

# **Semiotic Analysis Of The Motivational Message In The Lyrics Of The Song "Good Days" By Sza**

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***Abstract.** This research aims to analyze the message contained in the song "Good Days" by SZA using Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic theory. The phenomenon addressed in this song is the importance of maintaining a positive mindset and continuous efforts to achieve happiness amidst life's challenges. The method used in this research is semiotic analysis, focusing on the denotative and connotative meanings conveyed through the song's lyrics. The analysis results indicate that the song's denotative meaning reflects an ongoing effort to achieve success, while its connotative meaning emphasizes that true happiness comes from within, through a positive mindset and mental resilience. The song also reveals the myth that happiness is not determined by external factors but originates from within oneself. In conclusion, "Good Days" serves as a powerful motivational medium, encouraging listeners to adopt a positive mindset, appreciate small moments of happiness, and build resilience in facing life's challenges.*

**Keywords:** *Semiotics, Song Lyrics, Meaning, Motivational Message*

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

In an era of continuous technological advancement, communication has become an integral element of human daily routines. According to Cahya & Sukendro (2022), communication is not merely knowledge but also a skill in social interaction, emphasizing the importance of creativity in the communication process. On the other hand, Milyane et al. (2022) describe communication as the process of conveying various types of information through signs such as words, images, and numbers. This statement also highlights that in the communication process, the use of media underscores the essential role of music in disseminating positive messages and empowering its listeners. Music has the power to influence human feelings, thoughts, and behaviors through the messages conveyed in lyrics, melody, and rhythm. Therefore, it can be concluded that, in the context of communication, music plays a crucial role as a medium for spreading positive messages and empowering its audience.

Music serves as a medium of communication to convey messages to listeners while also setting moods and providing motivation. It comprises various elements such as rhythm, melody, and lyrics, all crafted to achieve harmony within a song. A song is a combination of melody and lyrics that creates a cohesive and harmonious unity. Gutama (2020) explains that a song is a sequence of sounds with rhythm, whether in the form of conversation, singing, reading, or similar activities. A song is a part of musical works, which are, in turn, aspects of art. Music acts as a channel that carries messages through words accompanied by melody, allowing singers to convey these messages through their performance. Furthermore, music is considered a significant art form with a profound impact on human life, aligning with the importance of communication. Today, music has become an integral part of various human activities, with many people listening to it in different contexts, whether intentionally or unintentionally. According to Mutaqin et al. (2022), music is an expression of human thoughts, concepts, and ideas conveyed through messages. Music is described as a form of

communication, with lyrics being a crucial element. Lyrics deliver messages that can be understood and felt by listeners, helping them feel inspired and motivated. The choice of words in lyrics can have a significant impact, whether addressing difficulties or celebrating small achievements in life. Therefore, it can be concluded that music is not just about entertainment but also a powerful communication tool capable of inspiring and motivating its listeners through the messages conveyed in its lyrics and melody.

According to Anggraini et al. (2019), songs are an important tool in the educational process, especially in language teaching. More deeply, song lyrics serve as a medium to convey messages to listeners, aiming to motivate through every rhythm, melody, and lyric created by the songwriter. According to Hadiansah & Rahadian (2021), song lyrics are carefully arranged words that contain messages derived from the writer's experiences, observations, and emotions. Written in a light and memorable style, song lyrics become a medium for expressing various feelings, thoughts, and life experiences to listeners. Many individuals use songs as a way to express their feelings to others, making song lyrics a very common form of expression. Music, as the vessel for song lyrics, plays a crucial role in reflecting the culture of the society that supports it. Music is not just a collection of sounds; it also contains principles and social standards that are an important part of the cultural embedding process. Music comprises various elements that contribute to its beauty and appeal, such as rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics, timbre, tempo, and pitch.

More than just an art form, music is both a science and a skill in arranging and organizing sounds. Music is created through the combination and temporal relationships between various elements to produce a balanced, harmonious, and emotionally evocative composition. Thus, music is not only a source of entertainment but also a channel for communicating messages, emotions, and profound meanings to its listeners. In the context of research, music can be examined from various perspectives, such as its function for listeners, the presentation of traditional music in society, the role and function of music in film, the relationship between music and psychological and emotional aspects of listeners, and the evolution of music's function from ritual to entertainment and artistic expression. According to Solang et al. (2021), music plays diverse roles in human life, including expressing emotions, appreciating beauty, providing entertainment, communication, symbolizing, influencing physical reactions, reinforcing social norms, confirming social structures, preserving cultural continuity, and integrating communities.

In early childhood education, the use of music aims to stimulate the affective, cognitive, and psychomotor development of learners. The humanistic approach aligned with the "Kurikulum Merdeka" (Independent Curriculum) serves as the foundation for music education in early childhood settings. Music also plays a significant role in the emotional expression of adolescents. Different types of music have varying impacts on the emotions and mood of teenagers. Therefore, music becomes a rich subject for research, which can be examined from various perspectives, including aspects of form, structure, function, and meaning within the socio-cultural context of society. Music is not only seen as an art product but also as a means of communication, emotional expression, and cultural identity formation. According to Putra & Ilhaq (2019), music is an art form composed of sounds. Those who create songs or compositions use musical elements such as harmony, melody,

rhythm, and song structure to convey thoughts and feelings, and to express themselves comprehensively. Various music genres such as pop, rock, reggae, funk, classical, jazz, hip-hop, and others each have their own distinctive characteristics. However, it is undeniable that song lyrics are an inseparable part of music. Each type of song conveys messages expressed by the writer through its lyrics. Although individual music preferences vary, the implied messages in song lyrics can be understood and felt by listeners because music has the ability to influence a person's feelings and thoughts.

According to an analysis published by Healthline, music has the ability to enhance and stabilize a person's physical, mental, and emotional health. Meanwhile, common opinion suggests that music not only inspires and entertains but also has psychological effects that can influence a person's mental health. Therefore, music can help improve and stabilize mental health, as well as foster a sense of happiness, motivation, and tranquility for its listeners (Andina, 2023).

According to data from Statistica, teenagers and young adults in the United States aged 16 to 24 spend an average of nearly 40 hours per week listening to music. The number of teenagers and young adults engaged in this activity increased overall by 36.6% from 2015 to 2017 (Statistica, 2020). This data suggests that music can be one of the methods for intervention and addressing mental health issues for some individuals.

It is important to find effective intermediaries that can directly connect the communicator delivering the message with the message receiver. Music can play a role in this by using authentic sounds from figures who are not only liked but also valued. Additionally, the packaging and presentation of the message also play a role in inspiring and reaching a wider audience to maintain their mental health (Blady, 2021).

Research also shows that when mental health issues are addressed by celebrities or role models, it can reduce stigma and encourage their fans to seek help in addressing their mental health concerns (Calhoun & Gold, 2020).

Lyrics in music have the power to influence a person's actions, attitudes, and even thought patterns (Dea et al., 2024). By using lyrics created by songwriters, listeners are invited to interpret these messages using their own experiences and knowledge. Music has a significant impact on its listeners because it contains meanings and messages that can communicate with the audience. The messages conveyed through music often reflect the mindset and social environment of its creators. Music is an element of complex and widespread social behavior patterns, conveying important thoughts, concepts, and ideas. The messages contained in music or songs are often connected to historical contexts and have moral, idealistic, and even economic dimensions. Song lyrics are usually written in memorable, beautiful language that can be interpreted in various ways. Songwriters use lyrics to express their feelings, opinions, and daily experiences. The messages in song lyrics are the result of the songwriter's personal understanding of their perceived reality, which is then expressed through symbols in the lyrics. According to Tateanna & Sulistyani (2023), listeners are expected to interpret the hidden meanings in song lyrics according to their own experiences and individual interpretations.

Song lyrics are often inspired by the writer's life experiences or social issues emerging in their environment. One example of a musician addressing such issues is Kunto Aji, who creates works with themes related to mental health. Mental health is a critical concern for every individual amidst the bustle of life. Good mental well-being allows individuals to experience enjoyment in daily life and appreciate those around them. Having good mental health is essential for effectively coping with everyday challenges. However, poor mental conditions such as stress, depression, anxiety, or overthinking can disrupt the balance of body and mind. This can result in uncontrolled emotional changes such as anger, crying, and difficulty performing daily activities well. There are several ways to improve mental health, one of which is through listening to music (Dewi, 2022). Listening to music can aid in the self-recovery process and positively influence a person's mood. The content of the song lyrics can also have a positive impact on the listener's mental condition.

The song "Good Days" by SZA, which is an interesting subject for lyrical analysis, was released on December 25, 2020, coinciding with Christmas. It is a popular R&B track by the American singer, SZA, and has been viewed 114 million times on YouTube. The song reflects SZA's struggles with her past and her quest to find meaning in happiness and peace. In the lyrics of "Good Days," SZA emphasizes the importance of positive thinking and engaging in actions that foster happiness, such as building good relationships with others. The song serves as a motivational piece for listeners, encouraging them to focus on positive aspects of life and to seek out happiness and comfort.

The song "Good Days" by SZA offers profound and deep motivation for its listeners. Through its meaningful lyrics, SZA invites us to reflect on self-acceptance, independence, and optimism in facing life. At its core, the song inspires us to embrace ourselves as we are, find strength in independence, and maintain faith that despite all difficulties, there is still hope for goodness in the future. With honesty and sincerity in her expression, SZA reminds us of the importance of managing our emotions and embracing our personal journey with courage and resilience. Through this song, we are encouraged to overcome obstacles and pursue our dreams with strong determination. Semiotics can be useful in the interpretation of signs, both artificial and natural signs that exist as a form of communication (Febryningrum & Hariyanto, 2022).

Previous research has explored the meaning of messages in songs using semiotic analysis. For example, a study by Silaban et al. (2024) titled "Analisis Semiotika Makna Motivasi pada Lirik Lagu 'Bangun Pemuda Pemudi'" examined the motivational meaning conveyed through the lyrics of the song "Bangun Pemuda Pemudi." The study found that the song's lyrics inspire the current generation to take responsibility and pursue their dreams to create a brighter future. The commonality with this research is the use of Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic analysis to interpret the motivational meaning in song lyrics. The difference lies in the specific song analyzed.

The study by Miftahurrezki & Anshori (2021) titled "Analisis Makna Pesan Motivasi dalam Lirik Lagu Kpop BTS 'Answer: Love Myself'" analyzed the motivational message in the lyrics of BTS's song "Answer: Love Myself." The research found that the song conveys a motivational message about self-love. The similarity with this research is the use of Ferdinand de Saussure's

semiotic approach to interpret the motivational message in a song. The difference lies in the specific song analyzed.

The study by Juwita et al. (2022), titled “Makna Motivasi dalam Lagu ‘Diri’ Dari Tulus (Analisis Semiotika Ferdinand De Saussure),” investigates the motivational meaning in Tulus’s song "Diri." The findings reveal that the lyrics of "Diri" convey a message about the importance of motivation for self-acceptance and self-love. The similarity with this research lies in the use of Ferdinand de Saussure’s semiotic approach to analyze motivational meaning in song lyrics. The difference is in the specific song analyzed.

The study by Ayu & Hariyanto (2022), titled “The Meaning of Lyric 'Pamer Bojo' by Alm. Didi Kempot,” examines the interpretation of the lyrics in Didi Kempot's song "Pamer Bojo." The research finds that the song expresses profound sadness due to being left by a partner. The similarity with other studies lies in the focus on interpreting song lyrics. However, the difference is in the approach used, which is Roland Barthes' semiotics, as well as the specific song analyzed. Additionally, this study does not analyze motivational aspects within the lyrics.

The study by Rahmasari & Adiyanto (2023), titled “Representasi Kesehatan Mental Dalam Lirik Lagu Secukupnya Karya Hindia (Analisis Semiotika Ferdinand De Saussure),” analyzes the representation of mental health in the lyrics of the song "Secukupnya" by Hindia. The research reveals that the song effectively portrays the complexities of mental health. The similarity with other studies is the use of Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic approach. However, the difference lies in the focus on mental health representation rather than motivational message interpretation within the lyrics.

However, to date, there have been no studies specifically focusing on the motivational message in the lyrics of "Good Days" by SZA. Given the song's popularity and its intriguing meanings, there is a clear gap in research. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the elements within the lyrics of "Good Days" using Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic theory.

Since the beginning of her career, SZA has achieved significant milestones. She has won four Grammy Awards, and in 2017, she received the Soul Train Music Award. In 2018, she was honored with the Rulebreaker Award at Billboard Women in Music and was nominated for Best New Artist. In 2023, SZA was named Woman of the Year by Billboard after the success of her single "Kill Bill" and her album "SOS," which remained on the Billboard 200 for seven weeks. Her debut album, "Ctrl," spent 295 weeks on the Billboard 200 chart, making it the longest-charting album by a Black female artist. At the 2024 Grammy Awards held at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, SZA became the first Muslim singer to win three awards simultaneously.

Thus, it will be possible to identify the denotative, connotative, and mythological meanings embedded within the lyrics. This research is expected to contribute to the development of semiotics, particularly in the context of analyzing meanings in song lyrics. Additionally, it is hoped that the results of this study will provide a better understanding to listeners about the positive messages contained in the lyrics of "Good Days," thereby motivating them to maintain a positive outlook and

find happiness and comfort.

Based on the above phenomenon, the researcher is interested in conducting a more in-depth study of the communication signs implied in the film and the symbolic meanings contained in the moral messages conveyed in the lyrics of the song "Good Days" by SZA. Thus, the research questions for this study are: How are the denotative and connotative meanings in the lyrics of "Good Days" by SZA? What myths are contained in these lyrics? What motivational messages are conveyed in the lyrics of "Good Days"? The main objectives of this study are to understand the denotative and connotative meanings in the lyrics of "Good Days" by SZA, to identify the myths contained in these lyrics, and to explore the motivational messages conveyed in the song. The benefit of this research is to develop an analysis of the symbols and signs implied or intentionally presented in a song, particularly those containing moral messages from the perspective of semiotics according to Ferdinand de Saussure. Additionally, it aims to explore how a song can serve as an effective medium for an artist to convey moral messages, especially those related to motivation.

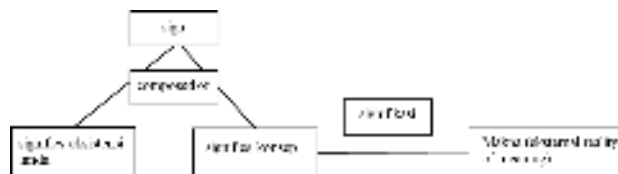
Listening to music has also been proven to enhance motivation, as many motivational songs contain positive messages that can boost our spirit. According to Humaidi (2021), motivation is a conscious drive that influences a person's behavior, encouraging them to act towards achieving specific goals. Motivation is a condition that triggers certain behaviors and provides direction and resilience to those behaviors. According to Anggraeni et al. (2019), motivation is an effort to stimulate enthusiasm. The term "motif" itself has a basic meaning of "movement," which is an integral part of human behavior. In the context of psychology, motivation is the drive that prompts individuals to take action to achieve specific goals. The presence of motivation in a song can influence listeners to reflect on the message that the songwriter intends to convey. The motivation derived from enjoying a song can be either intrinsic or extrinsic, depending on the type of stimulus provided.

From the above explanation, it can be concluded that motivation plays a crucial role in enhancing enthusiasm and energy in daily activities, leading to better outcomes. Motivation is reflected in how we respond to environmental changes and is an essential resource that allows us to adapt, function productively, and maintain our well-being amidst ongoing challenges. Increased motivation also positively impacts health, given its connection with physiological conditions. According to Rahmi & Suhaili (2020), the goal of motivation is to drive an individual, awaken the desire and willingness to achieve specific goals. Motivation is also believed to be capable of transforming negative attitudes into positive ones, improving work efficiency, and aiding in the achievement of goals by contributing one's best effort..

In the context of this research, the concept of semiotics can be understood through the Greek word "semeion," which also means "sign." Semiotics refers to the branch of study that deals with signs, from sign systems to their usage processes, which has developed since the late 18th century. The development of semiotics as a discipline requires a deep understanding of sign systems, rules, and their usage processes. Generally, semiotics is a scientific study of signs, considering social and cultural phenomena as signs. According to Hakim & Rukmanasari (2023), semiotic studies also

involve research into the systems, rules, and conventions that give meaning to these signs. Semiotic research is conducted through two main paradigms: constructive and critical. In the context of literature, semiotics is one of the approaches frequently used in literary research. Semiotic research focuses on uncovering the meanings and values embedded in signs within literary works and understanding the role of sign systems in aesthetic communication.

According to Dayu & Syadli (2023), Ferdinand De Saussure, a key figure in modern semiotics, divided signs into two parts: the signifier and the signified, which are interconnected through signification. Saussure emphasized the importance of the relationships between signs in linguistics, particularly in understanding words as signs. Saussure's semiotic concepts include opposing pairs, dichotomous signs, the use of language in individual and general speech, and syntactic and semantic structures, involving both historical and contemporary dimensions. The signifier refers to the physical aspect, while the signified relates to the conceptual aspect, and both have an arbitrary connection. Saussure also highlighted the significance of the syntagmatic and paradigmatic concepts, as well as other aspects in understanding language. Thus, Saussure's semiotic concepts include an understanding of the evolution of language over time, the relationships between adjacent elements of language at a given moment, and other aspects related to the use of signs in language.



Picture 1 Semiotika Ferdinand De Saussure Models (2014)

According to Saussure, every linguistic sign does not use a name to represent something but rather combines a concept with a sound image (Ria, 2020). The sound produced in spoken language is the signifier, while the concept it represents is the signified. These two elements cannot be absolutely separated. If separated, a "word" becomes fragmented. Unlike earlier traditions, Saussure did not believe in the fundamental connection between language and the objects it represents. Saussure's concept of the sign emphasizes the relative autonomy of language from reality. However, the fundamental principle of his language theory—that the relationship between the signifier and the signified is arbitrary or changeable—remains a highly influential and widely accepted concept in contemporary linguistic thought.

## II.METHODS

This study applies a qualitative research method with a semiotic analysis approach. According to Wijaya et al. (2021), qualitative research aims to understand phenomena such as behaviors, perceptions, motivations, and actions of subjects in depth through descriptive words and language. On the other hand, semiotic analysis studies signs in communication contexts to uncover implied meanings. This research utilizes Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic analysis to explore signs in the lyrics of SZA's song "Good Days," with the goal of revealing hidden motivational messages.

The data collection methods include observation and documentation. According to Nashrullah et al. (2023), observation involves observing and recording elements of the phenomena being studied. Using the observation method, the analysis is conducted by selecting lyrics that align with the formulated issues and then organizing them into sentences. Meanwhile, the documentation technique involves gathering and analyzing relevant documents. This study employs Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic theory, which includes four concepts: signifier, signified, denotation, and connotation.

Data sources are classified into two types: primary and secondary sources. Primary sources are obtained directly from the research object, such as through observation or from the song "Good Days" by SZA. On the other hand, secondary sources are derived from documentation related to the research subject, including articles, websites, journals, books, images, digital films, and other relevant documents or reviews. The research object is the lyrics of the song "Good Days" by SZA, released on December 25, 2020, and has been played more than 93 million times on YouTube. The lyrics were chosen because they contain signs with significant motivational meaning.

### **III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

In this chapter, the results of the semiotic analysis of the lyrics of "Good Days" by SZA will be presented along with the discussion. The analysis is conducted using Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic theory to uncover the denotative, connotative, and mythological meanings embedded in the signs within the song's lyrics. Subsequently, the findings will be linked with motivational theory to identify the motivational messages conveyed.

"Good Days" is a song performed by American R&B singer Solána Imani Rowe, known by her stage name SZA. Released on December 25, 2020, as the second single from her second studio album, "Good Days" quickly reached number 9 on the Billboard Hot 100 and garnered over 93 million views on YouTube. The song reflects SZA's life experiences as she faces challenges and seeks to find peace and happiness. Through its honest and poetic lyrics, SZA discusses her struggle to maintain a positive outlook, appreciate the small things, forgive herself and others, and foster more positive relationships. Overall, the song carries a motivational message, inspiring listeners to keep moving forward toward better days.

Here is the analysis of denotation and connotation in the lyrics of the song "Good Days" by SZA, broken down by verse:

#### **First Verse**

Signifier: "Good day."

Signified: In this verse, the phrase "Good day" signifies more than just a pleasant day. It can symbolize feelings of happiness, gratitude, and a prompt to appreciate the small moments in life. It encourages one to focus on the positive aspects of the day and to engage more deeply with life.



The phrase “Good day” suggests a pleasant and enjoyable day, indicating that the day is filled with positive feelings and joy. The repetition of the phrase “good day” four times emphasizes how good the day being experienced is.

The repetition of "good day" reflects happiness and gratitude for the moments in life. It encourages us to appreciate and enjoy each beautiful moment, even if it is simple. The lyrics prompt us to see the positive side of daily life and find happiness in small things, reminding us that each day has the potential to be a good day if we view it from a positive perspective. Thus, the lyrics convey an important message about appreciation and gratitude in daily life, highlighting the significance of enjoying small and simple moments that make life more meaningful.

### **Second Verse**

Signifier Aspect: “All the while, I'm just tryna vibe.”

Signified Aspect: This lyric indicates an effort to enjoy a pleasant atmosphere, suggesting that the partner is viewed as a temporary experience rather than something serious. It implies that the role or presence of oneself in the relationship is considered insignificant and merely a part of a fleeting experience.

The individual is trying to enjoy the moment by having fun and seeking pleasurable experiences. However, there is an awareness that the relationship with the partner is only temporary and lacks deep significance. The person feels that both themselves and the partner are merely part of a rapidly passing experience.

Someone might be seeking pleasurable or enjoyable experiences temporarily, without expecting a deep or lasting relationship. This suggests that the individual feels that the relationships or experiences they are having are merely part of a search for momentary pleasure and do not provide significant satisfaction or happiness. There is an awareness that, despite their efforts to enjoy the moment and have fun, it does not replace the need for more meaningful relationships or deeper fulfillment in life.

### **Third Verse**

Signifier: “Good day, oh.”

Aspek Petanda: This phrase is repeated several times in the verse, emphasizing the nuances and mood it is trying to convey.

This repetition indicates that the day is filled with positive feelings and joy, according to the literal meaning of the phrase. This repetition also reinforces the emphasis on the mood of a good day, without adding additional interpretation or emotional context

After the depiction of a painful relationship connotes the spirit to rise up and find happiness again. This indicates that even though a person may have gone through difficult times or sadness, they are reminded to remain grateful and appreciate the good days that exist. This repetition serves as an encouragement not to get down in sadness and to stay focused on the happiness that exists in life. Thus, this verse carries a message about the importance of finding and celebrating happiness despite facing previous challenges or difficulties.

#### **Fourth Verse**

Signifier Aspect: "Gotta break myself of thinking that."

Omens Aspect: The repetition of the phrase "Good day, oh" has the function of reinforcing the message and feel of the lyrics. By repeating this phrase, the songwriter emphasizes the importance and existence of a positive mood. It also helps to reinforce the impression that the day is really good and fun, as the lyrics want to convey.

A person seeks to overcome or stop certain thought patterns that are considered unhelpful or harmful. The phrase "gotta break myself" indicates the action needed to change the way of thinking or overcome a burdensome thought. The repetition of this phrase four times underscores the importance and urgency of the effort, describing the determination to stop thinking in a self-defeating way.

Reflecting an intense and ongoing internal struggle to change negative mindsets. This repetition implies that the change is not easy and requires consistent and diligent effort. This verse implies that in order to achieve happiness and good days, one must break free from the mindset that hinders personal progress and happiness. It also signifies that the process of changing the way of thinking is an important part of the journey towards self-improvement and emotional well-being.

#### **Fifth Verse**

Signifier Aspect: "Tryna catch a vibe."

Signified Aspect: Try to enjoy a pleasant atmosphere; Couples are just momentary experiences; I was just one night gone by

Someone who strives to enjoy the atmosphere and feel positive feelings. The phrase "Tryna catch a vibe" literally means trying to get or feel a good vibe or energy. The repetition of this phrase from the previous verse indicates that the individual is trying hard to have fun and look for pleasant moments, even though he is aware that the relationship with his partner is only temporary and may not have a deep meaning.

After a statement of determination to change implies that seeking momentary pleasure will not solve problems or provide true happiness. This repetition suggests that while a person may try to feel a feeling or experience that is pleasurable temporarily, it is not the solution to finding deeper happiness.

### **Sixth Verse**

Signifier Aspect: "Tryna make the work in the daytime."

Signified Aspect: Describe a thorough and ongoing effort to ensure that something is successful. It reflects dedication and commitment to relentless hard work, covers the entire day, and emphasizes the importance of consistency in achieving goals and ensuring success. A person's efforts to ensure that their work or venture is going well, both during the day and at night. The phrase "tryna make the work" indicates an effort to achieve the desired result, and the repetition of this phrase four times emphasizes determination and persistence in the effort. These lyrics literally describe the need to work hard and make sure that everything works consistently all the time.

To achieve success and happiness, one needs to work hard and be fully committed, not just at certain times or with half-hearted effort. The connotation is that success requires perseverance and consistency, and that persistent effort all the time, relentlessly, is the key to achieving the desired results. This highlights the importance of hard work and continuous commitment to achieve long-term goals and achieve true happiness.

### **Seventh Verse**

Signifier Aspect: "Good day, oh (On my mind)."

Signified Aspect: A good and pleasant day experience experienced in real life; and second, how the experience becomes part of a person's mindset. It describes the relationship between positive experiences and thoughts, where a good day is not only felt directly but also becomes the focus of one's mental and attention.

The atmosphere of the day was good and pleasant, similar to the previous verse. However, there are additional phrases "got me a good day" and "on my mind," which show that a good day is not only something experienced but also a focus or goal in the mind. In other words, this good day has been achieved and is now part of our daily thinking. This confirms that a good day's mood is not just a momentary experience but also something that is actively internalized and considered.

The creation of good days depends on a change in mindset and a positive focus. It emphasizes that success and happiness are not only about external events but also about how we organize our thoughts and focus. Having a positive mindset and focus on accomplishments is key to creating and enjoying good days.

Based on the semiotic analysis that has been carried out, several motivational messages conveyed in the lyrics of the song "Good Days" can be identified, among others. Don't get caught up in a relationship that is self-destructive. The lyrics of the song remind us not to give too much of the best to people who do not appreciate our sacrifices. We must learn to love and respect ourselves first. Let go of negative thoughts that hinder happiness. The lyrics of "gotta break myself of thinking that" teach us to recognize and let go of mindsets that are not conducive to our growth and happiness. Working hard and consistently is the key to success. The lyrics "tryna make the work in the daytime, tryna make it work in the nighttime" motivate us to persistently strive to achieve our goals, not only occasionally but continuously.

The lyrics of the song "Good Days" contain a denotation about trying to always think positively, be grateful for small things, forgive yourself and others, and build better relationships in going through difficult times to achieve happiness. Meanwhile, the meaning of the connotation contained is the struggle to rise from adversity, let go of the burden of the past, and find peace in oneself.

#### **IV.CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the semiotic analysis of the lyrics of the song "Good Days" by SZA, based on Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotic analysis, it contains a strong motivational message. Its denotative meaning indicates a continuous effort to achieve success, while its connotative meaning emphasizes that true happiness comes from a positive mindset and constant effort. The song also explores the myth that happiness is not the result of external factors, but comes from within. Overall, "Good Days" serves as a motivational medium, encouraging listeners to adopt a positive mindset, appreciate small happinesses, and build resilience to challenges.

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