

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the explanation of why this research is conducted, the problem of the research, the objective of the study, the significant of the study, and the scope and limitation. All discussions will be discussed into five sub chapters in chapter one. These are background of the study, research of the problems, objectives of the study, significant of the study, and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of The Study

Communication is important thing used by human to get interaction with others. Actually in communication, humans share their feeling, emotion, information, and want. One of the strategies used by human to deliver their message is idiom. Idiom is fast becoming a key instrument in conversation. There is no absolute reason why people use idiom because every person has different reasons. “Idiom is multi-word phrase whose overall meaning is idiosyncratic and largely unpredictable, reflecting speaker meaning that is not derivable by combining the literal sense of the individual words in each phrase according to the regular semantic rules of the language” (Hurford, Brendan, & Michael, 2007, p.328). It means that the speaker uses idiom based on the topic, depend on the context, or add the other words to make the meaning easily understood by the hearer.

Learning language cannot be separated from learning idiom. This is because idiom cannot be translated and understood literally, so it can be called as a figurative language because it has non-literal meaning. Idiom is a common term that will be found in every language and it is ordinary thing for people who have learned about language, but it is strange thing for people who never study about language. McCarthy and O'Dell (2010) state that “ idioms are expressions which have a meaning that is not obvious from the individual words (p. 6). It means that idiom is an expression that has different meaning from the words that create idiom or from usual and literal meaning.

Idiom has special characteristic because its form cannot be added by another morpheme, word, or phrase. Hornby (1974) states that “idiom as a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not obvious through knowledge of the individual meaning of the constituent words but must be learnt as a whole” (p.421). Therefore, idiom cannot be understood and translated word by word but should be learned and interpreted from the whole form to understand the meaning well. In understanding the meaning of idiom, we have to pay attention in its original language, context, and the culture of the groups or societies who use idiom.

Every language has their own characteristics or rule and it is different from the other languages such as language in idiom, proverb, and so on. Javanese is unique and has many dialects in each region for instance in Jombang. Javanese is the language used to create the idioms in Jombang. The meanings are related to the topic and the context when the idioms are uttered by the societies, so the role of hearer is to interpret and understand the meaning. There is no rule such as

grammatical or form for creating idioms in Jombang. The following instance exemplifies the idiom in Jombang:

Abang kupinge (red ears) : nesu (being mad)

Literally, the meaning of the example above is the colors of someone's ears are suddenly getting red. But in idiomatically, the meaning is about someone who is being mad because of something that he or she does not like (Daryanto, 1999).

Jombang is a small region in East Java. Javanese is the first language and used for daily conversation. There are two kinds of Javanese are used by the societies to communicate, those are formal language (*kromo inggil*) and informal language (*ngoko*). There are some phenomena of language exist in Jombang and one of them is the use of idioms.

The writer prefers to analyzing Javanese idiom in Jombang because Javanese idioms are unique phenomenon in language resulted from people's creativity. The idioms are an expression to show their feeling, to give opinion, to emphasize a statement of certain condition, to comment on people, to comment on situation and so on. Therefore, the societies in Jombang can create new Javanese idioms so that Javanese idioms in Jombang are rich and some of them cannot be found in other regions or dictionary. Besides that, they commonly create and use idioms with informal language (*ngoko*) rather than formal language (*kromo inggil*), whereas there are contexts that they have to use formal language (*kromo inggil*). When they create and prefer to using them in informal language (*ngoko*), they tend to ignore formal language (*kromo inggil*). Consequently, the

use of formal language (*kromo inggil*) will decrease. The another reason why the researcher is going to analyzing Javanese idiom because to the author's best knowledge there is limited or no study that is conducted to study Javanese idioms by English Study Program students in University of Trunojoyo Madura. This study is conducted to explore, enrich, and intruduce about Javanese idioms.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based the description from the background study, there are some research problems. Those are:

1. What are the meaning of Javanese idioms found in Jombang?
2. In what contexts Javanese idioms used by the societies in Jombang?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems, the study intended:

1. To describe the meaning of Javanese idiom found in Jombang.
2. To explain in what contexts Javanese idioms used by the societies in Jombang.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give theoretical significance and practical significance in analyzing Javanese idioms which found in Jombang.

Theoretically, the writher hopes this study makes an important contribution to the field of Semantics. Furthermore, it can make a major contribution to research on Javanese idioms and be reference for another writer who studies about Javanese idioms, especially in meaning and the context.

Practically, this study gives consciousness to the society that there is of phenomenon about idiom in daily conversation. Moreover, the reader can get knowledge and understanding the meaning of Javanese idioms and in what context it is used in conversation.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is semantics. This study concerns about Javanese idioms which are found in Jombang regency. In analyzing the meaning, the theory is proposed by Leech (1981) and the contexts of the use Javanese idioms in Jombang regency by using contexts of idioms proposed by McCarthy and O'Dell (2010). The limitation of this study focuses in Javanese idioms from the societies' utterances in daily conversation that found in Jombang.