

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Humans produce utterances through speech organ, and then it is developed into spoken or written, which is structured from the smallest elements known as word. A word can be standing by itself or combining with other words form of phrase or clause and connecting into a sentence with a context. The process of combining words can be in the form of compound words, for example, the word "*tooth*" and "*brush*" paired to create a word "*toothbrush*", which is refers to a tool that used for brushing teeth.

The combination of words can be also a form of the idiom. In accordance to Boatner and Gates (1975), an idiom is a group of words, phrases and sentences that already have its own meaning. For instance, the idiom “spill the tea” is not translated as spilling a tea, but it has a meaning as “reveal facts about someone or something”. The word “*tea*” itself refers to the “*T*” that means “*truth*” based on Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

In daily human conversation, an expression is commonly used in the communication which utilized by people to express messages, either feeling or ideas. Idiom expressions are regularly found in English. Understanding idioms makes speakers sound more native and helps listeners in comprehending what the speakers are saying. In a language, the speakers and listeners have to understand the meaning of idiom to avoid misunderstandings.

The idiom can be used in both spoken and written language including poetry and music. Idiom frequently contains in the song lyric which is used to beautify and to convey the emotions so that song more pleasant to hear. People came up with something ingenious to represent their emotions through words that arranged as a lyric, and then it harmonized with the music to make a song.

People creatively produce something to represent their emotion through words to make some kind of lyrics then harmonized it with the music and finally become a song. Lyrics are defined as written words or short poems consisting of verses and choruses which are the structure of the song pattern. The definition of song itself is a combination of sounds that have rhythm, melody or harmony with the lyric sung by human voice. Sometimes in song lyrics there are words that sound unusual or interpreted easily.

To comprehend the idiom in the song lyric, the writer is interested in analysing idiomatic expressions of Niall Horan's songs since a lot of people who love to listen to the song find it difficult to interpret and understand the idiom expressions that pops up in the lyric of the songs and also curious with the meaning of the idiom. The writer also wants to find the types of idioms since idiom has several types; they are lexemic idioms that consisting of verbal, nominal, adjective, and adverbial idiom, also phraseological idioms, frozen idioms, and proverbs.

A singer-songwriter Niall Horan has successfully won their first award of the American Music Award for "New Artist of the Year" in 2017 after he

decided to pursue a solo career while his group One Direction got hiatus in 2016. His first debuted was from the singing competition television show “The X Factor UK” then he got formed into group by Simon Cowell with four others contestant in the same show; Harry Styles, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne and Louis Tomlinson. They were joined Syco Records in 2010. Then, on September 2016 he joined in Capitol Record and released his debut single “This Town” until now.

His single solo debut has 3 won BMI London Award awarded in "Pop Award Song" in 2017, followed by Radio Disney Music Award as “Best Male Artist. According to AllMusic Award, his album “Flicker” has successfully won awarded in “Favourite Pop Albums” in 2017. Then in 2020 his album “Heartbreak Weather” also won the same award category. For his latest album "The Show" that released on 9 June 2023 is now on the performance chart of The Billboard 200 which is in second place.

The writer gives a sample of the data analysis from one of “The Show” album song:

Title: **If You Leave Me**

“Turned around and you were gone”

In the lyric part of the song above, the phrase *turned around* is a form of idiom. This idiom is classified as a lexemic idiom (verbal idiom). In fact, it consists of two words there are “*turned*” as a verb form and “*around*” as a particle of preposition that combined which have its own meaning. The word might be having different meaning if it is translated separately.

In this context, idiom *turned around* has a meaning to horizontally rotate 180 degrees or doing physically body backwards. The word “*turned*” itself is from “*turn*” that has meaning to rotate variable degrees, perhaps the degree to turn is determined by hand gestures or the direction is to continually turn in circles. Then the word “*around*” it shows the movement of an object also used as preposition to indicate the position or direction around an object.

From the explanation of the sample above, it clearly shows that the idiom has special meaning in the lyric of the songs. The definition of meaning is a human thought that is implied and expressed through appropriate words over language, symbols, actions or concept in order to give a comprehension of the topics or information that is conveyed.

A meaning of the words is studied systematically. In accordance to Kreidler (1998, p. 2) it called as semantic, which study of the meaning uttered through the language or symbols. Semantic focused on the meaning of words in general that aims to identify the exact meaning of words and phrases that have several meanings and creates a connection between words and emotions through the meanings. It concerns with literal meaning, which is the word has its own natural meaning, whereas non-literal meaning is not delivered by the exact meaning, it is indirectly has hidden or implied meaning.

Semantic is one of the branches of linguistics study. Based on Fromkin (2000, p. 3), linguistics called as the study of language from a scientific perspective. It is also known as general linguistics which is a study of the global language phenomena and functions to a particular language or to a particular

aspect that focuses on the system of a language, such as sound patterning, the structure of word and sentence, symbols, and meaning. Linguistics also studies how components in a language are able to interact with each other so as to create a communication.

Human and language are two things that cannot be separated. In fact that language has an important role, particularly to express ideas through communication. Therefore, English commonly accepted as a universal language since English is a main key of global communication which is very influential in the cultural and also in society. Language is a system formed by human speech consists of the word meaning which has primary function to connecting people which is also a necessary tool to helps build social relationship as well. Based on the all explanation above, the writer decided to choose the title for this research is *“An Analysis of Idiomatic Expressions in “The Show” Album by Niall Horan”*.

B. Question and Scope of the Research

1. Question of the Research

Based on the background explanation above, the questions of the research related to the topic are mentioned as follows:

- a. What are types of idioms found in the song lyrics on “The Show” album by Niall Horan?
- b. What is the meaning of idiom expressions found in the song lyrics on “The Show” album by Niall Horan?

2. Scope of the Research

The main focus of the research is to find the types of idioms and also the meaning of the idiom in “The Show” Album by Niall Horan using Boatner and Gates (1975) theory. By analyzing this topic, hopefully the writer is able to comprehend the meaning and the types of idiomatic expressions.

C. Objective and Significance of the Research

1. Objective of the Research

Based on the questions of the research, the objectives of the research described as the following:

- a. To identify the types of idioms in found in the song lyrics on “The Show” album by Niall Horan.
- b. To find out the meaning of the idiom expressions contained in the song lyrics on “The Show” album by Niall Horan.

2. Significance of the Research

The writer expects this research will be useful and helps especially in theoretically, where this research is able to give the beneficial comprehension of the idiomatic expressions and also the meaning. Also in practically, this research gives for the writer and reader and to obtain more knowledge then familiar with the idiom expressions form and it might have beneficial which is to understand the meaning of idioms especially the expressions contained in English songs.

D. Operational Definition

1. Idiom

Idioms are word combinations that its meaning is commonly difficult to comprehend from the meaning of the individual words.

2. Semantic

Semantic is the study that focused on the words and sentences meaning from human communication activity through the language.

3. Music

Music is a combination of vocal or instrumental sounds to provide harmony, and emotional expression.

4. Song Lyric

A song lyric is a collection of beautifully arranged words combined with a harmonious rhythm

5. Lyric

The lyric is collection of words contained in the song that become part of the song.

E. Systematization of the Research

The systematic of the research in this paper is divided into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I Introduction consists of background of the research, question and scope of research, objective and significance of the research, operational definition, and systematization of the research.

Chapter II Theoretical Description consists of the definition of semantic, definition of meaning, literal and non-literal meaning, idiom, types of idioms, and function of idiom also definition of music, song and lyric.

Chapter III Methodology of the Research contains about time and place of the research and kind of the research, procedure of the research, technique of data collection, technique of data analysis, and the data source.

Chapter IV Data analysis show about data description, data analysis, and interpretation of the research findings.

Chapter V Conclusion and Suggestion give the summary of conclusion and also suggestion related to the research.

