An Analysis of Idioms in the Spongebob Squarepants Cartoons

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Abstract

This study was conducted to determine whether SpongeBob SquarePants Cartoons contains idioms, as there are some challenges in understanding and comprehending these idioms. A qualitative technique is used in this investigation. In this study, all utterances including or explaining idioms in SpongeBob SquarePants cartoons were used as primary data. The cartoon was evaluated by the researcher utilizing Seidl and McMordie's idioms theory (1988). According to the study's findings, there are two types of idioms, namely verb + preposition and verb + all types of words. The researcher found 6 data which are detailed as follows: for verb + preposition appeared 5 times and verb + all types of words was 1 times.

Keywords: Idioms, Spongebob Squarepants Cartoons

INTRODUCTION

According to Fishman (1972: 4), Sociolinguistics is the analysis of the features of language functions in relation to the characteristics of speakers of a language. Sociolinguistics is concerned with how a language is utilized in its social and cultural environment, instead of with its structure.

Hickerson (1980: 81) says, the sociolinguistics is a linguistic developmental study based on language varieties and examines language choice in its sociological perspective. The study of the relationship between social variables and language variation is known as sociolinguistics.

Idioms is being considered to be a source of translation obstacles since textual translations of such statements frequently fail to generate an adequate translation. According to Liu (2008: 16), not all idioms are semi-literal or non-literal, but they are also unchangeable. Furthermore, Liu (2008: 16) argued that authentic idioms cannot be

read literally through compositional analysis and idioms that consist of at least two words and will have multiword expressiveness.

As said by Seidle (1988), an idiom is a collection of words or phrases that, when interpreted have a different meaning than the term itself. Then, as shown by Binkert (2003: 164), idioms are highly specific statements whose significance cannot generally be derived both from definitions of words that comprise them. SpongeBob Squarepants is one of the most popular cartoons in the world, released in 1999. Not only loved for the uniqueness of its characters, Stephen Hillenburg's animated series also feels more interesting thanks to its silly and intriguing storyline. The story in SpongeBob Squarepants centers on the lives of sea creatures in the town of Bikini Bottom, named after the Bikini Atoll coral reef in the Pacific Ocean. SpongeBob Squarepants is portrayed as cheerful and friendly. He lives in a pineapple-shaped house and works as a chef at the Krusty Krab. The Krusty Krab restaurant is owned by a stingy red crab named Eugene Krabs. Before becoming a businessman, Mr. Krabs was a feared sailor. Besides being busy making Krabby Patty every day, SpongeBob is also often busy with various exciting adventures with his best friend, Patrick Star. The noise made by SpongeBob and Patrick often upset Squidward Tentacles. He will do various ways to stop the two annoying neighbors.

This study is not the first that the analyze about idioms. Here the researcher would like to compare the other research. Nurkasiyati (2018) who studied entitled "*An Analysis on the Strategies Used to Translate Idioms With Reference To JK Rowling's Novel Entitled Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*". The goal of this research is to categorize different types of English idiomatic idioms and their Indonesian equivalents. The descriptive qualitative approach is used in this study. The information is presented in the form of phrases including English idioms and their Indonesian equivalents. The novel The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe and its Indonesian version (The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe), which is confined to chapters one through six, were utilized as data sources. The documentation method is used in the data collecting technique, while the comparison method is used in the data analysis approach. The results demonstrate that the idioms in the novel are of three types: irregular form clear meaning, regular form unclear meaning, and irregular form unclear meaning, all of which are translated to the same kind in Indonesian. Of the 35

data sets examined, 54.29 percent are of the first kind, 37.14 percent are of the second type, and 8.57 percent are of the third type of idioms.

The second researcher is Arifin & Suyitno (2020) with the title "*Analyzing Verbal Idioms in Gadis Pantai Novel of Pramoedya Ananta Noer*". The study's goal was to use semantic analysis to examine verbal idioms. It is a descriptive qualitative design based on text analysis of a single phenomena. The data collected are words with idiomatic interpretations in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's novel Gadis Pantai. The data was gathered by the author through observation and note-taking techniques. To assess the validity, the author used source triangulation and theory triangulation. The results show that five idioms are produced through the use of verbs. There are eleven idioms made from transitive attached verbs, including eight phrasal verb idioms and eight incomplete idioms. It has been discovered that nouns usually follow the constituent pieces of idioms in order to receive the idiom's meaning.

The current study is comparable to Nurkasiyati (2018) and Arifin & Suyitno (2020) in that it focuses on idioms. The current study differs from Nurkasiyati (2018) in that the subject of the study is JK Rowling's novel Harry Potter And The Philosopher's Stone, which is included in novel literature, whereas Arifin and Suyitno (2020) study is Pramoedya Ananta Noer's novel Gadis Pantai, which is also included in novel literature.

Idioms are interesting to researchers because they might be difficult to grasp and interpret. Based on this argument, the researcher finds that several idiom studies have been conducted. However, their present research on idioms is on a separate topic.

As a result, researchers concentrate on the form and meaning of idioms, such that researchers can examine the meaning using Boatner and Gates' theory as learning and understanding the meaning of idioms. As a result, the *title "An Analysis of Idioms in Spongebob Squarepants Cartoons"* was chosen.

METHOD

Instruments

This study made use of qualitative research. The primary data collector in qualitative research is the researcher himself (Ary, 2010). It signifies that individuals are the primary research instruments.

The researcher used Seidl and McMordie (1988) theory to classify and assess the types of idiomatic expression observed in the cartoon when examining the data.

To support the analysis, researchers used many resources, including cartoons and dialogue transcripts from Spongebob Squarepants cartoons. Dialogues between characters that contain idioms will be documented in this project.

Procedures

The data is the cartoon mostly in category of topic-related phrases, sentences, dialogues, conversations, and explanations. The researcher should choose the data for the cartoon with caution. The researcher employs certain procedures. Watching the cartoon multiple times while taking notes on the research material. After completing both tasks, the researcher classified the data from both cartoons that are relevant to idioms focusing on character.

Data analysis

To analyze the data from this study, the researcher used the following procedures: (1) identify the idiom contained in the characters of Spongebob Squarepants Cartoons, (2) locate the idiom contained in the characters of Spongebob Squarepants Cartoons, and (3) categorize the idiom discovered in the characters of Spongebob Squarepants Cartoons.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Source Language

It was all *washed up!*

Target Language

Kertas itu *tersapu air*

During the hunt for an idiomatic expression, the researcher discovered *washed up* in the English version, which was translated into *tersapu air* in the Indonesian version. Idiomatic expressions include *washed up* because it is required to stick together to develop a new meaning.

If the idiomatic term *washed up* is analyzed using the word class, the result is *washed:* verb, *up*: preposition. As a result, the researcher classified *washed up* as idiom verbs and classified it as a verb, while *up* is classified as a preposition. If it is translated literally, the meaning is perverted.

Washed up refers to someone who is no longer successful and is unlikely to succeed again in the future. The idiomatic word *washed up* is incorporated into a contextual meaning in this example. It is due to the relationship between the utterance and the situation in which the statement is expressed. The image depicts the link between utterance and situation. It describes how, when telling a joke with a sheet of paper, Spongebob engages in a dialogue with it and treats the paper as if it were a man with whom he can converse. "What happened to the paper that fell in the ocean?" the paper inquires of Spongebob. "I don't know," Spongebob says. "It was all washed up!" said the paper. Everyone around them spontaneously laughs at their humor. Idiomatic usage of a preposition. It is due to the fact that the word washed is

Source Language

Now let go of it. I said let go of it!

Target Language

Kubilang lepaskan!

In order to identify an idiomatic process, the researcher watched and compared both the English and Indonesian versions of the cartoons. As a consequence, the researcher discovered an idiomatic expression let go in the English version and translated it into *lepaskan* in the Indonesian version, which would then be analyzed. However*, let go* is classified as an idiomatic expression since it has no variation in form and has meanings that cannot be deduced from its constituent components. In other words, idiomatic expressions must collide in order to establish new meanings.

If the idiomatic statement *let go of* is analyzed based on word class, the outcome *is let:* verb, *go*: verb, of: preposition in this translation. As a result, the researcher divided idiomatic expressions into two types: verbs and prepositions used idiomatically together. However, if it is translated literally, the meaning will be corrupted.

The idiomatic word *let go* of means to let go of someone or something. In this scenario, the idiomatic expression *let go of* it is incorporated into lexical meaning because the meaning of a specific language system is utilized as a symbol or an event, and so on. In other words, the dictionary best explains lexical meaning.

Source Language

Fly… Come on fly!

Target Language

Ayo, terbang!! Terbang!

In this investigation, the researcher reads and compares two cartoons, one in English and one in Indonesian. After watching the cartoon, the researcher discovered come on as an idiomatic expression that is translated into *ayo* in the Indonesian version. The researcher classified come on as an idiomatic term since it is a word combination with a new meaning.

If the idiomatic statement *come on* is examined based on word class, the outcome is *come*: verb, *on*: preposition in this translation. As a result, the researcher classified come on as a form of idiom in which a verb and a preposition are used together idiomatically. If come is translated literally as *datang* and on as *pada*, the meaning is altered.

The colloquial idioms come on indicates to exhort someone to hurry up or try harder. When translated word for word, come means *datang* and on means *pada*. It will have an unusual connotation in the target language (TL). As a result, the target language (TL) translation used the word *ayo*, which is related to the situation's context. Because of the relationship between the statement and the setting in which it is spoken, the idiomatic expression coming on is included in contextual meaning in this case. Essentially, a term in a particular language has as many meanings as there are situations. The cartoons depict the link between utterance and situation. It relates the story of Squidward attempting to play with a piece of paper like Spongebob. Spongebob can fly like a propeller to play the paper, but Squidward can't. In contrast, he has traded his home and all of its furnishings.

Source Language

If reflecto is cut off from sunlight, he becomes weak!

Target Language

Jika reflecto dihalangi dari sinar matahari, ia menjadi lemah

In order to identify an idiomatic expression, the researcher watched both cartoons in English and Indonesian, and the result was that the researcher found an idiomatic expression that was *cut off* in the English version cartoon and converted into *dihalangi* in the Indonesian version cartoon. Even though*, cut off* is classified as an idiomatic term because its meaning differs from that of individual words. That is, the

idiom cannot be translated word for word. They must stick each other in order to generate fresh meaning.

If the idiomatic term *cut off* is analyzed according to the word class in this translation, the outcome is *cut*: verb, *off*: preposition. Is classified according to the sorts of idiom verb and preposition used idiomatically together. If you interpret *cut* as memotong and *off* as mati, the knowledge will be modified.

The idiomatic word *cut off* is to obstruct or obstruct anything. *Cut* literally means memotong, while *off* literally means mati. It will have an unusual connotation in the target language (TL). As a result, in the target language (TL), the translator utilized the word *dihalangi*, which is related to the situation. The idiomatic expression *cut off*, which is translated dihalangi in target language (TL), is classified as contextual meaning in this translation because there is a relationship between utterances and the settings in which the utterances are produced. Essentially, a word in a particular language has as many meanings as the situations or places where it is used in conjunction with the other words in a phrase. The cartoon expresses the link between statement and situation. If Reflecto is below the sunshine, it indicates that he has become too powerful. Spongebob has an idea to shield Reflecto from the sun.

Source Language

Well, we used to be. But now we're retired.

Target Language

Dulu, tapi kini kami sudah pensiun.

The researcher watched both the English and Indonesian versions of the cartoon while looking for an idiomatic term. The researcher discovered utilized to as an idiomatic term in the English edition, which translated into *dulu* in the Indonesian version. In this situation, *used to* is classified as an idiomatic term because translating it produces a new meaning. In other words, idioms cannot be translated word for word; they need each other to establish a new meaning.   If the idiomatic term *used to* is examined according to the word class, the following result is *used*: verb, *to*: preposition. Thus, *used to* is classified as an idiomatic verb and preposition used together idiomatically. If utilized means *menggunakan* is translated literally, the meaning will be altered.

The idiom expression *used to* signify that something happened continually or regularly in the past. An idiomatic expression cannot be translated word for word since it will appear weird in the target language (TL). In this situation, the idiomatic term applied to which is translated *dulu* in target language (TL) is classified as lexical meaning, because the meaning of a particular linguistic system employed as a symbol or an event, and so on. In other words, the dictionary best describes lexical meaning.

Source Language

Stay away from this house!!

Target Language

Awas kalau bikin ribut lagi di sini!

In order to find an idiomatic expression, the researcher watched both cartoons and then found idiomatic idioms that are translated into *awas* in the Indonesian version. *Stay away* is classified as an idiomatic expression in this translation because it is part of a collection of words, but it appears too weird when translated word for word. It requires one another to create a new meaning.   If the idiomatic statement stay away is examined according to word class, the outcome is *stay*: verb, *away*: adverb. As a result, *keep away* is classified as an idiomatic verbal statement. It is classified into three types. Stay away is included in the verb + all types of terms in this example. If *stay* is translated literally as tinggal and *away* as jauh, the connotation is misleading.

Stay away is an idiomatic term that indicates to avoid approaching a specific person or location. *Stay away* from translating an idiomatic expression word for word because it will sound weird in the target language (TL). Because there is a relationship between utterances and settings where the utterances are conveyed, the idiomatic expression *stay away*, which is translated awas in target language (TL), is classified as contextual meaning in this case. Essentially, a word in a particular language has as many meanings as the situations or places where it is used in conjunction with the other words in a phrase. The cartoon depicts the relationship between the utterance and the situation. It tells the story of Spongebob and Patrick upsetting Mermaidman and Barnacleboy in their retirement home. They were driven away from retirement by the cop.

CONCLUSION

Researchers discovered several types of idioms after analyzing the cartoons and obtaining the results. Idioms are classified into two sorts: verb + preposition and verb + all types of words.

It is worth noting that the researcher discovered 6 data points, which are as follows: verb + preposition appeared 5 times, and verb + all types of words appeared 1 time.

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