

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains introduction explanation of the research topics which relates to the problems about Idiomatic Expressions with Nature Element in Selected Vlogs on YouTube Channel. It covers background of the research, Statement of Problem, Research Purpose, Research Significances, and Definition of Key Terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

In the realm of language, an idiom is a term used for human communication, both orally and in writing. Idioms serve to refine the intended meaning and embellish the language being expressed. However, not everyone is aware that they are using an idiom. Idioms with nature have a long and rich history that reflects humans' close relationship with nature. Since ancient times, humans have used nature as a source of inspiration, metaphors, and symbols to describe their experiences and ideas. Humans have always depended on nature for food, shelter, and other resources. This causes them to develop a deep understanding of the natural world and use it as a reference in their language. According to Keraf (2005:109-110), an idiom is a structural pattern that deviates from the rules of general language, typically in the form of a phrase, and its meaning cannot be explained logically or grammatically based on the meaning of the words that form it. This is in line with Chaer's (2007: 296) opinion that an idiom is a unit of speech whose meaning cannot be predicted from the meaning of its elements, either lexically or grammatically. Thus, an idiom is a combination of two or more words, but its meaning cannot be directly traced from the meaning of each word.

Through experience, humans become familiar with the words 'stem,'

'fruit,' and 'leaf,' giving rise to metaphors like *up in the air*. Gibbs (1994) argues that idioms are one way we express our understanding of the physical and social world. He argues that idioms help us to communicate more efficiently and effectively by drawing on the knowledge we already have about the world. The fundamental structure of a metaphor is remarkably simple: it involves a topic being discussed and an element used for comparison. This is why Badudu (1983) "characterizes metaphorical language as a style that compares one thing to another." This sentence connects the explanation of metaphorical structure to Badudu's definition of metaphorical language.

Furthermore, as verbal communication tool, language is a system of sound symbols which is arbitrary, meaning there is no necessary connection between symbols as markers that take the form of words or lexemes and the object or concept being marked, that is, the referent of the word or lexical semantics.

Semantic is generally understood as the study of the meaning of language. If meaning is a part of language, then semantics is a part of linguistics (the science of language). The word "semantics" comes from the Greek word "sema" (noun) which means "sign" or "symbol". The verb is "semaino" which means "to sign" or "to symbolize". Then, semantics is agreed upon as a term used in the field of linguistics to study the relationship between linguistic signs (intralingual) and what they signify (extralingual). Ferdinand de Saussure (1857) stated that linguistic sign (French: *signe linguistique*) consists of two components, namely the signifier (French: *signifiant*) and the signified (French: *signifié*). The signifier is the form of the sound of language in the form of a certain sequence of phonemes, while the signified is the concept, idea, or meaning that is owned by the signifier (Febrina, 2022). Thus, this is one of the most fundamental concepts in linguistic studies, meaning becomes a central issue because language can only be used for interaction to the extent that its meaning is understood.

This research investigates idiomatic expressions by analyzing selected

YouTube videos as a phenomenon. As a platform where users worldwide share a vast array of videos, selected YouTube videos provide a dynamic dataset of everyday language, including idioms related to nature elements. This study aims to observe the usage of idiomatic expressions in real world conversational contexts, contributing to a deeper understanding of their comprehension and application among the general public.

In this study, the focus of the study is on the content of *POC English*, *English with Lucy*, and *mmmEnglish* because they are fluent speakers from England and Australia. These Youtubers are known for their video lessons and advice and strategies for learning English. Their content covers a diverse range of topics, from grammar to pronunciation. In some of their videos, several idioms related to elements of nature were found, prompting the researcher to investigate these idioms further.

1.1.2 Previous Study

In this section, the researcher reviews various previous studies related to the research to be conducted, and then makes a summary. The following is previous research that is still related to the theme of the researcher study. The research was conducted by Nurul Nisfu Syahriy, Ida Mustafiroh, Eka Annisa Yuli Prastiti, and Winarto and Tanjung. However, the researcher believes this study differ from previous research.

First a study conducted by Nurul Nisfu Syahriy in 2018 is entitled *NEGATIVE CONNOTATIONS IN ANIMAL IDIOM EXPRESSIONS IN INDONESIAN AND ENGLISH: A SEMANTIC STUDY*. The study aims to describe the types of idioms and the semantic relationships that arise from the use of animal idioms in proverbs. The data for the study was taken from *the Oxford Dictionary of Idioms* (2004). The stages of research conducted by Nurul Nisfu Syahriy include: (1) in providing data using the watch method. The watch method is carried out

with the tapping technique as the basic technique and the recording technique as the advanced technique. (2) the data analysis stage is carried out using the matching method which is realized through the technique of selecting determining elements as the basic technique and the comparative technique as the advanced technique.

The second research conducted by Ida Mustafiroh in 2023, entitled "*THE ANALYSIS CONTEXTUAL MEANING OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSION IN ELEMENTAL: FORCES OF NATURE MOVIE*," aims to describe the types, forms, and sources of English idioms in the movie Elemental. This is a qualitative descriptive study. Elemental is a Disney Pixar animated film that explores a world of fire, water, earth, and air elements. The characters in this film face various challenges and situations, which are often conveyed through the use of idiomatic expressions. These idiomatic expressions, rooted in human language and culture, provide valuable insights into the film's themes, such as prejudice, acceptance, and the power of unity when examined within their context of use.

The third research conducted by Eka Annisa Yuli Prastiti in 2021, entitled "*AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN ALICE IN WONDERLAND SCRIPT*". This study aims to: 1. Identify the types of idiomatic expressions. 2. Find the true meaning of idiomatic expressions used in the Alice in Wonderland script. The research method used is descriptive qualitative. Data were collected from the Alice in Wonderland film script. Data analysis was carried out using O'dell and McCarthy's theory of six types of idiomatic expressions.

The fourth research conducted by Winarto and Tanjung in 2015, "*AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH IDIOMATIC EXPRESSION IN TRANSFORMERS III –DARK OF THE MOON*". The researchers used a qualitative descriptive method. They analyzed the Transformers III movie script in English and its Indonesian translation. Then, they identified and classified the idioms found, and analyzed

the translation strategies used. This study digs deeper into the use of figurative language (idioms) in the Transformers III movie and how this figurative language is translated into Indonesian.

The above research has similarities and differences with the research conducted by the researcher. The similarities lie in the same focus of research on English idioms. However, the four differ in terms of the object of study. The researcher focused on idioms related to nature taken from YouTube channels, while Nurul Nisfu Syahriy studied idioms related to animals with negative connotations from Idioms, Idah Mustafiroh studied idioms from the film 'Elemental', Eka Annisa Yuli Prastiti studied the script of the film Alice in Wonderland and Winarto and Tanjung studied dialogue translate from film transformers.

While previous research has delved into the connection between idioms and the content of films and books, most studies have primarily focused on defining their meanings. Given the increasing popularity of YouTube, there is a notable absence of research exploring the context and usage patterns of individual idioms within YouTube vlogs. This research gap leaves viewers uncertain about the precise meanings of idioms. To address this, further investigation is needed to provide a clearer understanding of idioms as they are used in this popular online platform. Potential reasons why this research is interesting. Idioms can be challenging for learners of English because their meanings cannot always be inferred from the literal meanings of the individual words.

1.2. Statement of Problem

Based on the background and research objectives that have been explained previously, here are the research questions for this study:

1. What are the formation patterns of English idiomatic expression with

nature element in selected vlogs on YouTube channel?

2. What context is used in the patterns of the idiomatic expression with nature element in selected vlogs on YouTube channel?

1.3. Research Purpose

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the purposes of this research are:

1. To identify formation patterns of English idiomatic expression with nature element in selected vlogs on YouTube channel.
2. To analyze the context used in the patterns of the idiomatic expression with nature element in selected vlogs on YouTube channel.

Overall, the goal of this research is to provide in depth insights into the use of idioms in English, with a particular focus on how idioms are used in YouTube videos. This research is expected to make significant contributions to our understanding of English, cultural identity, and communication.

1.4. Research Significances

The benefits of this research are twofold: theoretical and practical. The benefits of this research are as follows:

1. Theoretically, this research is expected to increase knowledge about English linguistics, especially in semantics regarding the classification and meaning of idioms, so that it can facilitate their use in English sentences and conversations.
2. In practical terms, this research is expected to be used as a reference or additional information for readers and prospective researchers who want to discuss the classification and relationship of lexical and idiomatic

meanings in idioms.

3. In practical terms, this research is expected to be used as a reference or additional information for readers and prospective researchers who want to discuss the classification and relationship of lexical and idiomatic meanings in idioms.

1.5. Definition of Key Terms

Idiomatic expressions are the gems of language. They are expressions whose meaning cannot be taken literally, but rather have a figurative or symbolic meaning that has been agreed upon by the language's users. The following are the main terms and explanations of idioms:

1. Idiomatic expression:

According to Chaer (1995:74) an idiomatic expression is a linguistic unit (word, phrase, or sentence) whose meaning cannot be inferred from the individual meanings of its components or the grammatical structure of the unit.

2. Metaphor:

In Lewandowski's linguistic dictionary (1985: 708) a metaphor is a transference of meaning grounded in similarities of form, function, and utility. Such a transference constitutes an implicit comparison between two entities.

3. Vlog:

A vlog is a video-based blog that presents personal opinions, narratives, and daily life experiences, similar to the written content found in traditional blogs. The advent of YouTube in 2005 has significantly contributed to the increasing popularity of vlogging up until the present day (David et al., 2017).



uin

UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI
SUNAN GUNUNG DJATI
BANDUNG