IMAGERY ANALYSIS IN THREE SELECTED POETRIES OF ROBERT FROST

Safnidar Siahaan¹, Novita Elisabeth Mbaru²

^{1,2}English Education Study Program, Teacher Training and Education Faculty, University of Riau Kepulauan, Batam, Kepulauan Riau Email : ¹kirei_akiko83@yahoo.com ²novitaelisabeth06@gmail.com

Abstract

This research analyzes the imagery in Robert Frost selected poetry. This research aimed to find out what are the types of imagery and how many imageries used by Robert Frost in selected poetry, they are "Lost in Heaven", "Desert Places" and "Leaves compared with Flower" based on the theory of Sayuti (2010) for analyzing the types of the imagery. There are six types of imagery according to Sayuti namely visual imagery, auditory imagery, olfactory imagery, gustatory imagery, kinesthetic imagery, and tactile imagery. Then, the data were analyzed by using the qualitative descriptive method. This research found visual imagery, auditory imagery, kinesthetic imagery, and tactile imagery, auditory imagery, kinesthetic imagery, and tactile imagery, and tactile imagery, which are presented in twenty- seven (27) data from three poems. The researcher found 27 data categorized into types of imagery, which consist of 13 visual images, 11 kinesthetic images, 2 auditory images, 1 tactile image. Robert Frost mostly uses visual imagery in selected poems.

Keywords: Imagery, Literature, Poetry

INTRODUCTION

Literature can be said as the imaginative work that describes the human life in society that can be enjoyed, analyzed, and used by the society. Usually, the authors will write the result of their imagination in the form of literary works. The form of those literary works such as drama, poetry, short story and also novel. In this research, the writer chooses one of the forms of literary works namely poetry. As popularly defined by the great English poet, William Wordsworth, poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected in tranquility ("Literary theory and criticism," n.d.). Furthermore, according to Sayuti (2010), poetry itself means a reflection of reality related to reality to represent the world and human life. To express it, it must be in accordance with what is seen in life, then written in a beautiful language. In this research, the researcher has selected three of Robert Frost's poems as the subject. Robert Frost was born in San Francisco, California, United States in 1874. He is a natural speaker. It is said because people can find many elements of nature in his poems. He uses nature as the main theme because the cycle of life and death shown through the four seasons provides an identifiable image for many people, and in his poem, the realm of the idea that all the good and beautiful things in life will eventually fade away. Moreover, a poem is composed by a beautiful language and structured, which can lead us to a feeling and intent of a poem itself. Poetry is also the formulating of the thought which have the imagination, stimulate the five senses in a rhythmic arrangement (Adudu & Husain, 2019). It can be concluded that poetry is the use of words and language to evoke a writer's feelings and thoughts, and while a poem is the arrangement of these words, and also from that definition both are them have the same goal is to make us imagined or feel the meaning.

In addition, according to Arp & Greg (2020) the goal of the poem may be to tell a story, to reveal human character, to impart a vivid impression of a scene, to express a mood or emotion, or to convey vividly some idea or attitude. According to Khrais (2013) A great way of approaching the poem is to emphasize the importance of form and to read it as a statement about the process of writing poetry. Most of the readers of poem are those who indeed basically liked the poems, the beauty of its language, or moderate of poem describe moods at the time. However, in understanding poem the reader must be able to capture the intent and purpose of the meaning between the lines in a poem which should be studied more in depth. Poetry becomes beautiful and pleasant to hear or read, because of the complexity of the elements that make up poetry. The elements that make up poetry include figurative language, sound, diction, rhythm, imagery and so on. In achieving poeticism, the poet uses many poetic effects as complete as possible. Poetry has a different dimension of meaning from what is written in it. One of these dimensions is the imagery as part of the elements of poetry, the imagery that is imagined when reading poetry so that the reader can feel the poet's experience, or the dimension of language style. Image is one of the important parts in poetry because it can make the reader can imagine something and feel what is written in the poem.

According to Arp & Greg (2020), image can be interpreted as a representation through language then feel the experience. Furthermore, Khan in Siahaan (2014), said that imagery means being able to form a mental picture of something or an event. Therefore, to understand the imagery in a poem, people need to know the type of imagery. According to Sayuti (2010), there are generally 6 types of imagery:

- a. Visual imagery is the image generated by sense of sight that is eyes.
- b. Auditory Imagery is an image generated by the senses of the listener that is ears
- c. Olfactory Imagery is an image related to the senses smell that is nose
- d. Gustatory Imagery is image that involve the sense of taste that is tongue.
- e. Kinesthetic Imagery or movement image is an image that is concretely immobile, but abstractly the object is moving
- f. Tactile Imagery is image that concerned with a sense of touch, physical touches or textures.

Through imagery, readers can imagine the contents of the poem because imagery can also convey emotions as well as moods. In images, abstract ideas are easier to identify because they use words to represent our senses. Sayuti (2010, p.73), says imagery in poetry serves to arouse feelings, stimulate imagination, and inspire thoughts behind the touch of the senses or in other words function as a means of interpretation, which means that imagination brings readers to directly feel the message in a poem.

Based on all the explanation above about imagery it can be concluded that imagery leads us to better understand the content or meaning of a poem by feeling the message contained in the poem and imagining the atmosphere or feelings depicted in a poem depicted through imagery. The imagery in poetry is also related to the poet's life. that the personality of the poet who is the source of his poetry will become a world created from all that he knows, feels, sees, hears and thinks.

METHODOLOGY

In this research, the writer used descriptive qualitative method in order to describe and analyze what have been interpreted from the object of the research. According to Sugiyono (2015), gualitative research method is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism, which is used to examine the condition of natural objects, with research as the key instrument, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalizations. From that explanation above the researcher will analysis the selected three poems from Robert Frost, those are: Lost in Heaven, Desert Places, Leaves Compared with Flowers. Therefore, the data source in this research is a collection of words from a poem to be analyzed. The data of this research are mainly from all types of imagery in Robert Frost's poems: Lost in Heaven, Desert Places, Leaves Compared with Flowers. However, the researcher only focuses on data that shows what kind of imagery and imagery dominates Robert Frost's poem. Data collection techniques are the most important step in research that aims to obtain data. Without knowing the data collection techniques, the researcher will not get data that meets the data standards set (Sugiyono, 2015). The first step of collecting data is that the researcher looks for several famous poems by Robert Frosts. Second, the researcher selects several poems that the researcher interested in. The last is the research selects three of Roberts Frost's poems: Lost in Heaven, Desert Places, Leaves Compared with Flowers.

For the data analysis procedure, the researcher arranged data according to the field of

analysis. the researcher will:

- a. Read the poems being analyzed and repeated until the author understands the story well.
- b. Identified the imagery in the chosen poems.
- c. Classified and categorized words, phrase, and sentences which had imagery.
- d. Interpreted the data that contain imagery in Robert's Frost poem.
- e. Drew conclusions from overall data an analysis that have been analyzed and interpreted.by relating it to the problems and aims of this study.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Types of imagery in "Lost in Heaven"

A. Visual Imagery

The researcher found several visual images in each stanza used in the poem "Lost in Heaven "which can be explained as follows:

Datum 1: The clouds, the source of rain, one stormy night

Offered an opening to the source of dew,

Which I accepted with impatient sight,

Looking for my old skymarks in the blue.

(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 3)

Line 3 from the sentence *which I accepted with impatient sight*; the word "sight" refers to a visual image because in the sentence it invites readers to imagine the feeling of impatience through the side of the view.

Datum 2: The clouds, the source of rain, one stormy night

Offered an opening to the source of dew,

Which I accepted with impatient sight,

Looking for my old skymarks in the blue.

(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 4)

Line 4 also contains visual imagery from the sentence *Looking for my old skymarks in the blue*. The word "**looking**" refers to visual imagery because the word "**looking**" we uses the eyes and the word "**blue**" is a color where people recognize color by using the eyes.

Datum 3: But starts were scare in that part of the sky,

And no two were of the same constellation-

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No one was *bright* enough to identify,

So 'twas with not ungrateful consternation,

(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 2 line 3)

Line 3 contains visual imagery from the sentence *No one was bright enough to identify*. From the word "**bright**", it can be said that the sentence contains a visual image, making readers imagine with visual images to describe someone from their point of view.

Datum 4: Seeing myself well lost once more, I sighed,
'Where, where in Heaven am I? But don't tell me!
Oh, opening clouds, by opening on me wide.
Let's let my heavenly lostness overwhelm me.'
(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 1).

Line 1 contain visual imagery from the sentence *seeing myself well lost once more, I sighed*. The word "**seeing**" refers to visual imagery because the word see we use our eyes. In that sentence we are invited to imagine being in a stray.

B. Auditory Imagery

The researcher found one sentence that contain auditory imagery. which can be explained as follows:

Datum 5: Seeing myself well lost once more, I sighed,

Where, where in Heaven am I? But don't tell me!

Oh, opening clouds, by opening on me wide.

Let's let my heavenly lostness overwhelm me.'

(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 2)

Line 3 from the sentence **Where, where in Heaven am I**? *But don't tell me*! the researcher concludes that the word "**tell**" refers to readers sensitivity to their auditory stimuli. In that sentence the word "**tell**" seems to not need to say.

C. Kinesthetic Imagery

The researcher found several kinesthetic images in each stanza used in the poem " Lost in Heaven " which can be explained as follows:

Datum 6: The clouds, the source of rain, one stormy night

Offered an opening to the source of dew,

Which I accepted with impatient sight,

Looking for my old sky marks in the blue.

(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 2)

Line 2 it contains kinesthetic imagery from the sentence *Offered an opening to the source of dew*, The word "**opening**" refers for the visual kinesthetic imagery, inviting readers to probably imagine the contents of the sentence by moving to find the source of the dew.

Datum 7: Seeing myself well lost once more, I sighed,

'Where, where in Heaven am I? But don't tell me!

Oh, opening clouds, by opening on me wide.

Let's let my heavenly lostness overwhelm me.

(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 3)

Line 3 also contains kinesthetic imagery, in the sentence *oh*, *opening clouds*, *by opening on me wide*, the word "**opening**" refers to visual kinesthetic imagery, invites readers to perhaps imagine the contents of the sentence with movement in the clouds.

Datum 8: Seeing myself well lost once more, I sighed,
'Where, where in Heaven am I? But don't tell me!
Oh, opening clouds, by *opening* on me wide.
Let's let my heavenly *lostness* overwhelm me.
(Lost in heaven, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 3)

Also, the last in line 4 from the sentence *let's let my heavenly lostness overwhelm me*. The word "lostness" refers visual to kinesthetic imagery, which invites readers to imagine "lost", from existing to not knowing a definite existence. Then the word "overwhelm" also refers to kinesthetic imagery because it shows readers the celestial movement that dominates or can be concluded to fulfill.

2. Types of imagery in "Desert Places"

A. Visual Imagery

The researcher found several visual imageries in each stanza used in the poem "Desert Places" which can be explained as follows:

Datum 9: Snow falling and night falling fast, oh, fast

In a field I looked into going past,

And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,

But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 2)

Line 2 from the sentence *in a field I looked into going past*, the word "looked" refers to visual imagery because the word "looking" uses the eyes.

Datum 10: Snow falling and night falling fast, oh, fast

In a field I looked into going past,

And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,

But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 4).

Also, in line 4 was found visual imagery from the sentence *But a few weeds and stubble showing last*. The word "showing last" refers to a visual imagery, which invites us to imagine a view of the weeds and stumps from which the visual role is inferred in the sentence.

Datum 11: The woods around it have it-it is theirs.

All animals are *smothered* in their lairs.

I am too absent-spirited to count;

The loneliness includes me unawares.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 2 line 2)

Line 2 in sentence *All animals are smothered in their lairs*, it contains visual imagery. The sentence refers to a visual imagery, which invites readers to imagine a strangled animal in its nest.

Datum 12: And lonely as it is that loneliness

Will be more lonely ere it will be less-

A blanker *whiteness* of benighted snow

With no expression, nothing to express.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 3)

Line 3 from the sentence *A blanker whiteness of benighted snow*, the word "whiteness" refers to a visual imagery because that word invites readers to imagine color vision, where they recognize color by using their eyes.

Datum 13: They cannot scare me with their empty spaces

Between stars-on stars where no human race is.

I have if in me so much nearer home

To scare myself with my own desert places.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 4 line 1)

Line 1 in the sentence *They cannot scare me with their empty spaces*, refers to a visual imagery, it is because with the word "**empty spaces**", it is like asking reader to imagine an empty room.

Datum 14: They cannot scare me with their empty spaces

Between stars-on stars where no human race is.I have if in me so much nearer homeTo scare myself with my own desert places.(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 4 line 2)

Line 2 in the sentence *Between the stars where there is no human race*, it refers to visual imagery, it is because words" **Between stars**" invite reader to imagine the existence of stars among the human race.

Datum 15: They cannot scare me with their empty spaces

Between stars-on stars where no human race is.

I have if in me so much nearer home

To scare myself with my own desert places.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 4 line 4)

In line 4 also contains which sentence *To scare myself with my own desert places*, refers to a visual image, it is because with that word, it is like asking readers to imagine an atmosphere of a desert place.

B. Kinesthetic Imagery

The researcher found several kinesthetic imageries in each stanza used in the poem "Desert Places" which can be explained as follows:

Datum 16: Snow *falling* and night falling fast, oh, fast

In a field I looked into going past,

And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,

But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 1)

In line 1, from the sentence *Snow falling and night falling fast, oh, fast*, the researcher found that the sentence contains kinesthetic imagery, the word "falling" refers to visual kinesthetic imagery, which invites readers to imagine snow falling which means that there is movement from a high place to a low place, also the word "fast" indicates the

movement of the snow.

Datum 17: Snow falling and night falling fast, oh, fast

In a field I looked into going past,

And the ground almost *covered* smooth in snow,

But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 3)

In line 3, from the sentence *And the ground almost covered smooth in snow*, the word "**covered**" refers to a kinesthetic imagery, which invites readers to imagine the movement of snow against the ground.

Datum 18: They cannot scare me with their empty spaces

Between stars-on stars where no human race is.

I have if in me so much nearer home

To scare myself with my own desert places.

(Desert Places, Frost 1937, stanza 4 line 3)

In line 3 from the sentence, *I have if in me so much nearer home*, the researcher conclude that the sentence refers to kinesthetic imagery because the word "**nearer**" refers to kinesthetic imagery, which invites readers to imagine distance, meaning to explain distance in the context of the sentence.

3. Types of imagery in "Leaves Compared with Flower"

A. Visual Imagery

The researcher found several visual imageries in each stanza used in the poem " Leaves Compared with Flowers " which can be explained as follows:

Datum 19: A tree's leaves may be ever so good,

So may its bark, so may its wood,

But unless you put the right thing to its root

It never will show much flower or fruit.

(Leaves compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 4)

In line 4 in the sentence, *It never will show much flower or fruit*, it contains visual imagery, it is because the word "**show**" refers to a visual imagery because it invites readers to visually imagine the existence of the fruit and flower.

Datum 20: Leaves and bark, leaves and bark,

To lean against and hear in the dark.

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Petals I may have once pursued.

Leaves are all my darker mood.

(Leaves compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 5 line 4)

In line 4, the researcher found the visual imagery from the sentences *Leaves are all my darker mood*, it is because the sentence refers to a visual imagery, which describes the mood by associating with the word "darker" which is related to the point of view.

B. Auditory Imagery

The researcher found the auditory imagery in the poem" Leaves Compared with Flowers", which described as follows:

Datum 21: Leaves and bark, leaves and bark,

To lean against and hear in the dark.

Petals I may have once pursued.

Leaves are all my darker mood.

(Leaves compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 5 line 2)

From the sentence *To lean against and hear in the dark*, in stanza 5 line 2 the word "hear" refers to the image of tactile because the word is directly concerned with our sense of hearing.

C. Kinesthetic Imagery

The researcher found several kinesthetic images in each stanza used in the poem "Leaves Compared with Flowers " which can be explained as follows:

Datum 22: A tree's leaves may be ever so good,

So may its bark, so may its wood,

But unless you put the right thing to its root

It never will show much flower or fruit.

(Leaves Compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 1 line 3)

Line 3 contains kinesthetic imagery from the sentence *But unless you put the right thing to its root*. The word "**put the right thing to its root**" refer to a kinesthetic image, which invite reader to imagine the parable of the movement associated with the root.

Datum 23: Some giant tresses have bloom so small

They might as well have none at all

Late in life I have come on fern

Now lichens are due to have their turn.

(Leaves Compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 1)

From the sentence *Some giant tresses have bloom so small*, the researcher conclude that the sentence refers to kinesthetic imagery, because the word "**bloom**" invites readers to imagine the growth of a tree that shows a change in shape.

Datum 24: Some giant tresses have bloom so small

They might as well have none at all

Late in life I have come on fern

Now lichens are due to have their turn.

(Leaves Compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 3 line 3)

In line, *late in life have come on fern*, the sentence refers to a kinesthetic imagery from the word "**come**". It is because with that word it is like asking readers to imagine the movement that occurs.

Datum 25: Leaves and bark, leaves and bark,

To lean against and hear in the dark.

Petals I may have once pursued.

Leaves are all my darker mood.

(Leaves Compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 4 line 3)

From the sentence *Petals I may have once pursued*, the researcher concludes that sentence refers to a kinesthetic imagery. It is because with those words, it is like asking us to imagine the movement that occurs.

Datum 26: I bade men tell me which in brief,

Which is fairer, flower or leaf.

They did not have the wit to say,

Leaves by night and flowers by day.

(Leaves Compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 4 line 4)

Line 4 from the sentence *Leaves by night and flowers by day, the* sentence refers to a kinesthetic imagery. It is because with that word it is like asking readers to imagine a shape change that occurs at night and during the day.

D. Tactile Imagery

The researcher found the tactile imagery in the poem " Leaves Compared with Flowers " described as follows:

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Datum 27: But I may be one who does not care

Ever to have tree bloom or bear.

Leaves for smooth and bark for rough,

Leaves and bark may be tree enough.

(Leaves Compared with Flower, Frost 1937, stanza 2 line 3)

From the sentence *Leaves for smooth and bark for rough*, the word "**smooth and rough**" refer to tactile images. It is because it invites reader to imagine the texture comparison of a leaf and wood surface.

2. The dominant data.

No	Poetries	Kind of	Number of
	T / • TT	Imagery	data analysis
1.	Lost in Heaven	a. Visual	4
	The clouds, the source of rain, one stormy night	1. St 1/L 3	
	Offered an opening to the source of dew,	2. St 1/L 4	
	Which I accepted with impatient sight,	3. St 2/L 3	
	Looking for my old sky marks in the blue.	4. St 3/L1	
		b. Auditory	1
	But starts were scare in that part of the sky,	1. St 3/L2	
	And no two were of the same constellation-	c. Olfactory	-
	No one was bright enough to identify,	d. Gustatory	
	So 'twas with not ungrateful consternation,	u. Oustatory	-
	Seeing myself well lost once more, I sighed,	е.	3
	Where, where in Heaven am I? But don't tell	Kinesthetic	
	me!	1. St 1/L2	
	Oh, opening clouds, by opening on me wide.	2. St 3/L 1	
	Let's let my heavenly lostness overwhelm me.'	3. St 3/L3	
		f. Tactile	-
		Total	8
2.	Desert Places	. a. Visual	7
	Snow falling and night falling fast, oh, fast	1. St 1/L 2	
	In a field I looked into going past,	2. St 1/L 4	
	And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,	3. St 2/L 2	
	But a few weeds and stubble showing last.	4. St 3/L3	
		5. St 4/L 1	
	The woods around it have it-it is theirs.	6. St 4/L 2	
	All animals are smothered in their lairs.	7. St 4/L 4	
	I am too absent-spirited to count;	b. Auditory	-
	The loneliness includes me unawares.	c. Olfactory	-
		d. Gustatory	-

Table 1. The Dominant Imagery by Robert Frost's Poetries

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			E-ISSN 2598-999:
	And lonely as it is that loneliness Will be more lonely ere it will be less- A blanker whiteness of benighted snow With no expression, nothing to express. They cannot scare me with their empty spaces Between stars-on stars where no human race is.	e. Kinesthetic 1. St 1/L1 2. St 1/L 3 3. St 4/L3	3
	I have if in me so much nearer home To scare myself with my own desert places	f. Tactile	-
		Total	10
3.	Leaves Compared with Flower A tree's leaves may be ever so good, So may its bark, so may its wood, But unless you put the right thing to its root	a. Visual 1. St 1/L 4 2. St 5/L 4	2
	It never will show much flower or fruit.	b. Auditory 1. St 5/L 2	1
	But I may be one who does not care Ever to have tree bloom or bear. Leaves for smooth and bark for rough, Leaves and bark may be tree enough.	c. Olfactory	-
		d. Gustatory	-
		e. Kinesthetic	5
	Some giant tress have bloom so small They might as well have none at all Late in life I have come on fern Now lichens are due to have their turn.	1. St 1/L5 2. St 3/L 1 3. St 3/L3 4. St 5/L 3	
	I bade men tell me which in brief, Which is fairer, flower or leaf. They did not have the wit to say, Leaves by night and flowers by day.	5. St 4/L 4 f. Tactile 1. St 2/L3	1
	Leaves and bark, leaves and bark, To lean against and hear in the dark. Petals I may have once pursued. Leaves are all my darker mood.		
		Total	9

This research is conducted to find kind of imagery in Robert Frost selected poems and dominant imagery. From the data has been analyze of three poems by Robert Frost, the researcher found that there were 8 images in the three selected poem in "Lost in Heaven", were found 8 imageries namely (visual 4, kinesthetic 3, auditory 1), in "Desert Places" were found 10 imageries (3 kinesthetic, 7 visual) and in "Leaves compared with Flowers" were found in 9 imageries (2 visual, 1 auditory, 1 tactile, 5 kinesthetic). In total, the researchers

found 27 data categorized into types of imagery, consisting of 13 visual imageries, 11 kinesthetic imageries, 2 auditory imageries, and 1 tactile imagery. Based on the results of the above research, it can be concluded that from the three selected poems of Robert Frost the kinds of imagery used are: *Visual imagery, auditory imagery, kinesthetic imagery, and tactile imager* and the dominant imagery used is "*Visual Imagery*".

CONCLUSION

Poetry is the beauty of language in literary works. the beauty of language that contains meaning, feelings make the reader or enthusiast enjoy the meaning contained in the poem. has its own side in the hearts of its admirers.

Image is an important part of poetry because it allows the reader to imagine something and feel what is written in the poem. In other words, imagery makes the reader feel what is happening or the message contained in a poem. Without imagery, abstract ideas in a poem can be difficult to understand and confuse the reader, because it makes the reader unable to interpret the poem easily. Through imagery, readers can imagine the contents of the poem because imagery can also convey emotions as well as moods.

Robert Frost uses nature as the main theme because the cycle of life and death shown through the four seasons provides an identifiable image for many people, and in his poem, the realm of the idea that all the good and beautiful things in life will eventually fade away. Robert Frost is a natural speaker. It is said so because people can find many elements of nature in his poems.

The researcher concludes that the imagery that dominates the three Robert Frost's poems is visual imagery, with the results obtained that the imagery used is in accordance with the background of Robert Frost who as a nature writer, namely using nature as the main theme because the cycle of life and death shown through the four seasons provides an overview identifiable to many, and in his poetry, the realm of the idea that all that is good and beautiful in life will eventually fade. He wrote his poetry to invite the reader to visually imagine, to see deeper about the meaning of life.

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