

Semantic Analysis on Idiomatic Expression in the "Central Intelligence" Movie

Dinda Aulia Sinaga¹

Herman¹

David Togi Hutahean¹

Khairun Niswa²

¹Nommensen HKBP University, Medan, Indonesia

²North Sumatera Muhammadiyah University, Medan, Indonesia

Abstract. The aims of this research are to analyze the types of idiomatic expression in the Central Intelligence movie and to interpret the contextual 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. This research is a qualitative research applying content or document analysis. The subject of this research is a movie entitled Central Intelligence movie directed by Robert B Weide. The data were some scene including the idiomatic expression in Central Intelligence movie. After analyzing the data, the researchers found that there were six types of idiomatic expression in the movie, they were simile idiom (12%), binomial idiom (8%), proverb idiom (24%), euphemism idiom (12%), cliché idiom (36%), and fixed statement idiom (8%). Then the counter factual proverb and cliché idioms are the most-used type of idiomatic expression. On the other hand, binomials idiom is the least-used type of idiomatic expression found in the central Intelligence movie. The implied meanings of idiomatic expression by interpreting their contextual meaning based on the context of sentence in movie.

Keywords: semantics, idiom, idiomatic expression, contextual meaning, movie.

Introduction

Language is a basic tool in society. It is used to make communication. According to Herman (2017:72), language is used as a mean of communication, by language we can talk to our friends, express our ideas, and feelings. Then, Hutahean (2019:53) added that language is used as a tool for communication among the nations in all over the world. By language we can talk with other people, can give information, can able to exchange knowledge, can express emotion, ideas, beliefs, felling, opinions, wishes, thanks, and promises. From the definition, it can be said that language is used by people to express their thoughts, feelings, ideas and the fact that every day we used it to communicate in daily activities.

There are many languages in the entire world. They are French, Spanish, Korean, Arabic, English and many more. There is one language that has become an International language and been used by people around the world, that is English. Mappiasse and Johari (2014:1130) stated that English language is one of the most spoken languages in the world of today. English plays an important role in process of communication among them and also English can accelerate science and technological development of a nation.

In Indonesia, learning English started from elementary school until University. The component of English is studied in a science called linguistics. It deals with all internal and external aspects of language; for instance, sounds are discussed in phonetics and phonology, morphemes and words in morphology, phrases and sentences in syntax, meanings in semantics, and text in discourse. According to Yule (2010:112), semantic is the study of meaning words, phrases, and sentence in semantic analysis, there is always

attempt to focus on what the words conventionally mean, rather than on what an individual speaker might want them to mean on a particular occasion. Therefore, some words in a language are sometimes abstract meaning based on linguistic behaviour of its users.

English idioms, proverbs, and expressions are an important part of everyday English. They come up all the time in both written and spoken English. Because idioms do not always make sense literally, you will need to familiarize yourself with the meaning and usage of each idiom. That may seem like a lot of work. Halliday (2007:154) says an idiom in the language being described is anything for which no equivalent is found in the mother tongue. Many linguists define an idiom as an expression which is fixed and cannot be understood literally; and its meaning cannot be found in the common dictionary.

English has idiomatic expressions, which English speakers used to express their feelings and conditions using idiomatic expressions. Hurford (2007:328) stated that idiomatic expressions (idioms) are multi-word phrases which that combines 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. Idiomatic expression is a kind of complex lexical item and its meaning cannot be inferred from its parts (Akmala, 2011; Bagha, 2011; Griffiths, 2006). The native speakers of the English language are very often used idiomatic expressions in their everyday speech, the used of idiomatic expression can be expressed in literature.

The used of literature can be found within songs, poems, movies and others. Movie is one of the literary works, which people often watch to entertain and gain information. Movie considered being an important art form, as a root of en vogue entertainment but now movie also became a source of education for citizens learned and got education from films was possible because of many messages that implied and found there. Moreover, there were also insert values such as moral values, educational values and other values. We can watch from internet and television. Movie is now developing very rapidly, especially in Indonesia. Cinemas that made from United States, it called Hollywood movie. The Hollywood movie is very popular among teenagers and the general public: End Game, Toy Story 4, Abominable, Dolittle etc.

Nowadays, the world is experiencing a pandemic called Corona Disease (Covid-19). Indonesia is one of the countries affected by this virus, in the spread of Covid-19, the Indonesian government recommended that people should stay at home. Staying at home was made to break the chain of the spread of the Covid-19 virus. So all human activities are done at home or called Work from Home (WFH). So that activities at home are not boring people looking for other entertainment, such as cooking, playing games, gymnastics, and watching. Watching movie becomes one of the daily activities for some people. People may have different purpose in watching movie, such as for refreshing, adding knowledge, studying foreign language, and understanding foreign culture and entertainment. Researcher also read in the internet by IMDB's rating the percentage of people watching Hollywood movie is the highest (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Film Rating. Source: www.filmapik.id

Therefore, movie has subtitle. Subtitle is needed to help the audience to know what the speaker saying. However, there are also subtitles from a movie that is flexible, where the expression of the speaker with the utterances is different (Lazar, 2006; Pateda, 2001; Septiana, 2017). For example, when the speaker expresses something using an idiom, the idiom of the speaker makes the subtitle flexible, because the idiom expression is unfamiliar among the people but we have been helped by the subtitle so that it is not wrong in interpreting the idiom. Based on that, the audience must know the meaning of idiom can be understood contextually because some idioms have various meanings depend on the context. An example of idiom that found in Central Intelligence movie minutes to 1:17, a radio host said “now, it is time for a breakdown”. The word “*breakdown*” has a lexical meaning “damage, destruction or disturbance” but it differs to the contextual meaning of the word *breakdown*. The word *breakdown* in that context has contextual meaning “*dance*” because who said it was a radio host. The host invited the radio listeners to dance.

In accomplishing this research, the researcher needs to read some previous researches with the related topic about idiomatic expression. The research was done by Safitri. The research entitled is “An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression of Green’s The Fault in Our Stars”. In her article, the researcher wanted to find out the type of idiomatic expressions in novel and to know the connotative meaning of idioms in novel. She used O’Dell and McCarthy (2010) theory. This research method used library research by applying content analysis. The data of this research is in the form of utterances and sentences that contained idiomatic expression. In addition, the data source is taken from John Green entitled “The Fault in Our Stars” and it is Indonesian version. The similarity of this research with the previous researcher was used McCarthy and O’dell’s theory to find out the types of idiomatic expression and the difference is the data chosen by Safitry is a novel but in the research, the researchers choose the movie as data. Then, this research analyzes the contextual meaning in the types of idiomatic expression that found in a movie. The researchers choose Central Intelligence movie because there are many types of idiomatic expressions can be found in the movie. From the above reasons, the researchers are interested to conduct a research entitled “Semantic Analysis on Idiomatic Expression in the Movie of Central Intelligence”.

Material and Methods

Design of the Research

This research is a qualitative research design. According to Ary et al. (2010), qualitative researchers seek to understand a phenomenon by focusing on the total picture rather than breaking it down into variables (Herman et al., 2019: 41-50). The goal is a holistic picture and depth of understanding rather than a numeric analysis of data. Qualitative research was to analyze the types of idiomatic expression are found in Central Intelligence movie.

Purba and Herman (2020:25) stated that qualitative approach is used to describe the data. One of the characteristics of the qualitative method is to see the process we have to deal with according to the setting; the place where the research will be carried out. According to Ary et al. (2010:452-453), there are seven types of qualitative research. There are case studies, content or document analysis, ethnographic studies, grounded theory studies, historical studies, narrative research, phenomenological research. The researcher uses content or document analysis. According to Ary et al. (2010: 457), content or document analysis is a research method applied to written or visual materials

for the purpose of identifying specified characteristics of the materials. The materials analyzed can be text book, newspaper, web pages, speeches, television programs, advertisements, musical compositions, or any of a host of other types of documents. Because the researcher chosen movie as an object of the research. As we know, the movie has a script that can be analyzed.

Data Source of the Research

The aim of the research was got data. According to Arikunto (2010: 129), the data are information or facts used in discussing or deciding the answer of research question. The subject of the research is movie English subtitle “Central Intelligent”. While the object of the research is the all Idiomatic Expressions found in that movie. The researchers identified the movie and seek for the types of Idiomatic Expression found within. This movie was directed by Rawson Marshall Thurber and written by Thurber, Ike Barinholtz and David Stassen. The movie was downloaded from a reliable downloading link in the internet and the script of the movie was also downloaded from another reliable downloading link in the internet. The movie was chosen to be the data because of some reasons. First, there were several previous studies that have analyzed about idiomatic expression and the researcher found that there are many idiom in this movie and this title have never been analyzed. Second, this film is a type of action, researchers like action movies, this movie tells the story of a CIA who was accused of the reason because he stole the country's secret code, therefore he wanted to clear his name and found the culprit, this movie was very interesting, could be seen from the jokes and moral values that can be taken from this film. Through this movie, Bob Stone tries to convey his message about oppression. Researchers are interested in choosing the film Central Intelligence as a data, because there are several unique conversations between two different characters. They have many conversations, but in some conversations they used idiomatic expressions that can be analyzed. The last, the main character of this film is Dwayne Johnson or called The Rock. The researcher really likes this actor, both from his words, actions and expressions that he gives when speaking to the other. He often brings action movies, maybe because he is a wrestler in WWE. The film premiered in Los Angeles on June 10, 2016, and was theatrically released in the United States on June 17, 2016.

Instrument of the Research

Instrument is tools that are required to get information. Gay and Airasian (2000:145) stated that instrument is a tool that is used in collecting data. While, Arikunto (2000:134) revealed that instrument in collecting data is a tool that is used by researchers to help them in collecting data in order to make it more systematic and easy.

There were some media that researchers use in this research;

- a. Laptop, the researchers used laptop in this research to watch the movie. Movie as an object in this research
- b) Script movie, the researchers used script as the research documents. Document helps the researchers to analyze the movie.
- c) Notes, the researchers used notes to write the importance of point from the movie.

Techniques of Data Collection

The researchers used qualitative approach, which the form of data was utterances. According to Marshall (2006:97), qualitative approach typically relies on four methods for gathering information; namely participating in the setting, observing directly, interviewing in depth and analyzing documents and material culture.

The researchers used documentation in collecting the data. According to Arikunto (2010:274), a documentation method is find the data that related by using book, transcripts, newspaper, magazines, notes of meeting, ancient inscription, and agenda.

There were some steps to collect data in this research:

a. Downloading the movie from google

<http://149.56.24.226/centralintelligence-2016/>

b. Watching the film “Central Intelligence” for several time

c. Searching for the script of the movie in the internet.

d. Watching the movie while reading the script

e. Collecting the character utterance from the script on the movie

f. Finding some sentences that are considered to have idiomatic expression needed for the analysis and explaining the contextual meaning of idiom.

g. Tabulating all idiomatic expression that found in script on the movie

Techniques of Data Analysis

In this research, the researchers used the content analysis in which the writer tries to analyze data and to identify every utterance used idiomatic expression. Then, the researchers described the data, which will answer the two research questions of data analysis above. According to Sugiyono (2007:207) data analysis is an activity done after the data of sources has been gathered. Data analysis is the process of systematically applying to describe and illustrate the data.

In conducting this research, the researchers provided some ways to analyze the data as following:

1. Classifying the idiomatic expression

2. Finding the contextual meaning of the idiomatic expression

3. Drawing the conclusion to answer the research problems.

Triangulation

In this research, the researchers used triangulation technique. Cohen et al. (2000:112) stated “Triangulation may be defined as the use of two or more methods of data collection in the study of some aspect of humans behavior”. Thus, triangulation technique means the researchers used two or more technique in collecting data to get validity. In addition, Denzin and Yvonna (2009:82) propose that triangulation technique is divided into four types: data triangulation, investigator triangulation, theory triangulation, and methodological triangulation. To make these types of triangulation clear, here the explanation of them:

1. Triangulation data

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

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 researchers can use interviews, observations, questionnaires, and documents.

From those types of triangulation, the researchers used data triangulation to analyze this research. The researchers collected the data from script Central Intelligent movie as a source data. The researchers found the scrip from internet. Central Intelligent movie fulfilled the amount of data needed to make this research more valid.

Results

There are two findings of Idiomatic Expression that found in Central Intelligence movie and contextual meaning of Idiomatic expression, they are:

1. Types of Idiomatic Expression

Based on the data analysis, the researcher found that there are six types of idiomatic expression that found in Central Intelligence movie, there are similes consist of 3 data (12%), binomials consist of 2 data (8%), proverb consist of 6 data (24%), euphemisms consist of 3 data(12%), cliché consist of 9 data (36%) and fixes statements consist of 2 data (8%). The detail result of the types can be seen in the following Table 1.

Table 1. Type of Idiomatic Expressions in Central Intelligence Movie

No.	Types of Idiomatic Expressions	Frequency	Percentages
1.	Similes	3	12%
2.	Binomials	2	8%
3.	Proverb	6	24%
4.	Euphemisms	3	12%
5.	Cliché	9	36%
6.	Fixed statements	2	8%
Total		25	100%

2. Contextual Meaning of Idiomatic Expression

Related to the data analysis, the researchers also found the types of idiomatic expression and the contextual meaning of idiom in Central Intelligence movie. Contextual meaning is the meaning of a lexeme or word inside a context. From the result of the analysis, the researcher gives the contextual meaning of the type of idiomatic expression based on Chaer's theory. The detail result of the types can be seen in the following Table 2.

Table 2. Type of Idiomatic Expressions in Central Intelligence Movie

No.	Idiomatic Expressions	Contextual Meaning
1.	Catching up	Changing news
2.	Not my bag anymore	Not interested anymore
3.	In our cards	Can't yet
4.	Alpha dogs	Leader
5.	I go nuts	I am crazy
6.	Crazy talk	Does not make sense
7.	Hero of own story	Our self who determine what we want to be
8.	All thumbs	Very sorry
9.	In or out?	Join or not?
10.	Take it off	Remove necktie from another body

No.	Idiomatic Expressions	Contextual Meaning
11.	A banana, force multiplier	Basically what that means is anything in your hand if far more dangerous than just your bare hands alone, including banana
12.	Address the elephant	Want to explain something
13.	In your shoes	If I were you
14.	All on me	Depend of me
15.	As fast as I can	I will do it quickly
16.	Off my chest	To reveal or discuss something that has caused one emotional discomfort and that one has repressed, kept hidden, or neglected.
17.	Your thunder	Steal the audience attention from you
18.	As well as group	Private and group
19.	Don't have the stomach	If you are not strong, you can go
20.	Bug-out bag	Defensive bag
21.	ASAP	As soon as possible
22.	Facing your own death	If you are in a situation where you want to die, that is where you are helped in motivating your life
23.	See you on the other side	See you elsewhere or dead/alive
24.	Rad as shit	It is cool
25.	Climbing montains	A very difficult task or challenge

Discussion

The main character in Central Intelligence movie is Tyler Johnson. This movie tells about a friendship. This research discussed about idiomatic expression that found in Central Intelligence movie. After analyzed the data, the researcher discussed the whole data to answer the research question. The researcherx used O'delland McCarty (2010) theory. The dominant types of idiomatic expression used are classified into cliché, such as *catching up*: this type is cliché because Bob used that idiom to comment to the waiter that he just changing news to his friend; *alpha dog*: this idiom is cliché because in this context Bob comments that he want to be a leader; *address the elephant*: this type is cliché too because Calvin used the idiom to comment the agent that he want to explained of what happened. The researcherx classified that into cliché because a cliché is a comment that is often used in certain common, everyday situation. Cliché often used in everyday conversation.

As the answer of the research problems that been formulated in Chapter 1, this research investigates the types of idiomatic expression that occurs in Central Intelligence movie and contextual meaning of the types of idiomatic expression. In the first section, the researcherx discussed the first research problems; what are the types of idiomatic expression that found in Central Intelligence movie. The second, the researcherx discussed the second research problems; what is the contextual meaning of the idiomatic expression in Central Intelligence movie. The explanation of this discussion based on the finding, the researcherx found 25 data containing idiomatic expression that occurs in Central Intelligence movie.

This research is supported by reference in the related topic about idiomatic expression. Ridha Ikhva Erviana and Sumartini (2017) conducted a research to analyze the meaning of the types idiom that found in movie. The objectives of the research to

identify types of idioms found in Frozen film script and to describe the meaning of idioms found in Frozen film script. The data were taken from Frozen film script. Qualitative method was used in analyzing the data. To analyze the narratives and dialogues, Makkai's theory was used. As the result of the previous study, there are 81 idiomatic expressions found in the Frozen film script. Those idiomatic expressions are divided into four types. Phrasal verb idiom is appeared 57 times, tornoure idiom is four times, irreversible binomial idiom is 3 times, phrasal compound idiom is 7 times, and incorporating verb idiom is ten times. Meanwhile, the meaning of idiomatic expressions was based on the context of the dialogues and the narratives in Frozen film script. On the other hand, the differences between the previous study and this study is the previous study used Makkai's theory while this study used O'Dell and McCarthy' theory and then the similarities of this study with previous study is using movie as the object.

Conclusion

From the study done by the researchers, it is known that in the movies especially Central Intelligence Movies there are phrase that contain of idiomatic expression. Based on the data analyzed on the research, the idiomatic expressions that are found have a certain type of idiom and contextual meaning. The conclusion of them as follows:

The first statement of the problem of this research is to analyze the types of idiomatic expression in Central Intelligence movie. Here, the researchers found out 25 idiomatic expressions that are in movies. There are six types of idiomatic expression either it is simile, binomial, proverb, euphemism, cliché, or fixed statement. From those types, in movie Central Intelligence found the types of idiom as follows : there are 3 idiomatic expression of similes, 2 idiomatic expression of binomials, 6 idiomatic expression of proverb, 3 idiomatic expression of euphemism, 9 idiomatic expression of cliché, and 2 idiomatic expression of fixed statement. Here to know the meaning of idiom in Central Intelligence movies, the researchers used Cambridge international dictionary of idiom and oxford dictionary of idiom as the resources. All of them found out to know their contextual meaning based on the context in movies.

The last statement problem about the types of idiomatic expression mostly found in the movies, from the six types of idiomatic expression there is one type of idiomatic expression that high frequently used in the movies, namely fixes statement and cliché types idiom. The data showed that from 15 (fifteen) idiomatic expressions 60% of them contain of cliché and proverb idiom. These because cliché idiom is idiomatic expressions in an everyday conversation and proverb type that refer to advice and warning, which both of is often widely used in every conversation.

For second question of this research is analysis the contextual meaning of the types of idiomatic expression. All of them found out to know their contextual meaning based on the context in movies. The last statement problem about the types of idiomatic expression mostly found in the movies, from the six types of idiomatic expression there is one type of idiomatic expression that high frequently used in the movies, namely proverb and cliché types idiom. The data showed that from 25 (twenty-five) idiomatic expressions 40% of them contain of proverb and cliché idiom. These because proverb idiom is idiomatic expressions that indicates and refer to the advice and warning idiom and also cliché type that refer to comment, which both of is often widely used in every conversation.

References

- Akmala, T.A. (2011). The Use of Animated Film to Improve students' Ability in Writing Narrative Text. Semarang: Tarbiyah Faculty Walisongo State Institute for Islamic Studies

Semarang. Available at: <http://library.walisongo.ac.id/digilib/files/disk1/105/jptiain-gdl-tatumaries-5202-1-tatumar-a.pdf>

Arikunto, S. (2010). Prosedur Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.

Ary, D., Jacob, L., Sorensen, C. (2010). Introduction to Research in Education (8th Edition). Boston: WARDSWORTH Cengage Learning.

Bagha, N.K. (2011). A Short Introduction to Semantics. Journal of Language Teaching and Research, 2(6). <https://doi.org/10.4304/jltr.2.6.1411-1419>

Cohen, L., Manion, L., Morrison K. (2000). Research Methods in Education (5th Edition). London: Routledge Falmer.

Denzin, N.K., Yvonna, S.L. (2009). Handbook of Qualitative Research. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Belajar.

Gay, L.R., Airasian, P. (2000). Educational Research Competence for Analysis and Application. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Company.

Griffiths, P. (2006). An Introduction to English Semantics and Pragmatics. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press Ltd.

Halliday, M.A.K. (2007). Language and Education (Vol. 9). New York: Continuum.

Herman, Sinurat, B., and Sitio, I.T. (2019). Ethnography of Communication Analysis in the Short Story of Romeo and Juliet. Journal of English Educational Study, 2, 41-50. <https://doi.org/10.31058/j.edu.2019.23002>

Herman. (2017). Shift in Translation from English into Indonesia on Narrative Text. International Journal of European Studies, 1(3), 72-77. <https://doi.org/10.11648/j.ijes.20170103.11>

Hurford, J.R. (2007). Semantics: A Course Book (2nd edition). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Hutahaean, D.T. (2019). The Effect of Activating Background Knowledge in Reading Comprehension. Submitted to Education Journal, 2, 51-66. <https://doi.org/10.31058/j.edu.2019.23003>

Lazar, G. (2006). Meaning and Metaphor. Activities to practice figurative language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mappiasse, S.S., Johari, A. (2014). Evaluation of English as a foreign language and its curriculum in Indonesia: A review. English language teaching, 7(10), 113-122. <https://doi.org/10.5539/elt.v7n10p113>

O'Dell, F., McCarthy, M.M. (2010). English Idiom in Use Advanced. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Pateda, M. (2001). Semantik Leksikal. PT. Rineka Cipta. Flores: Nusa Indah.

Purba, R., and Herman. (2020). Multimodal Analysis On Etiga Car Print Advertisement: Wiralodra English Journal (WEJ), 4(1), 21-32. <https://doi.org/10.31943/wej.v4i1.77>

Ridhalkhva Erviana, S.S., Sumartini, T. AN Analysis of Idiomatic Expressions Meaning in Frozen Film Script. Paradigma Lingua, 2(2). Available at: <http://openjournal.unpam.ac.id/index.php/Paradigma/article/view/414>

Septiana, V. (2017). An Analysis of Lexical and Contextual Meanings in Christina Perri's Song Lyrics. English Department Faculty of Arts and Humanities State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Available at: <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/146820016.pdf>

Sitanggang, V., Herman, and Hutahaean, D.T. (2019). An Analysis of the Contents of Proclamation of Indonesian Independence in Semantic Role. Multidisciplinary European Academic Journal, 1. Available at: <https://repository.uhn.ac.id/handle/123456789/3663>

- Sugiyono. (2007). Metode Penelitian Pendidikan, Pendekatan Kuantitatif, Kualitatif dan R&D. Bandung: Alphabeta.
- Yule, G. (2010). The Study of Language. New York: Cambridge University Press.