CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURES, CONCEPTS,
AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. Review of Literatures

In this review of writings, there were three related with idioms. This thesis were about idiom in novel, article or magazine written by previous students. One article of discourse analysis journal was taken from internet. The three of thesis reviews show the weakness of the previous thesis and there were compared with this study. The journal review was only a supporting review for this thesis.

2.1.1 Thesis Review

The first undergraduate thesis is “A Comprehension of Black And White in Idiom: Semantic Point Of View” by Shindue (2000). This study analyzed about idiomatic expressions based on colours which aimed to make comprehension of the use of the words black and white in idiom. It also analyzed an opposing meaning in idiom for black and white colors.

The major theory, which is used to the analysis of the data presented in this study, is based on theory of semantics called basic triangle of Ogden and Richard in Palmer (1956). It consists of three components such as symbol, thought or reference, and referent. The symbol of course is represented by the linguistic elements such as the word, sentence, etc. The thought or reference is the concept, and referent is the object. This
study is relevant to the present writing. Since the study is a qualitative study, the method used in the analyzing data is deductive-inductive method.

In Shindue study, the data source was obtained from some published materials, such as: magazines, dictionaries, and newspapers to get the opposing meanings of idioms based on the colours black and white, and she found the opposing meanings based on linguistic contexts. Her study gave little explanation about the forms of idioms, most idiomatic expressions are in phrasal forms (Np, Vp, Ap, Adv p) or in other forms, about the types of idioms, and the classification of idioms. The types of idioms are compositions between phrases and words or other forms. According to the types of idioms which are proposed by Palmer (1976:98), most compositions are of verb phrases plus adverbs, etc. Actually the compositions to construct idioms is derived are from many phrases.

The second undergraduate thesis is “Meaning of Idioms in SUM 41 ‘Underclass Hero Lyrics” by Dini Riarti Laretna Lakmi (2009). The study discussed about idioms which aimed to find types of idioms which occurred in the song lyrics. And it aimed to find the meanings of idioms and how they relived the message of the songs.

The main theories used in the data analysis consist of the types of idioms proposed by Palmer (1976) and the theory of meaning from Leech (1974) and also the theory proposed by Nida and Taber (1982). From analysis of the data, Dini writes that the types of those idioms have been classified based on the theory proposed by Palmer (1976). Palmer divides idioms into three types: Phrasal verb is a very common type of idiom in English which has been seen from the combination of verbs plus adverbs. Prepositional verb has been seen from the sequence of verb and preposition or verb, adverb and
preposition. Partial idiom has been seen when one of the words has its usual meaning and the other has a meaning that is peculiar to particular sequence.

In her study, Dini Riarti found totally 24 idioms from nine songs with many variations of forms and meanings. The idioms are used to emphasize and convey the meanings of the songs and carry the messages of the songs. And comparison to this present study there are some differences and similarities. In term of similarities, both of the studies discuss the same topic from song lyrics. This thesis combines the theory of meaning between seven types of meanings by Leech (1974) and three types of “meaning” by Nida and Taber (1982). This present thesis analysed about the meanings that found in the song lyrics, and it did not analyse the intended meanings of the song lyrics based on the linguistic context.

The third undergraduate thesis is “English Idioms in the Novel Disclosure and their translation into Indonesia” by Ema Ismayanti (2002). This study analyzed about the translation of English Idioms into Indonesian which aimed to find out the categories of idioms used in Disclosure (English version) and to find out the equivalents of the idioms in the source text Disclosure and its translation in Pengukapan.

Ema used the theory proposed by Fattudin (2001) in his book Idiom Word and Context, who wrote that there are 4 (four) categories of Idioms: adjective, noun, verb, and adverb. The theories of translation applied were those proposed by Nida and Taber (1974) in their book The Theory and Practice of Translation as the main theory and Larson (1988) in Meaning-Based Translation: A Guide to Cross-Language Equivalence as the supporting theory.

From her analysis, idioms can be classified into four categories: adjective noun, verb, and adverb. In her study she found 15 English Idioms that are not appropriately
translated by translator. And the translator has not attained the related equivalent of each part of the translated text. Since there many idioms in the source language, many are translated literally or omitted. From her study, it gave little contribution to recent study about idiom translation.

 Mostly when we chose the topic of translation we can combine the topic with some linguistics. Same as this study which analyzed the translation of idiom in the novel. This thesis also gave references. according to Fathuddin, Idioms has word classes or categories (Noun Idiom, Verb Idiom, Adjective Idiom , Adverb Idiom).

2.1.2 Journal Review

This journal is “Relevance Theory and the Construction of Idiom Meaning” by Rosa Elena. This paper proposes that the meaning a speaker intends in using an idiom on a certain occasion was pragmatically reconstructed by relevance-driven inferential mechanisms which take as input a set of highly accessible encyclopedic assumptions from the concepts encoded by the idiom string that its constituent word.

This Journal discussed about the theory by Brobow &Bell (1973) and Cacciari & Tabosi (1988). In understanding an utterance containing an idiom, the hearer takes the concepts encoded by the utterance and by the idiom string as the clues to the explicatures and implicatures intended by the speaker. Generally, comprehension of idiom has similarity with utterance comprehension, that is not literal or figurative but relevance driven. Processing the literal meaning of every encoded concept is not needed by the hearer, and the output of the interpretation process may be idiomatic, literal, methaporichal, or otherwise.
2.2 Concepts

This part explains about some concepts quite essential to the description and analysis of idioms. The concepts presented and described here include the following.

2.2.1 Concept of Idioms

Hornby (1967: xvi) states an idiom (also called an idiomatic expression) are a phrase or sentence of two or more words that has a special meaning of its own. Palmer (1976:79) said that an idiom semantically has a single meaning. It means that idioms are language units that can consist of words, phrases, or sentences of which the meanings are unpredictable from either the lexical meanings of the elements or the grammatical structure of its unit. This study follows the concept of idiom proposed by Palmer (1976).

Goffin and McMardie (1976: 6) propose another definition of idiom. Idiomatic turns of expression are usually forcible, terse, and vivid; the same meaning could be set forth in some other way, but not with equal force and brevity. It is the idiomatic part of language that is the most difficult part for a foreigner to master. It adds to the difficulty that often no reason can now be given as to how or why a particular idiomatic phrase has assumed its present form.

2.2.2 Concept of Intended Meaning of Idioms

There is a semantic theory that tries to solve the problems that is used in the analysis of meanings of idioms. The theory is the semantic triangle, which tries to show the intended meaning of idiom by resolving it into its main component. The semantic triangle of Ogden and Richards in Palmer (1976: 26) consist of three components such as symbol, thought or reference and referent. The symbol of course, the linguistic element
such as the word, sentence, etc, and the thought or reference is the concept of our mind, the referent is the object referred to in the world of reality.

The term “intended meaning” appears to apply the idiomatic expressions found in “Roll on” and “State of emergency” song lyrics in this study analyzed. The “intended meaning” of idioms refers to the use of idiomatic expressions in the song lyrics which have been composed by The Living End to be analyzed based on the theory explained in the theoretical framework.

2.2.3 Idiom and Linguistic Context

It is too simple to say that in the field of language, the meaning is primarily concerned with the relation between language and the world in which we use it (Palmer 1976). Most of the time, the English learners find difficulties in understanding the meanings of the idioms. Concerning this problem, Palmer also stated that the meaning of the word has to be seen in the context in which it occurred. A listener must make use of all possible means of determining the meaning intended to be conveyed by the speaker.

(Palmer 1976:46) states that Malinowski and Firth both were concerned with stating meanings in terms of the context in which language is used. Thus, a context can minimize many misperceptions towards the meanings of utterances as could occur when we analyze the meanings of idioms through the semantic triangle of Ogden and Richards.
2.3. Theoretical Frameworks

The two main theories used as theoretical framework are from Palmer, which cope with the two problems in which the study is focused. The description of the theories is presented below.

2.3.1 Theories of Idioms

The term idiom refers to the conventional way of joining words to express a particular idea. As stated by Palmer (1976:41), “An idiom is a sequence of words whose meaning cannot be predicted from the meanings of the words themselves.” In addition, he explains that semantically an idiom is singular of meaning. It means that an idiom is a language unit, which consists of words, phrases or sentences which make up the idiomatic units.

There are some types of idioms that can be included in this study, according to Palmer (1976: 98). Palmer divides the idioms into three types, namely those described below.

1. Phrasal verb

*Phrasal verb* is a very common type of idiom in English, which includes the combinations of verb plus adverb. The meaning of those combinations cannot be predicted from-the individual verb and adverb, and in many cases there is a single verb with the same or a very close meaning. We can find it in the example, *get in* which means *enter* and *hold on* which means *wait.*
2. Prepositional verb

Prepositional verb is the sequences of verb plus adverb, and there are also the sequences of verb plus preposition, such as *look after* which means *care* and *go for* which means *attack*. While the example of the combination of verb, adverb and preposition are *‘do away with’* which means *kill* and *put up with* which means *tolerate*.

3. Partial Idiom

Partial idiom is an idiom in which one of the words has it usual meaning; the other has a meaning that is peculiar to the particular sequence. We can find the example in *brown hair* which refers to hair, but not hair that is brown in strict color terms.

2.3.2 Idiom in Relation with Semantic Theory

The analytical model of meaning used in this study is the semantic triangle of Ogden and Richards in Palmer (1976: 26). Ogden and Richards said that to get the intended meaning, we need to devide an idiom into its main aspects such as symbol, thought or reference, and referent. The *symbol* refers to the linguistic element, the word, sentence, etc, and the *thought or reference* is the concept of our mind, while the *referent* is the object refered to in the worl of reality.

The semantic triangle of Ogden and Richard can help us in looking at the realationship of each component, and it is diagrammed as follows:
Ogden and Richards saw the relationship of the three aspects as a triangle, one is connected to the others. However, there is no direct relationship between symbol and referent, so, the link is via thought or reference (concept of our mind). When the word is uttered we think of the concept and it is vise versa.

For example, the speaker says ‘chair’ the hearer will directly think of a chair, although the usage of the chair is not the same, as the speaker wants to convey. In the other words, the hearer has the different concept of mind to determine the symbol that has been uttered by the speaker. As the result, uttered meaning that the speaker wants to convey could be quite different from the hearer’s interpretation. This phenomenon occurs because the speaker and the hearer have a different knowledge and experience through the symbol that has been uttered.

Ogden and Richards created the ‘basic triangle’ in order to illustrate the point that there is a direct relationship between ‘symbol’ and ‘thought’. The stated that the relationship between ‘symbol’ and ‘thought or reference’ is essential. Meanwhile, the relationship between ‘referent’ and ‘thought or reference’ is quite fundamental, even though the relationship is an indirect one (as we can see something in front of us directly).
or an indirect one (as a figure of thought about something we have seen in another occasion). The relationship between the ‘symbol’ and the ‘referent’ is simply indirect. The illustration of the semantic process using the ‘basic triangle’ can be diagrammed as follows:

![Diagram 2.2 The illustration of Semantic Triangle using the word (symbol) ‘dog’.

As demonstrated by the illustration above, for the word ‘dog’, two people could use that identical word to stand for completely different beasts. When you say ‘dog’, you might mean a slow moving, gentle pet which is very fond of children. When I use the word, I might mean a carnivourous canine that bites anyone and is very fond of children. Unless we both understand that ambiguity is a predictable condition of language, you and I are responsible to carry on a conversation about dogs without ever realizing we are not talking about the same thing.