro being a skeptical person.	Openness in a friendship is an important thing that must always be present. By always being honest and trusting each other, problems will be solved, and of course will result in a comfortable friendship.

Analysis :

Based on these data, the significance of the first stage was found in scene 03 which shown by the Koto club members are arguing with Hiro who is also a member of the Koto Tokise's club. Hiro joined the club only to vent his frustration and irritation towards the close and open friendship of Koto club members. Then we can find a connotation sign or myth that arises, that is Hiro, a skeptic person, always feel jealous of human relationships that are very close. Because in the past, Hiro had never experienced such a friendship, so he felt jealous and would try to destroy the friendship of Koto club members. However, the truth is that Hiro also wants to feel that kind of friendship. A relationship that is always open, as it is, loyal, and supportive of each other is the kind of friendship that Hiro wants. In a friendship, openness is very important for the well-being of the relationship. Even when we have problems, we can solve those problems together if we are open and as we are.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Barthes argue that all things that are considered normal in a society is the result of a process of connotation. Barthes uses the terms expression (form, expression, for signifiant) and content (content, for signifie). Theoretically language as a system is indeed static, for example dog. Dog has four legs and commonly barking. Theoretically it's like that, this is also known as the first order. However, as a second order "dog" can mean a swearing word or it can also symbolized as a 'loyalty'. Denotation has a direct meaning, that is the special meaning contained in the sign, and it can be referred as the description of the signified. Connotation is defined as an aspect of the meaning of a word based on feelings or thoughts that summon or generated by speakers and listeners.

The conclusion that can be known from the data has been analyzed is the meaning of the denotation contained on the movie, which concludes that alertness and optimism in dealing with something can affect success. The members of the Tokise High School Koto's club do not give up on every problem they're faces, such as the vice principal who wants to disband their club, Kazusa who persuades Satowa to join the Himesaka Koto's Club, and from internal problems, when their own friend, Hiro, who instead want to destroy the friendship of the Koto's club member. The shoot of the animation in this film also shows how they're always together whenever they encounter problems and protect each other. The connotative meaning that can be taken is because trust, openness, and being as is can strengthen friendship. The form of trust between members of the Koto club makes their relationship stronger and not easy to tear down. It was looks like when they were playing Koto, their inner voices seemed to unite, forming a tune that was able to ward off any evil voices around them. Therefore a myth was found in this movie that your voice is your heart, if your heart is full of negative things it will make your voice being worse, but if your heart is full of positive things, your voice will sound fine. Just as a human life, if we were constantly struggling with something negative, such as bad pas life experiences, lack of confidence, self-doubt, etc., out lives will be gloomy. Otherwise, if we are concerned with something positive, such as openness with friends, honesty, self confidence, it will make our life more beautiful and colorful. Indeed, the wheel of life will continue to turn, we will experience failure and success, but it all depends on us to deal with it.

REFERENCES

- Baifar, Fitri Fadhila. (2020). "Analisis Kandoushi Yobikake Dalam Anime Kono Oto Tomare! Season 1". (<http://repository.unp.ac.id/id/eprint/40751>) [diakses pada 25 November 2022]
- Wibisono, Panji., Yunita Sari. (2021). "Analisis Semiotika Roland Barthes Dalam Film Bintang Ketjil Karya Wim Umboh dan Misbach Yusa Bira". *Jurnal Dinamika Ilmu Komunikasi*, Vol.7 No.1