

# AN ANALYSIS OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSION IN ARABIAN NIGHTS BY ANDREW LANG

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## ***Abstract:***

*This qualitative study is to identify the idiomatic expression found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang. The writer used Makkai's Theory to analyze the idiomatic expression. Where Makkai's theory breaks into two types of idioms that is Lexemic idioms and Sememic idioms. The Lexemic idioms have six types of idioms, there are phrasal verbs idioms, tournure idioms, irreversible binomial idioms, phrasal compound idioms, incorporating verb idioms, and pseudo-idioms. Then the other is Sememic idioms, it has seven types of idioms, there are proverbs, familiar quotations, first base idioms, idioms of constitutionalized politeness, idioms of constitutionalized greeting, idioms of constitutionalized understatement and idioms of constitutionalized hyperbole. The writer chooses one of the types of idioms by Makkai's Theories to analyze idiomatic expression in the novel The Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang.*

***Keywords:*** Idiomatic Expression, Arabian Nights

## 1. Introduction

Language has an important role in our life because it makes people easier to communicate their ideas. Exactly, the language used when we have a conversation with others, such as we talk to our family, friends, teachers, even our rivals. There are four basic language skills; listening, writing, speaking, and reading. In this world, there are variations of the language. Each country, city, even a county has a different language. As we know, English is the international language. We will find the various vocabulary of the English language. So, each country in this world learns and uses English for international business. English has a main role in communication.

Expressions include phrases or sentences that have their meaning and cannot be explained by grammar theories. This is one of the unique English languages called an idiom. Native speakers will speak more efficiently when expressing their thoughts using idiom expressions. To understand the speaker when they are using an idiom is to learn about the idiom itself.

The writer often found idiomatic expressions in someone's spoken language, novel, books, movie, and song lyrics. People who use idioms make the language not feel boring. In the novel "Arabian Night" by Andrew Lang, there are a lot of idioms used. How lucky, the writer is a student of the English Department at the University of PGRI Semarang. The writer usually reads English books, English novels, and any text in English. Someday the writer just know about what is an idiom and it is interested therefore this study entitled "An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang"

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1 Definition of Idioms

McCarthy and O'Dell (2010:6) explain that idioms are a fixed combination of words whose meaning is difficult to guess from the definition of each term. Accordingly, an idiomatic expression is learned and used as a single unit. It should not be analyzed into its constituents; it is unchangeable and always carries figurative meaning.

Langacher in Meryem (2010:11) said an idiom is a kind of complex lexical item. It is a phrase whose meaning cannot predict from the meaning of the morphemes it comprises.

As quoted by Ridha Ikhva Erviana (2017) following Seidl and Wordie (1978), they have defined idiom as the number of word combinations and have

a different meaning, if the words are separated from each other it will become illogical words. Idioms often break the rule of grammar even though not all combinations of words are compatible with the grammar.

According to the explanation by any experts, the writer concludes that idioms are complementary in language, whether in writing or speaking, if someone uses the idiom, he must understand its meaning because each word in an idiom cannot be interpreted separately. Native speakers often use the idiom, so it is better if the writer and other language learners understand this. Besides that idioms are also often found in song lyrics, textbooks, novels, movies, even on TV shows.

## 2.2 Previous Study

This study starts from when the writer wants to look for idiomatic expressions and then finds any previous study about it. The first previous study is research from Khofiana Mabruroh about Analysis of Idiom and Their Problems found in the Novel the Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain. The purpose of that study is to find out the idioms exactly found, the types of idioms, the dominant idioms found, and the problems in understanding idiomatic meanings in the novel The Adventure of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain.

In this study showed the result of the research there are 796 idioms in the novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain. The writer of this study used Makkai's theory to classify the idioms she found. The phrasal verb idioms become the dominant type of idiom because there are 446 of 796 idioms in the novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain. Moreover, the writer also found 4 problems. There are, the learners confuse whether a phrasal verb is an idiom or not, when translating the idioms, understanding the meaning or finding the closest meaning of the idioms, and there is the grammatical rule in idiomatic expression.

The second previous study that inspired the writer is from Fitri-FAH entitled Translation Accuracy of English Idiomatic Expression into Indonesian in Big Hero 6 Film Subtitle by [www.lebahku.com](http://www.lebahku.com). According to the researcher, she analyzed and found 4 types of idiomatic expressions with 60 idioms. There are 33 compound idioms, 17 verb object, 4 prepositional phrases, and 6 sentences clauses. The writer said that the source data is good in translating idioms for the Big Hero 6 film; his translation gets the target of language and makes an accurate translation. Although the source data makes deletions entire idioms, paraphrase, similar meaning, and the form strategy in translating the idiomatic expressions in Big Hero 6 film.

The aims of the study in Translation Accuracy of English Idiomatic Expression into Indonesian in Big Hero 6 Film Subtitle by [www.lebahku.com](http://www.lebahku.com) are to find the types of idiomatic expression that applied in Big Hero 6 film. Furthermore, the researcher examined the translation accuracy of English idiomatic into Indonesian in Big Hero 6 film subtitled translated by [www.lebahku.com](http://www.lebahku.com).

The third previous study English-Indonesia Translation of Idiomatic Expression in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* by Rindang Barta Fahrizy. The writer's object of the study to identify what idiomatic translation strategies are used in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* and show what is the accuracy level of idiomatic translation in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*. There are five strategies that the writer used in translating John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*. They are Idiom of Similar Meaning and Form, Idiom of Similar Meaning but Different Form, Paraphrase, Omission, and Literal Translation. The result of the writer's study about idioms in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* is 80.43% idioms in that novel is accurate. A high degree of Accuracy is used in Paraphrasing because that strategy is flexible.

The fourth previous study is *An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Translation in School of Rock Movie* by Ryan Andhika Pratama. The writer's research problem is what are idiomatic expressions in the *School of Rock Movie* based on Larson's theory of translation translated? The writer concludes that the translation is acceptable for 13 years old kids. There was a failure also in the translation, some error subtitles however the 13 years old kids could understand the message in the Indonesian subtitle. The writer also gives some recommendations for English Language Education Study to learn about idiomatic expressions because sometimes it can be found in daily life.

The fifth previous study is *An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Meaning in Frozen Film Script* by Ridha Ikhva Erviana. In this study, the writer focused on the types and the meanings of idiomatic expressions found in the script by using Makkai's theory. For the result, the writer discussed 81 idiomatic expressions found in the *Frozen* film script. The number of idiomatic expressions used in the film script is 80 with the phrasal verb is appeared 57 times, tournure idioms are 4 times, the irreversible binomial idiom is 3 times, the phrasal compound idiom is 7 times, and the incorporating idiom is 9 times. The writer used a dictionary of idioms, the writer stated that the contextual meaning of idioms could have in common with the meaning of words contained in the dictionary or the real meaning of its idioms.

### **3. Research Methodology**

#### **3.1 Subject**

Choosing the object that will be the target of analysis. Because the writer chooses a novel to analyze, so the writer reads the novel carefully and several times. So that the writer can get the whole story. Identifying the idioms in the novel then marking by giving the underline at the phrase and sentences that kind of idioms. Analyzing the novel *The Arabian Nights* using the descriptive qualitative method to understand the idiomatic expression in the novel. Classify the idiomatic expression into the type of idioms using Makkai's theories. Find out the meaning of the idiomatic expression of the novel *The Arabian Nights*.

#### **3.2 Instruments**

To get the result of this study, the writer used the qualitative method. Qualitative research is particularly well suited both to identify causality and to uncover fine descriptive distinctions (Fine and Hallett 2014; Lichterman and Isaac Reed 2014; Katz 2015). The purpose of qualitative research is to describe and interpret issues or phenomena systematically from the individual or population studied and to generate new concepts and theories. Qualitative research design (interactive approach) has a flexible structure as the pattern can be constructed and reconstructed to a greater extent (Maxwell, 2012). Based on the explanation above, it is related with Endraswara (2011) stated that qualitative research is important in investigating literature because the writer has to reads the text meticulous until getting the point that to be the target that is an idiomatic expression, then the writer elaborates them with classifying of types of idioms in form. The process is very important and before the result because it will establish the interpretations of the literature.

#### **3.3 Data Analysis Procedures**

The data collection that was classified according to Makkai's theory and then analyzed by the presents of *The Arabian Nights* novel. The text belongs to words, sentences, phrases, dialogues, or narratives they were analyzed using Makkai's theory. Makkai has explained the type of idioms, the writer wants to show to the reader that *The Arabian Nights* novel contains idiomatic expressions that include in Makkai's theory. The procedure data analysis are; reading, identifying, classifying, counting, explaining and interpreting.

## 4. Findings

### 4.1. Sub Findings

The writer concludes that there is a total of 389 or 32,2% expressions eliminated by 1208 suspected data because they are identical to idiomatic expressions. The writer decided to make just only one expression for one idiomatic expression. So, the writer gets the clear data without the identical idiomatic expression there are 819 numbers they are from 503 Phrasal Verb Idiom, 98 Tournure Idiom, 149 Phrasal Compound Idiom, 39 Irreversible Binomial Idiom, 25 Incorporating Verb Idiom, and 5 Pseudo Idiom.

Idiomatic Expression	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i> %
Phrasal Verb Idiom	503	61,42%
Tournure Idiom	98	11,97%
Phrasal Compound Idiom	149	18,19%
Irreversible Binomial Idiom	39	4,76%
Incorporating Verb Idiom	25	3,05%
Pseudo Idiom	5	0,61%
Total=	819	100%

### 4.2. Sub Findings

The writer presented that the dominant idiomatic expression is Phrasal Verb Idiom, it has the highest percentage that is 61,42% followed by the Phrasal Compound Idiom has 18,19% then the Tournure Idiom has 11,97%, Irreversible Binomial Idiom has 4,76%, Incorporating Verb Idiom has 3,05%, and the least of all is Pseudo Idiom has 0,61%.

## 5. Discussion

In this section, the writer will presents the result of the statements of the problem:

### **The Idiomatic Expression Found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang**

The idiomatic expression found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang. The writer read the Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang while marking the suspect of data that is idioms by underlining and numbering. The number of data is 819, divided into 6 types.

## **The Types of idiomatic expression are found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang**

The types of idiomatic expressions are found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang used Makkai's theory they are Phrasal Verb Idiom, Tournure Idiom, Irreversible Binomial Idiom, Phrasal Compound Idiom, Incorporating Verb Idiom, and Pseudo Idiom.

The number of idiomatic expressions found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang is 819, divided into 503 Phrasal Verb Idioms, 98 Tournure Idioms, 149 Phrasal Compound Idioms, Irreversible Binomial Idioms, 25 Incorporating Verb Idioms, and 5 Pseudo Idioms.

## **The Dominant types of idiomatic expression are found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang**

The dominant types of idiomatic expression are found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang is Phrasal Verb Idiom, it has the highest percentage that is 61,42% followed by the Phrasal Compound Idiom has 18,19% then the Tournure Idiom has 11,97%, Irreversible Binomial Idiom has 4,76%, Incorporating Verb Idiom has 3,05% and the least of all is Pseudo Idiom has 0,61%.

The phrasal verb idiom is often used in a language. Therefore, it is easily to be used and understandable. In Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang almost every page is Phrasal Verb Idiom.

## **6. Conclusion**

The writer concluded that there are a lot of idiomatic expressions in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang. It can be shown in the research findings which the writer found idiom on the data that had been analyzed.

In this study, the writer analyzed the idiomatic expression in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang. Based on research findings the writer found 1208 idioms with the identical idiom that mentioned more than once. So the writer made a reduction of data and the total of idioms found became 819. The total data that had been eliminated is 389 or 32,2%. After the reduction of identical data, there is no identical idiomatic expression.

The clear data presented without the identical idiomatic expressions there are 819 idioms those are 503 Phrasal Verb Idioms, 98 Tournure Idioms, 149 Phrasal Compound Idioms, 39 Irreversible Binomial Idioms, 25 Incorporating Verb Idiom,

and 5 Pseudo Idiom. So the dominant types of idiomatic expression are Phrasal Verb Idiom with 503 numbers. The Pseudo Idiom becomes the least of all because the Pseudo idiom is rarely found in Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang.

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