

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction. It covers the background of the study, the research questions, the definition of key terms, the objectives of the study, the significances of the study, and the organization of the thesis.

A. Background of the Study

Kaharuddin (2021: 43) states that linguistics is a branch of science that studies language in depth as the main object of its study by relying on a systematic approach to understand language phenomena as a whole. Linguistics is the study that focuses on how language functions, both in its structural aspects and in relation to its use in various social and cultural contexts. In Linguistics, language can be analysis through various branches, ranging from phonetics to discourse analysis.

According to Tasheva (2023: 51-52), Linguistics is a branch of science that analysis the basic blocks of language from the smallest to the largest units, branches of Linguistics namely: Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics, Sociolinguistics, and Pragmatics. To understand the meaning of language, we should have understanding of Semantics.

Semantics is a science that studies the relevance of language (Maulud et al, 2021: 21). Then, James in Suhendar Arsiandi (2020: 46) states that Semantics is an aspect of Linguistics that focuses on studying the meaning of language. The study of Semantics involves analyse how meaning is produced, understood, and interpreted by speakers and listeners. By focusing on the relationship between language form and its meaning, Semantics includes aspects such as lexical meaning, meaning relationships, and contextual meaning.

In addition, Semantics plays an important role in understanding human communication, especially in revealing implied meanings, such as in the use of idioms. Idioms, as expressions with figurative meaning, provide unique insights into each of their meanings. Idiomatic expressions are word combinations that have a non-literal meaning, making them difficult to understand literally (Shanti and Winzami, 2021: 113).

Idioms provide a space to explore how idioms are able to express thoughts and emotions through expressions that cannot always be translated literally. Moreover, Dankers et al (2022: 1) state that an idiom is a group of words that have a figurative meaning that is different from its literal meaning, for example in the sentence “kick the bucket,” which means to die, not literally kick the bucket.

In this study, film or movie especially movie script is the object of this analysis. Movies as narrative media often use idioms to add

depth to dialogue, build character, and strengthen narratives. Film dialogues that are rich in idioms can reflect a particular culture or identity. Movies have primary function, namely in building emotional relationships with the audience to convey a story, meaning, or moral values. The use of idioms is an effective tool for conveying philosophical messages to a global audience. SOUL (2020) film is known for its deep and emotional themes.

SOUL (2020) has a background with a theme that is closely related to education, because the main character, Joe Gardner, is a music teacher. His role as a teacher reflects how education is not only about imparting knowledge, but also about guiding students to discover their potential. This film shows how a teacher can be an inspiration, even when Joe himself is trying to pursue his dream of becoming a professional jazz musician. The strong message about the importance of mentoring and lifelong learning makes SOUL (2020) relevant to the world of education, showing that learning is a process that is not only limited to classroom, but also on the journey of understanding the meaning of life.

The use of idioms in the movie SOUL (2020) provides character development and enriches the dialogue linguistically and have close relevance to the culture and values that are intended to be conveyed. The use of idioms is not only an aesthetic element in the dialogue

but also a tool to reflect social relationships, character emotions, and cultural dynamics.

The animated film SOUL (2020) by Pixar Animation Studios for Walt Disney Pictures was written by Pete Docter, directed by Mike Jones and Kemp Powers. SOUL (2020) movie have won many awards, one of which was at the 78th Golden Globe Award in 2021 in the categories of “Best Animated Feature Film/Movies” and “Best Original Score”. This movie contains many moral messages, such as the search for the meaning of life, struggle, and self-reflection.

In the movie SOUL (2020), idioms are used to describe the main character’s struggle in finding the meaning of his life, reflecting social and emotional aspects while providing contextual and relevant learning materials for existing film-based English teaching by linking human experiences universally. Thus, the writer is very interested in analyzing the meaning of idioms in the SOUL (2020) film script. This is because there are many dialogues or idiomatic narratives used in the film that are difficult to understand.

B. Research Questions

Based on the problem found in the background of the study above, the research questions are:

1. What types of idioms are contained in SOUL (2020) movie script?

2. What are the meanings of idioms contained in SOUL (2020) movie script?

C. Definitions of the Key Terms

To give a clear description and to avoid misunderstanding the key terms used in this research are explained as follows:

1. Linguistics

Kaharuddin (2021: 43) states that Linguistics is a branch of science that studies language in depth as the main object of its study by relying on a systematic approach to understand language phenomena as a whole. Then, Tasheva (2023: 51-53) states that Linguistics is a branch of science that analyze the basic blocks of language from the smallest to the largest units, branches of linguistics namely: Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics, Sociolinguistics, and Pragmatics.

2. Semantics

Semantics is a science that studies the relevance of language (Maulud et al, 2021: 25). Then, James in Suhendar and Arsiandi (2020: 46) states that Semantics is an aspect of Linguistics that focuses on studying the meaning of a language. The essence of the above statement Semantics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on the study of meaning and relevance in language. This science not only discusses the

relationship between language and its meaning but also explores how that meaning is produced, understood, and used in various communication contexts.

3. Idiom

According to Shanti and Winzami 2021: 113), idiomatic expressions are word combinations that have a non-literal meaning, making them difficult to understand literally. Moreover, Dankers et al (2022: 1) state that an idiom is a group of words of which the figurative meaning differs from the literal reading, such as “kick the bucket,” which means to die, instead of physically kicking a bucket.

The gist of this statement is that an idiom is a fixed expression whose meaning is different from the original word. Its meaning depends on the culture of the original language and cannot be changed. In short, both definitions determine that an idiomatic expression is a word, phrase, or sentence whose meaning is uncertain or not the same as the original word. Its interpretation is based on the culture of the original language and cannot be changed.

4. Movie

According to Hanum et al (2022: 360), film or movie is a form of visual communication media in the form of moving images, which originates from a story or script with a pre-made

plot scheme. In a nutshell, the movie is a work of art that may be read, heard, seen, and written. Besides people watching the movie is not only for entertainment but also we can get the moral values from movie.

D. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are:

1. To identify and classify the types of idioms contained in SOUL (2020) movie script
2. To analyze the meaning of the idioms contained in SOUL (2020) movie script

E. Significances of the Study

The result of this study is intended to give contribution to three aspects of education, as follows:

1. Theoretically

This result of this study provides analytical insights into idioms to expand the relationship between language, culture, and moral values reflected through idioms in the film.

2. Practically

Practically, there are two significances of the study, as follows:

- a. For the Writer

The result of the study provides new references and insights into how idioms can be used effectively in written

works such as film scripts to strengthen narratives, character development, and moral messages.

b. For the Readers

The result of the study provides a deeper understanding of the use of idioms in film dialogues and improves readers' ability to interpret the figurative meaning of idioms in various cultural contexts.

F. Organization of the Thesis

In this study, the writer presents the thesis into five chapters to create systematic writing. Chapter I is introduction which involves the background of the study, research question, definition of key terms, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and organization of the thesis. Chapter II is review of related literature which involves theoretical studies, previous studies, and theoretical framework. Chapter III is method of investigation which involves research design, the source of data, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis. Chapter IV is findings and interpretations. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestions.