

## CHAPTER IV

### DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The AKB48's songs have kind of figurative expressions because the lyrics contain feeling about each season in Japan. The feeling itself express about the emotions of each season is used in the lyrics. English that is used in the songs averagely is not grammatical but the lyrics' content can give a brief description of what the songs tell about.

The writer chooses four songs from AKB48 which include a feeling of seasons in Japan. AKB48 is an idol group in Japan where English is not their native language. They mostly use Japanese in their lyrics even though they rarely still put English in making song lyrics so that is why in making this research the writer uses the translated lyrics from the internet and also discusses with Japanese in translating the song lyrics.

The first thing the writer takes to arrange the research is making a general description or general interpretation of the song. After that, the writer will point out the words or phrases which have the emotions of each season in Japan. The last, the writer analyzes the feeling of Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter which is inserted in the songs.

#### 4.1 SONG 1: SAKURA NO HANABIRATACHI

##### 4.1.1 General Interpretation of Spring

The first song the writer researches is *Sakura no hanabiratachi* that generally tells about the school graduation. In this song, it is described as the condition of school when the graduation ceremony is held when cherry blossom trees are blooms. Spring is a time for us to set about on new journeys and start new goals with fresh ideas (Bostwick, 2018). An author tells all of

the students who are growing up and start to continue their life after school graduation. All of the students show their happiness and sadness expression during the graduation ceremony because they will separate each other to achieve their dream. At the end of the song will show the sadness because it tells about farewell with friends and school life memories.

The intro of this song, the lyrics says

教室の窓辺には  
*Kyoushitsu no madobe ni wa*  
On the windows of the classroom

うらかな陽だまり  
*Uraraka na hidamari*  
Pleasure of the sun

あと僅かの春のカレンダー  
*Ato wazuka no haru no karenda*  
A few more spring calendars

This intro of the song is telling the listeners about the song theme or the general story of the song as if it gives a message before entering the music. The lyric's meaning is telling the listeners that song is representing in spring seasons.

The stanza of the song is written in Japanese so the writer gives the *romaji* (the alphabetic Japanese) after the *kanji* (Japanese writing) and its translation.

授業中 見渡せば  
*Jugyouchuu miwataseba*  
If you look over in class

同じ制服 着た  
*Onaji seifuku kita*  
Wore the same uniform,

仲間たちが  
*Nakamatachi ga*  
All of my friends

大人に見える  
*Otona ni mieru*  
It looks like an adult

In the second stanza, an author realized that all students in the classroom who grew up and are ready to face a new challenge. The sense of lyric is about the description that the author feels strange about this new situation. The author has a feeling that the graduation day is coming.

それぞれの未来へと  
*Sorezore no mirai e to*  
To each future

旅立って行くんだね  
*Tabidatte yukunda ne*  
We are going to leave

その背中に  
*Sono senaka ni*  
On its our backs

夢の翼が生えてる  
*Yume no hane ga haeteru*  
Wings of dreams grow

In the third stanza, the author hopes that all the students have their paths to get a bright future. In that stanza, an author believes each student has their abilities. It is proved by this line "On its our backs, Wings of dreams grow"

桜の花びらたちが咲く頃  
*sakura no hanabiratachi ga saku koro*  
When cherry blossom petals bloom,

新しい世界のドアを自分のその手で開くこ  
*Atarashii sekai no doa wo jibun no sono te de hiraku koto*  
Open the door of the new world with your own hand

喜びも悲しみも振り向けば道のりどんな時も一人じゃなかった  
*Yorokobi mo kanashimi mo furimukeba michinori donna toki mo hitori*  
*janakatta*  
I was not alone at any time when I turned joy and sadness

目の前の大人の階段一緒に登って手を振ろう  
*Me no mae no otona no kaidan issho ni nobotte te wo furou*  
Let's climb up the stairs of the adults in front of you and shake your hand

That is the first refrain of this song. The first line of this stanza says “When cherry blossom petals bloom”. This line contains the imagery in Spring. In Japan spring is symbolized by cherry blossoms. Spring is said to be the most favorite and notable season to the Japan society, cherry blossoms (sakura) make them proud of it (Kyuhoishi, 2018).

The second line said “Open the door of the new world with your own hand”. which contain a type of metaphor. At first "the door" means the future that they will face. The word Open the door of the new world with your own hand use hyperbolic means for them ready to choose the new path of life. For their opportunity, they will fight their difficulties in their lives. Someday they can reach their dream.

The third line said “I was not alone at any time when I turned joy and sadness” it means when there is no one who helps in the future, do not forget about the time when in the school because the old friends will support wherever they are.

The fourth line said, " Let's climb up the stairs of the adults in front of you and shake your hands". This line contains allegory meaning. The next path of life itself is represented by stairs to adulthood. It means they should be ready to set their future. Together we climb and wave our hands is about they ready to close their school life and have to live the life that they choose.

喧嘩して 電話して  
*Kenka shite denwa shite*  
Call me and call me,

泣いたこと あったね  
*Naita koto atta ne*  
I have been crying

悩んだ日 が なぜ か 懐かしい  
*Nayanda hi ga naze ka natsukashii*  
I miss the day when I was troubled

This stanza showed emotions during school life. They tried to strive for excellence. Even bad memories, a hard time for them and surrender, but this line showed " I miss the day when I was troubled" Even though all of this troubled, those experiences are always pleased with their hearts and always be remembered for them.

喜びも 悲しみも  
*Yorokobi mo kanashimi mo*  
Joy and sadness

振り向けば 道のり  
*Furimukeba michinori*  
If you turn around,

どんな 時も 一人 じゃなかった  
*Donna toki mo hitori ja nakatta*  
I was not alone at any time

The memorable part is in this stanza. All of the students always remember their classmates. Because in school life, they passed happiness and sadness day together, every time they go down all the classmates is always supporting each other.

卒業 写真 の 中 私 は 微笑 んで  
*Sotsugyou shashin no naka watashi wa hohoende*  
In my graduation photo I smiled

過ぎる 季節 見送 りたい サヨナラ  
*Sugiru kisetsu miokuritai SAYONARA*  
Good bye, want to see off the season too

After a hard time they passed, finally, the day of graduation is coming. In this stanza author anxiety began to appear, the author tried to hide the sadness. The author is happy about graduation, on the other hand, the author does not want to separate from classmates. It strongly appeared on "Good bye, want to see off the season too"

涙 の 花びら たち が はら はら  
*Namida no hanabiratachi ga harahara*  
The petals of tears

この 頬 を 流れ 落ち て 歩 き 出 す  
*Kono hoho wo nagareochite arukidasu*  
Flow down this cheek and walk out

青い 空 を 見 上 げ 大 き く 深 呼 吸 し な が ら  
*Aoi sora wo miage ookiku shinkokyuu shinagara*  
Looking up at the blue sky while taking a deep breath

This first stanza of the second refrain tells about the peak of the author's sadness. Hyperbole is used in this stanza. It comes from author tears floating down look like cherry blossom petals. An author continues walking

despite covered by sadness. While cover up the sadness, the author looking up the sky.

涙の花びらたちがはらはら  
*Namida no hanabiratachi ga harahara*  
The petals of tears

思い出の その分だけ 美しく  
*Omoide no sono bun dake utsukushiku*  
Beautifully for that part of memories

目の前の大人の階段  
*Me no mae no otona no kaidan*  
Adult stairs in front of you

一緒に登って手を振ろう  
*Issho ni nobotte te wo furou*  
Climb together and shake your hand

The general interpretation of the second stanza on the second refrain is after a hard time is passed, happiness, gratitude, and pride appear in this stanza. On the second line, the author expresses the memorable experience during a hard time in school life. On the third line explained farewell between classmates, because the new life is waiting ahead and the path of life begins. The last fourth lines have a connotative meaning. "wave" means farewell emotions between classmates

## 4.2 SONG 2: MANATSU NO SOUNDS GOOD

### 4.2.1 General Interpretation of Summer

Secondly, the writer researched choose *Manatsu no sounds good*. The imagery of this song is about summer. The first stanza of this song tells the situation of the beach in the summer. The musical devices of this song are the cheerful and full spirit of summer. In summertime feels like a reflection experience of life. The author delivers an experience to this song is a beach in summertime is the perfect time to start a relationship and advance to the next step.

サンオイル 背中に塗って! と水着の上外しながら寝そべった  
"SANOIRU senaka ni nutte!" tomizugi no ue hazushinagara nesobetta  
"Soiled on my back!" I went out over my swimsuit and lying

大胆な君の一言は甘ったるい匂いがした  
Daitan na kimi no hitokoto wa amattarui nioi ga shita  
A bold word of you was sweet and smelly

In the intro of this song, it tells clearly, in first line words "put sun oil, swimsuit" are very identic about the beach, the best time to visit the beach is in the summertime. The feeling of summer is very extraordinary in this song. The last line in that stanza is representing a kind of metaphor. "A bold word of you was sweet and smelly". Word itself refers to something that cannot smells, but this line strongly describes the sweet scent of every single word. Every stanza is representing of the summer season.

On the refrain part, writers deliver the general interpretation through this song. It is going to write in Japanese, Romaji, and English translated.

どこまでも青い海と空, 僕たちの関係に似てる

*Doko made mo aoi umi to sora, bokutachi no kankei ni niteru*  
The blue sea and the sky forever, similar to our relationship

僕たちの関係に似てる  
*Bokutachi no kankei ni niteru*  
It resembles our relationship

水平線は交わってるのに今はまだ わがままな妹のようさ  
*Suiheisen wa majiwatteru no ni ima wa mada wagamama na imouto*  
*no you sa*  
The horizon is like a sister who is still selfish now

The first line of the second stanza said: "The blue sea and the sky forever, similar to our relationship". This line contains symbols and metaphors. Sea has quite a lot meanings in many cultures but by seeing the character of the sea itself the meanings have one line of interpretation. Blue represents cool and calming color that shows creativity and intelligence. It is often associated with depth and stability, it symbolizes trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, faith, truth, and heaven. The character of Blue is sincere, reserved and quiet, and do not like to make a big deal out of things or attract too much attention (Olesen, 2015). Sea means water. Water has a positive character among four major elements of nature (fire, water, air, and earth). Water has the connotation of compassionate and caring can relate easily to others (Norman, 2000) Oguri. The definition of the sky is wide and huge. The sky represents some of the most beautiful and amazing desires in life. Sky indicates a desire to break free, feel the freedom and experience the heavenly world from the top (Dreams, 2015)

The second and third lines describe the sweetness relationship between man and women full of youth. The writer of the last line highlighted that hyperbole is strongly bold on these lines. Horizons in literary meaning are the area where the earth and sky look as if they come together or how far your

interests and knowledge stretch. Their relationship is very big, it imagined of two horizons are unite. They hope that relationship is more intimate

真夏の Sounds good! 次のステップへ進みたいね, 恋のカリキュラム  
*Manatsu no Sounds good!, tsugi no SUTEPPU e susumitai ne koi no KURIKURAMU*

Midsummer Sounds good! Like to move on to the next step, the curriculum for love

波音 Sounds good! 心が騒ぐよ  
*Namioto Sounds good! Kokoro ga sawagu yo*  
The tide sounds good! My heart troubled

去年よりも僕は本気になる  
*Kyonen yori mo boku wa honki ni naru*  
I will be serious than last year

The first refrain on the first line says "Like to move on to the next step, the curriculum for love". It means the relationship must be more serious and the author wants to show how seriousness to have a relationship. Therefore, in the first-line and second-line are illustrated the relationship should be huge as the sky, pure as blue and sea because blue and sea mean sincere, passionate and caring.

The second line says "The tide sounds good! My heart troubled". It contains a metaphor approach. The word "tide" means sea waves. The sound of sea waves is calm and free. Sea waves also symbolized as a burst of emotions. Heart rustled means someone feeling who fall in love recently. The emotions of falling in love are imagined in this lyric. It brings back old memories when feeling the first love. The third line tells us about the emotions of falling in love, but the feeling just like when the first love.

The last line of the refrain says "I will be serious than last year ". It strongly explains the author wants to start more seriously about a relationship. In this line, an author highlighted the comparison between past relationships and recent relationships. Therefore, in the third and fourth line tells us the seriousness of the relationship.

砂浜で肌を灼いている  
*Sunahama de hada wo yaite iru*  
I am skinning on a sandy beach

君を置いて僕は一人泳いだよ  
*Kimi wo oite boku wa hitori oyoida yo*  
I left you and I swam alone

その後のいきなりのキスは塩辛い味がした  
*Sono ato no ikinari no KISU wa shiokarai aji ga shita*  
The sudden kiss after that tasted salty

Next stanza author tries to imagine the condition on the beach. On the girl's side, she enjoyed the beach condition and spend time there. The girl feeling is fulfilled by happiness. Her happiness is getting burst when her boyfriend kissed her. She can describe how salty is lips when they kissed. The girl's feeling is the main meaning of this stanza.

さっきまでのあの風景とは空気まで変わった気がする  
*Sakki made no ano fuukei to kuuki made kawatta ki ga suru*  
I feel that the scenery up until now has changed to the air

海と空がちゃんと向き合って  
*Umi to sora ga chanto mukiatte*  
The sea and the sky face each other properly

そう お互いのその青さ 映し合っている  
*Sou otagai no sono aosa utsushiatte iru*  
Yes they are reflecting each other's blue

This stanza reflection about the scenery of summer itself. The author feels the air and the situation are changing. It reflected that the blue sea and

sky are sincere feelings during the summer. In the last stanza "each other blue" means both of them are in the mixed feeling and reflected the condition of summer.

渚の Good job!  
*Nagisa no Good job!*  
Shore does a good job!

愛しい人よ  
*Itoshii hito yo*  
My dear

ずっと切なくて言えなかった君が近すぎて  
*Zutto setsunakute ienakatta kimi ga chikasugite*  
It was too close to you who couldn't say it for a long time

きっかけ Good job!  
*Kikkake Good job!*  
In the wake of does a good job!

素直になるんだ  
*Sunao ni narunda*  
I will be honest

手を伸ばそう恋の季節じゃないか?  
*Te wo nobasou koi no kisetsu ja nai ka*  
Stretching your hands, isn't it the season for love?

On the second refrain, the author expresses the painful feeling during late summer. A love story of late summer is not happy at all. She had traumatic, but she hopes that the best summer season will come. Make a new relationship with another person will change the sorrowful into happiness.

### 4.3. SONG 3: TSUGI NO SEASON

#### 4.3.1. General Interpretation of Autumn

Third, the writer chooses AKB48 song entitled "*Tsugi no Season*". In the intro this song, it has a cheerful instrumental, yet the lyrics are about the farewell story.

This intro of the song is telling the listeners about the song theme or the general story of the song as autumn is coming. Autumn is greatly represented by this song. Autumn is one of the most delightful and admiring seasons. In autumn trees are turning into beautiful colors. The leaves turn bright, bold shades of orange and red, with golden hues of yellow to offset everything beautifully (Jennifer, 2016)

The first stanza of this song is in Japanese, Romaji, and English translated.

秋風が吹いて枝が揺れ  
*Akikaze ga fuite, eda ga yure*  
Autumn wind blows and branches sway

In the first verse there is an imagery of the autumn situation. "The autumn wind blows" means autumn is coming. "The branches sway" is metaphorical. Sway is a dancing follow the music. But on this issue, the tree swayed because blown by wind and leaves are going to fall from the tree. In the first stanza of intro tells us that the autumn season is going to arrive soon.

一枚の葉が散る ゆっくりひらひら舞う背中 そっと見送った  
*Ichimai no ha ga chiru, yukkuri hirahira mau senaka, sotta miokutta*  
One leaf is scattered Slowly fluttering back I softly saw off

In second verse is using metaphorical. "One leaf is scattered" means 'leaf' is representing of students and "falls" has a meaning farewell. "Fluttered and danced" means while all the students are sad, at the last moment they should be happy and make a smile on every face. The second verse tells us when all the disciples must be separated, although it is very difficult to say goodbye.

ここに残された  
Koko ni nokosareta  
We were left here

私たちだっていつの日か未来へ旅立つんだ  
Watashitachi date itsuka no hi ka mirai e tabidatsunda  
One day we will leave for the future

Author belief everyone who takes their next step will gain the successful in the future is led by autumn

あの日先輩が見事に咲かせた花のように  
Ano hi senpai ga migoto ni sakaseta hana no you ni  
Like a flower that seniors bloomed that day

今度は私の番  
Kondo wa watashi no ban  
This time my turn

In the second stanza of the first verse, there is a metaphorical. "Like a flower that my seniors splendid". The comparison between human and flower are seen in this verse. Seniors logically are human. Both of them are compared, human that can bloom beautifully like a flower. Same as that the junior aim the same goals as the seniors. In the second verse "caused to bloom that day". Bloom means all of the seniors can reach their dream whether it is difficult to approach it. "This time is my turn" it feels like the juniors are ready to face the

future and advance to the next level to catch their dream the same as their seniors.

次の枝で蕾は待つよ季節とチャンスは  
*Tsugi no eda de tsubomi wa matsu yo kisetsu to CHANSU wa*  
The next branch will wait for you, the season and the chance

In this verse has an allegory point. "The blossom on the next branches" means after all of the seniors' graduate, the juniors ready to take place, to continue the seniors dream in the previous school. "waiting seasons and chances" means all of the juniors are waiting the perfect time to continue their senior dreams. Therefore, all juniors do not know they can continue or not.

#### 4.4. SONG 4: ANATA TO CHRISTMAS

##### 4.4.1. General Interpretation of Winter

For the last, the writer analyzes AKB48 song entitled "*Anata to Christmas*". Same as the title, this song is one of representing the winter season in all of AKB48 single. This song shows the hope and despair of a couple during Christmas. Winter is setting for painful messages, as well as messages of renewal, rebirth, and hope (Gustafon, 2018).

First, find the interpretation of the "*Anata no Christmas*" song. The intro of this song tells about the situation during the winter season.

どんなプレゼントよりあなたの両手に抱かれたかった  
*Donna PUREZENTO yori anata no ryoute ni dakaretakatta*  
I wanted to be held in your hands more than any present

The hyperbolic idea is shown in this first verse in this song. " I wanted to be held in your hands more than any present " shows the emotional feelings that ordinary present is usual for that Christmas. She expected the special present that she is going to get. "I wanted to be held in your hands". On this part strongly prof that it is a very desirable gift. At the beginning of this song tells us that the special gift is only mated.

In the second stanza, the winter situation will be shown. Same as previous general interpretation. It is going to use Japanese, Romaji and English translation.

粉雪が二人を包んで街の灯点り始めても  
*Konayuki ga futari wo tsutsunde machi no hi tomorihajimete mo*  
Even if powder snow wraps two people and begins to light the lights  
of the city

離れたくないよこの場所から永遠より一秒長く  
*Hanaretaku nai yo kono basho kara eien yori ichibyou nagaku*  
I do not want to leave this place one second longer than eternal

That first verse shows imagery and metaphorical approach. "Even if powder snow wraps two people" it means the situation of this verse is in snowing time. The couple that is in winter and snow is pouring them. "Wraps" in general meaning wraps is cover or surround something with paper, cloth or other material, but in this case, wraps itself use as metaphorical things. It tells the couple who feels the cold of winter because only snowflakes accompany them. "The street lights on" shows that the situation is in the evening. The desperations are shown. Wintertime in the evening is very cold and the couple still sticks together.

On second verse shows "I do not want to leave this place one second longer than eternal". It means a couple does not want to separate like this, at

the end of the year they still want to together. "A second feels longer than eternity" hyperbolic is shown in this verse. In any researches, a second is very briefly, but the couple feels that a second is very important to spend the time together.

The second stanza tells us about the desperations of the couple in winter and they wish a new hope because they do not want to separate and they need more time to feel the togetherness in wintertime.

何も話さなくても流れる時間が愛を伝える

*Nani mo hanasanakute mo nagareru jikan ga ai wo tsutaeru*

Even if you don't speak anything, the flowing time conveys love

世界で 一番素敵なクリスマスイブをありがとう

*Sekai de ichiban suteki na KURISUMASUIBU wo arigatou*

Thank you for the most wonderful Christmas Eve in the world

いつか 今日を思い出すわ Merry Christmas and I love you.

*Itsuka kyou wo omoidasu wa merry Christmas and I love you*

Someday I remember today Merry Christmas, and I love you

On the first part of the refrain. "Even if you don't speak anything, the flowing time conveys love" is expressed in the desperation in the beginning, yet they believe that time can bring them back together. No one can separate them, because their love is united

In the next verse of refrain, it shows the hyperbole. "Thank you for the most wonderful Christmas Eve in the world". The usual emotions of Christmas eve are joyful, but on that lyrics, the joy of Christmas Eve is covered by the desperation of that couple because soon they will separate. One side of the couple thanked that on Christmas Eve they can spend time together. The togetherness of that couple is more important than anything.

"One day, I will remember on today" it shows that the time when they are together is everlasting. They promised each other that they will remember

the day when they are separate on Christmas Eve. For the last "Merry Christmas and I love you" is the emotionally love confession to each other to remember the time they are together.



## **CHAPTER V**

### **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**