



FIGURES OF SPEECH IN “BIG BANG THEORY” SITUATIONAL COMEDY

A FINAL PROJECT

In Partial Fulfillment of The Requirement

For S-1 Degree in Linguistics

In English Department, Faculty of Humanities

Diponegoro University

Created by:

Fandha Ainul Normantsani 13020113130072

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY**

2018

PRONOUNCEMENT

I declare truthfully that this project is made by myself without copying from someone else's research. I certainly include clear references in my bibliography if I decide to cite other's works.

Semarang, April 2018

Fandha Ainul Normantsani

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

It doesn't matter if you're the slowest kid in gym class or the fastest man alive, every one of us is running. Being alive means running; running from something; running to something or someone. And no matter how fast you are, there are some things you can't outrun; some things always manage to catch up to you.

- **Barry Allen**

This project is dedicated to everyone who cares about me

VALIDATION

Approved by

Strata 1 Project Examination Committee

Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

on May 30th 2018

Chair Person

Dwi Wulandari, S.S., M.A.
NIP. 19761004 200112 2 001

Second Member

Dr. Deli Nirmala, M.Hum.
NIP. 19611109 198703 2 001

First Member

Ayu Ida Savitri, S.S., M.Hum.
NIP. 19790822 200801 2 013

Third Member

Drs. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M.Hum
NIP. 19671004 199303 1 003

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah, the project “Figures of Speech in “Big Bang Theory” Situational Comedy” is finally done. In this moment, I want to thank everyone who had helped me completing this project.

My greatest gratefulness to my advisor, Mytha Candria, S.S., M.A., M.A., who had given her continuous guidance, correction, time, moral support, advice and suggestion. Her assistance was really helpful to me in completing this project.

My gratitude also goes to:

1. My parents, Drs. Hartono and Anik Hidayani, for always believing in my effort to finish this project;
2. My colleagues whom I asked for help related to this project; and
3. Members of Binatang Aer, Tuan Tampan, Gembel Sukses! and B 5 AJA.

I realize that every human made object has flaws, and so is this project. To make this project better and useful in the future, I will always accept any recommendation and criticism to improve this project.

Finally, I hope that this project can be useful for our society and those who wants to learn about hidden meaning like figures of speech.

Semarang, April 2018

Fandha Ainul Normantsani

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE.....	I
PRONOUNCEMENT	II
MOTTO AND DEDICATION	III
VALIDATION.....	IV
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	V
TABLE OF CONTENT	VI
ABSTRACT.....	VII
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	1
3. RESEARCH METHOD	4
4. THE USE OF FIGURES OF SPEECH IN “BIG BANG THEORY”	5
5. CONCLUSION	14
REFERENCES.....	14
APPENDIX	

Abstract

Figures of speech or tropes are clauses or phrases that contain hidden meanings. The use of the tropes is frequently found in “Big Bang Theory”. I decided to research figures of speech that used in “Big Bang Theory”.

The purpose of this research is to find out what kinds of figures of speech used in “Big Bang Theory”. “Big Bang Theory” is a situational comedy from America. It is a story of four (4) scientists and a pretty-but-not-smart girl.

The population of the data are five (5) episodes in the first season of “Big Bang Theory”. The samples are utterances that contain figures of speech.

The data are analysed descriptive quantitatively. I analysed all of the data but only described 2 of each tropes in this research. The data obtained in the sampling are 45 allusions, 44 hyperboles, 33 metaphors, 5 personifications and 9 similes. The allusions make the sitcom more realistic because of the awareness of another art. The figures of speech makes the sitcom more full with fineness of language.

Keywords: Figures of Speech, situational comedy, and *Big Bang Theory*

1. Introduction

I chose to do research about figures of speech because sometimes I was curious about the types figures of speech used in television programs. I thought that they must have used various figures.

“Big Bang Theory” which is aired weekly is one of my favorite situational comedy show from America. The characters in this sitcom often use figures of speech or tropes to joke. Each character has their own type of jokes.

“Big Bang Theory” have been studied by Mahdalikova, Hu Shuain, and Zeun Ma and Man Jiang. Mahdalikova’s(2014) study entitled, “A Discourse Analysis of The American Sitcom The Big Bang Theory: The Construction of a Geek Identity”, focused on the character’s building of the sitcom using discourse analysis and cooperative principle as the main framework. Shuqin’s (2013) study entitled, “A Relevance Theoretic Analysis of Verbal Humor in *The Big Bang Theory*” identifies the verbal humor in “Big Bang Theory” using a relevance theory perspective study. Ma and Jiang study (2013) entitled, “Interpretation of Verbal Humor in the Sitcom *The Big Bang Theory* from the Perspective of Adaptation-relevance Theory”, analyse the interpretation of verbal humor using the adaptation-relevance model.

In this studies, I wanted to find out the kinds of tropes that are mostly used and which character that often use any figures of speech in this sitcom.

2. Theoretical Framework

According to Arthur Quinn (2010), “figures of speech are an expression that has its non-literal meaning as rhetorical effect” (p. 10). Wilson (2010) said that

a figure of speech or trope is mainly used to emphasize a purpose or something by the writer. Meanwhile, Coomaraswamy (2007) defines tropes as “The gist of the method was to construct a clause or phrase that automatically makes someone understand the hidden meaning”. So based on three definitions about tropes, I can deduce that trope is an expression in a form of clause or phrase that is used to emphasize an idea while also has its hidden meaning.

There are currently six hundred fifty seven (657) figures of speech listed in The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry (Greene, 2012). In this essay, I chose five of it, allusion, hyperbole, metaphor, personification and simile, because they are commonly used in the sitcom “Big Bang Theory.”

The first trope, allusion, is a reference to another work of art (Wetzsteon, 2012). Where the reference is either explicit or implicit. The example of allusion found on John Milton’s “Paradise Lost”, written in The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry (Greene, 2012, p. 170):

“All night the **dread less Angel** unpursu’d
Through heav’ns wide Champaign held his way, till morn,
Wak’t by the **circling Hours, with rosie hand**
Unbarr’d the gates of Light. There is a Cave
Within the Mount of God, fast by his Throne”

In the first line, “dread less angel” is a reference to “Abdiel.” The name “Abdiel” comes from Hebrew that means “Servant of God.” Milton chooses **Abdiel** because he is talking about paradise. Furthermore, “dread less Angel” is chosen as a reference to **Abdiel** because **Abdiel** is an angel that serves God and lives in paradise (Wetzsteon, 2012).

Hyperbole is an exaggeration of something in order to emphasize the idea (McFadden, 2012). This exaggeration sometimes becomes a joke if it is used in a particular situation (Wilson, 2010). Here is an example from *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry* (Greene, 2012, p. 1555): “It smells to heaven.” This example suggests that the smell can be smelled until heaven. The reason the speaker chooses *heaven* is that it is the farthest place he can think of. Furthermore, this figure of speech can be used for two purposes, which happens when someone is smelling a good or a bad smell (McFadden, 2012).

The third type of figures of speech, **metaphor**, refers to one thing but mentions another thing using a rhetorical effect (Martin, 2012). The similarity between the two things can be clear or blurry (Wilson, 2010). “Give me a hand” (*The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry*, Greene, 2012, p. 2041) is a metaphor. The example means that the speaker needs an assistance. In this case, the assistance is needed physically. Perhaps the speaker is incapable of doing something by himself, so he requests another person to lend a hand to support him because hands are significant body parts in human activities (Martin, 2012).

Personification associates natural or human characteristics with an object as if it had an abstract quality of human characteristics (Fowler, 2012). Here is an example from John Milton’s “Paradise Lost” (Greene, 2012, p. 1555):

“Earth felt the wound; and Nature from her seat,
Sighing, through all her works, gave signs of woe.”

In the example above, the Earth and Nature are considered to have a human’s soul. The Earth is feeling the wound, just like human. Nature is sitting, like a human being. They also sigh and give signs like human (Fowler, 2012).

Simile is a figure of speech that compares the physical appearances of two things (Brogan, 2012). This comparison is usually marked with “as” or “like” (Wilson, 2010). Here is an example in one line of the lyrics of a song sung by Bon Jovi, entitled “It’s My Life” (2000): “My heart is like an open highway.” This line shows the comparison between the speaker’s heart and an open highway. The comparison is marked with the preposition “like.” The line means that there is no restraint in his heart.

3. Research Method

This research is using a descriptive qualitative method. Descriptive means that the research will describe the collected data and qualitative means that there are no numerical data used in this research. Therefore, descriptive qualitative means that in the research I do not use any numerical data, and I describe the data properly.

The American sitcom “Big Bang Theory” is chosen as the main source of data for this research. There are five (5) episodes that serve as data population. Using purposive sampling, I pick some utterances that contain figures of speech or tropes in the data population.

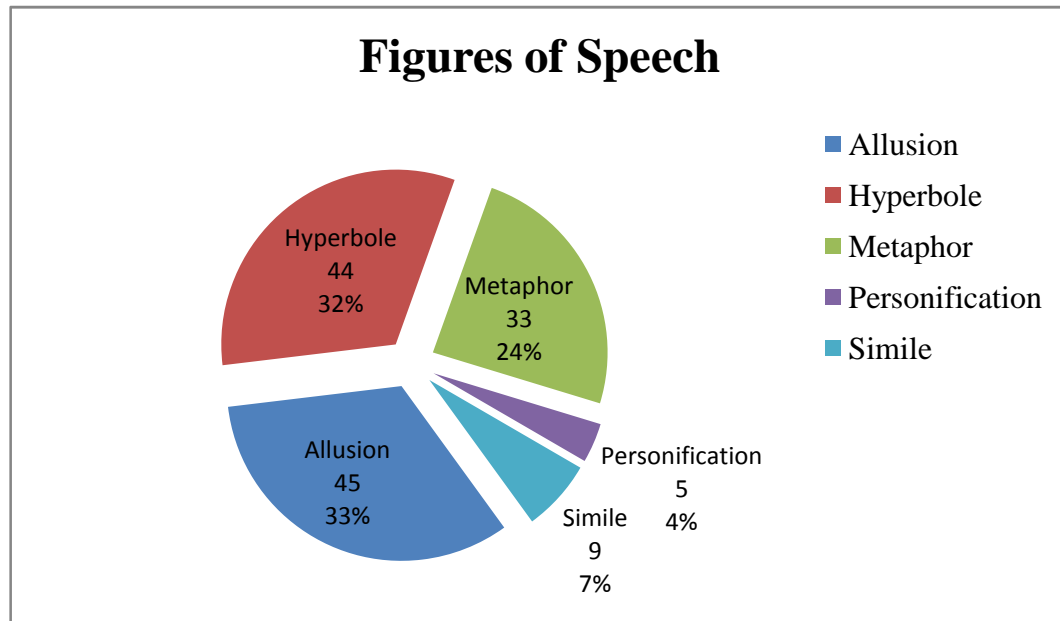
In order to collect the data, I watch the movie and transcribe the specific utterances that contain tropes as the data for this research. To analyse the data, I decided to describe and categorize each tropes that I found.

4. The Use of Figures of Speech in “Big Bang Theory”

There are 136 tropes found in the sitcom. The tropes mostly found in “Big Bang Theory” sitcom are *allusions*, *hyperboles*, *metaphors*, *personifications* and

simile. The tropes consist of forty five (45) allusions, forty four (44) hyperboles, thirty three (33) metaphors, five (5) personifications and nine (9) simile. I only describe two (2) samples in each tropes in the data analysis.

The tropes that in the sitcom are presented this diagram:



The discussion that follows are allusions (4.1.1.; 4.1.2), hyperboles (4.2.1.; 4.2.2.), metaphors (4.3.1.; 4.3.2.), personifications (4.4.1.; 4.4.2) and similes (4.5.1.; 4.5.2).

4.1. Allusion

As previously mentioned, there are forty five (45) allusions found in *Big Bang Theory*. Here are two samples of the data, *Battlestar Galactica* and *Beautiful Mind*.

4.1.1. Battlestar Galactica

The first conversation is among Sheldon, Leonard and Penny. Sheldon is a theoretical physicist and possesses a genius level IQ who loves pizzas and

hamburgers. However, he has some exceptions for his breakfast and dinner, so he creates a schedule of what food he eats everyday in a week. Sheldon is known as a sociopath who seldom regards his friends' feelings.

Leonard, who live in the same apartment as sheldon, is alsoa physicist, experimental physicist to be precise.However, he is more well mannered than Sheldon as he always wants to do something good to another person,in an nervous way. Although Leonard and Sheldon are geniuses, they like comic books, costumes, video games, roleplaying games, tabletop games, card games, science-fiction movies and series, and action figures.

Penny is a waitress, coming from Omaha, Nebraska. Her intelligence is not on a par with Sheldon and Leonard because she dropped out froma community college. She is an easy-going and simple woman, but she is a furious woman when she gets upset.

The conversation occurs when Sheldon and Leonard have just returned to their apartment from a hospital, trying to donate their sperm. The apartment has five floors with 2 apartments in each floor. When they arrive at the door of their apartment, they see a new female neighbor moving in the apartment across the hall. Then, they introduce themselves to the new neighbor, Penny. After the introduction, Sheldon and Leonard are going back to their apartment and the conversation occurs.

Leonard : “Should we have invited her for lunch?”

Sheldon : “No. We’re gonna start season two of *BattlestarGalactica*.”

Leonard : “We already watched season two DVDs.”

Sheldon : “Not with commentary.”

The conversation above has an allusion. The allusion is at the phrase *Battlestar Galactica*. *Battlestar Galactica* is an American science-fiction TV show that aired in 2004. However, the second season of *Battlestar Galactica* was aired in 2005-2006 and the commentary version is released a year after, similar to the show date of the first episode of Big Bang Theory season one. The reason why this count as an allusion and a joke is because it is used as a rejection to Leonard's question. The topic is clearly different between inviting someone to dinner and watching *Battlestar Galactica*.

4.1.2. Beautiful Mind

Penny : "This looks like some serious stuff. Leonard, did you do this?"
 Sheldon : "Actually, that's my work."
 Penny : "Wow."
 Sheldon : "Yeah. Well, it's just some quantum mechanics with a little string theory doodling around the edges. That part there, that's just a joke. It's a spoof of the Born-Oppenheimer approximation."
 Penny : "So you're like one of those *Beautiful Mind* genius guys."
 Sheldon : "Yeah."

Leonard eventually gains the courage to invite Penny for lunch and she actually comes to Sheldon and Leonard's apartment to have Indian food. The first thing Penny sees in their apartment is Sheldon's whiteboard. His whiteboard is full of scientific equation.

The conversation above has an allusion. The allusion is in the phrase *Beautiful Mind*. *Beautiful Mind* is an American film that was released in 2001. In this film, the main protagonist, John Nash, is a genius man. He loves writing equations in a blackboard everytime he has ideas. Since this film illustrates a similarity about a board full of equations, that is why Penny mentions the film when she sees Sheldon's work.

4.2. Hyperbole

There are 44 hyperboles found in *Big Bang Theory*. Here are two samples of the data, *A Very Wide Circle* and *Vienna Sausages*.

4.2.1. A Very Wide Circle

This conversation below occurs after Sheldon and Leonard greet Penny in her apartment for the first time. Leonard is interested in Penny and he wants to initiate a romantic relationship with her. Thus, he wants to invite her to lunch in Sheldon's and his apartment. However, Sheldon does not agree with Leonard's plan and refuse Leonard's ideas.

Leonard : "I think we should be good neighbors, invite her over, make her feel welcome."
 Sheldon : "We never invited Louie-slash-Louise over."
 Leonard : "And that was wrong of us."
 Leonard : "We need to widen our circle."
 Sheldon : "I have *a very wide circle*. I have 212 friends on MySpace."
 Leonard : "Yes and you've never met one of them."
 Sheldon : "That's the beauty of it."

The conversation above has a hyperbole in the phrase *a very wide circle*. Leonard clearly wants to socialize with the new neighbor but Sheldon does not want to. Sheldon is afraid of meeting someone new. Once, he came to his old neighbor across the hall because he is asked to help setting up the cable for awebcam and then he never visit him again. The phrase *a very wide circle* is exaggerating because it refers to the number of friends that Sheldon has in MySpace, an online social media. Everyone with a social media account could have that number of friends or higher, but not in real life

4.2.2. Vienna Sausages

Howard is an engineer and he works at the same place as Sheldon and Leonard's, Caltech. He has a common interest in them; that is, why they became friends. He is a Jewish and still lives with his mother in her house. He is also allergic to peanuts, so whenever he eats anything that contains peanuts, his skin will swell. This time, Howard is at Sheldon and Leonard's apartment, and they are having Thailand food for dinner. Howard orders a Pad Thai, a food that occasionally has peanuts in its servings.

Leonard : "Here you go. Pad thai, no peanuts."
 Howard : "Does it have peanut oil?"
 Leonard : "I'm not sure. Everyone keep an eye on Howard in case he starts to swell up."
 Sheldon : "Since it's not bee season, you can have my epinephrine."
 Howard : "Do I look puffy? I feel puffy."
 Sheldon : "You're not swelling, Howard."
 Howard : "Oh, no. Look at my fingers. They're like *Viennasausages*."

The hyperbole is in the phrase *Vienna sausages*, and Howard uses it to exaggerate his swollen fingers. The reason why Howard mentions *Vienna sausages* is that they are the biggest types of sausages and he compares them with his fingers that he thought to have been swollen. Thus, no human can have fingers as big as *Vienna sausages*.

4.3. Metaphor

There are 33 metaphors found in "Big Bang Theory." Here are two samples of the metaphors, *Leonard's Tail* and *Leonard's Sprinting Black Box*.

4.3.1. Leonard's Tail

This conversation below occurs when Sheldon, Leonard, Howard and Raj are playing an online game together. They are on a mission to get a rare item in a game. After they arrive at the location, they face an army of goblin.

Howard : "Leonard, you got one on *your tail*."
 Leonard : "My tail's prehensile. I'll swat him off."

The conversation above has metaphor. The metaphor is at the phrase *your tail* when Howard commands Leonard to watch out on Leonard's back. However, Howard does not mean to warn Leonard about his back, he warns Leonard about Leonard's character in the game. The reason why Howard chooses the word *tail* is because he wants to point his warning on the behind of Leonard's game character since tails are essentially placed on behind of every creature. Fortunately, the character that is played by Leonard also has a tail. So when Howard said tail, he really means Leonard character's tail.

4.3.2. Leonard's Sprinting Black Box

Leonard is trying to talk to Penny by stealing her mail and telling her that the mailman is misdirected. Unfortunately, as he walks out of his apartment, he sees Penny is kissing another guy. Then, he walks back to his apartment and Sheldon and Howard give him this.

Sheldon : "At least now you can *retrieve the black box from the twisted smoldering wreckage that was once your fantasy of dating her* and analyze the data so that you don't crash into Geek Mountain again."
 Howard : "I disagree. *Love is not a sprint, it's a marathon*. A relentless pursuit that only ends when she falls into your arms... or hits you with a pepper spray."

The conversation above has two metaphors. They are Sheldon's and Howard's belief about love. Sheldon compares Leonard's love life with a black box because Leonard is hopeless in getting Penny's Heart. A black box is found after a bad incident, just like Leonard's attempt when he wants to start a relationship with Penny. Howard's belief about love, however, is a little bit hopeful. He compares love with a marathon because he believes that love is a pursuit that go on for a long time and not occurs in a short time like a sprint. Although, his experience about love is not happy enough, he dares to share his.

4.4. Personification

There are 5 personifications found in "Big Bang Theory." Here are two samples of it, *Gossip Bird* and *Thailand and Fork*.

4.4.1. Gossip Bird

Leslie Winkle is a female scientist that work in Caltech. After Leonard's poor attempt on hitting Penny, he moved on to Leslie. One night, Leonard had a sexual intercourse with her. In the morning, while Penny was coming back from the laundry room in the basement of the apartment building, she met Leonard in front of his apartment door. She asked Leonard how he was doing after the last night's intercourse.

Penny : "So... how's it going?"
 Leonard : "Pretty good."
 Penny : "Just pretty good? I'd think you were doing very good."
 Leonard : "Pretty, very... there's no objective scale for delineating variations of "good." Why do you ask?"
 Penny : "Well, *a little bird told me* that you and Leslie hooked up last night."

The personification is in the clause "*a little bird told me*". A bird can not talk to human. This is why the phrase is a personification because the bird is

given human characteristics. *A little bird told me* is a common idiom to inform someone, but it also hides the source of the information.

4.4.2. Thailand and Fork

Sheldon, Leonard, Howard and Rajesh are having Thailand food at Sheldon and Leonard's apartment. After Leonard distributes the food to each person according to their orders, Rajesh asks for a chopsticks.

Rajesh : "Are there any chopsticks?"
 Sheldon : "No need chopsticks. This is Thai food."
 Leonard : "Here we go."
 Sheldon : "*Thailand has had the fork* since the latter half of the 19th Century. Interestingly, they don't put the fork in their mouth, they use it to put the food on a spoon which then goes into their mouth."

In this case, Sheldon said that "Thailand has had the fork"; this is actually a personification. A country would never had fork. He could have said "Thai has had the fork" or "Thai started to use fork." Thailand is a country whereas Thai is the people of Thailand.

4.5. Simile

There are 9 similes in *Big Bang Theory*. Here are two samples of them; *Carbohydrate Delivery System* and *A Baby Deer*.

4.5.1. Carbohydrate Delivery System

Leonard : "So, you're coming home from work. That's great. How was work?"
 Penny : "Well, you know, it's a Cheesecake Factory. People order cheesecake and I bring it to them."
 Leonard : "So you kind of act *like a carbohydrate delivery system*."

In the conversation between Leonard and Penny, he compares Penny with a *carbohydrate delivery system*. This simile occurs because Penny works at Cheesecake Factory. This place is one of the restaurants that are famous for their

cheese cakes and the other deserts. Fortunately, the main ingredient of cake is wheat and it contains a lot of carbohydrate.

4.5.2. A Baby Deer

Sheldon's mother, Mary, is a loving person. She is a simple minded woman who lives in a religious way. Even though Sheldon does not believe in the Bible, she still loves him dearly. This time Sheldon is fired from his work because he mocks his boss. Everyday, he does things that annoy his roommate Leonard. Since Leonard can not stand Sheldon's frenzy activities, he calls Sheldon's mother to come to Los Angeles, California, all the way from Texas. Knowing that his roommate is calling his mother, Sheldon is angry and hides in his bedroom. At dinner time, when Howard, Rajesh and Penny come over, Sheldon is coming out of his bedroom to have dinner.

Howard : "Hey, look who's come..."

Mary : "Shhh, you'll spook him. *He's like a baby deer.* You got to let him come to you."

The simile is at the clause "He's like a baby deer." Mary compares Sheldon with a deer and the comparison is made explicit by using "like". This happens because Sheldon is still angry with Leonard and acts like a deer. He clearly does not want to face Leonard at that time. He silently walks to the kitchen to have some cobbles that Mary made; this situation is similar to a deer when it walks through the forest to find food.

5. Conclusion

The most used figure of speech in "Big Bang Theory" is allusion because the data analysis shows that allusions were used thirty three percent (33%). The

reference of another art makes this sitcom more realistic. This allows the characters to mention or even mock another art. Overall, the use of tropes in this sitcom makes the whole story more full with fineness of language.

The figure of speech that used in this sitcom establish a purpose. For one thing, I thought that the tropes are supposed to make a joke, but I realised some of them are not funny. Maybe not all of the tropes are supposed to be funny. Some of the funny part in this sitcom also come from the face expression of the characters, the situation, and the mock spoken by the character to each other.

References

- Alm-Arvius, C. (2003). *Figures of Speech*. Lund, Sweden: Studentlitteratur.
- Brogan, J. V. & Richmond, H. S. (2013). Simile. In *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry & Poetics*.(pp. 3050-3053). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Coomaraswamy, A. C. (2007). *Figures of Speech or Figures of Thought? The Traditional View of Art*. Bloomington, Indiana: World Wisdom, Inc.
- Fowler, E. (2013). Personification. In *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry & Poetics*.(p. 2409-2412).Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Greene, R. (2012). *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry & Poetics*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Jovi, J. B., Sambora, R. & Martin, M. (2000). It's My Life (Bon Jovi). On *Crush* (mp3). Santa Monica: Island Records.
- Ma, Z., & Jiang M. (2013). *Interpretation of Verbal Humor in the Sitcom The Big Bang Theory from the Perspective of Adaptation-relevance Theory*. Finland: Academy Publisher.
- Mahdalikova, M. (2014). *A Discourse Analysis of The American Sitcom The Big Bang Theory: The Construction of a Geek Identity*. Zlin: Tomas Bata University.
- Martin, W. (2013). Metaphor. In *Encyclopedia of Poetry & Poetics*, (pp. 2041-2057). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- McFadden, K. (2013). Hyperbole. In *Encyclopedia of Poetry & Poetics*, (pp. 1555). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

- Quinn, A. (2010). *Figures of Speech 60 ways to turn a phrase*. Abingdon: Taylor & Francis Group.
- Shuqin, H. (2013). *A Relevance Theoretic Analysis of Verbal Humor in The Big Bang Theory*. Qingdao, China: Qingdao University of Science & Technology.
- Wetzsteon, R. (2013). Allusion. In *Encyclopedia of Poetry & Poetics*,(pp. 170-173). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Wilson, K. (2010). *The AMA Handbook of Business Writing: The Ultimate Guide to Style, Grammar, Usage, Punctuation, Construction, and Formatting*. New York: American Management Association.

Appendix

1. Allusion

Episode 1

- Leonard : “Should we have invited her for lunch?”
Sheldon : “No, we’re gonna start season two of *Battlestar Galactica*.”
- Leonard : “We already watched the season two DVDs.”
Sheldon : “Not with commentary.”
- ...
- Penny : “This looks like some serious stuff. Leonard, did you do this?”
- Sheldon : “Actually, that’s my work.”
Penny : “Wow.”
Sheldon : “Yeah. Well, it’s just some quantum mechanics with a little string theory doodling around the edges. That part there, that’s just a joke. It’s a spoof of the Born-Oppenheimer approximation.”
- Penny : “So you’re like one of those *Beautiful Mind* genius guys.”
Sheldon : “Yeah.”
Penny : “This is really impressive.”
- ...
- Leonard : “I have a board. If you like boards, this is my board.”
Penny : “Holy smokes.”
Sheldon : “If by “holy smokes”, you mean a derivative restatement of the kind of stuff you can find scribbled on the wall of any men’s room at MIT, sure.”
- Leonard : “What?”
Sheldon : “Come on. Who hasn’t seen this differential below “*Here I sit, broken-hearted*”?”
- ...
- Leonard : “Well, this is nice. We don’t have a lot of company over.”
Sheldon : “That’s not true. Koothrappali and Wolowitz come over all the time.”
- Leonard : “Yes, I know, but...”
Sheldon : “Tuesday night, we played *Klingon Boggle* until one in the morning.”
- ...
- Penny : “So... *Klingon Boggle*?”
Leonard : “Yeah. It’s like regular Boggle, but... in *Klingon*.”
- ...
- Leonard : “I’m not going to engage in hypotheticals here. I’m just trying to be a good neighbor.”

Sheldon : “Ah, of course.”
Leonard : “That’s not to say that if a carnal relationship were to develop that I wouldn’t participate. However briefly.”
Sheldon : “Do you think this possibility will be helped or hindered when she discovers your *Luke Skywalker* no-more-tears shampoo?”
Leonard : “It’s *Darth Vader* shampoo. *Luke Skywalker*’s the conditioner.”
...

Episode 2

Leonard : “Penny, wait.”
Penny : “Yeah?”
Leonard : “Um, if you don’t have any other plans, do you want to join us for Thai food and *Superman* movie marathon?”
Penny : “A marathon?”
...
Penny : “How many *Superman* movies are there?”
Sheldon : “You’re kidding, right?”
...
Penny : “I do like the one where *Lois Lane* falls from the helicopter and *Superman* swooshes down and catches her. Which one was that?”
S, L and H : “One.”
...
Sheldon : “You realize that scene was rife with scientific inaccuracy.”
Penny : “Yes, I know, men can’t fly.”
Sheldon : “No, no. Let’s assume that they can. *Lois Lane* is falling, accelerating at an initial rate of thirty two (32) feet per second per second. *Superman* swoops down to save her by reaching out two arms of steel. Miss *Lane*, who is now traveling at approximately a hundred and twenty (120) miles an hour, hits them and is immediately sliced into three equal pieces.”
...
Leonard : “Unless *Superman* matches her speed and decelerates.”
Sheldon : “In what space, sir? She’s two feet above the ground. Frankly, if he really love her, he’d let her hit the pavement. It’d be a more merciful death.”
...
Leonard : “Excuse me, your entire argument is predicated on the assumption that *Superman*’s flight is a feat of strength.”

Sheldon : “Are you listening to yourself? It is well established that *Superman*’s flight is a feat of strength. It is an extension of his ability to leap tall buildings, an ability he derives from exposure to Earth’s yellow sun.”

...

Howard : “Yeah, and you don’t have a problem with that? How does he fly at night?”

Sheldon : “Oh, a combination of the moon’s solar reflection and the energy storage capacity of *Kryptonian* skin cells.”

...

Leonard : “I have twenty six hundred (2600) comic books in there. I challenge you to find a single reference to *Kryptonian* skin cells.”

Sheldon : “Challenge accepted.”

...

Leonard : “I guess, we’ll just bring it up ourselves.”

Sheldon : “I hardly think so.”

Leonard : “Why not?”

Sheldon : “Well, we don’t have a dolly, or lifting belts or any measurable upper-body strength.”

Leonard : “We don’t need strength, we’re physicists. We are the intellectual descendants of Archimedes. Give me a fulcrum and a lever and I can move the Earth. It’s just a matter of... I don’t have this, I don’t have this!”

Sheldon : “Archimedes would be so proud.”

Leonard : “Do you have any ideas?”

Sheldon : “Yes, but they all involve a *Green Lantern* and a *Power Ring*.”

...

Sheldon : “Watch your fingers. Oh, God, my fingers!”

Leonard : “You okay?”

Sheldon : “No, her... *Great Caesar’s ghost*, look at this place.”

Leonard : “So Penny’s a little messy.”

Sheldon : “A little messy? The Mandelbrot set of complex numbers is a little messy. This is chaos.”

...

Episode 3

Howard : “Alright, just a few more feet. And... here we are, gentlemen, the *Gates of Elzebob*.”

Sheldon : “Good lord.”

Leonard : “Don’t panic. This is what the last ninety seven (97) hours have been about.”

Howard : “Stay frosty. There’s a horde of armed goblins on the other side of that gate guarding the *Sword of Azeroth*.”

Leonard : “Warriors, unsheathe your weapons. Magic wielders, raise

your wands.”
 Sheldon : “Lock and load.”
 ...
 Leonard : “Raj, no, it’s a trap! They’re flanking us!”
 Rajesh : “He’s got me!”
 Howard : “Sheldon, he’s got Raj. Use your sleep spell! Sheldon!
 Sheldon.
 Sheldon : “I’ve got the *Sword of Azeroth!*”
 Leonard : “Forget the sword, Sheldon, help Raj!”
 Sheldon : “There is no more Sheldon. I am the sword master.”
 Howard : “Leonard, look out!”
 Leonard : “Damn it, man, we’re dying here!”
 Sheldon : “Good bye, peasants!”
 Leonard : “The bastard teleported.”
 ...
 Rajesh : “He’s selling the *Sword of Azeroth* on eBay.”
 Leonard : “You betrayed us for money? Who are you?”
 Sheldon : “I’m a rogue night elf. Don’t you people read the character
 descriptions? Wait, wait, wait! Somebody just clicked
 “Buy it now”.”
 Howard : “I am the sword master!”
 ...

Episode 4

Mary : “He gets his temper from his daddy.”
 Leonard : “Ah.”
 Mary : “He’s got my eyes.”
 Leonard : “I see.”
 Mary : “All that science stuff, that comes from *Jesus*.”
 ...
 Leonard : “Sheldon, your mom made dinner.”
 Sheldon : “I’m not hungry!”
 Mary : “Don’t trouble yourself. He’s stubborn. He may stay there
 till the *Rapture*.”
 ...
 Mary : “All right, everybody, it’s time to eat.
 “Oh, *Lord*, we thank *You* for this meal and all of *Your*
bounty.
 We pray that *You* help Sheldon get back on his rocker.”
 Now, after a moment of silent meditation, I’m gonna end
 with “*In Jesus’ name*,” but you two don’t feel any
 obligation to join in. Unless, of course, *the Holy Spirit*
 moves you.”
 ...

Episode 5

- Sheldon : “All right! I’m moving my infantry division. Augmented by *battalion* of orcs from *Lord of The Rings*. We flank the Tennessee volunteers and the North, once again, wins the battle of Gettysburg.”
- Howard : “Not so fast! Remember, the South still has two infantry divisions, plus *Superman* and *Godzilla*.”
- Leonard : “No, no, no. Orcs are magic, *Superman* is vulnerable to magic. Not to mention you already lost *Godzilla* to the Illinois cavalry and *Hulk*.”
- Rajesh : “Why don’t you just have Robert E. Lee charge the line with *Shiva* and *Ganesh*?”
- Penny : “Hey, you guys ready to order?”
- Howard : “Hang on, honey. *Shiva* and *Ganesh*, the Hindu gods, against the entire Union army?”
- Leonard : “And orcs.”
- Penny : “I’ll be back.”
- Rajesh : “Excuse me. *Ganesh* is the Remover of Obstacles and *Shiva* is the Destroyer. When the smoke clears, Abraham Lincoln will be speaking Hindi and drinking mint juleps.”
- ...

2. Hyperbole

Episode 1

- Leonard : “We need to widen our circle.”
- Sheldon : “I have *a very wide circle*. I have 212 friends on MySpace.”
- Leonard : “Yes, and you’ve never met one of them.”
- Sheldon : “That’s the beauty of it.”
- ...
- Penny : “I’m so sorry. I’m such a mess. On top of everything else, I’m all gross from moving and *my stupid shower* doesn’t even work.”
- ...
- Sheldon : “Well, this is an interesting development.”
- Leonard : “How so?”
- Sheldon : “It has been some time since we’ve had a woman take her clothes off in our apartment.”
- Leonard : “That’s not true. Remember at Thanksgiving, my grandmother with Alzheimer’s had that episode?”
- Sheldon : “Point taken. It has been some time since we’ve had a woman take her clothes off, *after which we didn’t want to rip our eyes out*.”

...

Howard : "Wait till you see this."
Rajesh : "It's fantastic, unbelievable."
Leonard : "See what?"
Howard : "It's a Stephen Hawking lecture from MIT in 1974."
Leonard : "This isn't a good time."
Howard : "It's before he became *a creepy computer voice*."
...

Leonard : "That's great. You guys have to go."
Rajesh : "Why?"
Leonard : "It's just not a good time."
Sheldon : "Leonard has a lady over."
Howard : "Yeah, right... your *grandmother* back in town?"
...

Sheldon : "I really think we should examine the chain of causality here."
Leonard : "Must we?"
Sheldon : "Event A... a beautiful woman stands naked in our shower. Event B... we drive halfway across town to retrieve a television set from the a forementioned woman's ex-boyfriend. Query... on what plane of existence is there even a semi-rational link between these events?"
Leonard : "She asked me to do a favor, Sheldon."
Sheldon : "Ah, yes, well, that may be the proximal cause of our journey, but we both know it only exists in contradistinction to the higher level distal cause."
Leonard : "Which is?"
Sheldon : "*You think with your penis*."
...

Leonard : "Is Thai food okay with you, Penny?"
Penny : "Sure."
Sheldon : "We can't have Thai food, we had Indian for lunch."
Penny : "So?"
Sheldon : "They're both curry-based cuisines."
Penny : "So?"
Sheldon : "It would be gastronomically redundant. I can see we're going to have to *spell out everything* for this girl."
...

Episode 2

Howard : "Do I look puffy? I feel puffy."
Sheldon : "No. You're not swelling, Howard."
Howard : "No, no look at my fingers. They're like *Vienna sausages*."
...

Penny : “Hey, Sheldon.”
Sheldon : “Hi.”
Penny : “Hey, Raj. Still not talking to me, huh?”
Sheldon : “Don’t take it personally, it’s his pathology. He can’t talk to women.”
Howard : “He can’t talk to attractive women, or in your case, *a cheesecake-scented goddess.*”
...
Sheldon : “You realize that scene was rife with scientific inaccuracy.”
Penny : “Yes, I know, men can’t fly.”
Sheldon : “No, no, let’s assume that they can. Lois Lane is falling, accelerating at an initial rate of 32 feet per second per second. Superman swoops down to save her by reaching out two arms of steel. Miss Lane who is now traveling at approximately 120 miles an hour, hits them and is immediately *sliced into three equal pieces.*”
...
Leonard : “I guess, we’ll just bring it up ourselves.”
Sheldon : “I hardly think so.”
Leonard : “Why not?”
Sheldon : “Well, we don’t have a dolly, or lifting belts or any measurable upper-body strength.”
Leonard : “We don’t need strength, we’re physicists. We are the intellectual descendants of Archimedes. *Give me a fulcrum and a lever and I can move the Earth.* It’s just a matter of... I don’t have this, I don’t have this!”
Sheldon : “Archimedes would be so proud.”
...
Sheldon : “Watch your fingers. Oh, God, my fingers!”
Leonard : “You okay?”
Sheldon : “No, her... Great Caesar’s ghost, look at this place.”
Leonard : “So Penny’s a little messy.”
Sheldon : “A little messy? The Mandelbrot set of complex numbers is a little messy. *This is chaos.*”
...
Sheldon : “Excuse me. Explain to me an organizational system where a tray of flatware on a couch is valid. I’m just inferring this is a couch because the evidence suggests *the coffee table is having a tiny garage sale.*”
...
Leonard : “Come on, we should go.”
Sheldon : “Hang on.”
Leonard : “What are you doing?”
Sheldon : “I’m straightening up.”
Leonard : “Sheldon, this is not your home.”

Sheldon : “This is not anyone’s home. This is *a swirling vortex of entropy.*”

...

Howard : “Grab a napkin, homie. You just got served.”

Leonard : “That’s fine. You win.”

Howard : “What’s his problem?”

Sheldon : “*His imaginary girlfriend broke up with him.*”

Howard : “Been there.”

...

Rajesh : “Halo, sorry I’m late, but I was in the hallway, chatting up Penny.”

Howard : “Really? You, Rajesh Koothrappali, spoke to Penny?”

Rajesh : “Actually, I was less the chater than the chat-ee.”

Leonard : “What did she say? Is she still mad at me?”

Rajesh : “Well, she was upset at first, but probably because her sister shot somebody. But then there was something about you, and then she hugged me.”

Howard : “She hugged you? How’d she hug you? Is that her perfume I smell?”

Rajesh : “*Intoxicating*, isn’t it?”

...

Howard : “Oh, boy. I was afraid of this.”

Leonard : “What?”

Howard : “These instructions are a pictographic representation of the least imaginative way to assemble these components. *This right here is why Sweden has no space program.*”

...

Episode 3

Leonard : “Raj, no, it’s a trap! They’re flanking us!”

Rajesh : “He’s got me!”

Howard : “Sheldon, he’s got Raj. Use your sleep spell! Sheldon! Sheldon.”

Sheldon : “I’ve got the Sword of Azeroth!”

Leonard : “Forget the sword, Sheldon, help Raj!”

Sheldon : “There is no more Sheldon. *I am the sword master.*”

Rajesh : “He’s selling the Sword of Azeroth on eBay.”

Leonard : “You betrayed us for money? Who are you?”

Sheldon : “I’m a rogue night elf. Don’t you people read the character descriptions? Wait, wait, wait! Somebody just clicked “Buy it now”.”

Howard : “*I am the sword master!*”

...

Sheldon : “Oh, I’ve seen that look before. This is just going to be

two weeks of moping and tedious emo songs and calling me to come down to pet stores to look at cats. *I don't know if I can take it.*"

...

Sheldon : "Oh, good Lord."

Leonard : "God, that's a good song."

Sheldon : "*If you're compiling a mix CD for a double suicide.*"

...

Sheldon : "Oh, come on, Leonard... this is obviously about Penny."

Leonard : "It doesn't matter. The woman's not interested in me. The woman rejected me."

Sheldon : "Okay, look, I think that you have as much of a chance of having a sexual relationship with Penny *as the Hubble Telescope does of discovering at the center of every black hole as a little man with a flashlight searching for a circuit breaker.*"

...

Leonard : "Did we say a time?"

Penny : "6:30."

Leonard : "And that's still good for you?"

Penny : "It's fine."

Leonard : "Because *it's not carved in stone.*"

...

Episode 4

Sheldon : "You know, I've been thinking about time travel again."

Leonard : "Why? Did you *hit a roadblock with invisibility?*"

...

Sheldon : "You know, I am not going to enjoy this party."

Leonard : "I know, I'm familiar with you."

Sheldon : "The last department party, Professor Finkledey cornered me and talked about spelunking for 45 minutes."

Leonard : "Yes, I was there."

Sheldon : "You know what's interesting about caves, Leonard?"

Leonard : "What?"

Sheldon : "Nothing."

...

Sheldon : "How's this? "Pleased to meet you, Dr. Gablehauser. How fortunate for you that the university's chosen to hire you, despite the fact that you've done no original research in 25 years, and *instead have written a series of popular books that reduce the great concepts of science to a series of anecdotes, each one dumbed down to accomodate the duration of an average bowel movement.*"

...

Rajesh : “Oh, god, look at this buffet. I love America.”
Leonard : “You don’t have buffets in India?”
Rajesh : “Of course, but it’s all Indian food. *You can’t find a bagel in Mumbai to save your life.*”
...
Sheldon : “Well, here’s an interesting turn of events.”
Leonard : “What? Howard brought a date?”
Sheldon : “A more plausible explanation is that *his work in robotics has made an amazing leap forward.*”
...
Leonard : “Here comes our new boss. Be polite.”
Eric : “Hi, fellas. Eric Gablehauser.”
Howard : “Howard Wolowitz.”
Eric : “Howard, nice to meet you. And you are?”
Sheldon : “*An actual-real-scientist.*”
...
Sheldon : “I can’t believe he fired me.”
Leonard : “Well, *you did call him a glorified high school science teacher whose last successful experiment was lighting his own farts.*”
...
Sheldon : “Oh, boy.”
Penny : “What now?”
Sheldon : “Well, there’s some value to taking a multivitamin but the human body can only absorb so much. *What you’re buying here are the ingredients for very expensive urine.*”
...
Mary : “He gets his temper from his daddy.”
Leonard : “Ah.”
Mary : “He’s got my eyes.”
Leonard : “I see.”
Mary : “*All that science stuff, that comes from Jesus.*”
...
Leonard : “Sheldon, your mom made dinner.”
Sheldon : “I’m not hungry!”
Mary : “Don’t trouble yourself. He’s stubborn. *He may stay there till the Rapture.*”
...
Mary : “You put those on.”
Sheldon : “What for?”
Mary : “Because you’re gonna go down to your office, you’re gonna apologize to your boss and get your job back.”
Sheldon : “No.”
Mary : “I’m sorry, did I start that sentence with the words, “*If it please Your Highness*”?”

...
Mary : “Problem solved.”
Leonard : “Really? That’s impressive.”
Mary : “Leonard, the Lord never gives us more than we can handle. Thankfully, he blessed me with *two other children who are dumb as soup.*”
...

Episode 5

Penny : “Hey, you guys ready to order?”
Howard : “Hang on, honey. Shiva and Ganesh, the Hindu gods, against the entire Union army?”
Leonard : “And orcs.”
Penny : “I’ll be back.”
Rajesh : “Excuse me. Ganesh is the Remover of Obstacles and Shiva is the Destroyer. When the smoke clears, *Abraham Lincoln will be speaking Hindi and drinking mint juleps.*”
...

Leslie : “Hey, Leonard. Hi, guys.”
Leonard : “Hi, Leslie.”
Leslie : “I didn’t know you ate here.”
Sheldon : “We don’t. This is *a disturbing aberration.*”
...

Leonard : “Leslie, this is Penny. She lives across the hall from Sheldon and me.”

Howard : “*And walks in quiet beauty like the night.*”
...

Penny : “So, hey, your friend’s really cute. Anything going on with you two?”

Leonard : “Leslie? No, no. What, are you kidding?”

Sheldon : “He asked her out once. *It was an embarrassing failure.*”
...

Rajesh : “Oh, dear.”

Howard : “What’s the matter?”

Rajesh : “She didn’t take my order.”

Howard : “How can she take your order when *you’re too neurotic to talk to her?*”
...

Penny : “All right. Look, a tie on the doorknob usually means someone doesn’t want to be disturbed because, they’re... you know, getting busy.”

Sheldon : “So you’re saying Leonard has a girl in there?”

Penny : “Well, either that or he’s lost his tie rack and gotten really into Bryan Adams.”

Leslie : “Oh, Leonard, *you magnificent beast.*”
...

Penny : “So, do you know who’s in there?”
Sheldon : “Well, there’s Leonard. And *he’s either with Leslie Winkle
ora 1930s gangster.*”

...

Leonard : “Hi, Leslie.”
Leslie : “Careful, Leonard. Liquid nitrogen, 320 degrees below
zero.”

Leonard : “Why are you smashing a flash-frozen banana?”
Leslie : “Because I got a bowl of Cheerios and I couldn’t find a
knife.”

Leonard : “So, anyway, hello.”
Leslie : “What are you doing?”
Leonard : “Just extending the intimacy. Hey, do want to slip over to
the radiation lab and share a decontamination shower?”

Leslie : “Okay, what exactly do you think’s going on between us?”
Leonard : “I’m not sure, but *I think I’m about to discover how the
banana felt.*”

...

Leslie : “Listen, Leonard, neither of us are neuroscientists, but we
both understand the biochemistry of sex. I mean,
dopamine in our brains is released across synapses,
causing pleasure. You stick electrodes in a rat’s brain, give
him an orgasm button, *he’ll push that thing until he
starves to death.*”

...

Sheldon : “I think I may have misjudged this restaurant.”
Leonard : “No kidding.”
Sheldon : “I don’t want to go out on a limb, but I think we may be
looking at my new Tuesday hamburger.”

Leonard : “*Your old Tuesday hamburger will be so brokenhearted.*”
Sheldon : “Way ahead of you. I was thinking of moving Big Boy to
Thursdays, and just dropping Souplantation.”

Leonard : “Really?”
Sheldon : “Yeah, the name always confused me anyway.
Souplantation. You can’t grow soup.”

...

3. Metaphor

Episode 1

Leonard : “Is this the high-IQ sperm bank?”
Nurse : “If you have to ask, maybe you shouldn’t be here.”
Sheldon : “I think this is the place.”
Nurse : “Fill these out.”
Leonard : “Thank you. We’ll be right back.”

Nurse : “Oh, *take your time*. I’ll just finished my crossword puzzle.”

...

Sheldon : “Leonard, I don’t think I can do this.”

Leonard : “What, are you kidding? *You’re a semi-pro.*”

...

Leonard : “We don’t mean to interrupt. *We live across the hall.*”

Penny : “Oh, that’s nice.”

Leonard : “No, we don’t live together. I mean... we live together, but in separate, heterosexual bedrooms.”

...

Leonard : “I think we should be good neighbors, invite her over, make her feel welcome.”

Sheldon : “We never invited Louie/Louise over.”

Leonard : “And that was wrong of us. *We need to widen our circle.*”

Sheldon : “*I have a very wide circle.*”

...

Sheldon : “I really think we should examine the chain of causality here.”

Leonard : “Must we?”

Sheldon : “Event A... a beautiful woman stands naked in our shower. Event B... we drive halfway across town to retrieve a television set from the a forementioned woman’s ex-boyfriend. Query... on what plane of existence is there even a semi-rational link between these events?”

Leonard : “She asked me to do a favor, Sheldon.”

Sheldon : “Ah, yes, well, that may be the proximal cause of our journey, but we both know it only exists in contradistinction to the higher level distal cause.”

Leonard : “Which is?”

Sheldon : “*You think with your penis.*”

...

Leonard : “I’ll do the talking.”

Kurt : “Yeah?”

Leonard : “Hi, I’m Leonard, this is Sheldon.”

Sheldon : “Hello.”

Leonard : “What did I just, uh, we’re here to pick up Penny’s TV.”

Kurt : “Get lost.”

Sheldon : “Okay, thanks for your time.”

Leonard : “We’re not going to give up just like that.”

Sheldon : “Leonard, the TV’s in the building. We’ve been denied access to the building, ergo, we are done.”

Leonard : “Excuse me. If I were to give up on the first little hitch, *I*

never would have identified the fingerprints of string theory in the aftermath of a Big Bang.

...
Sheldon : "It's just *a privilege to watch your mind at work.*"
...
Sheldon : "You're not done with her, are you?"
Leonard : "Our babies will be smart and beautiful."
Sheldon : "Not to mention imaginary."
...
Sheldon : "We can't have Thai food, we had Indian for lunch."
Penny : "So?"
Sheldon : "They're both curry-based cuisines."
Penny : "So?"
Sheldon : "*It would be gastronomically redundant.*"
...

Episode 2

Rajesh : "Are there any chopsticks?"
Sheldon : "No need chopsticks. This is Thai food."
Leonard : "Here we go."
Sheldon : "*Thailand has had the fork since the latter half of the 19th Century. Interestingly, they don't actually put the fork in their mouth, they use it to put the food on a spoon which then goes into their mouth.*"
...
Penny : "Hey, Sheldon."
Sheldon : "Hi."
Penny : "Hey, Raj. Still not talking to me, huh?"
Sheldon : "Don't take it personally, it's his pathology. He can't talk to women."
Howard : "He can't talk to attractive women, or in your case, *a cheesecake-scented goddess.*"
...
Sheldon : "You realize that scene was rife with scientific inaccuracy."
Penny : "Yes, I know, men can't fly."
Sheldon : "No, no, let's assume that they can. Lois Lane is falling, accelerating at an initial rate of 32 feet per second per second. Superman swoops down to save her by reaching out *two arms of steel*. Miss Lane who is now traveling at approximately 120 miles an hour, hits them and is immediately sliced into three equal pieces."
...
Leonard : "I guess, we'll just bring it up ourselves."
Sheldon : "I hardly think so."
Leonard : "Why not?"

Sheldon : “Well, we don’t have a dolly, or lifting belts or any measurable upper-body strength.”

Leonard : “We don’t need strength, we’re physicists. We are the intellectual descendants of Archimedes. Give me a fulcrum and a lever and I can move the Earth. It’s just a matter of... I don’t have this, I don’t have this!”

Sheldon : “*Archimedes would be so proud.*”

...

Penny : “Do you understand how creepy this is!?”

Leonard : “Oh, yes, we discussed it at length last night.”

Penny : “In my apartment, while I was sleeping!?”

Sheldon : “And snoring. And that’s probably just a sinus infection. But it could be sleep apnea. You might want to see an otolaryngologist. A throat doctor.”

Penny : “And *what kind of doctor removes shoes from asses?*”

...

Penny : “Thank you for listening. *You’re a doll.*”

...

Howard : “Grab a napkin, homie. *You just got served.*”

...

Episode 3

Howard : “Leonard, you got one *on your tail.*”

Leonard : “My tail’s prehensile, I’ll swat him off.”

...

Rajesh : “What’s the matter?”

Leonard : “I’m fine. Penny’s fine. The guy she’s kissing is really fine.”

Howard : “Kissing? What kind of kissing? Cheeks? Lips? Chaste? French?”

Leonard : “What is wrong with you?”

Howard : “*I’m a romantic.*”

...

Howard : “So, how’d it go with Leslie?”

Leonard : “Oh, we tried kissing, but *the Earth didn’t move.*”

...

Sheldon : “Oh, at least now you can retrieve *the black box from the twisted smoldering wreckage that was once your fantasy of dating her* and analyze the data so that *you don’t crash into Geek Mountain again.*”

...

Leonard : “I’m done with Penny. I’m going to be more realistic and *go after someone my own speed.*”

...

Howard : “I think Mrs. Tishman’s *got her eye on you.* I’ve been there. You’re in for a treat.”

...

Sheldon : "So, how was your date?"
Leonard : "Awesome!"
Sheldon : "*Score 1 for liquor and poor judgement.*"

...

Episode 4

Sheldon : "You know, I've been thinking about timetravel again."
Leonard : "Why? Did you hit a roadblock with invisibility?"
Sheldon : "*Put in on a backburner.* Anyway, it occurs to me, if I ever did perfect the time machine, I would just go into the past and give it to myself. Thus, eliminating the need for me to invent it in the first place."

Leonard : "Interesting."
Sheldon : "Yeah, *it really kicks the pressure off.*"

...

Leonard : "I'll let you get back to *fixing your eggs.*"
Sheldon : "Not just fixing my eggs, I'm fixing everyone's eggs."

...

Mary : "I made chicken. *I hope that isn't one of the animals that you people think is magic.*"

...

Mary : "You know, you two make a cute couple."
Leonard : "No. We're not... we're not a couple. We're singles. Two singles. Like those... individually wrapped slices of cheese that..."

Mary : "*Did I pluck a nerve there?*"
Howard : "Oh, yeah."

...

Sheldon : "What do you want mom?"
Mary : "You know how your daddy used to say that you can only fish so long before you got to throw a stick of dynamite in the water?"

Sheldon : "Yeah."
Mary : "Well, *I'm done fishing.*"

...

Episode 5

Sheldon : "All right! *I'm moving my infantry division.* Augmented by battalion of orcs from Lord of The Rings. We flank the Tennessee volunteers and the North, once again, wins the battle of Gettysburg."

...

Leonard : "Leslie, this is Penny. She lives across the hall from

Sheldon and me.”
Howard : “*And walks in quiet beauty like the night.*”
...
Howard : “If you’re into music, I happen to be a *human beatbox.*”
Penny : “Really?”
[Howard beatboxing]
Penny : “I’m actually not that kind into music.”
...

4. Personification

Episode 1

-

Episode 2

Rajesh : “Are there any chopsticks?”
Sheldon : “No need chopsticks. This is Thai food.”
Leonard : “Here we go.”

Sheldon : “*Thailand has had the fork* since the latter half of the 19th Century. Interestingly, they don’t put the fork in their mouth, they use it to put the food on a spoon which then goes into their mouth.”
...
Leonard : “Okay, now we’ve got an inclined plane. The force required to lift is reduced by the sin of the angle of the stairs, call it 30 degrees, so about half.”
Sheldon : “Exactly half.”
Leonard : “Exactly half.”
Leonard : “Let’s push. Okay. See, it’s moving, this is easy. It’s all in the math.”
Sheldon : “What’s your formula for the corner?”
Leonard : “What? Okay, no problem. Just come up here, help me pull and turn.”
Sheldon : “Ah, *gravity, thou art a heartless bitch.*”
...

Episode 3

Leonard : “Hey, what’s going on?”
Sheldon : “*Internet’s been down* for half an hour.”
...
Howard : “So, how’d it go with Leslie?”
Leonard : “Oh, we tried kissing, but *the Earth didn’t move.*”
...

Episode 4

-

Episode 5

Penny : "So... how's it going?"
Leonard : "Pretty good."
Penny : "Just pretty good? I'd think you were doing very good."
Leonard : "Pretty, very... there's no objective scale for delineating variations of "good." Why do you ask?"
Penny : "Well, *a little bird told me* that you and Leslie hooked up last night."

...

5. Simile

Episode 1

Penny : "This looks like some serious stuff. Leonard, did you do this?"
Sheldon : "Actually, that's my work."
Penny : "Wow."
Sheldon : "Yeah. Well, it's just some quantum mechanics with a little string theory doodling around the edges. That part there, that's just a joke. It's a spoof of the Born-Oppenheimer approximation."
Penny : "*So you're like one of those Beautiful Mind genius guys.*"
Sheldon : "Yeah."
Penny : "This is really impressive."
...
Leonard : "We're home."
Penny : "Oh my God, what happened?"
Leonard : "Well, your ex-boyfriend sends his regards and I think the rest is fairly self-explanatory."
Penny : "I'm so sorry. I really thought if you guys went instead of me *he wouldn't be such an ass.*"

...

Episode 2

Howard : "Do I look puffy? I feel puffy."
Sheldon : "No. You're not swelling, Howard."
Howard : "No, no look at my fingers. They're like *Vienna sausages.*"
...
Leonard : "So, you're coming home from work. That's great. How was work?"
Penny : "Well, you know, it's a Cheesecake Factory. People order cheesecake and I bring it to them."
Leonard : "So you kind of act *like a carbohydrate delivery system.*"

...

Episode 3

-

Episode 4

Leonard : "Morning."

Sheldon : "Morning."

Leonard : "You're making eggs for breakfast?"

Sheldon : "This isn't breakfast, it's an experiment."

Leonard : "'Cause it *looks a lot like breakfast.*"

...

Howard : "Hey, look who's come..."

Mary : "Shhh, you'll spook him. *He's like a baby deer.* You got to let him come to you."

...

Mary : "Problem solved."

Leonard : "Really? That's impressive."

Mary : "Leonard, the Lord never gives us more than we can handle. Thankfully, he blessed me with *two other children who are dumb as soup.*"

...

Episode 5

Leonard : "Leslie, this is Penny. She lives across the hall from Sheldon and me."

Howard : "And walks in *quiet beauty like the night.*"

...

Penny : "So, do you know who's in there?"

Sheldon : "Well, there's Leonard. And *he's either with Leslie Winkle or a 1930s gangster.*"