

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with introduction that consists of background of the research, statement of problem, purpose of the research, significance of research, definition of key terms and organization paper.

1.1 Background of Research

In daily life, we absolutely need a communication in fulfillment our requirements. Naturally, we live in a world of language so that we need to tool of communication called language. In this case, a language can be used when we are talking about or having a conversation with others, such as when we talk to our parents, our teachers, our friends, our lovers, and even rivals. Language itself is the source of human life and power. Language can also be used to establish rules and maintain humans' culture. In short, everyone in this world knew at least one language.

Language has a tremendous influence, because as one of the main distinguishing characteristics of human beings from other creatures in this world. By language, someone can communicate or socialize with other people. The function of language is a fact that humans use language as a means of communication in life. Therefore, the language has a very important role, because we can express or convey what we mean.

There are many thousands variation of language in this world, one of them are English language. As we know, English language is an International Language

that is indispensable when we are going to overseas, especially the countries that uses English language as their mother tongue, such as British, American, Australian, so on. Besides, we can encounter various things of English words in our daily life, for instance: in advertisements, reference marks, road and road sign, and so on. Moreover, English language has an important role in technological development. Hence, English language is taught in all level of educations (pre-schools, elementary schools, secondary schools, senior high schools and even university).

One of the challenges in learning English language resides in its vocabulary. Undeniable, we have frequently the trouble when we want to translate a sentence or text into a language because many expressions written by native speaker cannot be translated word by word. Such expressions, either its phrases or sentences, have certain meaning that cannot be explained in grammar theories. This is a special feature of English language called idiom. An idiom is the part of the distinctive form or construction of a particular language that has a specific form or style presents only in that language. Hallidayan (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. According to Jackson and Amvela (2001:65), idiom can be defined as “a phrase, the meaning of which cannot be predicted from the individual meanings of the morphemes it comprises”.

Grammatically as well as semantically, idiom has the special characteristics. Victoria (2011:192) states that an idiom belongs to lexicon or mental dictionary as single items with their meanings specified because 3 the words (or morphemes) of a language are arbitrary (not predictable by rule). The meaning of lexicon is a repository of the words (or morphemes) of a language and their meanings. Thus, to understand them, the speakers must learn the special restrictions on their use in sentences. Since idioms convey meaning quickly and enable language users express themselves more efficiently, they should be integrated into the teaching and learning process of foreign languages. As well as English language learners, either EFL (English as a Foreign Language) or ESL (English as a Second Language), idioms are considered to be one of the hardest and the most interesting parts of the English vocabulary. Even, idioms are one of the greater problems in learning English because idioms present some of the most difficult materials for English language learners to successfully understand. However, idioms must be learned because they have an important role as the part of language. Hence, mastery of idiom is very needed to facilitate communication and promote an innovative environment of social interaction. So, if the English language learners do not learn English idioms, they will never know when the other person uses it; or they cannot understand what are talking about by the speakers. Moreover, the use of idioms in a conversation will be more attractive because of the beautiful to hear.

Essentially, literature as the shape and the result of a creative work is a medium which utilizes language to reveal about human life. Literary work is an art of language because it is an expression of the human person in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, spirit, and belief in a form of picture of life. In literary work, we can independently express our experiences, thoughts, feelings, and ideas. (Tarigan: 2011:118) states “The progression of a nation can be measured from its reading book that is read, from his society level appreciation to science and art, about literature.” In addition, because of literary cannot be separated by reading, we have to in love with reading.

Here, the researcher chooses novel as the data of this research because of many benefits that we can get in reading a novel. One of the benefits in reading a novel is we can understand those meaning of idioms so that we will become richer with the treasury.

From the explanation above, UIN use idiom to make their language richer and more colorful and to convey subtle shades of meaning or intention. Because their meanings are unpredictable, and there are many people less understand the meaning of idiom, the researcher needs to conduct the research dealing with idiom with the object of a novel entitled *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.

This novel was published in 2003 on the New York written by Mitch Albom. The five people you meet in heaven novel tells about the journey of an 83 years old crippled maintenance man named Eddie in both of his life and afterlife.

Eddie felt that he was trapped in meaningless life of maintaining the rides in an amusement park, Ruby Pier. Eddie's youth was passionate. He enlisted as World War II soldier when his country entered the war. When Eddie become a soldier he tried to do a heroic action for saving a child from a burning camp, but he got an injury instead of saving that child. The injury caused his leg crippled for the rest of his life. Time passed, Eddie was haunted by the feeling of regret. Eddie's passionate youth turned into hopeless aged man. He underwent a dull routine of work, loneliness, and regret. Eddie often had a feeling that he did not accomplish what he should.

The achievement of this book from the reader respon are good, as a fantastic book. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* is an incredibly quick read. It has small pages and the content is not all challenging. It really makes the readers realize how important everything you do in life and how we're interconnected . sometimes incidents seem random, but they aren't (quoted June 14, 2006 from www.goodreads.com/review/show/71875).

In line with this research, the researcher has found some studies about idiom. The first research entitled "Understanding of Idiomatic Expression in Steinbeck's Novel of Mice and Men" was written by Shintya (2003). It was about the idiom which happened in the Steinbeck's Novel of Mice and Men. The second one entitled "An Analysis of Idiomatic Phrasal Verb Translation" was written by Diansyah (2006). It was about the idiom which happened in the Danielle Steel's novel of The ring. The third one entitled "Idiom Translation in Samuel Beckett's

Waiting for Godot and Its Indonesian Translation” was written by Yedi (2013). It was about the idiom which happened in the Samuel Beckett’s novel of Waiting for Godot.

The last one entitled “Idiomatic Expression Translation in Charlie and The Chocolate Factory Movie” was written by Fahmi (2015). It was about the idiom which happened in Charlie and The Chocolate Factory Movie.

Based on the previous studies above, the researcher is interested in conducting the similiar research dealing with idiom. Hence, the researcher tries to employ a research entitled “An Analysis of idioms in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mithc Albom.

1.2 Statement of Problems

In this research, the researcher formulates the problem into some research questions, as follows:

1. What are the types of idiom in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*?
2. What are the meanings of idiom in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*?

1.3 Purpose of Research

Based on the research question above, this research is aimed:

1. To find the types of idiom in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.
2. To find out the meaning from the idiom phrase in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.

1.4 Significance of Research

This research is hoped to be useful both teoritically and practically. Theoritically, the research is useful to give a little explanation and describe about idiom and its use in the sentences especially about form and meaning. Practically, the result of this research is hoped to be one reference and additional the information for students who want to research about the idiom.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding on terms used in this paper, the researcher clarifies some terms used. The terms that need to be clarified are:

1. Analysis : a careful study of something to learn about its part, what they do, and how they are related to each other
2. Idiom : an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of its separate words but that has a separate meaning of its own
3. Novel : is a genre of fiction, and fiction may be defined as the art or craft of contriving, through the the written word, representations of human life that instruct or divert or both.
4. The Five People You Meet in Heaven : is a book by Mitch Albom which is become an object of this research.

1.6 Organization of Writing

This research is presented in five chapter is follows:

- Chapter I : Introduction consist of the background of research, statement of problem, purpose of research, significance of research, definition of key terms and organization of writing.
- Chapter II : Theoretical foundation consist of the theories related data of research.
- Chapter III : Research method consist the methodology and procedure of research that used in this research.
- Chapter IV : Data analyzing consist of the data analysis related to finding and discussion of the research.
- Chapter V : Conclusion and suggestion. Conclusion report and integrated understanding toward the entire result of the research. Suggestions are a sort of implication directed to anyone who concludes this study important to them.