

Phonological Devices in the Soundtracks of Walt Disney's
Animated Motion Pictures in the First Quarter of the 21st Century

กลวิธีทางศาสตร์ในเพลงประกอบภาพยนตร์แอนิเมชัน
ของวอลท์ ดิสนีย์ ในไตรมาสแรกของศตวรรษที่ 21

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Abstract

This quantitative research focused on the phonological devices or sound devices as one of the stylistic devices, conducted in order to find out phonological devices utilized in the song lyrics of the soundtracks of Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024). The research was based on 60 popular songs randomly gathered from 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures from 2001 to 2024. The phonological devices under investigation were alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme, anaphora, and repetition. For the presentation of the summary of the data analysis, each of the top 5 frequency of occurrences was tabulated. The result of this research demonstrated the aesthetic function of the language, playing a significant role in developing song lyrics that almost all song lyrics which utilized phonological devices at the top 5 highest frequency of occurrences were the soundtracks of Walt Disney's animated motion pictures, particularly in the last 7 years of the first quarter of the 21st century, or between 2018 and 2024.

Keywords: Phonological devices, Animated motion pictures, Soundtracks, Song lyrics

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บทคัดย่อ

งานวิจัยเชิงปริมาณนี้มุ่งเน้นไปที่กลวิธีทางสัทศาสตร์ (phonological devices หรือ sound devices) ซึ่งเป็นหนึ่งในกลวิธีวรรณศิลป์ (stylistic devices) เพื่อค้นหากลวิธีทางสัทศาสตร์ในเนื้อเพลงประกอบภาพยนตร์แอนิเมชันของวอลต์ ดิสนีย์ในช่วงไตรมาสแรกของศตวรรษที่ 21 (2001-2024) การวิจัยนี้ใช้เนื้อเพลง 60 เพลงที่รวบรวมมาแบบสุ่มหรือได้รับความนิยมสูงสุด จากภาพยนตร์แอนิเมชันของวอลต์ ดิสนีย์ 40 เรื่อง ตั้งแต่ปี 2001 ถึง 2024 กลวิธีทางสัทศาสตร์ที่ใช้วิเคราะห์ในการวิจัย ได้แก่ การสัมผัสอักษร (alliteration) การสัมผัสสระ (assonance) การซ้ำเสียงพยัญชนะ (consonance) เสียงสัมผัสหรือเสียงคล้องจอง (rhyme) การซ้ำคำหรือวลีต้นประโยค (anaphora) และการเกิดซ้ำ (repetition) สำหรับการนำเสนอการสรุปผลการวิเคราะห์ข้อมูล ความถี่ที่พบสูงสุด 5 ลำดับแรกของแต่ละกลวิธีได้จัดทำเป็นตาราง ผลการวิจัยครั้งนี้แสดงให้เห็นถึงหน้าที่ด้านสุนทรียศาสตร์ (aesthetic function) ของภาษา ซึ่งมีบทบาทสำคัญในการสร้างสรรค์เนื้อเพลงว่า เนื้อเพลงเกือบทั้งหมดที่ใช้กลวิธีทางสัทศาสตร์ในความถี่สูงสุด 5 อันดับแรก เป็นเพลงประกอบภาพยนตร์แอนิเมชันของวอลต์ ดิสนีย์ โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งในช่วง 7 ปีหลัง ของไตรมาสแรกของศตวรรษที่ 21 หรือระหว่างปี 2018 ถึง 2024

คำสำคัญ กลวิธีทางสัทศาสตร์ ภาพยนตร์แอนิเมชัน เพลงประกอบภาพยนตร์ เนื้อเพลง

Introduction

Known as a pioneer of the American animation industry, Walter Elias Disney (1901-1966) is an American animator, animation film producer, voice actor, and entrepreneur, introducing several developments in the production of cartoons. In 1928, he developed the first cartoon “Mickey Mouse” and provided the voice for his creation. Walt Disney Animation Studios (WDAS), sometimes shortened to Disney Animation, is an American animation studio that creates animated features and short films for The Walt Disney Company (Sowmiya, 2024).

Disney has a long history of constantly implementing new technologies and market trends, which has allowed it to stay relevant and successful over time. One of the factors that have contributed to the company's success is high-quality content. As a forerunner of the animation industry, introducing many innovations to the production of animated motion pictures, Disney is known for producing high-quality content that appeals to a wide range of audiences. From classic animated films to popular TV shows and movies, Disney has a reputation for creating engaging and entertaining content (Bouargane, 2023).

Disney's soundtracks are magical not just for their storytelling but also for their artistic implementation of phonological devices, enriching the melody, making it captivating

for both children and adults. In “Uncovering the Secrets to Walt Disney’s Success”, Beaver (2023) enlightened that high-quality storytelling is at the heart of everything Walt Disney did, understanding that great stories have the power to captivate audiences and create emotional connections that last a lifetime. The characters, the melodies, and the stories all come together to create wonderful cinematic experiences for audiences.

For Walt Disney’s memorable musical moments, the songs in soundtracks often become as popular as the films themselves (Ahmed, 2022). Whether it was through the animated motion pictures, or live-action motion pictures, Walt Disney’s focus is always on providing an immersive experience that will transport audiences to another world. Above all, the soundtracks definitely provide the motion pictures a more modern appeal for audiences.

According to Ahmed (2022), the crucial role of the soundtracks of Walt Disney’s animated motion pictures was mentioned as follows:

1. To create an impressive and opulent scene that immediately draws in the viewers

For example, the song “Be Our Guest” from *Beauty and the Beast* (2017) gives a sneak peek into the film’s lavish setting.

2. To reveal the characters’ inner thoughts and feelings

For example, the song “I Won’t Say (I’m in Love)” from *Hercules* (1997) is sung to show that Megara is conflicted about her emotions and tries to resist her feelings.

3. To introduce a new character or location

For example, the song “A Whole New World” from *Aladdin* (1992) is used to introduce Jasmine to the viewers.

4. To foreshadow future events

For example, the song “When Will My Life Begin?” from *Tangled* (2010) is sung by Rapunzel as she imagines what her life will be like outside of her tower. The song also foreshadows her eventual escape from the tower and her next adventures.

5. To relate to the character’s situation and feelings on a deeper level, making the

viewers laugh, cry, or feel inspired

For example, the song “I’ll Make a Man Out of You” from *Mulan* (1998) connects the viewers with the characters. They have always looked up to Mulan as a strong and inspiring character.

6. To keep kids engaged and interested in the story

For example, the song “Be Our Guest” from *Beauty and the Beast* (2017). It’s fun and upbeat and helps to keep the viewers’ attention focused on the story.

7. To have fond memories of watching Walt Disney's motion pictures with their family and friends

The songs help remind the viewers of happy memories. (Jakubowski, 2023) Whether watching a Walt Disney's motion picture for the first time or the hundredth times, music will always play an important role in the overall experience. The nostalgia and emotion the songs evoke are a big part of what makes Walt Disney's motion pictures special.

Objectives of the Study

To carry out this comparative analysis, the objectives of this research were (1) to analyze the functions of phonological devices: alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme, anaphora, and repetition as one of the stylistic devices, utilized in the 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024), and (2) to find out the frequency of occurrences of phonological devices, implemented in the 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024).

Scope and Method of the Study

The significance of studying the song lyrics of Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024) is that Disney is the leader of the American animation industry, creating animated motion pictures that are popular with audiences in almost every country around the world. Disney fans are all over the world and of all ages. From the past to the present 21st century, Disney has created many beloved characters who have become part of contemporary culture and have inspired many people from children to the elderly.

In order to achieve the research objectives, the researcher chose to utilize the phonological devices which are significant for studying song lyrics since they directly influence how the song lyrics sound and are perceived by listeners, contributing to the overall meaning and impact of the songs by utilizing sound patterns, which are able to emphasize key words, create emotional resonance, and enhance memorability of the song lyrics.

This research has made people understand how phonological devices utilized in the song lyrics were formed in 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024) selected by the researcher through random sampling. All of the popular songs are known for their beautiful

melodies, good meanings, and perfect harmony with the contents of the motion pictures. As one of the stylistic devices, phonological devices utilized to analyze the song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures included alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme, anaphora, and repetition.

Table 1: 60 Soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated Motion Pictures in the First Quarter of the 21st Century (2001-2024)

Movie Soundtrack Title	Movie Title	Year of Release
I Always Wanted a Brother	Mufasa: The Lion King	2024
How Far I'll Go	Moana II	2024
I'm Shy	Inside Out II	2024
Life Is a Ride		
Across the Ocean	Elemental	2023
Steal the Show		
Under the Sea	The Little Mermaid	2023
Poor Unfortunate Souls		
Part of Your World		
When He Was Here with Me	Pinocchio	2022
When You Wish Upon a Star		
Nobody Like U	Turning Red	2022
True Love		
We Don't Talk About Bruno	Encanto	2021
Waiting On a Miracle		
Surface Pressure		
Lead the Way	Raya and the Last Dragon	2021
Off the Shelf	Lamp Life	2020
Once Upon a Snowman	Once Upon a Snowman	2020
Carried Me with You	Onward	2020
A Whole New World	Aladdin	2019
Speechless		
All Is Found	Frozen II	2019
The Next Right Thing		
Can You Feel the Love Tonight	The Lion King	2019
I Just Can't Wait to Be King		
A Place Called Slaughter Race	Ralph Breaks the Internet	2018
In This Place		
Zero		

Movie Soundtrack Title	Movie Title	Year of Release
Beauty and the Beast	Beauty and the Beast	2017
Evermore		
When We're Together	Olaf's Frozen Adventure	2017
Unforgettable	Finding Dory	2016
You're Welcome	Moana	2016
A Beautiful Day	The Lion Guard: Return of the Roar	2015
Making Today a Perfect Day	Frozen Fever	2015
Runway Romance	Planes: Fire and Rescue	2014
Float	Tinker Bell and the Legend of the Neverbeast	2014
Frozen Heart	Frozen	2013
Let it Go		
We'll Be There	Secret of the Wings	2012
Touch the Sky	Brave	2012
You Might Think	Cars II	2011
Everything Is Honey	Winnie the Pooh	2011
I See the Light	Tangled	2010
When Will My Life Begin		
Never Knew I Needed	The Princess and the Frog	2009
Almost There		
Barking at the Moon	Bolt	2008
Fly to Your Heart	Tinker Bell	2008
Give Me the Simple Life	Meet the Robinsons	2007
Little Wonders		
Behind the Clouds	Cars	2006
Our Town		
Here Beside Me	Mulan II	2005
Like Other Girls		
Will the Sun Ever Shine Again	Home on the Range	2004
Welcome	Brother Bear	2003
Always Know Where You Are	Treasure Planet	2002
Where the Dream Takes You	Atlantis: The Lost Empire	2001

Literature Review

Stylistics is generally defined as the linguistic study of style, and it aims at explaining the relation between language and artistic function (Leech & Short, 2007, p. 11). In other genres of literary works, including songs, the analysis of the style of song lyrics can be

answered by exploring the use of language: the structural forms, patterns, and levels of language that constitute linguistic structure, essentially the style in which the language is employed. Therefore, stylistic choices within a text's structure can determine the function of a text and can be considered the gateway to interpretation (Simpson, 2004: 2). This research focused on language creation and power in the use of phonological devices, one popular type of stylistic devices in song lyrics.

Phonological Devices

Phonological analysis is the study of sound patterns and structures in languages, focusing on how sounds function and are organized. Phonological devices are powerful techniques utilized in language and rhetoric to create specific stylistic effects, particularly musical effects and to heighten artistic and thematic elements of writers' work. By manipulating sounds and pronunciation, writers can add aesthetic appeal, emotional resonance, and memorability to their words. The use of phonological devices ensures that the text is pleasing and musically varied, which keeps readers and audiences engaged. Different phonological devices can be effectively employed to greatly enhance emotions in the work, amplify tone, or create or break tension. (<https://www.supersummary.com/sound-devices/>) Additionally, phonological devices can guide readers and audiences towards a deeper understanding of the work. Consequently, they play a crucial role in various forms of expression, including literature, poetry, speech-making, advertising, and song lyrics.

Phonological Devices in Song Lyrics

Phonological device is one of the characteristics and artistic means of poetry and song lyrics for creating images. It appeals to the listener's audial imagination, making song lyrics more real and vivid. It affects emotions with a special rhythm, various phonological effects, and unexpected rhymes.

Song lyrics can be considered as a kind of poetry that is composed attractively and melodiously by songwriters with concern for the use of words, the varieties of stylistic device, rhythm, and meaning (Tuner, 2009, p. 70). As the study of how speech sounds are organized in a language to create meaning, the phonology of words is particularly important to the song's rhythm and in this instance, such representation 'expresses a meaningful difference in sound' (Simpson, 2004).

One of many kinds of poetry is song lyrics. A good song lyric has good phonological devices (Sya'ni, A., 2014). In the classification of the human voice in classical music, song

lyrics are characterized by musical patterns of sounds or a form of poetry which are based on the natural qualities of spoken language and express a subjective or personal point of view of a composer.

That is to say, lyrics are words that make up a song, usually consisting of verses and choruses. They have the composition in verse which is sung to a melody to constitute a song. As one of the musical elements, song lyrics are intrinsic to the work intellectually as well as aesthetically (Sya'ni, A., 2014).

Main Phonological Devices in Song Lyrics

The aesthetic function of language refers to the use of language to create beauty, evoke emotions, and enhance the artistic impact of a message, focusing on the form and style of the words rather than just conveying information; essentially, using language in a way that is pleasing to the senses, often seen in song lyrics. The 6 main phonological devices which were emphasized in the analysis of the song lyrics in the soundtracks of Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in this research included alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme, anaphora, and repetition as follows.

1. Alliteration

Alliteration is one of the commonly used style of figurative language or a stylistic device. Kennedy and Gioia (2005: 170) described alliteration occurs in the repetition of the same consonant sound, particularly at the beginning of successive words to create a specific effect or emphasis. In other words, it is characterized by the repetition typically at the beginning of words of initial consonant sounds in two or more neighboring words or syllables within a line or lines of song lyrics.

Since playful and musical, alliteration tends to the flow of the songs and adds a musical and rhythmic quality. Greatly drawing the attention of audiences to the sound of song lyrics, and enhancing the auditory experience of song lyrics, alliteration creates a rhythm that can make song lyrics more catchy and easier to remember, evokes specific emotions or atmospheres, draws attention to specific lyrics, emphasizing the message or theme of the song, enhances the rhythmic patterns of a song, providing a smoother flow and making it more pleasurable to the ears, and paints a vivid picture in the listener's mind, making abstract feelings or narratives more tangible (<https://www.examples.com/alliteration/alliteration-in-songs.html>).

Table 2: Examples of Alliteration as One of the Phonological Devices

Song Lyrics	Song Title	Movie Title (Year)
Flippin' your f ins you don't get too f ar	Part of Your World	The Little Mermaid (2023)
He's h olding back; he's h iding	Can You Feel the Love Tonight	The Lion King (2019)
Dive d own d eep into her sound	All Is Found	Frozen II (2019)
Now I k now she'll n ever leave me	Even more	Beauty and the Beast (2017)

2. Assonance

Assonance is a phonological device whose essence is the repetition of the same or similar vowel sounds at the beginning, middle or end of at least two of words in a line of song lyrics. Kennedy and Gioia (2005: 171) explained that to repeat the sound of a consonant is to produce alliteration, but to repeat the sound of a vowel is to produce assonance.

In the domain of songwriting, it is the technique of repeating vowel sounds in close proximity within a line or lines of song lyrics. Besides, it may occur either initially or internally. By establishing a pattern of vowel sounds that can both agree with and harmonize with the song's beats, assonance significantly contributes to the creation of rhythm, tone, and mood of song lyrics, making audiences able to perceive the combination of words as a whole and memorize song lyrics better.

According to Harry (2017), assonance is used mainly to grasp the reader's attention to a particular phrase, and it helps to exaggerate the meaning of that phrase. It may also be used to help a poem's general rhythm (a crucial element in music). Consequently, the main function of assonance is to create a harmonious melody, rhythmic effect, and musical quality in song lyrics which can make song lyrics more memorable and emotionally impactful.

Table 3: Examples of Assonance as One of the Phonological Devices

Song Lyrics	Song Title	Movie Title (Year)
Life is a i de, so hold on i ght	Life Is a Ride	Inside Out II (2024)
But o ne kn ows how deep it g oes	How Far I'll Go	Moana II (2024)
The se aweed is always gr een in somebody else's lake	Under the Sea	The Little Mermaid (2023)
Happily, ev er af ter was nev er meant to be	When He Was Here with Me	Pinocchio (2022)

3. Consonance

Kennedy and Gioia (2005: 175) described that consonance exclusively refers to the repetition of consonant sounds either at the middle or end of the words with different vowels. This distinguishes consonance from alliteration where consonant sounds are

repeated at the beginning of words. Thus, the consonant sounds of the words do not need to be next to each other, but relatively close to another, while assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds in nearby words of a line of text, making song lyrics melodious.

As part of the phonological devices in song lyrics, consonance can also complement the rhyme, and can be utilized to make a phrase more interesting, to grab the attention of a listener, to reinforce a syllable, or to create a musical quality in language, which is why it is popular among composers (www.shampoopoetry.com/sound-devices-in-poetry/).

Table 4: Examples of Consonance as One of the Phonological Devices

Song Lyrics	Song Title	Movie Title (Year)
Those birds are watching the world unfold	I Always Wanted A Brother	Mufasa: The Lion King (2024)
What would I give if I could live	Part of Your World	The Little Mermaid (2023)
It's a heavy lift with a gift so humbling	We Don't Talk About Bruno	Encanto (2021)
This child is getting wildly out of wing	I Just Can't Wait to Be King	The Lion King (2019)

4. Rhyme

Rhyme refers to the resemblance in the sounds of words or syllables that usually come at the end of lines or stanzas (Simmons & Smith, 2010). As one of the powerful stylistic devices for developing phonological sensitivity in song lyrics, rhyme is a linguistic style based on repetition of similar or the same sounds in two or more words, particularly at the ends of lines of song lyrics. Butler and Newman (2008) described rhyme is when two or more lines of song lyrics or poetry end with the same corresponding sound.

According to Kennedy and Gioia (2005: 173), some definitions of rhyme would apply the term to the repetition of any identical or similar sound, not only a vowel sound. Structural features of rhyme impact the aesthetic and emotional processing of song lyrics. Consequently, rhyme is one of the stylistic devices for developing phonological sensitivity in song lyrics. The potential effect of rhyme enables the singers or audiences to perceive aesthetic experience (Lea, Rapp, Elfenbein, Mitchel, & Romine, 2008).

Bawiec (2018) mentioned that the main difference between prose and song lyrics is that lyrics have a rhythm to the lines and usually include rhymes, helping emphasize the rhythm of song lyrics. Additionally, they let audiences achieve a sense of tension that moves into resolution. Rhythms and harmonies help paint a picture, so do song lyrics. Nevertheless, rhymes are another tool in the songwriting toolbox that composers should use to help tell their stories.

Table 5: Examples of Rhyme as One of the Phonological Devices

Song Lyrics	Song Title	Movie Title (Year)
You could be out this <u>far</u> ? Make a wish on the brightest <u>star</u>	I Always Wanted a Brother	Mufasa: The Lion King (2024)
As off through the waves they <u>roll</u> The fish on the land ain't <u>happy</u> They sad 'cause they in the <u>bowl</u> But fish in the bowl is <u>lucky</u>	Under the Sea	The Little Mermaid (2023)
Like a bolt out of the <u>blue</u> Fate steps in and sees you <u>through</u> When you wish upon a star Your dreams come <u>true</u>	When You Wish Upon a Star	Pinocchio (2022)
Yes, she will sing to those who <u>hear</u> And in her song all magic <u>flows</u> But can you brave what you most <u>fear</u> Can you face what the river <u>knows</u>	All Is Found	Frozen II (2019)

5. Anaphora

Anaphora is the repetition of words or phrases in a group of sentences, clauses, or poetic lines at the beginning of successive clauses or sentences. Like so many other forms of literary repetition, anaphora is incredibly powerful devices to aid the memory. Poets and composers often use this device to a similar effect (Malewitz, 2020).

As a powerful technique, anaphora is utilized for creating rhythm, comparing and contrasting multiple ideas, and making phrases or sentences more memorable and effective (DeGuzman, 2021). As a poetic device, anaphora refers to the use of repetitive phrases in a poem or song lyrics utilized in songwriting to make lyrics more interesting, imaginative, symbolic, and captivating to audiences (Noall, 2024).

To the rhetorical and artistic impact of the words, anaphora signifies that the words are linked purposefully and thematically. To reinforce or emphasize a personal thought or concept, anaphora helps audiences remember words and connect the ideas. Anaphora makes a song easy to sing along. Anaphora makes song lyrics easy to remember. Anaphora connects multiple ideas, lines, and even sections of a song to a single point of departure (Camp, 2022).

Table 6: Examples of Anaphora as One of the Phonological Devices

Song Lyrics	Song Title	Movie Title (Year)
<u>Life is a ride, so</u> enjoy the view <u>Life is a ride, so</u> be true to you <u>Life is a ride, so</u> make it count <u>Life is a ride, so</u> live it inside out	Life Is a Ride	Inside Out II (2024)
<u>Now she's here</u> , shining in the starlight <u>Now she's here</u> , suddenly I know	How Far I'll Go	Moana II (2024)
<u>Always</u> waiting on a miracle, a miracle <u>Always</u> walking alone <u>Always</u> wanting for more	Waiting On A Miracle	Encanto (2021)
<u>Ever</u> just the same <u>Ever</u> a surprise <u>Ever</u> as before	Beauty and the Beast	Beauty and the Beast (2017)

6. Repetition

As a phonological device or, repetition is phrases or lines repeated in the course of a poem or song lyrics to create a musical effect and to make any point clearer and more memorable. Repetition is apparently an essential part of popular songs (Kivy, 1993: 359). Accordingly, repetition simply by utilizing the same word or phrase again and again is commonly and masterfully employed throughout song lyrics as a stylistic device in order to create an emotion, emphasize the meaning of important words or phrases, increase fluency, make song lyrics appear more convincing, highlight the important messages of each song, and satisfy the audiences with the sounds and rhythms of language in a fascinating way.

Repetition is primarily effective at two things: emphasis (Simply repeating a phrase or word is an effective way at emphasizing specific ideas to a reader or audience.) and rhythm (Repetition can create rhythm and musicality to a speech that more deeply engages audiences.) (DeGuzman, 2022).

In the study “Web-Based Music Study: The Effects of Listening Repetition, Song Likeability, and Song Understandability on EFL Learning Perceptions and Outcomes”, Beasley and Chuang (2008: 14) mentioned that repetition of song lyrics is typically found in the chorus section of a song. Songs utilize repetition to highlight key words or phrases. In many songs, repetition is usually used not only for the pleasure of the recurrent, but also for emphasizing the elements of a relationship to signify a range of different emotions. When repetition is conducted in a song, it commonly presents semantic interpretations of song lyrics, and it is the means of creating pattern of song lyrics.

Table 7: Examples of Repetition as One of the Phonological Devices

Song Lyrics	Song Title	Movie Title (Year)
And I <u>always</u> wanted a brother <u>I always</u> wanted a brother <u>I always</u> wanted a brother	I Always Wanted A Brother	Mufasa: The Lion King (2024)
<u>Under the sea</u> <u>Under the sea</u> Nobody beat <u>us</u> Fry <u>us</u> and eat <u>us</u>	Under the Sea	The Little Mermaid (2023)
And there wasn't a cloud <u>in the sky</u> No clouds allowed <u>in the sky</u>	We Don't Talk About Bruno	Encanto (2021)
The sweet caress of twilight There's magic <u>everywhere</u> It's <u>everywhere</u> .	Can You Feel the Love Tonight	The Lion King (2019)

Results of the Study

The results shed light on the frequency of occurrences of phonological devices or sound devices as one of the stylistic devices, found in the 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024). The main phonological devices utilized to analyze the song lyrics of the soundtracks of Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in this research included alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme, anaphora, and repetition shown as follows:

Table 8: Frequency of occurrences of the Phonological Devices in the 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024)

Movie Soundtrack Title	Alliteration	Assonance	Consonance	Rhyme	Anaphora	Repetition
I Always Wanted a Brother (2024)	6	5	9	18	3	20
How Far I'll Go (2024)	19	21	6	13	4	11
I'm Shy (2024)	5	12	1	12	5	8
Life Is a Ride (2024)	11	13	1	27	4	23
Across the Ocean (2023)	3	5	1	4	1	6
Steal the Show (2023)	8	9	1	8	1	9
Under the Sea (2023)	24	20	10	26	4	11
Poor Unfortunate Souls (2023)	17	16	24	12	1	3
Part of Your World (2023)	23	15	10	12	8	5
When He Was Here with Me (2022)	14	14	2	7	0	3
When You Wish Upon a Star (2022)	4	5	1	5	0	2
Nobody Like U (2022)	20	20	1	13	4	24

Movie Soundtrack Title	Alliteration	Assonance	Consonance	Rhyme	Anaphora	Repetition
True Love (2022)	5	5	3	5	2	11
We Don't Talk About Bruno (2021)	32	27	13	8	6	28
Waiting On a Miracle (2021)	10	12	8	7	9	10
Surface Pressure (2021)	31	41	25	13	7	17
Lead the Way (2021)	19	47	27	6	3	11
Off the Shelf (2020)	15	8	5	2	3	7
Once Upon a Snowman (2020)	6	9	2	4	0	3
Carried Me with You (2020)	20	12	3	18	3	14
A Whole New World (2019)	15	15	7	13	5	5
Speechless (2019)	21	14	6	10	2	14
All Is Found (2019)	6	7	2	8	0	6
The Next Right Thing (2019)	11	11	3	9	3	7
Can You Feel the Love Tonight (2019)	9	19	12	9	3	6
I Just Can't Wait to Be King (2019)	14	15	6	10	3	5
A Place Called Slaughter Race (2018)	14	21	9	16	0	3
In This Place (2018)	20	24	10	6	0	11
Zero (2018)	57	25	48	14	12	28
Beauty and the Beast (2017)	9	6	5	9	1	11
Evermore (2017)	13	12	14	8	5	9
When We're Together (2017)	18	23	2	7	2	6
Unforgettable (2016)	6	2	1	5	2	9
You're Welcome (2016)	19	13	12	14	4	9
A Beautiful Day (2015)	5	5	3	6	2	10
Making Today a Perfect Day (2015)	18	19	8	17	4	25
Runway Romance (2014)	14	7	5	5	2	5
Float (2014)	10	20	13	6	3	8
Frozen Heart (2013)	7	6	2	10	1	12
Let It Go (2013)	13	14	6	14	4	8
We'll Be There (2012)	10	6	3	4	3	2
Touch the Sky (2012)	7	9	2	8	0	9
You Might Think (2011)	7	3	6	10	5	10
Everything Is Honey (2011)	8	14	7	8	2	11
I See the Light (2010)	14	6	7	8	6	17
When Will My Life Begin (2010)	8	20	8	9	3	3
Never Knew I Needed (2009)	19	14	4	6	3	12
Almost There (2009)	9	8	4	10	0	6
Barking at the Moon (2008)	12	2	1	4	4	15
Fly to Your Heart (2008)	9	25	10	6	0	9
Give Me the Simple Life (2007)	7	22	22	8	0	11

Movie Soundtrack Title	Alliteration	Assonance	Consonance	Rhyme	Anaphora	Repetition
Little Wonders (2007)	9	10	11	11	6	8
Behind the Clouds (2006)	11	5	7	6	0	7
Our Town (2006)	4	7	1	4	2	7
Here Beside Me (2005)	4	3	2	8	4	5
Like Other Girls (2005)	10	11	3	5	5	15
Will the Sun Ever Shine Again (2004)	9	10	4	9	2	5
Welcome (2003)	8	12	7	9	6	18
Always Know Where You Are (2002)	6	11	8	3	0	9
Where the Dream Takes You (2001)	9	9	5	6	8	6

The following tables (Table 9-14) demonstrated each of the phonological devices (alliteration, assonance, consonance, rhyme, anaphora, and repetition) most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics of the 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024).

Table 9: Alliteration as one of the phonological devices most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics of Walt Disney's animated motion picture soundtracks as follows:

Movie Soundtrack Title/Example	Movie Title	Alliteration
Zero Example: <u>W</u> ide-eyed one <u>w</u> ith a mind full of <u>w</u> onder	Ralph Breaks the Internet (2018)	57
We Don't Talk About Bruno Example: He told me my fish would <u>d</u> ie, the next <u>d</u> ay: <u>d</u> ead	Encanto (2021)	32
Surface Pressure Example: Watch as she <u>b</u> uckles and <u>b</u> ends <u>b</u> ut never <u>b</u> reaks	Encanto (2021)	31
Under the Sea Example: <u>We</u> <u>w</u> hat the <u>l</u> and folks <u>l</u> ove to cook	The Little Mermaid (2023)	24
Part of Your World Example: Flippin' your <u>f</u> ins you don't get too <u>f</u> ar	The Little Mermaid (2023)	23

Table 10: Assonance as one of the phonological devices most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics of Walt Disney's animated motion picture soundtracks as follows:

Movie Soundtrack Title/Example	Movie Title	Alliteration
Lead the Way Example: We <u>b</u> ecome stronger <u>e</u> r than <u>e</u> ver	Raya and the Last Dragon (2021)	47
Surface Pressure Example: I <u>t</u> ake what I'm <u>h</u> anded, I <u>b</u> reak what's <u>d</u> emanded,	Encanto (2021)	41
We Don't Talk About Bruno Example: he <u>s</u> ees your <u>d</u> reams and <u>f</u> easts on your <u>s</u> creams	Encanto (2021)	27
Zero Example: I rem <u>e</u> mber walking in the cold of Nov <u>e</u> mber	Ralph Breaks the Internet (2018)	25
Fly to Your Heart Example: Fly <u>t</u> o <u>w</u> ho <u>y</u> ou are	Tinker Bell (2008)	25

Table 11: Consonance as one of the phonological devices most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics

Movie Soundtrack Title/Example	Movie Title	Alliteration
Zero Example: We <u>ll</u> , let me <u>t</u> ell you about it	Ralph Breaks the Internet (2018)	48
Lead the Way Example: When we <u>j</u> ust <u>t</u> r <u>u</u> st	Raya and the Last Dragon (2021)	27
Surface Pressure Example: Instead, we <u>m</u> ea <u>s</u> ure this growing <u>p</u> re <u>s</u> s <u>u</u> re	Encanto (2021)	25
Poor Unfortunate Souls Example: Now it's happened <u>o</u> nce or <u>t</u> wice	The Little Mermaid (2023)	24
Give Me the Simple Life Example: I don't believe in frettin' or grie <u>v</u> in'	Meet the Robinsons (2007)	22

Table 12: Rhyme as one of the phonological devices most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics of Walt Disney's animated motion picture soundtracks as follows:

Movie Soundtrack Title/Example	Movie Title	Alliteration
Life Is a Ride Example: We feel joy, sadness, disgust, anger and <u>fear</u> But we never know what's waiting <u>near</u>	Inside Out II (2024)	27
Under the Sea Example: As off through the waves they <u>roll</u> The fish on the land ain't happy They sad 'cause they in the <u>bowl</u>	The Little Mermaid (2023)	26
I Always Wanted a Brother Example: When I'm king, you'll always take my <u>side</u> That's right. No other animal will break our <u>pride</u>	Mufasa: The Lion King (2024)	18
Carried Me with You Example: From the day it all <u>began</u> Yeah, you were there, you took my <u>hand</u>	Onward (2020)	18
Making Today a Perfect Day Example: I've worked for weeks, planned everything within my <u>power</u> I even got Kristoff and Sven to take a <u>shower</u>	Frozen Fever (2015)	17

Table 13: Anaphora as one of the phonological devices most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics of Walt Disney's animated motion picture soundtracks as follows:

Movie Soundtrack Title/Example	Movie Title	Alliteration
Zero Example: <u>I don't want to</u> hear about what to do, no <u>I don't want to</u> do it just to do it for you	Ralph Breaks the Internet (2018)	12
Waiting on a Miracle Example: <u>Always</u> waiting on a miracle, a miracle <u>Always</u> walking alone <u>Always</u> wanting for more	Encanto (2021)	9
Part of Your World Example: <u>Up where they</u> walk, up where they run <u>Up where they</u> stay all day in the sun	The Little Mermaid (2023)	8
Where the Dream Takes You Example: <u>They'll try to change your</u> mind <u>They'll try to change your</u> heart	Atlantis: The Lost Empire (2001)	8
Surface Pressure Example: <u>Pressure like a</u> grip, grip, grip, and it won't let go, whoa <u>Pressure like a</u> tick, tick, tick till it's ready to blow, whoa	Encanto (2021)	7

Table 14: Repetition as one of the phonological devices most commonly used in the top 5 song lyrics of Walt Disney's animated motion picture soundtracks as follows:

Movie Soundtrack Title/Example	Movie Title	Alliteration
We Don't Talk About Bruno Example: Not a word about <u>Bruno</u> I never should have brought up <u>Bruno</u>	Encanto (2021)	28
Zero Example: Let me tell you what it's like to be a <u>zero, zero</u> Let me show you what it's like to never <u>feel, feel</u>	Ralph Breaks the Internet (2018)	28
Making Today a Perfect Day Example: <u>Merry, merry, merry</u> Hot, cold, <u>hot</u> birthday!	Frozen Fever (2015)	25
Nobody Like U Example: I'm <u>never</u> not by <u>your side, your side, your side</u> I'm <u>never</u> gon' let you <u>cry</u> , oh, <u>cry</u> , don't <u>cry</u>	Turning Red (2022)	24
Life Is a Ride Example: <u>Life is a ride</u> that we all must take <u>Sometimes it's</u> smooth, <u>sometimes it</u> shakes	Inside Out II (2024)	23

Conclusion and Discussion

The aesthetic value of language is the way language can be utilized to express ideas, to create an emotional response, and to satisfy aesthetic needs in such a way that is sensually or visually appealing. Additionally, aesthetic language is implemented to create images of beauty through carefully chosen words. All phonological devices can be utilized as a means of creation emphasis, attention, and significance to words in song lyrics for both artistic and rhetorical effects. For example, repetition of the same sound can create a sense of urgency or emphasize a particular word or idea, while alliteration using words with the same beginning sound can create a particular sound or a sense of emphasis and help to reinforce the message.

The analysis of the use of phonological devices as one of the stylistic devices in 60 song lyrics of the soundtracks of 40 Walt Disney's animated motion pictures in the first quarter of the 21st century (2001-2024) demonstrated that **most of the songs are the soundtracks of Walt Disney's animated motion pictures between 2018 and 2024, which were considered the new golden age of Walt Disney's animation filmmaking**. Audiences of the soundtracks of these later motion pictures have found themselves touched, delighted and impressed by the song lyrics conveyed by the composers. consequently, the songwriting styles can be one of the important factors which cause the soundtracks to be successful during that great period.

For example, *The Lion King* (2019) took the top spot as Disney's best score, with iconic songs like "Circle of Life" and "Hakuna Matata" that capture the magic and joy of Disney motion pictures, considered to have one of the best soundtracks in Disney's history. In addition, there's the movie's biggest hit, "We Don't Talk About Bruno," which has the bounce of salsa music and "Surface Pressure" a unique blend of pop and syncopated lyrics in *Encanto* (2021). They are soundtracks that will stick with viewers like the animated motion pictures of Disney's 1990s renaissance (Bruce & Kaufman, 2024).

It's no secret that *Frozen* (2013) is one of the most successful films of all time. The songs are brilliant, practically "Let It Go". Modern Disney is very different from the early days, where box office success all but guarantees a sequel. Enter *Frozen II* (2019), which brings back the same lovable characters and excellent songs, and places them in a wildly convoluted story that never comes together in a satisfying way. Released during the pandemic, there was no stopping *Encanto* (2021) — practically "We Don't Talk About

Bruno”, the first Disney film to pull off that feat since *Aladdin* (2019). Incredibly, a whopping seven songs from the film placed in the Top 100 (Levitt, 2023).

According to Determan (2021), 2009 to present is the revival era. The current revival era has been seen by many as a return to form for Disney's animation. As technology advanced, Computer-Generated Imagery (CGI) emerged as a new frontier, offering animators unprecedented control and flexibility in creating animated worlds. Having fully embraced CGI animation, stories are reviving the popular Broadway musical formula within fantasy settings. Uniquely, the films of this era are less about the quest for romantic love and more about protagonists' inner journeys towards self-discovery and confidence. The era has also seen a rising trend in a new type of 'twist-villain', an antagonist who initially appears harmless or even friendly. These stories have resonated strongly with modern audiences – so far this is the most profitable of any period of Disney's animation.

Significantly, songs with gorgeous melody and lyrics help to further the plot and give deep insights into the film's main characters. Considering all the song lyrics composed between 2018 and 2024, the composers have placed more importance on the use of phonological devices in the song lyrics than those of earlier periods. We can clearly realize that apart from creating a specific effect, increasing meaning, and evoking emotion, thoughts, dreams, and aspirations, phonological devices emphasize the sounds of words the composer chooses, creating a musical quality that can enhance the mood or tone of the words in song lyrics and producing the endlessly theatrical entertaining. Moreover, phonological devices contribute to the incredible fabric of communication and the overall aesthetic and rhythmic quality of language, making it more engaging and memorable.

Some of Walt Disney's most iconic motion pictures are their tune-filled animated features, and most of them include fantastical, memorable, and incredible soundtracks as a major part of the animated motion pictures' successes. Walt Disney's animated motion pictures are defined by their incredible soundtracks with songs beloved even up until this day and appreciated by a whole new generation, featuring toe-tapping songs and heart-wrenching ballads written by some of the best composers.

In conclusion, the secrets to Walt Disney's success are considerable, but they all share a common thread: a commitment to innovation, creativity, storytelling and soundtracks. Walt Disney's animated motion picture soundtracks are absolutely iconic, ear-catching, and emotionally affecting and are able to create a lasting legacy that has inspired and entertained audiences for generations.

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