CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives details about background of study, research problem, research objective, research significance, scope of study, research limitation, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Study

In this globalization era, translation grows into an essential activity in order to exchange the information from all over the world. In the viewpoint of Adelnia & Dastjerdi (2011), translation is an activity of transferring meaning or message from one language (SL) to another language (TL). In this case, translation has a significant role to make people understand the information from different languages. However, there will be difficulties in doing a translation because not all the word of source language can be translated into the target language with the proper equivalent word.

In the realm of translation there are units that cause a problem of transferring the full meaning from SL into TL. One of the units is idiom; idiom is one of the challenging and interesting concerns in translation due to its diverse meaning from the literal meaning that can be discovered in dictionary. Idiom is a phrase which is knotted with a culture where the language is spoken and cannot be translated separately. According to Ball, 2010 (as citized in Hamdani, 2018) idiom is a group of words that has different meaning from the individual word it contains. In another
word, idiom cannot be translated word by word and it should be learned as a whole unit. When the idioms are translated separately, it makes no sense or culpability.

Idioms need a special treatment than the non-idiom because before it is translated, the translator has to analyze the idiom in order to select the proper strategy and find the equivalent meaning. According to Baker (2011), idioms can be translated using an idiom with similar meaning and form, using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translating by paraphrase, and translation by omission. The final product of translating idiom must be as natural as possible and transport the information from SL into TL as much as possible. Henceforth, the translator must be responsive with these issues to generate a good translation quality of idiom. The activity of translation has been operated in every single field of our life and it is not a mere in the scientific field but on non-scientific field as well. For instance, book, movie, novel, and song.

Song becomes one of the favorite entertainments as it can be found easily, and people can use it as a tool to explain their feelings. With the intention of understanding someone’s feeling through a song, the listeners must understand the meaning of that song itself. It will be easier if the song uses our own language, but it will get hard when the song sung or written in the different languages. So, to make a bridge in the gap, some of the translators make the translation version of certain songs.

With the purpose of presenting their work, some translators decided to use various media such as YouTube. One of the well-known accounts of translators in
the YouTube is “Top Lirik Terjemahan”, it can be verified through a few subscribers and viewers. This YouTube account focuses on translating the lyrics of English songs into Indonesian. At the lyrics of some songs, there are idiomatic expressions which adequate to be researched. The problem was idiom cannot be translated word by word. The failure of translating idioms into target language might give deceptive information to the reader. To overcome the failure, idioms should be translated entirely with a proper translation strategy in order to convey the original message from the source language into the target language.

In the previous study, Ariyanto (2013) conducted a research to find out the strategies used by the translator in translating the English idiomatic expression into Bahasa in Transporter 2 movie. Baker’s theory is applied in analyzing the translation strategies of idioms. The result shows there are 70 idiomatic expressions found in Transporter 2 movie. Translated by paraphrasing as the most frequent strategy which appears 62 cases, omission with three cases, similar meaning and form with two cases, and similar meaning but dissimilar form with three cases.

The next research was carried out by Pratiwi (2017) entitled “Strategies in translating Indonesian idiom into English in Okky Madasari’s Bound”. By means of her research, it is found that the most dominant strategy applied in translating idiomatic expression is paraphrasing. The data was taken from Indonesian novel “Pasung Jiwa” which translated into English version “Bound”. The finding also shows that in translating the idioms in the novel, the translator used all the strategies from Baker’s theory. Another researcher, Fachrizal (2018) conducted a study concerning translation strategies used in translating idiomatic expression in The
Infiltrator movie. There are two problems of this research. First, what are type of strategies that used by the translator to translate Idiomatic expression in the subtitle of The Infiltrator? Second, how does the strategy deal with the meaning equivalence in translating idiomatic expression? The result of the research shows that; firstly, there are three idiom translation strategies that applied in translating the movie. Translating by paraphrase is the most frequent translation strategy with six cases. Meanwhile, similar meaning and form with two cases, and similar meaning but dissimilar form also with two cases. Secondly, the most dealt equivalence in the translation strategy is dynamic equivalence.

Alluding to some findings above, it can be inferred that translation by paraphrasing is the most dominant strategy used by the translator in translating idiomatic expression. The information above also shows that most of the researchers use novel and movie as the data sources, however, there is less investigation about idioms in a song. Nevertheless, this present research tries to fill the gap by analyzing the strategies of translating idioms in song lyrics and find out the most frequent strategy applied. Therefore, this present study will analyze the strategies of translating idioms in English song into Indonesian used by “Top Lirik Terjemahan” and attempt to grasp the result of the two gaps.

1.2 Research Problem

Departing from the background of study directly above, this study has two research problems, as follows:
1. What are the strategies used by “Top lirik terjemahan” in translating idioms in English songs into Indonesian?

2. What is the most frequent strategy applied by “Top lirik terjemahan” in translating idioms in English songs into Indonesian?

1.3 Research Objective

In order to arrive at the answer to the research problems, the purposes of this study are:

1. To identify how many strategies are used by “Top Lirik Terjemahan” in translating idioms in English songs into Indonesian.

2. To find out the most frequent strategy is used by “Top lirik terjemahan” in translating idioms in English songs into Indonesian.

1.4 Research Significance

This study will be very useful for those who acquire about translation. Exclusively, in translating the idioms from English into Bahasa. In general, the result of this study will reinforce some theories or the previous studies who assert that the most dominant strategy used in translating idiom is paraphrasing. But it does not rule out the possibility that this study will also get different results from the previous and detect the other most dominant strategy. However, the results of this study are expected to help the other researchers who would like to do a research with the same field in different object.
1.5 Scope and Limitation

Alluding to the background of study overhead, one of the foci of this research is the strategies used by the translator in translating idioms of the chosen songs. This study is limited on six English songs which released in 2018, 2019 and translated into Bahasa by account YouTube “Top Lirik Terjemahan”. The six chosen songs as follows I am a mess by Bebe Rexha (2018), in my feelings by Drake (2018), I’ll never love again by Lady Gaga (2018), shallow by Lady Gaga (2019), never really over by Katy Perry (2019), and dancing with a stranger by Sam Smith (2019).

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

The following definition of key terms are given in order to get a final understanding of the concepts of this study:

1. Translation is the process of producing or transferring the message from source language (SL) to the target language (TL).

2. Idiom is a frozen form which has an unpredictable meaning from the literal meaning of its constituent elements.

3. Top lirik terjemahan is one of the famous YouTube account which is focused on translating songs or giving the Indonesian version of songs.