

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Idiom is part of language which can be found in daily conversation. It can be found in spoken language and written text. In written text, the idiom is used in mass media, novel, song, poetry, short story, etc. The use of idiom in some works is to make the language becomes more beautiful, playful, interesting, etc. The problem is not all of the speakers understand about idiom especially non native speakers.

In creating an idiom, two or more words are stucked together. Bolinger and Sears stated, "Idiom as groups of words with set of meaning that cannot be calculated by adding up the separate meaning of the parts", (1981, p. 53). The words that create the idiom have new meaning when they are stucked together. It is the important thing in learning idiom. Supporting Bolinger and Sear's idea, Huddleston and Pullum said, "Idiom as a combination of words whose meaning is not predictable from the meaning of the components", (2005, p. 145). Both of these ideas, describe about the unpredictable meaning of some words in using idiom. All of the experts emphasize that an idiom consists of more than one word and has a special meaning. This condition, influences the understanding and the interpreting in using idiom. It can be concluded that the meaning of idiom must be seen from the whole words stucked in.

Idiom in this research is part of semantics as Yule proposes that in semantic analysis there is phrases or sentences that consist of more than one word or clause which the meaning cannot be inferred from the meaning of individual word, for the usual semantic rules for combining meanings are not applied, such as expressions are

called “idiom” (2006). Related to this, Makkai (1972) has studied about types of idiom. Idiom has more than one type. This condition becomes the interesting reason in studying idioms.

The data of this research are taken from five political articles which are written by John McBeth and have been published since January until March 2018 in Asia Times. Asia Times is a news website which is based in Hongkong. In Asia Times, news are covered politics, economics, business and culture from Asian perspective. There are so many news writers in Asia Times. This research particularly chooses politic articles which are written by John McBeth. John McBeth is a senior journalist in Asia Times. McBeth became famous because he wrote a political article about infrastructure and the issue about freeport shares which is faced by Jokowi. McBeth article about Jokowi’s hoax in Asia Times on January, 23rd, 2018 was reviewed by Republika.co.id on February, 4th, 2018. Related to this article, on January, 31st, 2018, CNN Indonesia reported that McBeth’s political article was announced as the hot issue in Indonesia.

Analyzing types and meaning of idiom in McBeth’s articles can be seen in an example below.

...Pre-election politics **heating up** in Indonesia....

(Source: Title- Pre-election politics heating up in Indonesia).

The idiom in the data is *heating up*. This idiom is taken from McBeth’s article in Asia Times on March, 21st, 2018. This article tells about who will become Joko Widodo’s running mate could be a speculation. Based on Palmer’s theory (1976) *heating up* is categorized into type of phrasal verb. Constituent *heating up* means “to grow more animated or combative” (Spears, 2005, p. 298).

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the previous explanation, the research questions can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the types of idioms which are found in McBeth's articles in Asia Times?
2. What are the meanings of idioms which are found in McBeth's articles in Asia Times?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

In order to answer the research questions above, the objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To identify the types of idioms which are found in Mcbeth's articles in Asia Times.
2. To figure out the meanings of idioms which are found in McBeth's articles in Asia Times.

1.4 Scope of the Research

The source of data for this research is taken from McBeth's articles in online news Asia Times. These articles are about Indonesian political issues in 2018. These issues become viral because Indonesian election will be conducted in 2019. There are five articles which have been published since January until March 2018. The data from these articles analyzed the types of idioms and the meanings of idioms. The types of idioms are identified by using Palmer's theory (1976, p. 98-99). The identification of types of idioms are identified in three types. They are phrasal verb, prepositional verb, and partial idiom. The study about meanings of idioms are referred to Oxford

Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (2010), McGraw-Hill’s Dictionary of American Idiom (2005), and other online English idiom dictionary.

1.5 Research Method

There are some research procedures are conducted in this research. Three systematic research procedures are applied, they are collecting the data, analyzing the data and presenting the result and finding of the analysis.

1.5.1 Collecting the Data

Observational method with note taking technique proposed by Sudaryanto (1993) is used in collecting the data. Observational method is a method of collecting data by doing an observational of the language that is taken from the internet (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 133). Note taking technique is taking note for all of the data found (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 135).

The data of this research are taken from five McBeth’s articles in Asia Times. Firstly, the five McBeth’s articles are written and taken from the portal news of Asia Times on site www.atimes.com. These articles are taken because they are read more than others articles. The titles of these five popular articles are:

| No | Titles of the articles |
|----|--|
| 1 | <i>Can this man save Indonesia’s Golkar?</i> |
| 2 | <i>Draconian legislation could transform Indonesia</i> |
| 3 | <i>Pre-election heating up in Indonesia</i> |
| 4 | <i>Widodo steams towards easy second term</i> |
| 5 | <i>Widodo’s smoke and mirrors hide hard truth</i> |

These articles are read several times. After that, notes are taken to identify idioms which are found in these articles.

1.5.2 Analyzing the Data

In analyzing the data, distributional method with substitutional technique is used. Distributional method is a method to analyze the data which see the language itself (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 15). Substitutional technique is a technique that is used to replace certain elements with other elements (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 37).

The data are taken from five McBeth's articles in Asia Times. These articles which contain idiom are identified and classified based on the type of idiom by Palmer (1976). They are phrasal verb, prepositional verb, and partial idiom. After that, the idiom is translated word by word to show the literal meaning. In this case, the literal meaning is showed to prove that it does not suitable with the paragraph of the articles. Then the idiomatic meaning is explained refer to some dictionaries such as Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2010), McGraw- Hill's Dictionary of American Idiom (2005) and some online dictionaries. The idiomatic meaning is really different from the literal meaning.

1.5.3 Presenting the Result of Analysis

Formal method and informal method are used in presenting the result of analysis. Formal method is a method of presenting the result of analysis in the form of signs and symbols (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 145). Informal method is a method of presenting the result of analysis in the form of verbal language (Sudaryanto, 1993, p. 145).

Finding of the analysis is shown in tables. Two tables show the result of the analysis. First table consists of types of idioms which are found in five McBeth's articles. Those types refer to the theory which is proposed by Palmer (1976). Second table consists of meanings of idioms. These meanings refer to the theory which is proposed by Leech (1981).

