

# **An Analysis of Figurative Speeches in the Short Story ‘A Christmas Carol’ by Charles Dickens**

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## **Abstract**

The present study aims to analyze the figurative speeches in the short story ‘*A Christmas Carol*’ written by Charles Dickens. Using the theories practiced by Robert A. Harris (2002), seven types of figurative speeches: simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, hyperbole, allusion and anaphora were analyzed. The results show that there were 331 items of figurative speeches collected in the story. It consists of 148 items or 45% of simile, 49 items or 15% of metaphor, 36 items or 11% of personification, 33 items or 10% of allusion, 24 items or 7% of anaphora, 22 items or 6% of alliteration and 19 items or 6% of hyperbole. It is found that simile is the most frequently used figurative speech. The author could skillfully use a variety of figurative speeches in his story to be able to present the illumination of characters and events or provide the readers with an intense visual experience. It can therefore be said that ‘*A Christmas Carol*’ is a classic fiction book which is packed with a great deal of figurative speeches.

**Keywords:** figurative speeches, short story

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