CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As social person, humans demand communication tools to interact, convey information, and express themselves. Language is a communication tool that allows individuals to share thoughts, feelings, ideas, and expressions. Furthermore, language is the medium for transmitting culture, socialization, showing status, dividing power, regulating politics, distributing knowledge, and others (Sofyan, 2021). The language we speak is influenced by the environment around us, including the ethnic communities that surround us. Various ethnic groups and countries in the world have developed various national languages, in addition to various local languages, with English being one of them. English is the second most commonly spoken language in the world, so communicating not only involves the ability to interact among native speakers (Aziza, 2020). Due to the widely used English language, many people are interested in learning it, and most schools in Indonesia offer English as a foreign or second language.

According to (Wahyuningsih & Fitriah, 2023), English is categorized as a foreign language in Indonesia. English is considered a challenging subject to learn as a foreign language due to its differences from students' mother tongue in terms of pronunciation, accent, vocabulary, and other characteristics. One of the main challenges in learning English is vocabulary. Sometimes, one encounters vocabulary or word combinations that are difficult to understand and cannot be

translated literally certain expressions, such as phrases or sentences, have meanings that cannot be fully explained by grammatical theory. This is a special feature of the English language called Idioms (O'Dell & McCarthy, 2010). Many linguists define idioms as expressions with a special meaning that cannot be found in a common dictionary and cannot be translated literally. Idioms or idiomatic expressions are part of every language and are often used in writing, speech, and conversation, both in formal and casual contexts.

However, researchers realize how difficult it is to acquire and understand idioms when learning English as a second language. This different from those who have grown up with English as a first language, and who are already familiar with and comprehend the meaning of idioms. Therefore, the meaning of idioms becomes a challenge for people learning or using English as a second language. Learning them becomes more complicated since idioms have special meanings that cannot be translated literally. Knowing that speaking English as a second language may be the cause of students' difficulties in understanding idioms. The statement is supported by research conducted by Anjarini & Dwi Hatmanto (2022) The results of their study show that students' general difficulty is the difference in meaning between idioms and individual words. This is also caused by the rare use of English idioms in daily life and the lack of studies that teach about English idioms.

Idioms are commonly used in English literature. According to (O'Dell & McCarthy, 2010), idioms can be found in movies, TV shows, and songs. In addition, idioms can also appear in written texts or everyday conversations. Movies are a form of literary work that functions as a distributor of information to the wider

community as well as a means of entertainment and education. After watching a movie, anyone will learn something new from what they see. The language used in movies serves an important purpose, so movies are often used as a communication tool. Movies also contain many explicit phrases, making them an excellent source for teaching idiomatic expressions.

Based on these reasons, the researcher chose movies as the object of research because they can help improve students' ability to understand idioms, especially idiomatic expressions in English. In movies, characters often use verb phrases, idioms, or conditional sentences when talking to each other. Therefore, movies can be used as an appropriate medium to learn idioms in English.

In arranging this research, the researcher was inspired by previous research. First, a study by Syamsuddin (2023) entitled "An Analysis of Idioms Expression in Student's Textbook 'Practice and Progress' by L.G Alexander". This study found the types of idioms that are dominant in the student's textbooks. The results show that 156 idioms appear in the textbook, with the most dominant type of idiom being phrasal verbs. Second, research by (Roger & Ariyaningsih, 2023) with the title "An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Presented in The New Album Positions by Ariana Grande". This study analyzes the types and meanings of idiomatic expressions presented in six songs from the album "Positions" by Ariana Grande. To find out the type of idiomatic expressions in the movie McCarthy and O'Dell's theory uses and Leech's (1981) theory to explain their meanings. This study found 18 examples of idiomatic expressions, consisting of fixed clauses (14), trinomials (3), and

prepositional phrases (1). Each idiomatic expression has a special meaning that serves to facilitate the audience's understanding of the message.

Overall, based on previous research, there are similarities and differences between this research and previous research. The similarity of research is the topic analyzed, namely idiom expressions. The difference lies in the source of data analyzed idioms, previous research uses textbooks and music while this study uses movie as the object of research. The "Wonka" movie was chosen to be analyzed with a focus on identifying types and explaining contextual meanings of idiomatic expressions. To identify the types of idiomatic expressions, this research uses McCarthy and O'Dell's theory which divides idiomatic expressions into seven types specifically similes, clichés, proverbs, binomials, fixed statements, euphemisms, and other language. Based on this research background, this research is very attractive and relevant to do. Therefore, the research that discusses idiomatic expressions found in the "Wonka" movie is titled **An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression in the "Wonka" Movie**.

1.2 Research Problem

According to the research background discussed above, the research problems in this study are as follows:

1. What is the types of Idiomatic expressions found in the "Wonka" movie based on McCarthy and O'Dell's theory?

2. What is the contextual meaning of Idiomatic expression found in the "Wonka" movie?

1.3 Research Objective

Referring to the statement of the research problem above, the researcher presents the objective as follows:

1. To identify the types of idiomatic expression found in the "Wonka" movie based on McCarthy and O'Dell's theory.

2. To explain the contextual meaning of idiomatic expression found in the "Wonka" movie.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

The focus of this research is idiomatic expressions in the "Wonka" movie. This topic was chosen because it is considered very interesting to research. This research also provides clear boundaries to facilitate the focus of the research. Considering the background description that has been mentioned above, the focus of research is identifying the types of idiomatic phrases in the movie "Wonka" as well as the contextual meaning of these phrases.

1.5 Research Significance

The significance of this research is expected to contribute both theoretically and practically as follows:

a. Teachers

Teachers can make this research a reference for learning idiomatic expressions in movies which can later be used as innovations so that learning idioms in English is more interesting and fun for students.

b. Students

This research can be useful for the students to know more about idiomatic expressions that are found in the English language, especially in the movies. Students can also apply the use of idioms in their writing or speaking.

c. Future Researchers

This research can give guided knowledge for future researchers, especially in idiomatic expressions in the "Wonka" movie. The researcher also hopes that future researchers can do the research from another aspect for example language features, characteristics, or other aspects.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

The definition of key terms is used to ensure the misinterpretation of certain words, which are as follows:

1.6.1 Idiomatic expression

Idiomatic expressions are informal forms of English that have meaning different from the literal meaning of the words that compose them. Idiomatic expressions are usually fixed phrases made up of several words and have a meaning that cannot be deduced from knowing the meaning of each word that makes it up.(Haniah, 2020)

1.6.2 Contextual meaning

Contextual meaning is the meaning of a word depending on the situation in which the word is used. (Fikrina, 2019)

1.6.3 Movie

Movie is a form of literature that communicates information and ideas. In addition, movies also have the potential to develop ideas or explore visual qualities and the use of sound, providing an experience that can challenge the minds and emotions of its audience. (Bordwell David & Kristin Thompson, 2020)