

MILIK PERPUSTAKAAN
STAIN ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA

**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING
OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSION AND THEIR ABILITY IN
TRANSLATING PARAGRAPH AT THE EIGHT
GRADE OF SMP NEGERI 5 LANGSA**

THESIS

Submitted By :

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Student No : 140900379**



**STATE COLLEGE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES
ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA
2014 M / 1435 H**

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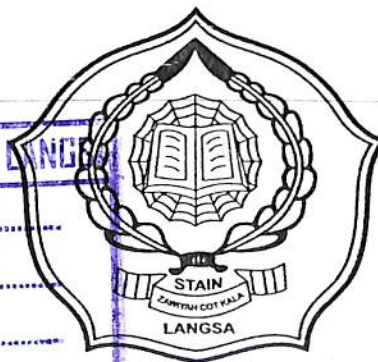
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**Submitted to the Tarbiyah Faculty STAIN Zawiyah Cot Kala
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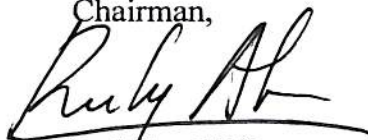
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Langsa, December 27th, 2013

Eka Andriani

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ABSTRACT

Language is a patterns of human behavior, without language, people can not interact or communication each other. In present day, English is also growing and changing, and these tendencies are not easy to be known. They may now be considered to be colloquial or informal such as idiom. We can not tell what idiomatic expressions mean by taking the words within them literally. So, you have to understand something about the people or community in which idioms are used to really understand. The understanding of the idiom should be introduced from now to student in the school, in order not to be left behind other countries and isolated, helpless because everyone else is using a language you simply do not understand. Students are able to understand the meaning of the idiom or not from their translation of a paragraph or sentence. It can called translation as a process from a Source Language (SL) into a Target Language (TL). This thesis focuses on the title "The Correlation Between Students' Understanding of Idiomatic Expression and Their Ability in Translating Paragraph at the Eight Grade Students of SMP Negeri 5 Langsa". The problem of this study are there any correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating paragraph. The purposes of this study are to analyze if there is correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and to identify their ability in translating paragraph and to investigate whether any significances correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating paragraph. The population of the research is the eight grade students SMP Negeri 5 Langsa and the samples of this study are one of class eight the year 2013/2014. This is quantitative research. This research uses the correlation method. The writer made the test as the instrument in collecting data and used product moment and t-test formula to calculation it. The result is that the value of correlation $t_{hitung} = 14,57$ higher than $t_{table} = 1,701$. It means that there was high correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating paragraph. The concluded that there are significance correlation between them and hypothesis is accepted.

Keyword: research, correlation, student ability, idiom or idiomatic expression, translating, descriptive.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of Study

Language is a patterns of human behavior, without language, people be able not to interact or communication each other. If there were no language, there would be no communication and humans would be difficult to interact with one onether. Today, we are required to master, at least one foreign language not only for the daily life such as in getting the job. There are many languages in the world, and english is one of the languages which is studied and spoken widely all over the world.

By understanding it, English helps us to communicate with foreigner easier. It is an exciting experience which opens windows on other cultures, their people how they live and think, the history, literature, music and heritage. Stella and Linda said the ability to understand a few words of the language will help you make sense of notices, menus, short newspaper articles and other simple everyday texts and help you feel more at ease.¹ In present day, English is also growing and changing, and these tendencies are not easy to be known. The attitude of users of the language towards style is also becoming more flexible. Word which were considered to be *slang* in the past may be more acceptable in present day, they may now be considered to be colloquial or informal such as idiom.

An idiom is an expression with the following features. According to John, it is fixed and is recognised by native speakers, you cannot make up your own and

¹ Stella Hurd and Linda Murphy, *Success with Language* (USA and Canada: Routledge, NY), p.8.

use it in a non-literal metaphorical way.² English is very rich in idiomatic expressions. In fact, it is difficult to speak or write in English without using idioms. An English native speaker is very often not aware that he is using an idiom; perhaps he does. Idiom also refers to a dialect or jargon of a group of people, either in a certain region or a group with common interests, like in science, music, art, or business.

Some people in Indonesia still think idiom that is should be learned, but English speakers use idioms every day, and non-native speakers must learn at least the most common ones in order to understand conversational English. To broaden the horizon of people in Indonesia, especially for students at the school, an understanding of the idiom should be introduced from now on in order not to be left behind other countries and isolated, helpless because everyone else is using a language you simply do not understand. Today, a lot of English sentences using the idiom to communicate in daily life in order to shorten the English language that is in use so it is not too extravagant to use the language and easier to get along.

The writer want to do a research on eight grade students' ability of the SMP Negeri 5 Langsa in understanding and translating a paragraph consist text has sentences using idiom or slang. In order to determine whether students could identify that if in it there is a sentence containing the phrase idioms.

According to Jennifer Seidl and Mc Mordiean that idiom is a number of words which, taken together, mean something different form the individual words

² John Wright, *Idiom Organiser: Organised by Metaphor, Topic and Key Word* (Boston: Thomson Hainle, 2002), p.7.

of the idiom when they stand alone.³ The words are put together is often odd, illogical or even grammatically incorrect. Students in SMP Negeri 5 Langsa experience definite difficulty in understanding the content of the book and the meaning or order of the book is that they make the English language textbooks for foreign language book is not Indonesian. Basically, caused of many English languages that uses a different meaning from the actual words.

Cristina and Patrizia said if natural language had been designed by a logician, idioms would not exist.⁴ They are a word or member consistend of discourse that frustrates any simple logical account of how the meanings of utterances depend on the meanings on the syntactic relation among those parts. Idioms are transparant to native speakers, but a course of perplexity to those who are acquiring a second language. The meanings of these kinds of idioms are not arbitrary. Students are able to understand the meaning of the idiom or not from their translation of a paragraph or sentence.

Andre said translation is a rewriting of an original text.⁵ Translation is one of the most important component that students have to master in English because without translation student will never be able to understand the language. Translation is also needed to communicate with foreigners, in order they can understand what we are saying. It also could be a translation job, e.g. as an interpreter (translator). If the students master the foreign language other than our

³ Jennifer Seidl and Mc Mordie, *English Idioms and How to Use Them* (Jakarta: Intermasa, 1980), p.4.

⁴ Cristina Cacciari and Patrizia Tabossi, *Idioms: Processing, Structure, and Interpretation* (New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1993), p.vii.

⁵ Andre Lefevere, *Translation History Culture* (London: Routledge, 1992), p.xi.

own, then they can be a translator for others. So, the translation is very important for students to learn today.

Besides, the students are also often making mistake in translating sentences. They always translate the sentences word by word. While in English it's not all sentences can be translate word by word. Because in every sentences contained an ambiguous word of the words has two meanings. That thing makes students often wrong in translate a sentences. And how about translating idiom?

Translating idiom can be difficult, but it makes your writing more interesting and engaging for the reader. And how we know if they are idiom? According Cristina and Patrizia said idiom is learned simply as an arbitrary relation between a phrase and its meaning, just as the meaning of a word is learned as an arbitrary relation between a linguistic unit and its referent.⁶ For example, a popular idiom is "It's raining cats and dogs." If you are familiar with this particular phrase, you know that it is raining really hard and that is idiom.

The writer writes the title is based on the experiences that occur among the writer's own during school and try to correlation the problem in the school. The writer interested research students in understanding a paragraph in foreign language and introduce idiom understanding to students. Because, basically, an understanding of the idiom, it is very difficult, but to be introduced.

From the description in above, the writer would like to see the students' ability in understanding and translating a paragraph in the text that uses the phrase idioms in it. The writer are interested in conducting research with the title "The

⁶ Cristina Cacciari and Patrizia Tabossi, *Idioms: Processing, Structure, and Interpretation*, p.12.

Correlation Between Students' Understanding of Idiomatic Expression and Their Ability in Translating Paragraph at the Eight Grade Students of SMP Negeri 5 Langsa.”

B. The Problem of Study

Based on the background above, the writer find out some problems following:

1. How is the students' understanding of idiomatic expression?
2. How is the students' ability in translating paragraph?
3. Is there any significant correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating paragraph?

C. The Purpose of Study

Based on the background above, the purposes of the study are:

1. To analyze the students' understanding of idiomatic expression.
2. To identify the students' ability in translating paragraph.
3. To investigate the correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating paragraph.

D. The Significance of Study

Based on the objective above, the writer expect the benefit of this study are:

1. For School

As a reference/ indicator for schools that will be the object of this study in an effort to increase the quality and ability of students in English class.

2. For teachers of English

Can provide knowledge to teachers in improving students' ability to sentence translation in improving learning outcomes.

3. For Students

To determine the extent of students' ability to understand idioms as well as motivation to improve students' ability translates paragraph.

4. For Researchers

Provide information to investigators regarding the presence or absence of understanding of idiomatic expression correlation with students' skills in paragraph translates, as well as a reference for subsequent researchers who lifted the title researchers relevant to this study.

E. Hypothesis

Based on the above problem, then that becomes the hypothesis in this study are:

H_a : There is significant correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating pragraph at the eight students of SMP Negeri 5 Langsa.

H_0 : There is no correlation between students' understanding of idiomatic expression and their ability in translating pragraph at the eight students of SMP Negeri 5 Langsa.

F. Terminology

1. Understanding

An understanding of that which we judge to be a reasonable, expected, 'normal' range of behaviors to something.⁷ If someone knows something, they will do what he or she know with action or behavior in live.

2. Idiomatic expression

An idiom is a number of words which, taken together, mean something different from the individual when they stand alone.⁸ Idiom are not a separate part of the language which one can choose either to use or to omit, but they form an essential part of the general vocabulary of English and the meaning is different from the actual words. Here students are required to be able to understand the meaning of the sentence contained in the idiom.

3. Ability

According to Manster "ability is skill or power".⁹ From statement above the ability is someone's basic (power, potential and skill) which can bring someone to the progress and safety. The ability of students is expected here is the ability translates a few paragraphs using idiom in the paragraph.

4. Translating or translation

Translation is an operation performed on languages: a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another.¹⁰ If we want to

⁷ Susan Leyden, *Helping the Child of Exceptional Ability* (Francis: Routledge ,1985), p.3.

⁸ Jennifer Seidl and Mc Mordie, *English Idioms and How to Use Them* (Jakarta: Intermasa, p.4.

⁹ Martin H. Manser, *Oxford Learners Pocket Dictionary* (England: Longman, 1991), p.1.

¹⁰ J.C. Catford, *A Linguistic Theory of Translation* (London: Oxford University Press, 1965), p.1.

rechange a sentence we must translate the sentences, in order we know what is meant from the paragraph.

5. Paragraph

A paragraph is a group of about 6-12 sentences about one topic.¹¹ Every sentence in a strong paragraph is about same topic. When the writer wants to write about a new main idea, he/she begins a new paragraph. Paragraph is a group of sentence about a single topic, together, the sentence of the paragraph explain the writer's main idea (more important idea) about the topic. In academic writing a paragraph write between five and ten sentence along. It can be longer or shorter, depending on the topic. In this research, the writer using descriptive paragraph. Descriptive text is a text which describe a characteristic of a person, place or thing.

¹¹ Dorothy E. Zemach and Carlos Islam, *Paragraph Writing: From Sentence to Paragraph* (Town Road: Macmillan, 2005), p.9.