

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some subchapters, namely background of study, statements of the problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they will describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of Study

Learning idiom is a part of unique things in learning language. Each language learnt possesses idioms. Idiom is an ordinary term for those who learn language for a long period, but it sounds strange for those who learn language in the first time. Idioms will make learners get confused to comprehend it if they never know or study about it. According to Oxford Dictionary (2008) Idioms is a group of words with a meaning that is different from the meaning of all individual words. It means that idioms can be categorized as an expression which has different meaning from the usual meanings of its constituent words.

There is no definite explanation why people use idioms in daily communication because each person probably has different reason. However, no one uses idioms in a full sentence because it is ensured someone else gets difficulty to catch what they are communicating. Makkai (1972) states idioms is an individual lexeme which is a personal entry in a dictionary. This means that idiom is sometime collected to ease people to know its meanings.

Idioms can be classified into a figurative language because it cannot be understood literally. Therefore, idiom is often used to deliver message either from speaker to hearer or from writer to reader. The message is delivered through words in which it sounds smoother by using idioms. It sounds smooth because it conveys message indirectly. Idioms has special feature especially in English. According to Hornby (1974:421) idioms as a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not obvious through knowledge of the individual meanings of the constituent words but must be learnt as a whole. In other words, idioms cannot be learnt from word by word but it should be learnt as a whole to comprehend its meaning well.

Idiom is not only used in oral communication but also in literary works. Common literary works have various purposes such as to entertainment, to express, to criticise, etc. There are many forms of literary works such as drama, poetry, novel, song, and short story. Nowadays, the development of novel is tangible. There are so many novels which are appropriate and also interesting to analyze by using idioms (Wahyuningsih, 2012). One of the famous short story is *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat*. The writer is interested in analyzing idioms in the short story because it is very popular (Chilton, 2013). The short story was written by a popular author named Dave Shelton. Shelton won the 2013 Branford Boase Award for his witty and imaginative debut. This Leicester born illustrator is also the author of *Good Dog, Bad Dog*. Shelton's new book also made the shortlist for the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the Costa Children's Book Award.

A Boy and a Bear in a Boat tells about a boy and a bear that go to sea together. The story has a elegance plot. It is full of warmth and humour. The bear

eats extravagant sandwiches (anchovy, banana and custard, for example, with the telling detail that the crusts are cut off) and plays a ukulele for "complimentary on-board entertainment". Their journey doesn't quite go to plan and the book becomes an almost philosophical reflection on how to live life for the moment as they battle on at sea without knowing how things will turn out. "They keep life interesting, don't they, emergencies?' says the bear.

Another reason why the writer chooses this study is because this study has never been conducted by English Study Program Students in University of Trunojoyo Madura. It makes this study becomes the first study that is conducted about lexemic idiom, especially about the functions of idioms.

There are two related studies that have been conducted by others writers. One of them is a study that was conducted by Wahyuningsih in 2012. Wahyuningsih aimed at findings lexical idioms in the novel, 366 Fairy Tales. Another study was conducted by Sulistianah in 2014. Sulistianah analyzed the meaning of idiom in Lampung language with pesisir dialect. None of them discussed idioms in *A Boy and A Bear in A Boat*.

1.2 Statements of Research Problems

Through this research, the writer emerges the following questions:

1. What are the types of lexemic idioms found in *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* short story?
2. What are the functions of lexemic idioms found in *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* short story?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statements of research problem, the purposes of the study are:

1. To explain the types of lexemic idioms found in *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* short story.
2. To explain the function of lexemic idioms found in *A Boy and A Bear in A Boat* short story.

1.4 Significances of the Study

There are two significances of this study. Those are theoretical and practical. Theoretically, the results of this study are expected to give understanding about idiom. The writer also hopes to help other students who read or look for references about idioms.

Practically, the purpose of this study is to help people in interpreting the idioms that has difficult meaning if it is translated words to words. This study also becomes an alternative way for the readers to understand *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* short story that have been published and distributed to public. People will not be confused when they find a single idiomatic words.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is idioms. In addition, this study focuses on the types of lexemic idioms by Makkai (1972) and the functions of idioms by Cermak (2007). Furthermore, the limitation of this study is the lexemic idioms words in A

Boy and a Bear in a Boat short story in 2013.