

Idiomatic Expressions in “A Thousand Words” Movie

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Abstract. This research is a qualitative research applying content or document analysis. The objectives of this research are to analysis the types of idiomatic expression in “A Thousand Words” movie and to interpret the connotative meaning of idiomatic expression. O’Dell and McCharthy’s theory and dictionaries of idiom are used by the researchers to answer the formulated research questions. The subject of this research is a movie entitled “A Thousand Words” movie directed by Brian Robbins. The data were some scene including the idiomatic expression in “A Thousand Words” movie. To collect the data, the researchers downloaded the movie from Google, watched the film “A Thousand Words” for several time, then searched for the script of the movie in the Internet, watched the movie again while reading the script, found some sentences that are considered to have idiomatic expression needed for the analysis and explained the connotative meaning of idiom, tabulated all idiomatic expression extracted from the script of the movie. After collected the data, the researchers analyzed the data, classifying the idiomatic expression, finding the connotative meaning of the idiomatic expression, drawing the conclusion to answer the research problems. The findings of the research are as follows: in “A Thousand Words””, all O’Dell and McCarthy’s six types of idiomatic expression are found. Those six types of idiomatic expressions are simile idiom (6.6%), binomial idiom (13.3%), Trinomials (6.6%), proverb idiom (26.6%), cliché idiom (30%), and other language (16.6%). The dominant types in “A Thousand Words” movie is proverb and cliché.

Key words: semantics, idiomatic expression, movie.

Introduction

Language is one of the tools used by everyone in their daily life as a means to convey information and arguments to others. Without language, people cannot interact with other people. According to Hutajulu and Herman (2019: 29), language is a tool of communication that has the essential part in making communication. Because language has the important role in communication, so there is a specific study to discuss language. In conclusion language is a communication that as always used by human. From many of languages in the world, English is a global language that is used as a communication device between nations of different language. In Indonesia, many literary works such as films, songs, books, novels, magazines, and newspapers are available in English.

English as a language is an important means of written and oral communication for human which extends information and aim. Language as a round element, which always developed every time but sometimes, is difficult to understand. As a result, it should be analyzed and assessed by using various approaches to study. Linguistics is one approach that can be used to assess a language, because linguistics is not only studies about language but also things related to language itself.

Furthermore some words in a language are sometimes abstract meaning based on linguistic behavior of its users. Semantics is the subfield of linguistics that studies the nature of the meaning of individual words, and the meaning of words grouped into phrases and sentences. According to Griffiths (2006: 1), semantics is one of the two main branches of linguistic studies. Basically, it is the study of meaning. He defines semantics as the study of word meaning and sentence meaning; it differs from pragmatics, which relates language and its contexts. Similar to this, Borg (2006: 19) states that a semantic theory is interested in sentence meaning and not speaker meaning.

An idiom is an expression that contains more than one word, and whose meaning is different from the sum of the literal meanings of its components. Hurford (2007: 328), argues that idiomatic expressions (idioms) are multi-word phrases which combine the literal senses of the individual words in each phrase. In the other hand, idiomatic phrase is an expression whose meaning does not conform to the principle of compositionality, and unrelated to the meaning of its parts. However, the meaning is intended usually depends on the context in which the expression is used.

According to Barsam and Monahan (2010: 2), a movie is a story, captured in a set of celluloid strips/films, which are shown on a screen with certain speed to give the impression of moving. Lately a lot of moviemakers have been shooting their movies digitally, but the main characteristic of movies remains the same, a movie or a film is a motion picture. Movies have been a big part of human life. Barsam and Monahan (2010) even stated that calling movie as the most popular art form. is an understatement. That is how influential movies are. Movies have become a big part of humans' life and culture to the point that it is undeniable to the people, even the most reclusive ones, must have watched a movie at least once in their life.

Nowadays, movie develops rapidly, especially in Indonesia. Moreover, at this time while Pandemic COVID-19 many people bored in home. As we know the rules of government, all people must do activities at home. Watching movie can be alternative to spend their times. People are interested to watch English movies. That is the reason why a subtitle is usually provided in the movie in order to help people understand and get the point of the movies. However, they find it hard to understand the meaning of the subtitle that may be caused by the wrong interpretation or inappropriate translation method. Therefore, the subtitle should give an acceptable translation to avoid misinterpretation. The acceptable translation will make non-native speakers, especially children, understand and get the points of what the movies tell them about. Since English is an international language, everyone should deepen his or her understanding about English. Yet, English expressions are often idiomatic because daily conversations abound in idiomatic expressions. Movies as reflections of real life abound in idioms. Unfortunately, not all translators recognize idiomatic expressions easily. Idiomatic expression is rather difficult because they cannot be translated literally. If interpreted word for word, it will sound strange and unreasonable.

There are some problems that people often face. People is quite difficult to understand because of the words can be wrong in interpreting of idiomatic expression, in other the people do not know about the type of idiomatic expression, so it can be a problems to all of them while interpreting the meaning, the last but not least sometimes the people get a misunderstanding in interpreting the connotation of meaning on idiomatic expression. An example of idiom that found in "A Thousand Words" movie minutes 2:45, "Go ahead" the meaning of go ahead in this conversation of this movie is different from the meaning in the dictionary, in the dictionary the meaning of go ahead is

continue, but the meaning of connotation meaning, go ahead is please. Because in this situations the main character is in a long queue to buy a coffee and he lies and says his wife gave birth and people are begging him to buy a coffee.

There is some previous research related topic about idiomatic expression. Khotmah (2015), in her thesis devoted to the analysis of idiomatic expressions ("Lock and Key" Novel by Sarah Dessen) analyzed about the connotative meaning of idioms used in novel. His research used Mc Charty and O'dell theory. From explanation above it might be concluded that they analyzed the different topic as for approaches but make the same theory.

This research focuses on the idiomatic expressions found in the spoken dialogue in the movie entitled "A Thousand Words" (2012) which has been written in a form of movie script. The researchers chose the movie because this movie is suitable for everyone. Besides, there are many idiomatic expressions found in the movie. Therefore, the idiomatic expressions of the movie must be interpreted correctly so as not to make people confused about it. They will never know when the other uses it, or they cannot understand what the speaker is talking about. Moreover, the use of idioms in a conversation will be more easily listening and attractive.

The researchers analyzed the movie the movie entitled "A Thousand Words" because many researchers found idiom in movie. Due to the reason above, this study is very interesting to be conducted.

Literature Review

Definition of Semantic

According to Griffiths (2006: 1), "Semantics is the study of the 'toolkit' for meaning" It can be said that semantics approach is knowledge in vocabulary and each meaning will elaborate into the next level, which are sentence, phrase, and clause. Besides meaning is found in text, it also appears in signs, symbols, gestures, and expressions. Those forms of meaning are used within particular context. However, this research focuses on the meaning of the word.

Semantics deals with the meanings of word, which is called lexical semantics. In human being's mind, lexical semantics is the same as vocabulary, which is a useful tool for communication within their language. Since vocabulary is a bundle of words, knowing the lexical semantics is important because it is not simple to use it. It depends on the speaker's knowledge of the lexical and the depth of knowledge of the speaker. Moreover, the speaker must know the context of using the lexical.

From the example above, it can be concluded that lexical semantics is a study of examining meaning of each word from several aspects, one of them by seeing the context. The meaning of the lexical increases when people have depth of knowledge in understanding the meaning by seen the context and the function of the lexical in the sentence, whether it is a verb or noun.

According to Yule (2010:112), semantics is the study of meaning of word, phrase and sentences". It means that word, phrase, or sentences have meaning. He stated that there are two categorize of meaning. The two categories consist of conceptual meaning (denotation) and associative meaning (connotation).

Definition of Idiomatic Expression

According to Gairn and Redman (1986:35), an idiom is a sequence of words, which operates as single semantic unit, and like many multi-word verbs the meaning of the whole cannot be deduced from an understanding of the parts, for example: "never mind", "hang on", "under the weather", and so on. Based on some of the definition, the

experts have different ways of defining idiom. In general, most experts found idiom must be learned and understood because the idiom is an expression consisting of a combination of words that cannot be translated word by word but should be interpreted as unity because when words that form the idiom stands alone, its meaning will be different from these words when they appear together as an idiom.

Lazar (2006:3) states that idiom is a group of words that the meaning cannot be translated word by word. If it is translated literally, the sense of the meaning cannot be transferred into the target language correctly.

Hurford (2007:328), argues that idiomatic expressions (idioms) are multi-word phrases which combine the literal senses of the individual words in each phrase. In the other hand, idiomatic phrase is an expression whose meaning does not conform to the principle of compositionality, and unrelated to the meaning of its parts. But, the meaning is intended usually depends on the context in which the expression is used. In conclusion, the lines of the words in idiomatic expressions form meanings, which have no relation with the words themselves.

Types of Idiomatic expression

According to Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, there are two definitions of type. Both of them are countable nouns. Firstly, type is "a particular group of people or things which shares similar characteristics and forms a smaller division of a larger set". Secondly, type is "a person who seems to represent a particular group of people, having all the qualities that you usually connect with that group". Below are the types of idiom based on Cacciari and Tabossi (1988; 1993: 27), and also McCarthy and O'Dell (2010:22-32).

According to McCarthy and O'Dell (2010: 22-32) there are eight types of idioms as follows:

a) Similes are expressions which compare two things; they always include the words as or like, example: My brother's as thin as a rake (extremely thin);

b) Binomials are type of idiom in which two words are joined by a conjunction (linking word), usually "and", example: black and white;

c) Trinomials are a similar type of idiom, in which three words are joined, example: I've looked here, there and everywhere for my glasses but can't find them;

d) Proverbs are short sentences which refer to something most people have experienced and which gives or warnings, example: We should buy extra travel insurance for our skiing trip. Better safe than sorry;

e) Euphemisms are type of idiom used to avoid saying words which may offend or be considered unpleasant, example: Go behind a tree if you need to answer the call of nature;

f) Cliché are a comment that is often used in certain common, everyday situations, example: Truth will out!;

g) Fixed statements are expressions that you can often hear and use fixed statements in everyday conversation, example: Get your skates on!;

h) Other language, it mostly comes from Latin or French, example: Ad hoc, De facto.

Connotative of Meaning

Connotation Refers to the personal aspect of meaning, the emotional association that the word arouses. Connotation is stimulating and evocative senses, feelings, attitudes, judgments, and beliefs as well as certain purposes. It can be individually and collectively (Parere, 2004: 99; Lombardo et al., 1999).

Connotations have the right to live and need to be talk about, discussed, and controlled by the user language. However, the use of language usage and connotations has limits, which not used in report language, the language of scientific papers, magazines, etc., were formalize.

According to Zulaichah (2008: 7), connotative meaning is a kind of meaning whose response has emotional values. Some of connotation meanings occur because the speaker wants to get agreed feeling, pleasantness or unpleasantness etc, to the listeners but in another side, the speaker has the same feeling with the listeners.

Connotative meaning is the communicative value of the expression to the targets, exceed the contents above are purely conceptual. Thus, it opens like a connotative meaning only our knowledge and belief of nature that also is opened. Connotations can arise between the meanings of synonyms and connotation can appear in a word. Therefore, the connotation and there appears to be done on a historical significance and descriptive. According to Parere (2004: 105) usage connotations have boundaries, which used in report language, the language of science, language magazines, textbooks discuss. Thus, the use of connotations must be done carefully because the used of connotations can lead to the power of rhetoric and leads to certain drawbacks.

Movie

According to Seftiatini (2016: 19), A movie is one of the usual aids can be used in a writing class. It makes lessons more fun. It can also be used to create situation for writing classes more clearly, that the students have big enthusiasm in teaching learning process. Today, many people like to watch the movie, for entertainment or get some information. A movie can give many beneficial things for many people. According to the usage, movie can tell that someone doing in other country or it can show what the people wish.

According to Kurniawati (2013: 1), Movie is one branch of the art usually contains someone's life story, fiction and biography as and entertainment the people. Movie usually the scribes about love, live politic violence etc.

Research Methodology

Research Design

The researchers conducted a qualitative research. Ary et al. (2010: 29), point out that qualitative research focuses on the total picture rather than breaking it down into variables. According to Creswell (2010: 3), research design is plans the procedures for research to detailed methods of data collection and analysis.

In order to answer the research questions stated in chapter one, the researchers analyzed the idiomatic expressions found in the dialogue of the movie, which has been written in the form of movie script. The researchers also compared the idioms in the movie script. Therefore, the researchers used content or document analysis. Ary et al. (2010: 29-30) claim "Document analysis focuses on analyzing and interpreting recorded material to learn about human behavior such as public records, textbooks, letters, films, tapes, diaries, themes, reports, or other documents". The researchers chose movie as an object of the research. Because within the movie has the script that can be analyzed.

Data and Data Source

Data are the important thing of the research. Ary et al. (2010: 29), point out that qualitative research focuses on the total picture rather than breaking it down into variables. The unit of analysis is the idiomatic expression found in movie. The movie is mostly about comedy-drama. Therefore, the idiomatic expressions of the movie must be interpreted correctly so as not to make people confused about it. They will never know

when the other used it, or they cannot understand what are the speaker is talking about. Moreover, the use of idioms in a conversation will be more easily listening and attractive. And in this movie the researcher founded the types of idiomatic expression. Therefore the researcher should analysis the types of idiomatic expression on "A Thousand Words" movie. The film was released in the United States on March 9, 2012 and directed by Brian Robbins.

Research Instrument

Instrument has important functions in this research. Research instrument istool of collecting data that should be valid and reliable. According to Arikunto (2006: 126), the device the researchers used to collect data is called instrument. Instrument has important in this research. Instrument is one of the significant steps in conducting this research.

There are some media that research using in this research;

1. Laptop. The researcher used laptop in this research to watch the movie.
2. Script. The researchers used script as the research document. Documents help the researcher to analyze the movie.
3. Notes. The researchers used notes to write the importance of point from the movie.

Technique of Data Collection

There are several ways of collecting data. In conducting this research, there are several steps to be taken:

1. Watching then "A Thousand Words" movie to comprehend the whole story
2. Searching and downloading the original moviescript from *filmapi.id*
3. Identifying the idiomatic expression used in the film script.
4. Finding some sentences that are considered to have idiomatic expression needed for the analysis.
5. Compiling the chosen idiomatic expressions.

Technique of Data Analysis

According to Creswell (2007: 148), there are three analysis strategies in qualitative research such as preparing and organizing the data, coding, and representing the data.

After collecting data, the researchers did some steps to analyze the data. The procedures of the analyzing the data were:

1. Watching "A Thousand Words" movie.
2. Reading the script.
3. Identifying the idiomatic expression in the thousand words movie.
4. Getting the meaning of the idioms.
5. Interpreting the result.
6. Drawing a conclusion.

Triangulation

The validity of the data is needed in qualitative research. In checking the credibility, this research used triangulation technique. The used of validity in qualitative research is to define as the degree of confidence in the data from the study conducted by researchers and it can help the researchers to check the data analysis in to reduce the researchers and prejudices.

In addition, Denzin and Lincoln (1994: 215-224), propose the triangulation technique is divided into four types to make these types of triangulation clear, here the explanation of them:

1. Triangulation data. In triangulation of data comprises in various sources of data are collected. The variety of sources can refer to time, space, and person.

2. Investigator triangulation. In investigator triangulation involves multiple researchers in an investigation to check the same data. This type of triangulation helps to moderate and understand the observer’s prejudice. As the example, two or more researchers might analyze the open response question of questionnaire, then they will make conclusion based on the data from what they were got.

3. Theory of triangulation. Triangulation theory involves using more than one theoretical scheme in the interpretation of the phenomenon. For instance, in analyzing the error analysis to the point of view is by interviewing.

4. Methodological triangulation. In this type of triangulation, it involves using more than one option to gather data. As the example, in collecting the data by using different methods, the Researcher can use interviews, observations, questionnaires, and documents.

Here, the researchers used data triangulation to collect the data by using document. Based on the explanation above, triangulation is the way to check the validity of the data and give a proof the data validation. In this research, the function of triangulation data to check the validation of the data. This research used data triangulation. The source of data referred to the types of idiomatic expression that used in “A Thousand Words” movie.

Results and Discussion

Research Findings

There are two findings of Idiomatic Expression that found in “A Thousand Words” movie and connotative meaning of Idiomatic expression found in “A Thousand Words movie”.

1. Types of Idiomatic Expression

Based on the data analysis, the researcher found that there are six types of idiomatic expression that found in “A Thousand Words” movie, there are similes consist of 2 data (7%), binomials consist of 4 data (13%), trinomials consist of 2 data (7%), proverb consist of 8 data (26%), euphemisms consist of data(0%), cliché consist of 9 data (30%), fixes statements consist of 0 data (0%), and the last other language (17%) (Fig. 1, Table 1).

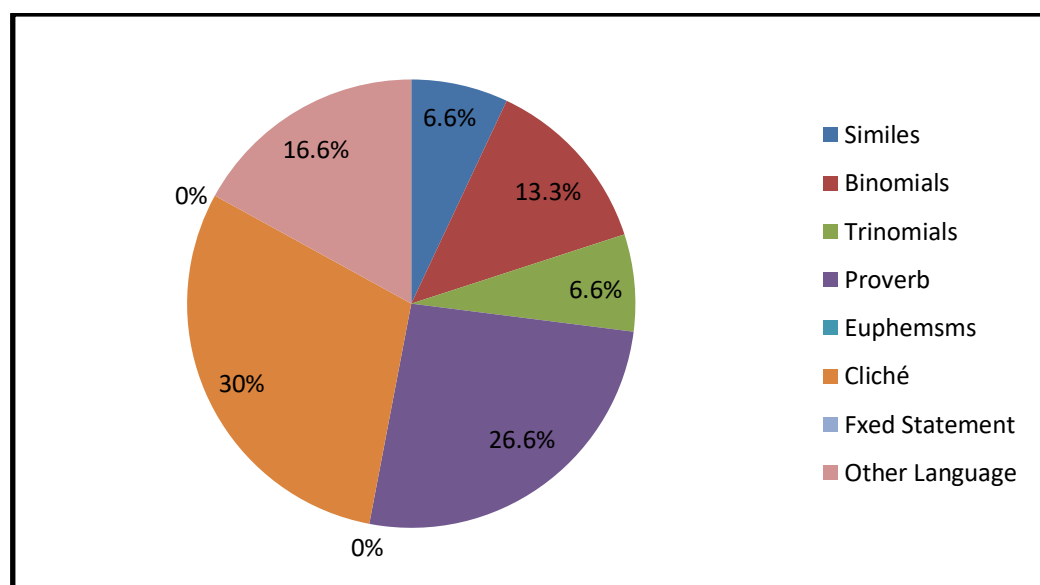


Fig. 1. Dominant types of idiomatic expressions found in “A Thousand Words” movie

Table 1. Type idiomatic expressions in A Thousand Word Movie.

No	Types of idiomatic expression	Frequency	Percentages
1	Similes	2	6.6%
2	Binomials	4	13.3%
3	Trinomials	2	6.6%
4	Proverb	8	26.6%
5	Euphemisms	0	0%
6	Cliche	9	30%
7	Fixed statement	0	0%
8	Other language	5	16.6%
	Total	30	99.7%

From the above details, it is clear that from 8 (eight) types of idiomatic expression there is one idiomatic expression that often appears in the movies, that is cliché idiomatic expression.

2. Connotative meaning of Idiomatic Expressions

The meaning of idiom in “A Thousand Words” movie is looked for the connotative meaning based on the context meaning of novel. Here, the context meaning of movie dealt with the types of idiomatic expressions. Then, it is provided through the following meanings in a series (Table 2).

Table 2. Type of Idiomatic Expressions in “A Thousand Words” Movie

No	Idiomatic expressions	Connotative meaning
1	Want or love	To thing is related on each other and cannot be separated.
2	I will run you over dead in the parking lot.	Don't cut the queue.
3	This coffee incredible.	The coffee delicious.
4	This isn't confessional booth at MTV, all right?	Don't seeking confession.
5	Learn to speak your mind, but do it quickly.	To understand the situation.
6	Yeah. Powerpoint's all set up.	Ready
7	In quiet, there is truth	Do not talking too much.
8	Quiet your mind there are no thoughts.	Be relax
9	Pain is the touchstone of growth.	It is hard to get happiness.
10	The sun, the moon, and the truth.	Be honest.
11	Some people want fame and money.	Live advantage.
12	Just give me some nature, some branches, and some trees.	Always growing.
13	The tree gave me a splinter.	The tree is attacking me.
14	Hola.	Hello.
15	He sleeps in your media room it's like we're guests in your house.	Move to another house and make a room.
16	Moving is a huge change.	Hard.
17	I was gonna just send him a nice wine or, you now, a harry and david's fruit of the month.	Must say thank you
18	Hey, wayne, go back to nebraska and shave sheep with your dad.	Do your thing.
19	Her lips felt like heaven.	Feel good.
20	The skunk and the naughty beaver.	A brezen and naughty person.

No	Idiomatic expressions	Connotative meaning
21	The wolf and the california black bear.	Brave and strong person.
22	Bonjour.	How are you?
23	Life is a journey	Develop yourself.
24	Man plans, god laughs.	God is in control.
25	I shall call you as soon as I land.	Calling just after I land.
26	Hallelujah.	Praise god.
27	Voila.	There it is.
28	You need to find the truth about yourself.	Understand yourself.
29	You need to get quiet. Not just with your mouth with your mind.	Calm down.
30	Gaudencio.	Happy and lucky.

Discussion

The last sub-chapter included in chapter four is discussion. The researchers discussed about idiomatic expression in the movie “A Thousand Words” have taken 30 idiomatic from the movie. The researchers used McCarthy and O’dell(2010) theory about 8 (eight) types of idiomatic expression there are, similies, binmials, trinomials, proverb, euphemisms, cliché, fixed statement, and the last is other language.

The researchers found six types of idiomatic expressions in “A Thousand Words” movie there are; *he sleeps in your media room it’s like we’re guests in your house*. It is the similes type because Jack’s wife feel that house is not enough for them. *Want or love*. It is the binomials type because jack is on phone to convincing interlocuors. *The sun, the moon, and the truth*. It is the trinomials type because jack is seem to have the desire to come to Dr. Sinja and he know it. *Quiet your mind until there are no thoughts*. It is the proverb type because Dr. Sinjatell his follower to relax. *Hola*. It is the other language type because Jack get his gardener (might be a Spanish).

The dominant types of idiomatic expression that from the movie is cliché such as; *I will run you over dead in the parking lot*. It is the cliché type because the extras is in queue with main character and the main character want to cut queue; *Yeah, PowerPoints all set up*. It is the cliché type because they want to make presentation in front of the marketing; *the tree gave me a splinter*. It is the cliché type because jack touching the tree and then get a bleed.

This research is supported by reference in the related topic about idiomatic expression. The research was done by Khotimah (2015), the title of her thesis is An analysis of idiomatic expressions in “Lock and Key” Novel by Sarah Dessen. The researcher used qualitative method. To analyze this research, the researcher used McCharty and O’dell (2010) theory. As the result of the previous study, there are; 50 idiomatic expression in the novel. The different between the previous study and this study is the previous study used novel while this study used movie. And then the similarities of this study with previous study is used the McCharty and O’dell (2010) theory.

Conclusion

The conclusions of this research related to the statement of the research problems and the objectives of this research. They are describing the types of idiom, the connotative meaning of idiomatic expressions and the last is the dominant type of idiomatic expressions. The conclusion of them as follows. The first objective of this research is to analyze the types of idiom entitled “A Tousand Words”. Here, the

researchers found out 30 idiomatic expressions that are in the movie. There are eight types of idiom either it is similes, binomials, trinomials, proverbs, euphemisms, cliché, fixed statements, or other languages. From those types, in "A Thousand Words" movie is found the types of idiom as follows: there are 3 simile, 4 binomials, 2 trinomial, 8 proverbs, 0 euphemisms, 9 cliché, 0 fixed statement, and the last 5 other language. To know the meaning of idiom in "A Thousand Words" movie, the researchers used Oxford Dictionary. All of them are found out to know their connotative meaning based on the context of sentence in the A Thousand Words movie. From the eight types of idiomatic expressions, the researchers found out 30 idioms, that high frequently used in the movies is cliché.

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