

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the writer presents six topics related with this study: background of the research, statement of research problems, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and definitions of key terms.

### **A. Background of The Reasearch**

Language has a important role in our everyday life. Language is the ability of humans to communicate with other humans using signs, such as words and gestures. In the current era of technology, many people use language to enjoy literary works, especially for foreign literary works. They enjoy a foreign literary work and understand the meaning that the writer wants to convey through his literary work.

Lewis D (2009) found that reading for as little as six minutes can reduce stress by up to 68 percent. It worked better and faster than some other relaxation methods, such as listening to music or having a hot cup of tea. This maybe because your mind is distracted by the story and not focusing on the daily stresses in your life. Reading has many benefits including reducing stress, making the mind calm and increasing critical and analytical thinking.

The writers express ideas as a form of the author's creative thoughts or imagination, so that it becomes interesting writing for the

readers. Salmaa (2021) states that generally, this creative writing has the aim of attracting attention and entertaining the reader. So that the manufacturing process requires the ability of the author to build the imagination of the reader.

Writers need good research and writing skills, before finally being able to make creative writing. Therefore, writers of literary works also use expressions that cannot be interpreted literally, but represent certain expressions that are implied in them to make literary lovers love their work. As a writer of literary works, there are many ways that can be done to convey his ideas to the readers. Ideas can be communicated in many ways, one of which is by using expressions that cannot be interpreted literally so that literary works will be more interesting.

According to Winoto (2014) Ideas can be communicated in many ways, one of which is by using expressions that cannot be interpreted literally. The use of idioms also does not reduce the meaning the author wants to convey. In addition, the sentence will be much more interesting and contain a certain sense of value. As a writer, there are two ways to convey messages in the form of thoughts, ideas, information and advice, namely literal language and non-literal language. Literal language or denotative language refers to the use of words according to their clearest meaning. While non-literal language are words that are very informal and do not match the true meaning of a word, one example is idiomatic expressions.

English has many different ways to express ideas. One of them is by using idiomatic expressions. This study focuses on one of the most interesting and innovative aspects of language, namely idioms. Cacciari & Tabossi (1993) states Idioms have always been a worth-studying and exciting phenomenon in the language. Levorato (1993) Idioms so exciting, as they occupy imagination, and have the liability to transform abstract meanings into more concrete ones and augment the meaning of simple concepts, they exist in every area of human communication. Another critical feature of idioms is that they contribute to fluency and speech spontaneity.

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2006) An idiom is a phrase whose meaning is difficult or sometimes impossible to guess by looking at the meaning of individual word it contains. It means that idiom is not the sum of Idioms are combinations of words whose meaning is different from the meaning of the words themselves. When used in everyday language, they have meanings other than the basic meanings you will find in dictionaries. When we learn a language, we must also learn idioms because it is a part of communication.

Sahrial (2021) states he use of idioms can be intended to express ideas or even give advice to someone by using expressions that are subtle or have no real meaning as a result, there are many idiomatic expressions found in spoken language (colloquial language) and written texts (novels, short stories, letters, poems, etc.). They make the language richer and more

colorful. Each language has its own idiom that develops according to the culture of the source language. The problem is, does everyone understand the meaning of the idiom ?

The answer is that not everyone understands the meaning of idioms. There are three reasons why understanding idioms is difficult. First, idiomatic expressions cannot be translated word for word. For example, in *“take someone for a ride”*, we can’t translate it as *“remove some one for her journey on a horse or bicycle or in a vehicle”* but it means *“deceive or cheat someone in some way”*.

Second, it usually has a double meaning or more than two, for example see, in the sentence *“Managgement is looking at ways of cutting cost”* It means *“to think about a subject carefully so that you can make a decision about it”* and in, *“If I'd had children I might have looked at things differently”* The meaning is *“to consider something in a particular way”*, and also *“Can you look at my essay sometime?”* It is *“to read something in order to check it or form an opinion about it”*.

Third, there is no grammatical rule in forming idioms. It means if the structure is changed, it will have different meanings or it will be meaningless. For example take a word *“look”* if we add another word like *“in, after, up”*, it will have different senses. The combination *“look in”* means *“get a chance to take part or succeed in”*. *“Look after”* means *“take care of or be in charge of someone or something”*. And *“look up”* is *“try to find a piece of information by looking in a book or computer”*. If

we add “*off*”, it does not make sense. In daily conversation, we often hear words afraid of, look at, take care, sign in, go ahead, turn on, turn off, etc..”. Those are the kinds of idiomatic expressions.

Talking about idioms in novels, there are many types of idioms found in them. Consequently, it is not easy to understand novels because when someone reads novels, she or he must understand idioms. Unfortunately, I am as an English Education Student. I am obliged to read novels. Therefore, I am interested to analyze one of novels I have read. It was *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain. I want to know whether or not the same problems in understanding idioms found in this novel exists as I explained before.

Based on the previous research on idiomatic expression, the first research has been done by Subkhan (2018) entitled "An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Found on American Sniper Movie". He found about some of the idiomatic expression In American sniper movie there are 35 idiomatic expressions. Besides, the research is done by Listyanto (2015) entitled “The Use of Idioms in the Dark Knight Rises” Movie Script (Pragmatic Approach).” The result of the research showed that there are five classifications of speech acts of idiom in *The Dark Knight Rises*” movie script according to the context of the dialogue, representative, commissive, expressive, directive, and declaration.

The other previous research is done by Siti (2008) entitled "An analysis of lexical and contextual meaning on the idiomatic expressions

found in Jalalluddin Rumi's poems". She found that there are forty six kinds of idiomatic expressions with their lexical and contextual meaning used in Jalalluddin Rumi's poems from ten data which are presented in this study.

The gap from this study and the three previous studies is the type of literary work. Subkhan thesis uses literary works of American Sniper Movie, while Listyanto thesis takes from the Dark Knight Rises" (Movie Script) and Siti thesis uses Jalalluddin Rumi's poems. Whereas in this study, the researcher used Novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain as the research object. Meanwhile, the similarity of this study with the three previous studies and this study is to analyze idiomatic expression in literary works.

In this study, the researcher selected several chapter from the novel belonging to Mark Twain which contain various idiomatic expression in the novel. From the explanation above, it makes researchers feel interested in conducting research on the idiomatic expression used in idiomatic expression. Therefore, the writer takes the title of this study as "***Kinds and Meaning of Idiomatic Expression in Selected Chapters of Novel Entitled The Adventures of Tom Sawyer By Mark Twain.***"

## **B. Statement of Research Problems**

Related on the background of the research as described above, the researcher formulates and get the research problems in this research as follows:

1. What is the types of idiomatic expressions are found in the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* By Mark Twain ?
2. What is the meaning of words that use idiomatic expressions found in the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* By Mark Twain ?

## **C. Objectives of The Research**

Based on the statement of research problems above, the objectives of the research are:

1. To find out the kind of idiomatic expressions found in novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* By Mark Twain.
2. To identify the meaning of word using idiomatic expression found in novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* By Mark Twain.

## **D. Significance of the Research**

Through the results of this study, the researcher hopes that this research can be useful in two aspects, including:

1. Theoretical Significance

Previous research that has been conducted by Rana (2016) is teaching idiomatic expressions in EFL/ESL environments and classrooms

is a necessity. The more a non-native speaker of English is capable of using idiomatic expressions, the closer he or she is to English Language competence. Suggested that it is best to teach frequently used idiomatic expressions that one might come across when watching television programs, reading books, listening to music and when communicating with native speakers.

## 2. Practical Significance

Can help other researchers and readers when they find a novel that contains idiomatic expressions in it, they can understand how it means. They can also feel what the writers felt at that time. To give a positive result so the readers will have a deeper understanding of idioms found in this novel, enrich their vocabulary and apply those idioms in their writing and speaking activities.

## E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

In order to make the research more focus, the research is focused on the idiomatic expression used in 5 chapters on *The Novel Adventures of Tom Sawyer By Mark Twain* They are :

Chapter 1 Y-o-u-u Tom—Aunt Polly Decides upon her Duty—Tom Practices Music—The Challenge— A Private Entrance, Chapter 2 Strong Temptations—Strategic Movements—The Innocents Beguiled, Chapter 3 Tom as a General—Triumph and Reward—Dismal Felicity—Commission and Omission, Chapter 4 Mental Acrobatics—Attending



Sunday School—The Superintendent—“Showing off”—Tom Lionized  
and Chapter 5 A Useful Minister—In Church—The Climax.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

The title of this thesis is “*Kinds and Meaning of Idiomatic Expression and Their Problems Found in selected chapter Novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer By Mark Twain*”. Concerning with this title, to avoid misunderstanding the researcher would like to give some definitions:

1. Idiom (noun) is a phrase which something different from the meanings of the separate words from which it formed. (Longman : 2003:741)
2. Expressions (noun) is the act of saying what you think or showing how you feel using words or actions. (Cambridge Dictionary)
3. Novel (noun) is a story long enough to fill a complete book, in which the characters and events are usually imaginary.