# LANGUAGE DESCRIPTION (GRAMMAR)
## Fun Way to Learn Grammar Using *Number One For Me* Song by Maher Zain

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## Abstract

Learning English using song is one of fun way that has been replaced into the school syllabus at Junior High School and Senior High School for 2013 curriculum. This study aimed to approach and reinforce grammar using song of Maher Zain in title Number One for Me by analysing the terms of grammar from its lyric. The focus of this study is about grammar which include: present tense, past tense, future tense, phrasal verb, noun phrase, gerund and the grammatical errors. Engaging lessons with model song will motivate students to learn grammar interestingly. The researcher conclude, if the terms of grammar in Maher Zain's song has different kind and it is interesting to be learn. His songs always contain deep advices and this song tells about the love of mothers to their children and the children feel to their mothers.

**Keywords:** grammar, Number One for Me song, Maher Zain

## Introduction

Nowadays, using song to learn English at the school has been applying for the 2013 curriculum in the syllabus. One of the aims of the English 2013 curriculum is mention the social function and the language elements in the song. This method is applied because when students learn using song it feels more fun, and gives good impact for the learning process. They are easier to understand rather than learning using convention method such as explaining from the book only. Beside that using song to learning English also gives positives impacts for the children, they can also analysing the meaning of the song and take the messages from the song.

According to Hasanah (2017), the importance of learning grammar in studying English is undeniable. It needs to help learners to know about how to formulate words or sentences in English. As a beginner or elementary learners, easy method in learning grammar will be very useful. By using it, the formulas of grammar will be easily memorized. This method can be taken from analyzing lyrics of English songs to learn grammar. Song is popular with its benefits. It is not only entertain the listener but also it can be the tool to learn something for example English grammar.

The researcher choose *song of Maher Zain in title Number One for Me* to be analysed in learning grammar because the lyrics of this song is clear enough in the grammar structures. This song also famous in the world wide which almost every people know this song. This song also rich in meaning and gives many advices for the listener who take attention in it.

## Review

According to a book by Betty Schrampfer Azar entitled Understanding and Using English Grammar (1989), it is briefly explained about twelve kinds of verb tenses in English. They are settled in four conditions: the simple tenses, the progressive tenses, the perfect tenses, and the perfect progressive tenses. Then each of them is divided into three parts. They belong to the present, past, and future. Those are the whole verb tenses in grammar that English learners need to learn. The researchers only discuss about some terms in grammar, there are present tense, past tense, future tense, phrasal verb, noun phrase, gerund and the grammatical errors.

The present tense is the first tenses that English beginner learners can learn. In Simple present tense, it uses the main verb/base form of the verb (infinitive without to). In general, the present tense expresses events or situations that exist always, usually, habitually; they exist now, have existed in the past, and probably will exist in the future (Azar, 1989:2). Form Present Tense: Verbal: S + V-base (s/es) + O. Example: She usually comes on time. "She" represents subject, "usually" represents habitual, "comes" represents verb base + e/es, "on time" represents adverb of time. Non- verbal: S + to be (is, am, are) + Adj/Noun. Example: She is beautiful. "She" represents subject, "is" represents to be present, "beautiful" represent adjective.

The second verb tense is past tense. At one particular time in the past, this happened. It began and ended in the past (Azar, 1989:2). Form Past Tense: Verbal: S + V2 + O + Adv of time. Example: She went to Jakarta last week. "She" represents subject, "went" represents verb 2, "to Jakarta" represents object, "last week" represents the time when the event happened in the past. Non-verbal: S + to be (was/were). Example: He was rich. "He" represents subject, "was" represents to be past, "rich" represents adjective.

The other verb tense is future tense. It explains about one particular time in the future this will happen (Azar, 1989:2). Form Future Tense: Verbal: S + will + Verb base + O. Example: She will study abroad next year. "She" represents subject, "will" represents statement in the future, "study" represents verb base, "abroad" represents object, "next year" represents the time of the event happens in the future. Non-verbal: Subject + will + be + Adjective. Example: She will be fine. "She" represents subject, "will be" represents future tense (non-verbal), "fine" represents adjective".

Phrasal verbs are an important part of learning the English language. Most phrasal verbs consist of two words (verb + adverb or verb + preposition) but a few consists of three words. Think of them as you would any other English vocabulary (Montreuil:2018). Study them as you come across them, rather than trying to memorize many at once, usually take on a different meaning to that of the original verb. Example: break down. "break" represents a verb, "down" represents preposition.

A noun phrase is a phrase that functions in the same way as a noun. Noun phrase is a group of words that work together to name and describe a person, place, thing, or idea. When we look at the structure of writing, we treat a noun phrase the same way we treat a common noun. Noun phrases are also called noun clauses. Example: The young boy in front of class is Herman. "The young boy in front of class" represents noun phrase.

Gerunds are words that are formed with verbs but act as nouns. Present participles do not act as nouns. Instead, they act as modifiers or complete progressive verbs. To find gerunds in sentences, just look for a verb + ing that is used as a noun. Example: I like swimming. "swimming" represents verb base + ing as a gerund.

*Grammatical error* is a term used in prescriptive grammar to describe an instance of faulty, unconventional, or controversial usage, such as a misplaced modifier or an inappropriate verb tense. There are some definitions that are correlated with the term "error". Dulay Burt and Burt (1982) define error as "The flawed side of learner speech or writing" which "deviates from some selected norm of mature language performance". They further explained that errors should be differentiated according to their cause. There are errors that are made because the writers lack of grammatical knowledge which they called "Competence Error". Example: I go to the store yesterday. "yesterday" represent for the past adverb of time. It should use when as the verb 2 from go.

## Methodology

To conduct this research, the researcher used design content analysis with qualitative approach. Content analysis is the intellectual process of categorizing qualitative textual data into category of similar concept, to identify consistent patterns or relationship

between variable of themes (Given, 2008). Qualitative research is understanding of social phenomenon based on participant's point of view. In order to increase information into a particular phenomenon, such as an environment, a process, or even a belief (Gay, 2006).

The object of the study is a song from Maher Zein entitle Number One for Me. Researcher read line by line the song to find many kind of grammatical on it. After that, researcher put it in a table and classify it based on grammatical indicators. In analysis the data, researcher use qualitative data analysis theory by Miles & Huberman (1994), this analysis use three steps, data reduction, data display, or data representation, and conclusion drawing and verification.

In reduction process the researcher chose Number one for Me song by Maher Zein retrieved from https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/maherzain/numberoneforme.html. Researcher read line per line to identified the grammatical indicators.. Then, the researcher put into checklist table's instrument that contain grammatical indicators. In data representation, the researcher presented in the data in checklist table. In making conclusion, the researcher concludes which figurative that appears among ten figurative language, and what figurative that mostly found in Still I Rise poetry of Maya Angelou.

## Findings

In the song of Maher Zein entitle "Number one for Me", researcher made the coding used letter (L) stands for line of lyrics, symbol Σ (Sigma) is referent for total of findings. "Number One for Me" song, there were found; 20 present tenses, 16 past tenses, 2 future tenses, 9 phrasal verb, 10 noun phrase, 1 gerund, and 16 grammatical errors. Total of findings were 74 grammatical indicators which be discussed by the researchers. The most grammatical indicator was present tense.

**The lyrics of Number one for Me song by Maher Zein**

I was a foolish little child
Crazy things I used to do
And all the pain I put you through
Mama now I'm here for you
For all the times I made you cry
The days I told you lies
Now it's time for you to rise
For all the things you sacrificed
*[Chorus:]*
Oh, if I could turn back time rewind
If I could make it undone
I swear that I would
I would make it up to you
Mum I'm all grown up now
It's a brand new day
I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
Mum I'm all grown up now
And it's not too late
I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
And now I finally understand
Your famous line
About the day I'd face in time
'Cause now I've got a child of mine
And even though I was so bad
I've learned so much from you
Now I'm trying to do it too
Love my kid the way you do
Oh, if I could turn back time rewind
If I could make it undone
I swear that I would
I would make it up to you
Oh, if I could turn back time rewind
If I could make it undone
I swear that I would
I would make it up to you
Mum I'm all grown up now
It's a brand new day
I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
Mum I'm all grown up now
And it's not too late
I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
You know you are the number one for me *[x3]*
Oh, oh, number one for me
You know you are the number one for me *[x3]*
Oh, oh, number one for me
There's no one in this world that can take your place
Oh, I'm sorry for ever taking you for granted, ooh
I will use every chance I get
To make you smile, whenever I'm around you
Now I will try to love you like you love me
Only God knows how much you mean to me
Oh, if I could turn back time rewind
If I could make it undone
I swear that I would
I would make it up to you
Mum I'm all grown up now
It's a brand new day

I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
Mum I'm all grown up now
And it's not too late
I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
Mum I'm all grown up now
It's a brand new day

I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
Mum I'm all grown up now
And it's not too late
I'd like to put a smile on your face every day
The number one for me *[x3]*
Oh, oh, number one for me

Table 1.
Grammar Indicator Presence

| No. | Kind of Grammatical Indicators | Found in Line | Σ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Simple Present | (L3), (L4), (L7), (L14), (L17), (L19), (L36), (L39), (L41), (L43), (L45), (L46), (L48), (L50), (L56), (L59), (L62), (L65) | 20 |
| 2. | Past Tense | (L1), (L2), (L5), (L6), (L8), (L15), (L18), (L21), (L23), (L37), (L40), (L54), (L57), (L60), (L63), (L66) | 16 |
| 3. | Future Tense | (L47), (L49) | 2 |
| 4. | Phrasal Verb | (L13), (L16), (L35), (L38), (L45), (L55), (L58), (L61), (L64) | 9 |
| 5. | Noun Phrase | (L2), (L3), (L5), (L8), (L20), (L42), (L44), (L62), (L67), (L68) | 10 |
| 6. | Gerunds | (L46) | 1 |
| 7. | Grammatical errors | (L9), (L10), (L11), (L12), (L26), (L27), (L28), (L29), (L30), (L31), (L32), (L33), (L34), (L51), (L52), (L53) | 16 |
| | Total | | 74 |

## Discussion

The researcher has reduced the data and found that Number One for Me mostly use metaphor. However, in song, Maher Zein used some grammatical indicators. There were 7 kinds of grammatical indicators found in the song; 1) Present Tense, 2) Past Tense, 3) Future Tense, 4) Phrasal Verb, 5) Noun Phrase, 6) Gerund, and 7) Grammatical Error.

Table 2.
Types of Grammar Indicator

| Line | The Lyrics | Grammatical Indicator |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | I was a foolish little child | Past tense (non-verbal) |
| 2. | Crazy things I used to do | Noun phrase, Past tense (verbal) |
| 3. | And all the pain I put you through | Noun Phrase, Present tense (verbal) |
| 4. | Mama now I'm here for you | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 5. | For all the times I made you cry | Noun phrase, Past tense (verbal) |
| 6. | The days I told you lies | Past tense (verbal) |
| 7. | Now it's time for you to rise | Present tense (verbal) |
| 8. | For all the things you sacrificed | Noun phrase, Past tense (verbal) |
| 9. | Oh, if I could turn back time rewind | Grammatical error |
| 10. | If I could make it undone | Grammatical error |
| 11. | I swear that I would | Grammatical error |
| 12. | I would make it up to you | Grammatical error |
| 13. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 14. | It's a brand new day | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 15. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 16. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal Verb |
| 17. | And it's not too late | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 18. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 19. | And now I finally understand | Present tense (verbal) |
| 20. | Your famous line | Phrasal |
| 21. | About the day I'd face in time | Past tense (verbal) |
| 22. | 'Cause now I've got a child of mine | |

| 23. | And even though I was so bad | Past tense (verbal) |
| 24. | I've learned so much from you | |
| 25. | Now I'm trying to do it too | |
| 26. | Love my kid the way you do | Grammatical error |
| 27. | Oh, if I could turn back time rewind | Grammatical error |
| 28. | If I could make it undone | Grammatical error |
| 29. | I swear that I would | Grammatical error |
| 30. | I would make it up to you | Grammatical error |
| 31. | Oh, if I could turn back time rewind | Grammatical error |
| 32. | If I could make it undone | Grammatical error |
| 33. | I swear that I would | Grammatical error |
| 34. | I would make it up to you | Grammatical error |
| 35. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 36. | It's a brand new day | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 37. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verb) |
| 38. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 39. | And it's not too late | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 40. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 41. | You know you are the number one for me | Present tense (verbal) |
| 42. | Oh, oh, number one for me | Noun phrase |
| 43. | You know you are the number one for me | Present tense (verbal) |
| 44. | Oh, oh, number one for me | Noun phrase |
| 45. | There's no one in this world that can take your place | Present tense (verbal) |
| 46. | Oh, I'm sorry for ever taking you for granted, ooh | Gerund |
| 47. | I will use every chance I get | Future tense (verbal) |
| 48. | To make you smile, whenever I'm around you | Present tense (verbal) |
| 49. | Now I will try to love you like you love me | Future tense (verbal) |
| 50. | Only God knows how much you mean to me | Present tense (verbal) |
| 51. | Oh, if I could turn back time rewind | Grammatical error |
| 52. | If I could make it undone | Grammatical error |
| 53. | I swear that I would | Grammatical error |
| 54. | I would make it up to you | Past tense (verbal) |
| 55. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 56. | It's a brand new day | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 57. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 58. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 59. | And it's not too late | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 60. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 61. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 62. | It's a brand new day | Noun phrase, Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 63. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 64. | Mum I'm all grown up now | Phrasal verb |
| 65. | And it's not too late | Present tense (non-verbal) |
| 66. | I'd like to put a smile on your face every day | Past tense (verbal) |
| 67. | The number one for me *[x3]* | Noun phrase |
| 68. | Oh, oh, number one for me | Noun Phrase |

## Conclusion

Based on the using of Maher Zein song entitle Number One for Me, to learn English grammar by analysing the grammar indicators the researcher find some present tense, past tense, future tense, phrasal verb, noun phrase, gerund and the grammatical errors on the lyrics. There are twenty (20) Present tenses, sixteen (16) past tenses, two (2) future tenses, nine (9) phrasal verbs, ten (10) Noun phrases, one (1) Gerund and sixteen (16) Grammatical errors. By using song to learn grammar it is more fun to be analysing in every parts of the lyric. The researcher chose Number One for Me song because the song is easy to be analysed and it is full of meaning. The song also tells about the love of the children for their mother.

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