

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Anyone who wants to study English must have a thorough understanding of the language. The first is only semantical. When it comes to learning about language, semantics must be studied because it deals with meaning. A word's meaning can be derived both from its literal meaning and from the technique by which it is put together. This is called the essence of meaning or the starting point from which the complete meaning of a particular phrase is derived (Kearns, 2021: 1). In order to communicate effectively, we need to utilize words that had meaning otherwise, our listeners would be left in the dark about what we were trying to say. Yule (2006:112) said semantic is learn about the words, phrases, sentences. In semantics analysis there were phrases or expressions consisting of heather than one word or sentence, whose that means cannot be inferred from the meaning of the word. Such expression are known as idiom.

Idiom is a phrase or a sentence whose that means cannot be literally translated. Idiom is one thing of semantics that is every so often challenging for people, particularly college students to understand. According to Fromkin and Rodman (2007:185), idiom is regularly hard to translate because the meanings of idiom cannot be inferred from the meanings of the character phrases in it. For examples, (1) “rain cats and dogs”, ability “rain heavily”, (2) “live from hand to mouth”, skill “spend

money as quickly as it is earned”, (3) “kick the bucket”, skill “die”. According to Dixson (1951). “An idiom is a phrase or expression that has a different meaning from the meaning of the phrase or expression's elements and components”. Idioms are typically used in novels, poems, plays and songs. Songwriting is a form of mass communication in which the author seeks to convey their feelings to others in a unique and beautiful manner. As a result, everyone who hears it is captivated. Studies show that pupils may improve their listening abilities by listening to music or hearing how songs are spoken, as stated by Murvey (1992, quoted in Millington, 2021). to remember that analyzing songs is a unique way of expressing one's emotions via a media. In the song, hear words and phrases that have to do with giving a message. Because of this, it is exciting to discover the song's meaning through the composer's usage of the word combination.

Each song has its unique idiomatic way of communicating the message through the use of idioms, secondary meaning, metaphors, and figurative language. As a starting point, here are some examples: Some listeners are unable to decipher the meaning of the music because of the prevalence of the English language term known as the idiom. When it comes to understanding the song's message, it's difficult to see. Each word in an idiom has its own unique connotation, making an attempt to decipher its meaning difficult, if not impossible, for the average listener of popular music. Sam Smith is one of the international singers with the genre of music about love songs, that uses a lot of idioms in the song, one of Sam Smith's songs containing the

idiom is writings on the wall which mean there are signs or signals that something bad is going to happen and there is nothing we can do to prevent it. These idioms provide language variations so that the lyrics don't seem monotonous and make the song more interesting to listen to.

Idioms in songs are very interesting to analyze because when listening to music there is some idiom will make listener confuse about the meaning of idiom this research will find the type and the meaning idioms from the selected songs of Sam Smith. Songlyrics in Sam Smith's songs also use idioms to help songwriters express their ideas by using a variety of different languages. The theory proposed by Palmer (1976:98). The meaning of idioms in selected songs in Sam Smith based on theory proposed by Leech (1976:14). There are so many idioms can be found on the songs by Sam Smith.

## **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the introduction above there are some problems will be found on the selected songs on Sam Smith that can be formulated as followed:

1. What types of idioms can be found on selected songs on Sam Smith?
2. What is the meaning of idioms in the selected songs on Sam Smith?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of study are below:

1. To find out the kinds of idiom in the song lyric of selected song on Sam Smith
2. To analyze the meaning of idioms found on lyric of selected song on Sam Smith

#### **1.4 Limitation of the Study**

The limitation of study is based on problems of the study that have been formulated above. There are some aspects in the discussion, they are as follows the types of idioms in selected songs on Sam Smith based on theory proposed by Palmer (1976:98) and the meaning of idioms in selected songs on Sam Smith based on theory proposed by Leech (1976:14)

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

This study has two main significances that are categorized as theoretical significant and practical significance. These can be example as follow:

##### **1.5.1 Theoretical Significance**

This study can help to defining what idiom is, and therefore, it defends and enriches our understanding of the idiomatic meaning of an expression regardless of literal meaning. From this study it can help student and readers to find the meaning of idioms as well as spoken forms.

##### **1.5.2 Practical Significance**

The purpose of study is to find out of types idioms, to describe how the meaning of idioms help them of songs. From reading this paper, reader can understand the correct use of the idiom and meaning as found on selected songs on Sam Smith.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

The chapter is divided into three sub chapters, includes review of related literature, concepts and theoretical framework. The first part is review from three previous studies, which conducted the same topic as this study. The second part is concepts which contain the explanation of key terms that are relevant to be used in this study. The theoretical framework is the final section. It is used to answer the problem of this study with the theory that are used in this study.

#### 2.1 Review of Related Literature

The review of literature is one of the most important things, in this study cover some part, they are review of under graduate thesis and journal. There are two under graduate thesis which have been reviewed and concerned about idiom in song lyrics and another review is from an electronic journal article.

The first review from under graduate thesis that related to this study written by Shubakan (2018) “An Analyzed Idiomatic Expression In “*American Sniper Movie*” The purpose of this study was to identify many sorts of idiomatic expressions that may be found in the movie *American Sniper*, as well as their meanings. The idea of McCharty (2003) and Leech (1981) on the varied forms and meanings of idioms were used in the prior study. The results of this study were based on 35 different sets of idiomatic phrase data. Five of the eight idiomatic phrase types were found in American

Sniper, although there are many more. Only idiomatic terms of simile, binary nomenclature, proverbial phrases and clichés were found by the author. Idiomatic expression meaning in American Sniper was found to be separated into four categories: conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, and emotive meaning. Each of these four categories had 16 data points. The similarities both past and current study is to discuss about idiomatic expressions. However, the past study concerned on movie as the data source and the current study focus on song as the data source.

The second undergraduate thesis reviewed related to this study written by Maulida Azzahra Zaid (2019). *An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Used by Characters in Hotel Transylvania Movie*. The objectives of this research are to analysis the types of idiomatic expression used by characters in Hotel Transylvania movie and to interpret the real meaning of idiomatic expression that find in Hotel Transylvania movie. O'Dell and McCharthy's theory and dictionaries of idiom are used by the researcher to answer the formulated research questions. This research is a qualitative research applying descriptive qualitative method. The subject of this research is a movie entitled Hotel Transylvania directed by Genndy Tartakovsky. The data were some scene including the idiomatic expression said by characters in Hotel Transylvania movie. The data analysis was conducted by classifying and categorizing the data to find the inferences. The peer-review and audit trial methods were applied to gain the trustworthiness of the data by consulting his findings with his consultants and friends. The findings of the research are as follows: in Hotel Transylvania, all O'Dell and McCarthy's six types of idiomatic expression are found. Those six types of idiomatic .

However, the past study concerned on movie as the data source and the current study will focus on song as the data source.

expression are simile idiom (4%), binomial idiom (8%), proverb idiom (28%), euphemism idiom (8%), cliché idiom (28%), and fixed statement idiom (24%). Then the counter factual proverb and cliché idioms are the most-used type of idiomatic expression. On the other hand, euphemism idiom is the least-used type of idiomatic expression found in the Hotel Transylvania movie. The implied meanings of idiomatic expression by interpreting their real meaning based on the context of sentence in movie. Besides, to translate idiomatic expressions are not only look for them by using dictionary of idiom but also see the context of sentence contained idiomatic expressions.

Third review is an article of a journal review, Language and parole by Raflis (2019) “An analysis of Idiom Using In “The Rising of The Shield Hero” In the context of communication, an idiom is a phrase or sentence that includes words, phrases, or clauses that are often metaphorical and are commonly used. Because the idiomatic meaning differs from the literal meaning, the idiom itself does not describe any of the components that make up its structure. Based on Boatner and Gates (1976) and Parera (2004) the researcher applied the notion of idiom kinds and contextual meaning. Researchers are trying to figure out what kinds of idioms are used in the film, as well as how they're used. This article found 72 idioms, including 52 lexemic idioms, 16 phraseological idioms, one frozen idiom, and three rovers. The similarity is discussed

about idiomatic expressions. However, the past study concerned on movie as the data source and the current study will focus on song as the data source.

Fourth review is an article of a journal review Idiomatic Expressions Analysis In Joker Movie by Azhar Aziz Lubis (2021) This research aims to find out the types of idiomatic expressions and to identify the patterns of idiomatic expressions in the Joker movie. This research employed a descriptive qualitative method. In collecting the data, this research used a classification form, documentation, and monolingual dictionaries. The result showed that there were 4 types of idiomatic expressions found in the Joker movie; proverbs, clichés, fixed statements, and slang. The other types of idiomatic expressions such as simile, binomial, and other language were absent from the Joker movie. Moreover, the researcher identified the patterns of the idiomatic expressions in the Joker movie were; noun phrases, transitive verb phrases, verbal phrases, prepositional phrases, pair of words, and sentence pattern. However, the past study concerned on movie as the data source and the current study focus on song as the data source.

## **2.2 Concepts**

Before moving on the next steps on writing project about idiom there are three concepts that need to be made obviously, they are concept of song lyric, the concept of idiom and concept of meaning. There are multiple notions in the expert's head that are

directly related to the research, and he has a number of concepts in mind. For both researchers and readers, a thorough description of an idea is critical.

### **2.2.1 Idiom**

As stated by Palmer (1981:80), an idiom might be a linguistic unit made up of words, phrases, or sentences, all of which have a single meaning that cannot be deduced from their lexical or grammatical meanings, according to Palmer.

There are many interesting and colorful idioms in the English language, according to the Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms (1998:vi). There is a wide range of linguistic settings in which they are regularly used. Oxford defines an idiom, according to the Advanced Learner's Dictionary (1995: A6), as a group of words whose meanings are unique from those of the individual phrases that make up the grouping.

As defined by Merriam Webster (1892), the term "idiom" refers to a verbal expression unique from other forms of expression either in its meaning (for example, "up in the air" for "undecided") or in its grammatically unorthodox use of words (such as give way).

### **2.2.2 Song Lyric**

Music lyrics are a form of conversation between the songwriter and the audience, says Dallin (1994). Many times, they deliver a message (whatever it may be) with the purpose of inspiring or at the very least urging their listeners to reflect on what they have just heard. These people's cultural backgrounds, including their preferences

in music and the time of day, strongly influence their pursuit of this objective and the method by which they achieve it. Jon Guerra is an American actor and director who is most known for his role in the film *The Great Gatsby* (2015). To produce a song, lyrics and music must be put together, with the idea of the lyrics being sung, with the objective of provoking an emotional response to a given topic. In light of the previous definition, we may infer that lyrics are the outcome of an exchange between the writer and listener, and that they are designed to be sung and contain words or phrases that reflect the composer's sentiments.

### **2.2.3 Sam Smith**

Sam Smith, in full Samuel Frederick Smith, (born May 19, 1992, London, England), British soul singer with a mellifluous voice who was once cited for lyrics that subverted the notions of romantic love that described popular soul music.

Smith was raised in Cambridgeshire, born to a father who used to be a truck driver and greengrocer and a mom who was a banker. Both dad and mom stimulated Smith's singing at a young age, after the budding vocalist impressed them with a rendition of Whitney Houston's "My Love Is Your Love." Smith pursued vocal training and soon appeared in neighborhood theatre productions and with Youth Music Theatre UK, going through six managers before eventually transferring to London at age 18 to pursue opportunities there.

## **2.3 Theories**

This part explaining the theory that was used in this study, there are two theories will be used in this study such as: the theory of idiom purpose by Palmer (1976) as main of theory and theory meaning purposed by Leech (1974) as a supporting theory.

### **2.3.1 Types of Idioms**

There are idiomatic ways of conveying meaning in words and phrases that are exclusive to each language. Idioms may be found in every language, although they are more common in English because of its extensive vocabulary. Palmer (1976) stated. “an idiom involves collection of special kind, not just informing meaning” he said even semantically like a single word, it does not function like one. Idiom can be divided into 3:

#### **2.3.1.1 Phrasal Verb**

The phrasal verb is the source of the verb phrasal. The term "phrasal verb" is frequently used to refer to idioms in English, and they are typically referred to as such. It is made up of both verbal and adverbial expressions (Palmer,1976:99). Certain combinations of nouns, verbs, and adverbs have meanings that cannot be derived from their individual components.

#### **2.3.1.2 Prepositional Verb**

Prepositional Verb is the sequences of verb and prepositional or verb, adverb preposition. It can be seen in the examples given and there are look after, the baby, go far, put up the flight, with or do away with (Palmer,1976:99).

### **2.3.1.3 Partial Idiom**

An idiom in which one of the words has a typical meaning and the other has a special meaning to the particular sequence is known as a partial idiom. For example: moreover, out of line, to make a bed, raining cat and dog (Palmer, 1976:99):

What makes an idiom and what doesn't make an idiom. Furthermore, it is quite difficult to establish whether a word or a series of words is opaque. Because they can't be translated into other languages, idioms like "kick the bucket" and "red herring" should be considered idioms, even if they can be translated into French and German.

### **2.3.2 Theory of Meaning**

There are seven types of meaning according to Leech (1974), the most significant of which was used in this study's main premise. Conceptual, metaphorical, and adverbial meanings are all examples of these meanings. Meaning can be described in terms of style, reflected meaning, connotative meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning.

### **2.3.2.1 Conceptual Meaning**

Denotative or connotative meaning (conceptual meaning) is commonly assumed to play a role in verbal communication. In ways that other types of meaning have not been proven to be, it has been shown to be essential to the basic functioning of language (which does not say conceptual meaning is the most important element of very act of linguistic communication). According to Lecch (1974:13), "the goal of denotative meaning is to produce, for each given interpretation of phrase, a configuration of abstract symbol that demonstrates exactly what we need to know in order to identify that meaning from all other potential sentence meaning in the language."

The core meaning of an expression is what we mean when we talk about its conceptual meaning. It relates to the word's literal or denotative meaning. It is essential to the effective operation of the functional language. One way to think about the term "Needle" as a conceptual component is to consider the words "thin," "sharp," or "instrument." Conceptual meaning is required to provide a semantically acceptable representation of a phrase or proposition. A remark is made using an abstract symbol. In order to differentiate one phrase from another, we need to know what a sentence means conceptually. Conceptual meaning plays an important role in the operation of any language.

### **2.3.2.2 Connotative Meaning**

Connotative meaning refers to an expression's communicative value beyond its purely intellectual content by virtue of what it alludes to (Leech:1974,14-15). It's anything that goes beyond a word's fundamental meaning to give an idea of what a word's true meaning may be. In this case, the purely conceptual content of "women" can be defined as "human + female + adult," but the psychological connotation could be defined as "gregarious," "having a material instinct," or "having typical attributes of womanhood" such as "babbling," "experienced in cooking," "wearing a skirt or dress," etc. Similarly, it appears that the border separating conceptual meaning from connotative meaning may be demarcated as well. Instead of being viewed as random and subject to change based on one's cultural and linguistic background and the individual's age and upbringing, conceptual meaning is understood as a fixed and unchanging entity.

### **2.3.2.3. Stylistic Meaning**

It is known as stylistic meaning when a style of language conveys a message about the social context or the way in which it is utilized. To decipher the social meaning of a text, we might look for different dimensional and stylistic levels within the same language as we read. There are very few words in the English language that have both an academic and a stylistic connotation in the same phrase (Leech, 1976:16). A speaker's geographic and social background can be inferred from dialect terminology, for example. When it comes to the relationship between a speaker and a listener, there are some aesthetic norms that convey something about that relationship.

Leech (1976:17) argues that "the dimension of 'status' style is particularly essential in differentiating synonym formulations, such as:

1. They checked a stone at they did bunk with the loot
2. After chasing a stone at the police, they absconded with the money.

Those who chat about criminals to be on the lookout for are shown in 1, while the chief inspector is shown in 2, as he is writing his official report. The connotative meaning of both statements may be defined in the same way (Leech, 1974:17-18). From this, we can conclude that the connotative meaning plays a very important role in the field of semantics.

#### **3.3.2 4 Affective Meaning**

In contexts when the speaker is discussing something intimately personal to him or herself, the speaker's attitude toward the listener might take on an affective significance. I loathe you because you are a tyrannical ruler and a shameful reprobate! (Leech,1974). The intellectual or connotative meaning of the words used is usually sufficient to convey the affective meaning of a sentence or paragraph. The speaker's emotional condition must have been clear to everyone who has been addressed in this manner.

Scaling our words can help us speak more civilly, as opposed to the prior example. In an example, I'm sorry to interrupt, but would you please lower your voices a little, or are you going to belt it out all the way through? (Leech,1974:18). Emotional meaning is a parasitic category in that it relies on other categories of meaning such as

intellectual, connotative and aesthetic meanings to represent our feelings. We may express our feelings in a variety of ways, for as by using a hostile tone to convey our displeasure. (Leech1974).

#### **2.3.2.5 Reflected Meaning**

In circumstances of multiple, conceptual meaning, reflected meaning is the meaning of the meaning that occurs when one word becomes part of our reaction to another sense. Reversed meaning is another term for this phenomenon. One typical example is the use of the third-person version of the same term to describe the trinity in a church service, with the comforter seeming warm and inviting while the holy ghost sounds magnificent; this reflects the idea that words are linked on the level of their vocabulary (Leech,1976). Reflected meaning is most vividly demonstrated in the usage of forbidden terms because of the sheer force of emotive suggestion. As a result, the non-taboo meaning of the phrases is on the danger of disappearing. It's possible that the speaker is trying to avoid conveying a negative connotation by employing terminology that are off-limits. When they need to convey a broad sense, they may use the word "rooster" to avoid the restricted connotation. Non-sexual contexts are equally acceptable for these words.

#### **2.3.2.6 Collocative Meaning**

Collocative meaning is the association of a word gained as a result of the meaning of other words, which is more likely to occur in its surroundings than in its own. For example, the meaning of the terms "handsome" and "beautiful" both imply

attractiveness. However, the number of nouns in which they appear or collocate can be used to identify them. "Pretty" may be used to describe a variety of different things. It can be used to describe an individual or group of individuals. A vehicle, vessel, overcoat, typewriter, and many other objects can be referred to as "handsome."

Both gorgeous ladies and lovely women can be considered acceptable, despite the fact that they symbolize different types of beauty because of their association with each other. (Leech.1976:22-23)

### **2.3.2.7 Thematic Meaning**

Leech (1974;22) explains that thematic meaning is transmitted in the manner in which a speaker or writer organizes the message in terms of ordering, concentration, and emphasis. As an illustration:

1. Mrs. Desi Wong denoted the first prize.
2. The first prize was donated by Mrs. Desi Wong.

Both of sentence above have different communicative values in that they suggest different content, the instance active sentence answer an implicative question what did Mrs. Desi Wong donate? While the passive one answer an implicative question 'who was the first donate by? Or who donate the first prize? (Leech,1974).

Deliberation of both explicit and implicit information is necessary to decipher a text, according to Larson (1998:42). Consider both the explicit and implicit

information that is being conveyed when translating. It's called "explanative information" when words and phrases are utilized to explain what they mean. It's important to understand the difference between explicit and implicit content, because explicit content relates to what the writer intends to communicate but hasn't explicitly said. It might be due to a shared language, a shared culture, a previous conversation, having read about the subject, or even a common experience. There are certain implicit meanings and information because of the structure of the source language and because it has already been incorporated elsewhere in the source language in the text, and there are some implicit meanings because of shared data.

Implicit meaning can be divided into referential, organizational, and situational meaning. Implicit referential is the meaning there but not expressed explicitly, there is some examples, if people ask, "How many people come?", the person asked may answer "six", in this context it is clear that "six" means "six people come". The reference to people and come is left implicit in the answer.

It's common in many languages for information to be sent implicitly in order to convey meaning, structure, and other elements of communication. In some ways, it follows a logical progression. Some semantic structural information is preserved in grammar in order to convey prior knowledge, provide cohesion and define a topic or emphasis in particular instances. For emphasis, several languages use passive constructions, such the following: In order to draw attention to the school, the structure was constructed in 1902. The three categories of implicit meaning are referred to as

referential, organizational, and situational. For example, if someone asks "How many people are coming?" and the person responding answers by saying "ten," it's obvious that "ten" refers to the answer "ten people are coming." People and the phrase "coming" are both left out of the response.

One of the elements used to express the meaning of an organizational system in many languages is the practice of leaving certain information implicit. Certain aspects of it are organized in an orderly method. Some semantic structural information is preserved in grammar in order to convey prior knowledge, provide cohesion and define a topic or emphasis in particular instances. Using passive constructions like "the school was founded in 1902" to show attention may be employed in several languages, for example.

