

An Analysis Of Idiomatic Expression Used In Westlife's Songs

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa ungkapan idiomatik yang digunakan dalam lagu Westlife. Subjek dari penelitian ini adalah lagu Westlife. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan teknik observasi melalui mendengarkan dan membaca lirik lagu. Prosedur penelitian: pertama, peneliti mengunduh lirik lagu-lagu Westlife di internet. Kedua, peneliti mendengarkan lagu. Ketiga, peneliti membaca lirik lagu, kemudian ungkapan idiomatik yang ditemukan ditandai. Kemudian peneliti mencari tahu jenis dan artinya. Terakhir, ungkapan idiomatik yang digunakan dalam lagu Westlife dibahas dan dianalisis menggunakan teori Seidl dan McMordie. Berdasarkan hasil analisis, ada dua jenis ungkapan idiomatik yang terdapat dalam lagu Westlife: (1) idiom kata kerja phrasal (2) idiom verbal. Idiom kata kerja phrasal yang paling banyak digunakan dalam lagu Westlife.

Kata kunci: Sastra inggris, ungkapan idiomatik, lagu

ABSTRACT

This research aimed to analyze idiomatic expression used in Westlife's songs. The subject of this research was Westlife's songs. The method used in this research was qualitative research method. The data were collected by utilizing the observation technique by listening and reading the songs lyric. The procedure of research: First, the researcher download the lyric of the Westlife's songs in the internet. Second, the researcher listening the songs. Third, the researcher read the lyrics of the songs, then idiomatic expression found are marked. Then the researcher find out the types and the meaning. The last, idiomatic expression used in Westlife's songs are discussed and analysed by utilizing Seidl and McMordie theory. Based on the result of the analysis, there were two types of idiomatic expression found in Westlife's songs: (1) Phrasal verb idiom (2) Verbal idiom. Phrasal verb idiom was the most used in Westlife's song.

Keywords: English literature, idiomatic expression, song

1. Background

Literature is an expression of human life which is delivered through the words of truth and beauty (Long, 1919:8). The people express their feeling through written or oral form and make them as a literary work such as song, prose, etc. Song is a literary work which is loved by people listening to because the lyrics contained in the song describe the feeling of the listener. As we know, every human like listening to music for enjoying their day. Therefore, song couldn't be separated with lyrics because without lyrics it could not call song but instrument. A lyric of song is not like the words that we use directly. Sometimes, it is delivered with figurative language like a poem and idiom.

Idiomatic expressions also known as idiom and repeatedly used in the English language. Seidl and McMordie (1988: 12) stated that an idiom able to defined as several words which when the words taken together they have a different meaning from the individual meanings of each word. For the example: a piece of cake means a very easy task to do successfully. Idiomatic expression in song used for reveal the meaning in different reveal way. Usually an idiomatic expression in a song misrepresented by listener. Based on the previous research about the analysis of idiomatic expression, the research was done because many people can sing the song but many of them do not understand the meaning of the song. Thus, in this research the

researcher would know the meaning of idiomatic expression used in Westlife's songs and convey the meaning of them to the reader through this research.

As non-native speaker the society could hardly understand the meaning of idiomatic expression well in English songs. According to O'dell and McCarthy (2017:10) there is some way to understand the meaning of idiomatic expression which are by using dictionary which focuses on idiom and utilize the internet to find out more about the meanings of idioms and to see more examples of their use.

From a million songs lyric which created with idiom, Westlife's songs are of it. The purpose of this research is to figure out the meaning of idiomatic expression contains in Westlife's songs. The study is limited to the matter of identification about idiomatic expression. The subject of the study is Westlife's songs.

2. Method

Research design in this study uses qualitative method. According to Zaimardiansyah, et.al. (2019:21) qualitative research is a research procedure by collecting data in the form of words and the data obtained through manuscript, interview, field notes, documents, and other official documents. The subject of this research are Westlife's songs. Observation and interview are used in collecting data. Observation is the systematic explanation of events and behaviours in the social setting chosen for study (Marshall and Rossman 1989:79 in Kawulich 2005:xx). Then Harrell and Bradley (2009:6) stated that interviews are discussions, generally one-on-one between an interviewer and an individual, meant to collect information on a specific set of topics. The instruments used in this research are laptop, checklist of data observation and interview guideline. There are some steps of collecting data. First, the researcher download the lyric of the Westlife's songs in the internet. Second, the researcher listening the songs and read the lyrics of the songs then idiomatic expression found were marked. Then the researcher find out the types and the meaning. The last, idiomatic expression found in Westlife's songs are discussed and analysed.

3. Findings and Discussions

The researcher analyzes the data from listening and reading the songs lyric. After listening and reading the songs lyric, there are some idiomatic expression found in Westlife's songs. Based on the researcher classification the idiomatic expression, the researcher found two types of idiomatic expression that are used in Westlife's songs. They are phrasal verb idiom and verbal idiom. There were 19 idiomatic expression found in Westlife's songs and the classification are 16 phrasal verb idiom and 3 verbal idiom.

1) Phrasal verb idiom

Based on the explanation from the theoretical framework and after the researcher searching the data from English Idiom book, the writer found some phrasal verb idiom used in Westlife's songs.

a. 'Fall in'

The idiomatic expression *fall in* found in "Beautiful in White" song in line 35.

Song lyric:

Finds love like you and I did

Yeah, and if she *falls in* love, we'll let her go

From the song lyric above the phrase *falls in* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by preposition. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *fall in*

in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence “Yeah, and if she *falls in* love, we'll let her go” is when his daughter finds her love, he will accept all the decisions of his daughter. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *fall in* is *accept or comply with something*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

b. ‘Get someone off’

The idiomatic expression *get someone off* found in “If I Let You Go” song in line 3.

Song lyric:

Time pass away

And I just can't *get you off* my mind

From the song lyric above the phrase *get you off* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is contained preposition before adverb of place. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *get you off* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence “And I just can't *get you off* my mind” is he always thinking about the girl. Based on the dictionary *get you off* comes from a phrase *get someone off* and the meaning is *save someone from punishment*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by the concept.

c. ‘Keep on’

The idiomatic expression *keep on* found in “If I Let You Go” song in line 6.

Song lyric:

I hide it inside

I *keep on* searching, but I can't find

From the song lyric above the phrase *keep on* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by particle. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *keep on* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence “I *keep on* searching, but I can't find” is he continue to find the girl but he can't. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *keep on* is *continue*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

d. ‘Think of’

The idiomatic expression *think of* found in “Another Life” song in line 8.

Song lyric:

All of these years gone by

Do you still *think of* me?

From the song lyric above the phrase *think of* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by particle. The researcher compares the meaning of *think of* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence “Do you still *think of* me?” is he wondered, did she still remember him after a year passed. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *think of* is *remember something*. Then the researcher categorize this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

e. ‘Look out’

The idiomatic expression *look out* found in “Another Life” song in line 10.

Song lyric:

Every night I *look out* at the sky

Waiting for all of those stars to fall down

From the song lyric above the phrase *look out* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by particle. The researcher compares the meaning of *look out* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence "Every night I *look out* at the sky" is he keep watch for the sky and hope something every night. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *look out* is *keep a watch for or notice someone or something*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

f. 'Fall in with something'

The idiomatic expression *fall in love* found in "Puzzle of My Heart" song in line 12.

Song lyric:

The feeling is too much

She's all I ever need, to *fall in love* again

From the song lyric above the phrase *falls in love* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by preposition. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *fall in love* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence "She's all I ever need, to *fall in love* again" is the girl is everything for him to keep his love. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *fall in with something* is *accept or comply with something*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

g. 'Come along'

The idiomatic expression *come along* found in "You Light Up My Life" song in line 4.

Song lyric:

So many dreams I kept deep inside me

Alone in the dark, but now you've *come along*

From the song lyric above the phrase *come along* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by particle. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *come along* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence "Alone in the dark, but now you've *come along*" is someone comes to bring a light in his life. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *come along* is *accompany someone*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

h. 'Carry on'

The idiomatic expression *carry on* found in "You Light Up My Life" song in line 6.

Song lyric:

And you light up my life

You give me hope to *carry on*

From the song lyric above the phrase *carry on* belong to phrasal verb idiom because it consist of verb which is following by particle. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *carry on* in the lyric and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence "You give me hope to *carry on*" is the girl give the trust for him to continue

his life. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *carry on* is *continue*. Then the researcher categorizes this phrase as phrasal verb idiom because the form of this phrase was appropriate by theories.

2) Verbal idiom

Based on the explanation from the theoretical framework and after the researcher searching the data from English Idiom book, the writer found some verbal idiom used in Westlife's songs.

a. 'Let oneself go'

The idiomatic expression *let oneself go* found in "If I Let You Go" song in line 11.

Song lyric:

But if I *let you go*, I will never know

What my life would be holding you close to me

From the song lyric above the phrase *let you go* belong to verbal idiom because it consist of verb which is following by noun. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *let you go* in the sentence and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence "But if I *let you go*, I will never know" is he tries to not restrain his feeling. Based on the dictionary *let you go* comes from a phrase *let oneself go* and the meaning is *no restrain one's feeling*.

b. 'Get lost'

The idiomatic expression *get lost* found in "Lost in You" song in line 13.

Song lyric:

When you're around

Baby I have found

I *get lost* in you

From the song lyric above the phrase *get lost* belong to verbal idiom because it consist of verb which is following by verb. The researcher compares the meaning of phrase *get lost* in the sentence and the meaning in the dictionary that the researcher has seen. The whole meaning of the sentence "I *get lost* in you" is he feels that something annoying from that girl. They give up and leave their love. Based on the dictionary the meaning of phrase *get lost* is *expresses annoyance with someone*.

4. Conclusion

As the researcher proposed in the theoretical framework and research findings, the researcher concludes that idiomatic expression used in Westlife's songs can be classified into phrasal verb idiom and verbal idiom. The researcher found 16 phrasal verb idiom and 3 verbal idiom. The idiomatic expression have been written in the songs are *fall in*, *get someone off*, *keep on*, *think of*, *look out*, *think of*, *hold on*, *look in*, *fall in*, *get on*, *come along*, *stand up for something*, *hold out*, *fall in*, *come along*, *carry on*, *let oneself go*, *let something go* and *get lost*.

From the type of idiomatic expression that the researcher mentioned above phrasal verb idiom was the idiomatic expression that most often used in the songs. Most of Westlife's songs researched were love songs. One of them is the love song which still booming until now entitled Beautiful in White.

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