

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Expressions such as “*piece of cake*” and “*once in a blue moon*” are frequently used and widely familiar among speakers of English. Expressions like this are called idiomatic expressions. They are used as common parts of language, but having differ interpretations from their literal meanings. Collis, as cited in Khosravi and Khatib (2012), also stated that people may not have a true understanding of idiomatic meaning since the meaning of an idiom generally cannot be determined by the meaning of its constituent parts. For example, the idiomatic meaning of an expression “*when pigs fly*” has no relation with an animal that can fly. The idiomatic meaning is about something that will never happen. In short, idiomatic expression is a phrase where the words together have a meaning that is different from the dictionary definitions of the individual words.

Idiomatic expression is one of the categories of figurative language. McArthur as cited in Holmqvist (2014), stated that figurative language is an umbrella term for words and phrases that are used to create a different effect in language, whose meanings are different to the literal one. Therefore, idiomatic expression and figurative language have their own types and characteristic. Crystal as stated in Holmqvist (2014) presents one view on idioms and defines two prime characteristics of idioms. First, the meanings of the individual words in

the expression cannot be used to understand the meaning of the expression altogether. Second, the expression is fixed both in terms of its grammar and lexically. Hence, an idiomatic expression like “*let the cat out of the bag*” is composed of minimal semantic constituents (let/the/cat/out/of/the/bag) whose individual meaning does not seem to contribute to the meaning of the idiom as a whole that is ‘to reveal a secret’. In other words, these semantic constituents are non-compositional because their figurative meaning is inactive to the meaning of their parts (Fotovatnia and Khaki, 2012: 273). In conclusion, idiomatic expression is fixed combination of words that the meaning is often difficult to be predicted from the meaning of each individual word.

Idiomatic expression is a colorful and fascinating aspect of English language that embraced a number of types. Idiomatic expression is often based on everyday things and ideas. Seidl & McMordie (1980) stated that there are eleven types of idiom; particular words with special idiomatic uses; idiom with adjectives and nouns in combination; idiom with verbs and nouns that are used together; idiom with prepositions and adverbs; adjectives with prepositions; verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles; idiom with the verb ‘to be’; idiom with common verbs; idiom with less common verbs; idiom from special situations and categories; and idiom of comparison.

However, idioms are an important part of all languages and our everyday language use. They can be said to add an extra layer in languages as they have a figurative meaning that is often very different from the definition of their individual words that is found in dictionaries and other types of reference

material. Furthermore, since the English language has an especially wide range of idiomatic expressions, surveys have estimated at least as many as twenty-five thousand idioms and other fixed expressions (Jackendoff, 1997:157), it makes future research on the topic particularly worthwhile.

Idiomatic expression can be found in spoken language (daily conversation) and written texts (such as novels, short stories, poetry, and film script). Idiomatic expression should be use carefully, because several idiomatic expressions are quite informal (McCarthy and O'Dell 2010). But, understanding the meaning of idiom is not an easy thing to do. People will need to be able to understand a lot of idioms if they want to read written language such as English fiction, newspapers or magazines, or understand TV shows, films and songs. In fact, the use of idiomatic expressions makes literary works much more interesting. People often use idiomatic expression for humor or to comment on themselves, other people and situation.

Idiomatic meaning is a unit of speech in which the meaning is unpredictable from the meaning of its elements, both lexically and grammatically. Cooper (1998) stated that the meaning of idiomatic expression could be defined by two ways: lexically and contextually. From its lexical viewpoint, the meaning of idiomatic expression is the meaning that conventionally assigned to the common use in dictionary. On the other hand, the meaning of idiomatic expression can be understood contextually. The meaning can be understood contextually because some idioms have various meanings depending on the context. Lyons (1984:143) stated that contextual meaning is the meaning of a word according to the

situations in which they are used while different situation might give a different meaning to each sentence. Therefore, special attention needs to be paid to the context of the story in order to find the contextual meaning of the idiomatic expression.

Studies on the idiomatic expressions have paid many researchers' attention. There are some related previous studies; one of them is Mabruroh (2015) from Semarang States University. In her thesis, entitled "*An Analysis of Idioms and their Problems in Understanding the Meanings Found in the Novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain*", she argued that it is not easy to understand novels because when someone reads novels, she or he must understand idioms. She found out four problems in understanding the idioms in this novel. The problems are the distinction between phrasal verbs that is idiom or not idiom, translation of idiom, understanding the closest meaning of idiom, and no grammatical rule of forming idiom. She investigated the types of idiomatic expressions using Makai's theory (1972) and found that there are 796 idioms in the novel.

Another scholars had conducted the study of idiomatic expression in different object. Liani (2012) from State University of Jakarta succeeded in doing a research entitled "*Idiomatic Expressions in Katy Perry's Teenage Dream album*". The research focused on classifying the types and the meanings of idioms proposed by W.McMordie as cited in Goffin (1956). In conclusion, there are 167 idioms in the 12 songs in Katy Perry's *Teenage Dream* album. The most

dominant type is the idiomatic words while the idiomatic adjective are the least form.

The third previous study was conducted by Pratama (2016) from Sanata Dharma University. He succeeded in doing a research entitled “*An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Translation in School of Rock Movie*”. The researcher focused on analyzing the translated idiomatic expressions in the subtitle of *School of Rock* movie and providing the readers with contributions of how the idiomatic expressions in the movie translated to Indonesian. He used the theory of ideal translation by Larson (1984). He investigated that idiomatic expressions in English cannot be translated literally in the target language. By using Larson’s theory of ideal translation, he found out that the translations of idiomatic expressions in Indonesian subtitle in *School of Rock* movies were acceptable. The translations are completed the three criteria, which is accurate (A), clear (C), and natural (N).

The three previous studies explore about idiomatic expressions that appeared in the novel, song, and movie. The theories used by the previous researchers are Makai’s, W.McMordie’s, and Larson’s theory. After reading the previous studies, the writer interested to explore about idiomatic expression in different object, that is TV series. The differences of this study with the studies above are the writer will use the theory of eleven types of idioms by Seidl and McMordie (1980) and the theory of the functions of idioms by McCarthy and O’Dell (2010). All of the three studies above discover about types and translation of idiomatic expressions. Therefore, the writer will focus more on analyzing the

types and functions of idiomatic expressions while relate them to the nerd stereotypes in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series.

The writer interested to analyze the idiomatic expressions in a TV series created by Chuck Lorre and Bill Prady—*The Big Bang Theory* from Season 1 consists of 17 episodes. The first season of *The Big Bang Show* aired on September 24, 2007 - May 19, 2008. *The Big Bang Theory* is an American popular situational comedy TV series. This is a unique TV series, as its episode title always starts with “*The*” and followed by scientific principle, theory or experiment, or a plot point that stated in the episode. This TV series has been chosen since there is significant evidence that it may contain plenty of idiomatic expressions when the writer watched this TV series. Also, the four main characters are portrayed as nerdy characters, while the other character Penny represents the woman that the nerd ought to desire. Thus, this study will focus on the total of idiomatic expression found, the types, meaning and the function of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series.

1.2 Research Questions

The research questions of this study are:

1. What are the types of idiomatic expressions and the meaning that can be found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series?
2. What are the functions of idiomatic expressions found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series?

1.3 Purposes of the Study

Based on the research questions, this study is aimed to:

1. Identify the types of idiomatic expressions and the meaning found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series.
2. Reveal the functions of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

This study focuses on finding, classifying, and analyzing the idiomatic expressions occur in the Season 1 of *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. There are 17 episodes of *The Big Bang Theory* in the Season 1 (2007-2008). As the beginning of this TV series, it contains various idiomatic expressions.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study is expected to be useful for the reader, especially for English Department students in UNJ, to gain knowledge of idiomatic expression and the way to recognize idiom. The writer hopes that the reader can enrich their vocabulary and apply these idioms in their writing and speaking activity. Moreover, the result of this study is intended to be a reference and comparison with another study in order to make further research in literature field.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Idioms

An expression like *feeling blue*, *break even* or *on the bill* can be difficult to understand, since the meaning is different from the meanings of the separate words in the expression. Expressions like these are called idioms (Swan 1996:243). The term idiom derives from *idioma*, Greek for ‘peculiarity’ (Fleischer 1982). The term “idiomatic” refers to expressions that have different meaning from the literal meaning of the words that making up the respective expressions (Lombardo, Haaman, & Morley, 1999). In other words, the meaning of an idiomatic expression is not the sum of the individual words.

There are various examples of idiomatic expressions. McCarthy and O’Dell in their book *English Idioms in Use* (2002:6) stated that idioms are expressions that have a meaning that is not obvious from the individual words. For example, an idiom *make out* in the sentence “I cannot *make out* what he is doing.” means ‘to understand’. It means that the meaning of idioms is not literal meanings, but they have non-literal meanings. The best way to understand idioms is by looking at the contexts. Another example, the meaning of *bite the dust* has little to do with the meaning of *bite* or *dust*; similarly the meaning of *by and large* cannot be understood from the literal meanings of *by* or *large*.

The words' positions in idiomatic expressions are also odd, illogical, and even grammatically incorrect (Seidl & McMordie, 1980). In addition, Wales in her book *Dictionary of Stylistics* claimed that in linguistics idioms usually denote phrases or strings of words that are idiosyncratic (idiomatic) in that they are language-specific, not easily translated into another language and in that their meaning is not easily determined from the meanings of their constitutive parts (Wales, 2001:198). Apart from difficulties in comprehension and production, idioms are an important aspect in second language learning. Using figurative language is one of the main features of native like language and idiomaticity is a nature of proficiency as well as fluency that language learners are expected to achieve.

It can be concluded that idioms are words or phrases whose meaning is not predictable and cannot be translated from its constituent words so that it must be learnt as a whole or unity. Consequently, it is often a highly complex and even unenviable task to translate an idiom into another language without any previous knowledge of its meaning in context. As Swan claimed in his book *Practical English Usage* (1996) that idioms are usually special to one language and cannot be translated word for word, although related language may share some idioms (Swan, 1996: 244).

2.2 Characteristics of Idioms

Moon (1996: 21) characterized idioms into different criteria. Moon characterizes idioms based on ‘the spectrum of idiomaticity’. They are transparent, semi-transparent, semi-opaque, and opaque idiom. First, transparent idioms are those idioms that are easy to comprehend and translate, and their meaning can be derived from the meanings of their constituent parts, i.e. *back and fort*, *fight a losing battle*. Second, semi-transparent idioms are idioms that usually have metaphorical meaning, and their constituent parts have a little role in comprehending the whole meaning of the expression, i.e. *break the ice* means ‘to reveal the tension’.

Third, semi-opaque idioms are group of idioms whose figurative meaning is not related to the meanings of their constituent words. In other words, the idiomatic expression is separated in two parts: a part with literal meaning and the other part with a figurative meaning, i.e. *to know the rope* means ‘to know how a particular job should be done’. Last, opaque idioms are the most difficult type of idioms because the literal meanings of their parts have little to do with the actual sense of idioms; that is, the meaning of an opaque idiom cannot be derived from the meanings of its individual parts because there are items which have cultural references, *to burn one’s boat* means ‘to make retreat impossible’ and *spill the beans* means ‘to reveal a secret’.

2.3 Categorizations of Idioms

Since the structural and semantic variety in English idioms is enormous, a number of distinct classifications have been presented, for instance on the basis of lexical, syntactic, or semantic features, and also on varying sectional ones, which combined might be called pragmatic. Even if there are a number of criteria in distinguishing one idiom from another, no universally or uniformly accepted classification exists that would adequately classify each English idiom into its pertinent category. The types adopted for this study is from Seidl and McMordie (1980).

Seidl and McMordie (1980: 41-240) classify idioms into ten types; particular words with special idiomatic uses such as adjectives, nouns, and miscellaneous words; idiom with adjectives and nouns in combination; idiom with verbs and nouns that are used together; idiom with prepositions; idiomatic pairs; verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles; idiom with the verb 'to be'; idiom with common verbs; idiom with less common verbs; idiom from special situations and categories; and idiom of comparison.

2.3.1 Particular Words with Special Idiomatic Uses.

Second-language learners sometimes face a difficulty to understand several words because of their special idiomatic meanings. This category deals with a selection of single words that are often difficult to interpret because of specific idiomatic meanings. Since many expressions often appear in informal language, it is important to learn the typical situations in which these idioms are used.

Seidl and McMordie divided the particular words with special idiomatic uses into three groups. They are adjective as in *bad news*, *a big mouth*, *in short*, and *its high time*; noun as in *by the way*, *in the end*, and *the bottom line*; miscellaneous such as pronouns as in *after all*, *how in the world*, and *it is too bad*. It is necessary to learn the situations in which these idioms are used.

The first group is adjectives with special idiomatic uses. For example is the adjective 'dead'. This adjective can express many different things in idioms. The main meaning is 'no longer live' in a dead body or dead tree. It can also mark things that had never been alive, as in dead matter, e.g. stone. In idioms such as *deadbeat* or *dead tired*, the adjective dead is used instead of the words: completely or extremely. Adjective dead can be used in order to express something that is exact, e.g. dead right means exactly right or dead ahead means exactly ahead. When the adjective dead used with colors or sounds, dead can mean blank or without brightness, e.g. dead color means a dull color or dead sound means a dull, heavy sound. The other example is the adjective 'good'. Adjective good is the favorite among users. Good has got also more than one meaning. It can be connected with the meaning benevolent or friendly as in, a *good reception* that has the meaning of 'a warm reception'. Another meaning of good is complete, e.g. a *good drink* with the meaning 'a large quantity'. These all are not the only examples of using the adjective good idiomatically. This adjective has more meanings. Other adjectives used in idioms are 'hard', 'poor', 'short', and 'thick'.

The second group is nouns with special idiomatic uses. Seidl and McMordie showed some favorite nouns. They are ‘end’, ‘mind’, ‘point’, ‘way’, ‘world’, and ‘word’. For example, the idiomatic expression *made up my mind*, in this expression the noun ‘mind’ is the main word and classified in subtype of particular words with special idiomatic uses (nouns with special idiomatic uses). The idiomatic expression is basically ‘to make up one’s mind’ (about something).

The last is miscellaneous words with particular idiomatic meanings. The words include ‘all’, ‘how’, ‘too’, ‘that’, ‘there’, ‘it as subject’, ‘it as object’, and ‘what’.

2.3.2 Idiom with Adjectives and Nouns in Combination.

Seidl and McMordie divided this category of idioms into five different combinations. The first combination is collective noun phrase. Several nouns are used idiomatically in order to describe collections of certain things, e.g. *a drove of cattle* and *a school of whales*.

The second combination is compound adjectives. Compound adjective means that two or more adjectives are given together and used with hyphen(-) among them. They are quite popular in colloquial English and in journalism. Some of the examples are *out-of-the-way* and *happy-go-lucky*. The next combination is adjective + noun phrase. These idiomatic phrases may cause problems for their users, especially because in fact that the meaning is not connected with the context, e.g. *a bad time* that means ‘a difficult experience’.

The fourth combination is noun phrase. These are idiomatic phrases that consist of two nouns and are connected by a preposition or a conjunction, e.g. *a*

cast in the eye, the life and soul, and a breath of fresh air. The last combination is proper names made up of an adjective and a noun. Proper names are with capital letters. The proper names are not only included geographical places or names of objects that have a special meaning in English. There are several examples of idiomatical proper names, such as *the Big Four* and *the Emerald Isle*.

2.3.3 Idiom with Verbs and Nouns that are Used Together.

Seidl and McMordie argued that there are two cases of using verbs and nouns that are used together. The first case is verb and noun collocations. Verbs are followed automatically by certain nouns. One verb can have a special meaning when followed by different nouns. For example, *to bear fruit* means ‘to produce fruit’ and for comparison, *to bear cold* means ‘to endure cold’. The other case is noun followed by verb collocations. In this group nouns are followed by verbs or verbal phrases in order to create an idiomatic construction, e.g. *a habit form grows/catches*.

2.3.4 Idiom with Prepositions.

Idioms in this section are divided into three types of prepositional phrases (McMordie and Seidl 1978). The types of prepositional phrases are:

2.3.4.1 Prepositions with Nouns or Noun Phrases.

Nouns or noun phrases are connected with prepositions such as ‘about’, ‘above’, ‘along’, ‘before’, ‘by’, ‘from’, ‘in’, ‘of’, ‘on’, ‘over’, ‘under’, ‘within’, etc. The several examples of idioms created by noun or noun phrases with prepositions are: *about six o'clock* with the meaning ‘approximately at 6 o'clock’ or *on no account* with the meaning ‘on no condition’.

2.3.4.2 Phrase Prepositions.

Phrase prepositions are phrases that have a structure preposition + (at/the) + noun + preposition, e.g. *to the satisfaction of* or *in the event of*. Some of these phrases are understandable and do not have to be explained but there are exceptions that must be explained carefully, e.g. *in the face of* or *on the face of*.

2.3.4.3 Particular Difficulties with Certain Prepositions.

It is necessary to distinguish between some prepositions, such as ‘in’ and ‘into’. Preposition ‘into’ usually express a change of condition or is used in the situations where motion or direction is expressed, while preposition ‘in’ express the place where something can be found. On the other hand, there are also phrases which have to be learnt by heart, e.g. *to fall in love*.

2.3.5 Idiomatic Pair.

This kind of idiom consists of five combinations. The five combinations are: pair of adjectives, pair of noun, pair of adverbs, pair of verbs, and identical pairs (McMordie and Seidl 1978).

The first combination is pairs of adjectives. Typical conjunctions that join together of two adjectives are ‘and’, ‘but’ and ‘or’, e.g. *great and small, drunk or sober, safe and sound*. Second is the idiom that consists of pairs of nouns. The pairs of nouns have usually a fixed order. The long usage of these combinations because it is impossible to change it, e.g. *Alpha and Omega, hand and foot, pins and needles, flesh and blood*.

The third combination is adverbial phrases. They are idiomatic phrases formed from two adverbs. The order of these two adverbs is fixed and it is

impossible to change their order, e.g. *far and near*, *down and down*, *up and down*, *in and out*. Next combination is pairs of verbs as in ‘sink or swim’, and the last combination is identical pairs as in ‘all in all’.

2.3.6 Verbs with Prepositions and Adverbial Particles.

According to Seidl and McMordie, there are six basic verb patterns. There are three types with transitive verbs: verbs that select an obligatory noun-phrase complement (Fromkin et al. 2003, 597) and the other three types for the intransitive verbs: verbs that must not have a direct object complement (Fromkin et al. 2003, 585). The six patterns are:

1. Intransitive + Particle (e.g. *slow down*).
2. Intransitive + Preposition (e.g. *go off someone/something*).
3. Intransitive + Particle + Preposition (e.g. *come up against someone/something*).
4. Transitive + Particle (e.g. *pack something in*, *pack in something*).
5. Transitive + Preposition (e.g. *put someone off something*).
6. Transitive + Particle + Preposition (e.g. *put someone up to something*).

This idiom can also be said as a phrasal verb idiom, e.g. *break up*, *go on*, *get out*, *settle down*, and *get up*. For example, the idiomatic expression *buckle up* is the type of verb with preposition and adverbial particles. It consists of verb ‘buckle’ and the adverbial particle ‘up’.

2.3.7 Idiom with the Verb ‘TO BE’.

In English, there are various phrases that are formed by the verb ‘to be’. The verb to be can also come into an idiomatic phrase. It can be followed by noun or

adjective phrases, or by prepositional phrases. There are two types of idioms with verb 'to be' stated by McMordie and Seidl (1978):

1. TO BE + noun or adjective phrases. e.g. *to be in a body* (verb followed by a noun), *to be the better* (verb is followed by and adjective).
2. TO BE + prepositional phrases. In this type, the verb to be is followed by prepositions such as 'at', 'in', 'off', 'on', 'up', 'under', etc. The usage of prepositions can be shown in *to be in good hands* or *to be on the road*.

For example, the idiomatic expression *be without wheels* is a type of idiom that consists with verb 'to be'. The type of this expression consisted by to be + prepositional phrase be + without. 'Be' as the to be and 'without wheels' as the prepositional phrase.

2.3.8 Idiom with Common Verbs.

This is the type of expression with verb that is common in idiomatic expression. Idiom can be centered around certain common verb, such as 'break', 'bring', 'come', 'do', 'get', 'fall', 'give', 'go', 'have' (got), 'keep', 'make', 'play', 'pull', 'set', 'turn', etc. For example, the idiom *stick to my gun*, the core word 'stick' is the common verb of idiom while the noun 'gun' is the idiomatic word.

2.3.9 Idiom with Less Common Verbs.

This is the opposite type of the previous one. This type uses less common verb in idiom. Idiom can be form by less common verbs as in *to burn the midnight oil*. For example, *hide your light under a bushel* is an idiomatic expression with

less common verb. The verb 'hide' is less common verb. In forming an idiom the verb 'hide' is rarely used and it is appeared in a certain context only.

2.3.10 Idiom from Special Situations and Categories.

Idioms based on special situations connected by the group of idioms with special situations or subject, such as banking, business, buying and selling, health, illness, death, motoring, politics and government, the stock exchange, telephoning, holidays and travel, work and industrial relation. It is important to understand the meaning of these idioms in order to know in which situation they can be used. Meanwhile, the idioms based on special categories are group of idioms that contain the names of animals, colors, numbers or size, parts of the body, and time. (McMordie and Seidl 1978)

For example, *put our heads together*, this is the type of idioms from special categories. The special category is parts of the body. The 'head' is the core of this type of idiom.

2.3.11 Idiom of Comparison

McMordie and Seidl stated that modern English uses several of short comparisons in order to make the language vivid and clear (1978, 233). There are two main types of comparison. The patterns of the idiom of comparison are using comparison 'as' or 'like'. First pattern is, as + adjective + as + (a/the) + noun. The examples of this pattern the idiomatic expression *as loose as a goose*. This is type of idiom comparisons with adjective. The pattern of this comparison is as + adjective (loose) + as + (a) + noun (goose).

The second pattern is, verb + like + (a/the) + noun. The examples of idiom of comparison using like are *to eat like a horse* and *to go like the wind*. There are also the additional type of comparison which is miscellaneous comparison, e.g. *to be like a bull in a china shop*. Seidl and McMordie claimed that there are difficulties to understand the structures at its best. First, there are usually showed two incompatible parts (an adjective with noun). Therefore, learning the structures of idiom should be done by heart. The other problem is several comparisons are easy to learn because they are used in typical situations. On the other hand, there are also idioms that cannot be used in particular situations. It is unavoidable to know which comparisons refer to people and which of them refer to things.

2.4 Functions of Idiomatic Expressions

Any kind of language is not always appropriate in all occasions. In case where a writer or a speaker uses idiomatic language, s/he usually focuses attention on his shared cultural beliefs with the members of his/her community, and the kind of audience his speech is directed to. In this respect, s/he knows that it is not at ease to deliver a message using figurative language, and to have the same effect on the target reader as it is in the SL. This is mainly because unawareness of the connotations of a given expression or phrase may cause serious problems for those people being addressed. Idioms are also different and each one has a specific context to occur in. Standard idioms for example, are suitable for formal situations, while slang and informal ones are used in normal situations. Native speakers of a language can easily know the different uses of idioms and avoid the

pitfalls of inappropriate ones. In case of non-native speakers, it will be better for them to learn idioms of the language the way they learn its other vocabularies, and try to master their appropriate contextual uses.

Idioms uses, however, are highly related to the functions they fulfill in discourse. Therefore, McCarthy and O'Dell (2010: 8) explain the functions of idiom. There are seven functions. Those are:

1. Idioms that are used for emphasize a statement.

For example: The singer's second album *sank like a stone*. The meaning of this idiom is failed completely. Thus, the idiom in this statement emphasizes the second album that failed in the industry.

2. Idioms are used to agree with a previous speaker.

A: Did you notice how Lisa started listening when you said her name?

B: Yes, that certainly made her *prick her ears up*.

The idiomatic expression above is used by speaker B to agree with the speaker A. The idiomatic meaning is to start listening carefully. Thus, speaker B agrees that Lisa is listening to B carefully.

3. Idioms are used to comment on people.

For example: Did you hear Tom has been invited for dinner with the prime minister? He's certainly *gone up in the world*. The idiomatic meaning of the expression above is gained a better social position – or more money - than before. The idiom used to comment on Tom who gained a better social position than before.

4. Idioms are used to comment on a situation.

For example: The new finance minister wants to *knock the economy into shape*. The idiomatic expression above is used to comment on the situation that the new finance minister will face. The idiomatic meaning is to take action to get something into a good condition. Therefore, the minister wants to make the financial condition to be good.

5. Idioms are used to make anecdote more interesting.

For example: It was just one disaster after another today, a sort of *domino effect*. The idiomatic expression above used to express when something, usually bad, happens and causes a series of other things to happen.

6. Idioms are used catch the reader's eye.

Idioms—particularly those with strong images are often used in headlines, advertising slogans and the names of small businesses. The writer may play with idiom or make a pun (a joke involving a play on words) in order to create a special effect, i.e. “a debt of dishonor” instead of the usual “debt of honor”. A debt that you owe someone for moral rather than financial reasons.

7. Idioms are used to indicate membership of particular group.

For example, “surfers drop in on someone”. The meaning is to get on a wave another surfer is already on.

2.5 *The Big Bang Theory* TV Series

The Big Bang Theory is an American situational comedy television series created by Chuck Lorre and Bill Prady, both as executive producers and also the

head writers. *The Big Bang Theory* TV series is produced by Warner Bros. Television and Chuck Lorre Productions. The TV series aired for the first time on September 24, 2007 on CBS channel. Since 2007 up till present, *The Big Bang Theory* already aired tenth season and 217 episodes. Similar with the title of the TV series, the titles of each episodes in *The Big Bang Theory* always start with “*The*” and then followed by a resemble names of scientific principle, theory of experiment, or referencing to a plot point or quirk that is stated in that episode, for the exception is the first episode entitled “*Pilot*”.

The show is centered on the five main characters that live in Pasadena, California. They are Leonard Hofstadter and Sheldon Cooper, physicists at Caltech who share an apartment room. Next is their neighbor who lives across the hall, Penny, a waitress and aspiring character who later becomes a pharmaceutical representative. The other two are their similar geeky and socially awkward friends and co-workers, Howard Wolowitz an aerospace engineer and Raj Koothrappali an astrophysicist. Along to the next season and episodes, the supporting characters have been promoted to starring the roles. There is Bernadette Rostenkowski, Howard’s wife and a microbiologist and former part-time waitress together with Penny; Amy Farrah Fowler the neuroscientist who later become Sheldon’s girlfriend; Stuart Bloom as the owner of the comic book store that the main characters often visit; Leslie Winkle as a physicist who dated Leonard and Howard; and Emily Sweeney as a dermatologist who dated Raj and had a fascination with macabre.

The 17 episodes of *The Big Bang Theory* that are used for the data is taken from Season 1 aired from 2007-2008. The total seventeen episodes are selected since the writer will analyze the idiomatic expressions, particularly based on Seidl and McMordie's eleven types of idioms. Meanwhile, the titles of the 17 episodes that are analyzed in this study are:

1. Pilot - Aired September 24, 2007.
2. The Big Bran Hypothesis - Aired October 1, 2007.
3. The Fuzzy Boots Corollary - Aired October 8, 2007.
4. The Luminous Fish Effect - Aired October 15, 2007.
5. The Hamburger Postulate - Aired October 22, 2007.
6. The Middle-Earth Paradigm - Aired October 29, 2007.
7. The Dumpling Paradox - Aired November 5, 2007.
8. The Grasshopper Experiment - Aired November 12, 2007.
9. The Cooper-Hofstadter Polarization - Aired March 17, 2008.
10. The Loobenfeld Decay - Aired March 24, 2008.
11. The Pancake Batter Anomaly - Aired March 31, 2008.
12. The Jerusalem Duality - Aired April 14, 2008.
13. The Bat Jar Conjecture - Aired April 21, 2008.
14. The Nerdvana Annihilation - Aired April 28, 2008.
15. The Pork Chop Indeterminacy - Aired May 5, 2008.
16. The Peanut Reaction - Aired May 12, 2008.
17. The Tangerine Factor - Aired May 19, 2008.

2.5 Theoretical Framework

In this study, the writer focuses on idiomatic expression, the meaning, and the functions of idiomatic expressions. The writer will analyze the types of idiomatic expressions occur in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series from Season 1 consists of 17 episodes. To analyze the dialogues that indicate idiomatic expression in this study, the writer will use the theory of eleven types of idiom categorization by Seidl & McMordie (1980) and to find out the functions of the idiom the writer will use the theory by McCarthy and O'Dell (2010).

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Method

The research design applied in this study is the qualitative research. Berg (2007) stated that qualitative research refers to the meanings, concepts, definitions, characteristics, metaphors, symbols and description of things. The writer uses descriptive-interpretative analytical method. Hence, this method was chosen because it was appropriate for analyzing and interpreting the idiomatic expression. The method is used to analyze the dialogues in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series that are indicating idiomatic expression. This study analyzes the identified data by using the categorization of idioms theory by Seidl and McMordie and the function of idioms by McCarthy and O'Dell.

3.2 Data and Data Source

The data source of this study is an American TV series entitled *The Big Bang Theory*. *The Big Bang Theory* is an American sitcom TV series created by Chuck Lorre and Bill Prady. This TV series has aired on CBS channel since September 24, 2007 until present time. The data of this study are dialogues in *The Big Bang Theory* from the first season—17 episodes—that contain idiomatic expression. The transcripts of this TV series support the analysis of dialogues in

The Big Bang Theory. The transcripts are downloaded from <https://bigbangtrans.wordpress.com>.

3.3 Data Collecting Procedures

For doing this research, the writer needs the data to be analyzed. In order to get the data needed for answering the research question, the writer does the following steps:

1. Watching the *The Big Bang Theory* TV series from episode 1-17 carefully and thoroughly for several times while checking to the transcriptions, in order to understand the whole content especially the idiomatic expressions.
2. Identifying the idiomatic expressions in the dialogues and put into the following table.
3. Checking and looking up the meaning of each idiomatic expression in either *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, *Cambridge Dictionary of American Idiom*, *Farflex Dictionary of Idioms*, or online source at www.idioms.thefreedictionary.com.

Table 1.1 Identification of Suspected Data (Idiomatic Expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series)

No.	Scenes	Idiomatic Expressions	Meaning
Episode Number			
1.			
2.			
3.			

3.4 Data Analyzing Procedures

After collecting the data needed, the writer analyzes data by conducting the following steps below:

1. Categorizing the types of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series by using the categorization of idioms theory by Seidl and McMordie, then putting into the table.
2. Counting the total types of idiomatic expressions.
3. Categorizing the functions of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series using the theory by McCarthy and O'Dell and then putting into the table.
4. Interpreting the meanings of identified idiomatic expression in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series and putting to the following table:

Table 1.1 Idiomatic Expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV Series

No.	Scenes	Idiomatic Expressions	Meaning	Types of Idiom	Functions of Idiom	Interpretation
Episode Number						
1.						
2.						
3.						

5. Drawing the conclusion.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Findings

This study analyzes the types and functions of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series from the first season consists of 17 episodes. Based on the analysis using the theory of eleven types of idioms by Seidl and McMordie, all types exist in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. The total types of idiomatic expressions found are provided in the following table:

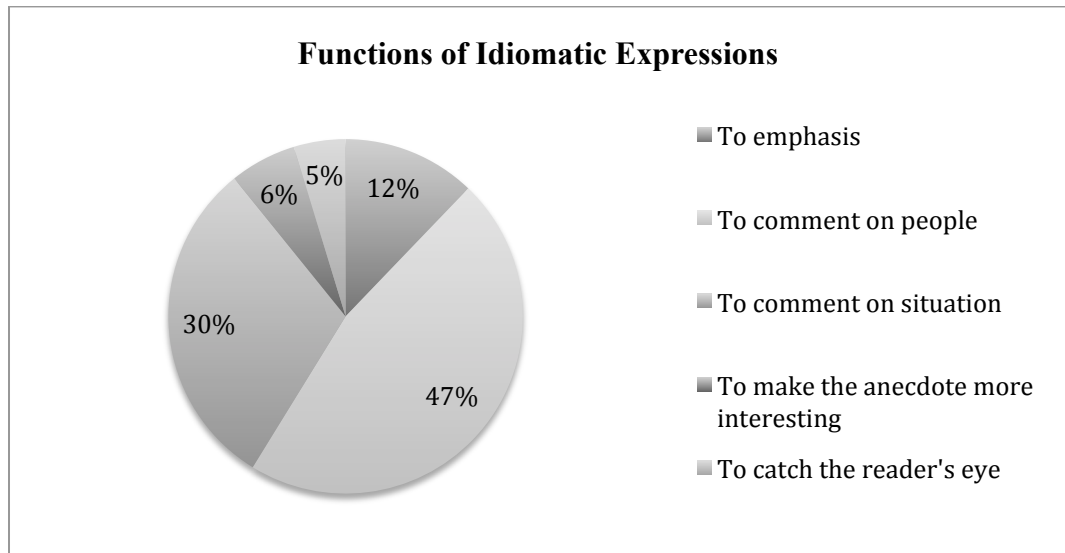
Table 4.1 Total number of Idiomatic Expressions in *The Big Bang Theory*

No	Types of Idiomatic Expression	Frequency
1.	Particular Words with Special Idiomatic Uses	12
2.	Idiom with Adjectives and Nouns in Combination	21
3.	Idiom with Verbs and Nouns that are Used Together	2
4.	Idiom with Prepositions	11
5.	Idiomatic Pair	1
6.	Verbs with Prepositions and Adverbial Particles	47
7.	Idiom with the Verb 'TO BE'	2
8.	Idiom with Common Verbs	28
9.	Idiom with Less Common Verbs	5
10.	Idiom from Special Situations and Categories	18
11.	Idiom of Comparison	1
Total		148

The table above presents the total number of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series from the 17 episodes. The total 148 idiomatic expressions are 47 verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles, 28 idioms with common verbs, 21 idioms with adjectives and nouns in combination, 18 idioms from special situations and categories, 12 particular words with special idiomatic uses, 11 idioms with prepositions, 5 idioms with less common verbs, 2 idioms with verbs and nouns that are used together, 2 idioms with the verb 'to be', 1 idiomatic pair, and 1 idiom of comparison. Verbs with preposition and adverbial particle is the greatest number of total, while the idiomatic pair and idiom of comparison are the least type of idiomatic expression in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series.

Besides that, this study also reveal the functions of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. The theory uses to analyze the functions of idiom is from McCarthy and O'Dell. McCarthy and O'Dell stated there are 7 functions of idioms. But in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series, there are only 5 functions of idiomatic expressions. The five functions can be seen in the following chart:

Chart 4.2 Percentages of The Functions of Idiomatic Expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV Series



From the table and chart above, it can be seen that in *The Big Bang Theory*, there are 148 idiomatic expressions. There are five functions of 148 idiomatic expressions. The percentage of the functions of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* are 47% to comment on people, 30% to comment on situation, 12% to emphasis a statement, 6% to make the anecdote more interesting, 5% to catch the reader's eye.

4.2 Discussions

4.2.1 Types of Idiomatic Expression in *The Bidg Bang Theory* TV Series

Seidl and McMordie (1980) classify idioms into eleven types; particular words with special idiomatic uses; idiom with adjectives and nouns in combination; idiom with verbs and nouns that are used together; idiom with prepositions; idiomatic pairs; verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles;

idiom with the verb ‘to be’; idiom with common verbs; idiom with less common verbs; idiom from special situations and categories; and idiom of comparison. This study identifies the eleven types of idiomatic expressions exist in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series from Season 1 consisting of 17 episodes.

4.2.1.1 Particular Words with Special Idiomatic Uses

The first type of idiomatic expression proposed by Seidl and McMordie’s theory is particular words with special idiomatic uses. Particular words with special idiomatic uses are divided into three groups of words. They are adjectives, nouns, and miscellaneous with special idiomatic uses. There are 12 particular words with special idiomatic uses in *The Big Bang Theory*. In this type, the second group of words: nouns, is the most frequent particular words with special idiomatic uses. Some examples of nouns with special idiomatic uses are *mind*, *way*, *end*, etc. Thus, the discussion starts as below.

4.2.1.1.1 Particular Adjectives and Adverbs with Special Idiomatic Uses.

There is only one idiomatic expression found in this type. The idiomatic expression found in episode 6. See the following examples.

(1) Penny: **As usual**, I’m not following.

Idiom *as usual* in the example (1) is the only particular adjective and adverb with special idiomatic uses found in *The Big Bang Theory*. The adjective ‘as’ and adverb ‘usual’ has special idiomatic uses. Penny is saying this idiomatic expression to the boys (Leonard, Howard, Raj, and Sheldon) while they meet in the hallway of the apartment.

The idiomatic meaning of this idiom is in the ordinary or expected way. As in this episode or the previous episodes, the nerd boys always speak in a difficult scientific or geeky words until Penny can never understand what they are trying to say. When Penny invites them to the Halloween party, they are asking about the theme of the costume, whether it is costumes random or genre specific costumes. That question makes her confused. Thus, Penny is saying the idiom *as usual* to prove that she expectedly does not understand what are the nerd boy characters trying to say to her just like in the previous or next episodes. She often does not know what her nerdy neighbors are talking about and is not really interested in learning about it either.

4.2.1.1.2 Particular Nouns with Special Idiomatic Uses.

As mentioned above, the second group “particular nouns with special idiomatic uses” mostly occurs in this type. The particular nouns exist such as ‘line’, ‘way’, ‘end’, and ‘mind’. There are 8 particular nouns with special idiomatic uses found in *The Big Bang Theory*. They are *crosses a line*, *by the way*, *no end*, *out of your mind*, *take the wrong way*, *a dead end*, *my minds is made up*, and *change their mind*. The most particular noun with special idiomatic uses is the noun ‘mind’.

(2) Sheldon: You don’t think that **crosses a line**?

Being found in the episode 2, the above expression used the noun ‘line’ for the idiomatic expression *crosses a line*. The noun ‘line’ in this expression refers to someone’s private life that is Penny’s private life. Idiomatically, if someone crosses a line, they start behaving in a way that is not socially acceptable.

The form of this expression is regular. The meaning is not clear because maybe it interpreted as someone who just crosses a line. Meanwhile, the lexical meaning of noun 'line' is a long, narrow mark or band. Lexically, the expression means someone that crosses a mark. In this episode, Leonard cynically tells Sheldon to clean Penny's carpet tonight because he was tidying up her room last night. Innocently without knowing the sarcasm, Sheldon asks him if that action is acceptable for Penny. Sheldon is still not realizes that his action last night by cleaning up Penny's room in the middle of the night while she was sleeping and the plan to shampoo her carpet are *crosses her line* that is not acceptable in a society. This is one of Sheldon's nerdy characteristics; he is obsessed with order and cleanliness. He cannot stand seeing Penny's messy apartment. Thus, he also cannot read the sarcasm that Leonard told to him.

(3) Leonard: **By the way**, if it should ever come up, you didn't join us because you stuffed yourself with a chicken carbonara sub at Quiznos.

The idiomatic expression *by the way* is found in episode 3. The noun 'the way' has special idiomatic uses. The noun 'way' used before introducing a comment of Leonard.

The idiom *by the way* used to introduce a comment or question that is not directly related to what you have been talking about. Leonard uses the idiom *by the way* before he offers Sheldon a reason to give to Penny if she asked him why he does not join the dinner. The suggestion does not relate to the previous conversation they had, which is Leonard was asking Sheldon to call Penny to

cancel the dinner date because he was nervous. Thus, Leonard uses the idiom *by the way* before he suggests a reason to Sheldon. Leonard is getting nervous before he had a dinner with Penny because he never go out with a girl like Penny before.

(4) Mrs. Cooper: Well, that's what he called it. Didn't even slow down the neighbor kids. It pissed our dog off to **no end**.

Being found in episode 4, the idiomatic expression *no end* is a particular noun 'end' with special idiomatic uses.

The idiomatic meaning of *no end* is very much. It has nothing to do with something that already end or finish. But, Mrs. Cooper says that expression to tell a story of Sheldon's childhood, when he used to make an experiment that pissed his dog very much because of the sound it made. Mrs. Cooper's story shows that Sheldon was already doing a research since he was a kid. It is shown that Sheldon is already being a nerd since he was a kid.

(5) Sheldon: Are you insane? Are you **out of your mind**? Are you...? Hey look. That fixes the problem I've been having.

This expression uses the noun 'mind' for the idiomatic expression *out of mind*. The noun 'mind' is the main word and classified in a particular noun 'mind' with special idiomatic uses. The noun 'mind' refers to Leonard's mind.

The form is regular but the meaning is not clear because no one knows that it means about someone who become crazy or rational before it has been learnt as an idiom. The idiomatic meaning of *out of mind* means that someone become crazy or irrational. Sheldon realizes that his board that filled with equation had already changed in the next morning. Leslie changed it because she was sleeping

with Leonard. Leonard thinks that Leslie already solved his problem. But Sheldon is already mad at Leslie and tells Leonard that he is irrational, because he does not think Leslie can solve it. One of Sheldon's nerdy characteristics is that he is very convinced of his own self and never misses an opportunity to show people around him that he feels intellectually superior to them. That is why he does not believe that Leslie can solve his equation.

4.2.1.1.3 Particular Miscellaneous with Special Idiomatic Uses.

The third group, particular miscellaneous with special idiomatic uses found in episode 2: *what the hell* and *all over the place* and in episode 17: *at all* in *The Big Bang Theory*. There are 3 particular miscellaneous with special idiomatic uses in *The Big Bang Theory*.

(6) Sheldon: Boy, you are **all over the place** this morning.

Being found in episode 2, the idiomatic *all over the place* is a miscellaneous 'all' with special idiomatic uses.

Lexically, the expression means about someone who has been visited many place this morning. But, the place here idiomatically refers to someone's representation of sentences. The idiomatic meaning of this expression is about someone who is not well organized or completely wrong. In this scene, Sheldon always misinterprets everyone's especially Leonard's sentence this morning. Sheldon is unable to recognize the emotions of other people and has great trouble in understanding irony and sarcasm, which is why he is also perceived as being affected by Asperger's Syndrome. This nerdy characteristic is proven in this scene that he cannot understand Leonard and Penny's sarcasm.

4.2.1.2 Idiom with Adjective and Nouns in Combination

Seidl and McMordie divided this category of idioms into five combinations. They are collective noun phrase, compound adjective, adjective and noun phrase, noun phrase, and proper names. In *The Big Bang Theory*, the writer does not find compound adjective and proper names collection. There are only 21 idiomatic expressions consisting with collective noun phrase, adjective and noun phrase, and noun phrase.

4.2.1.2.1 Collective Noun Phrase.

The first combination found is collective noun phrase where several nouns are used idiomatically. The collective noun phrase found in *The Big Bang Theory* are *mum's the word*, *gold digger*, and *chick magnet*. See the following example:

(7) Howard's mother: He's not a man. He's a putz! And don't you take that
tone with me, you **gold digger**!

The type of this expression is collective noun phrase. The two nouns, 'gold' and 'digger' are combined to make an idiomatic meaning.

Lexically, it means someone who digs a soil to find gold. In episode 7, Howard's mother is quarrelling with Christy. The collective noun phrase *gold digger* represents a person who only pursues romantic relationships with wealthy partners for financial gain. In this scene, Howard's mother pictures Christy as a *gold digger* for Howard because she only wants Howard's money to go shopping and Howard's house to live in.

4.2.1.2.2 Adjective and Noun Phrase.

The most combination found of this type is adjective plus noun phrase combination. There are eleven idioms found in this collection.

(8) Howard: Stealing snail mail—very **old school**. I like it

The type of the idiom *old school* is adjective plus noun phrase. The adjective ‘old’ and noun ‘school’ has idiomatic meaning when they combined together.

The idiomatic expression here is found in episode 3, when Howard says it to Leonard. Lexically, it means about a building (school) that already old. But the idiomatic meaning is not related to any building. The idiomatic expression *old school* shows Leonard’s behavior that still stealing Penny’s mail from the mailman, so he can get a chance to talk to Penny while giving it to her. The meaning of this expression is an old-fashioned person who likes to do things as they were done in the past. In this scene, Howard thinks that Leonard’s behavior is so old-fashioned because nowadays people would not do it anymore. This shows that Leonard is lacking of conversational skills. Even though he can talk to Penny but he does not know how to start, that is why he steals Penny’s mail in order to have a conversation with her.

(9) Missy: Oh, hi, **cutie pie**. I was hoping you’d show up.

The type of the idiomatic expression above is adjective ‘cutie’ with the noun ‘pie’. This idiomatic expression found in episode 15.

Lexically, pie is an American food. In this expression, the word pie refers to Raj. Raj is being compared as a pie that most American people like. It does not

mean that Raj is looked like a pie. Idiomatically, *cutie pie* means a very cute, sweet, or darling person. In this scene, Missy is saying that Raj is such a cutie pie. She says that because Raj is not talk much to women that's what makes him interesting. Raj is also the nerd character that does not have conversational skills. He cannot talk to woman he only talk to his friends (Leonard, Sheldon, and Howard).

4.2.1.2.3 Noun Phrase.

The last combination of this type is noun phrase. The noun phrase combination is an idiomatic phrase that consists of two nouns and connected by a preposition or conjunction. The idiomatic expressions found in *The Big Bang Theory* are *son of a bitch*, *penny for your thought*, *turn of events*, *train of thought*, *a tale of woe*, and *man of the hour*.

(10) Sheldon: Penny for your thought.

Being found in episode 3, the type of idiomatic expression above is noun phrase. This type consists of two nouns, 'penny' and 'your thought' and connected by preposition 'for'.

The noun penny here is related to Penny. Sheldon says this expression to ask about Leonard condition. Idiomatically, it something that someone say in order to ask other who is being very quiet what they are thinking about. In this scene, Sheldon sees Leonard enters the apartment with the sad face and he just quietly sit in the couch without talking anything. Sheldon instantly said the idiom *penny for your thought* to him. Sheldon uses this idiomatic expression to Leonard because he knows that Leonard is worried about Penny.

(11) Gablehauser: There's **the man of the hour**.

The type of this expression is noun phrase. It consists of two nouns 'the man' and 'the hour' connected by preposition 'of'.

The idiomatic meaning is a person currently being celebrated, honored, especially for a recent victory, accomplishment, or other cause of celebration. In this scene, the man of the hour refers to Dennis Kim. He is a person that being celebrated because he just join the University. Gablehauser wish to have him in the University comes true. That is why there is a party celebration to welcome him.

4.2.1.3 Idiom with Verbs and Nouns that are Used Together

Seidl and McMordie (1980) stated that there are two cases using verbs and nouns that are used together. The first case is verb followed by noun collocations. The other case is noun followed by verb collocations. There are two idioms of noun followed by verb collocations found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. They are *earth didn't move* and *hell freezes over*. The examples are explained below:

4.2.1.3.1 Noun Followed by Verb Collocations.

(12) Leonard: Oh, we tried kissing, but the **Earth didn't move**. I mean any more than the 383 miles that it was gonna move anyway.

The type of the expression above is noun followed by verb collocation. The noun 'earth' followed by verb 'didn't move' found in episode 3.

Lexically, it means that the Earth already stopped spinning. But the idiomatic meaning does not related to that. The idiomatic meaning of the expression *earth didn't move* is about someone who describe a bad sexual experience. In this scene, Leonard portrays his kissing experience with Leslie as a bad sexual experience. He was humiliated because Leslie does not feel anything after they were kissing.

The other example is found in episode 16. When Penny and the other boys are planning to make Leonard a birthday surprise party.

(13) Penny: Howard, here's the difference. The possibility exists that Leonard could have a birthday party before **hell freezes over**.

The type of the expression above is also noun followed by verb collocation. The noun 'hell' is followed by verb collocation 'freezes over' to create an idiomatic meaning.

Lexically, it means that the fire in hell already freeze and cold. The idiomatic meaning is never or at no time. It can be seen that the idiomatic meaning is 'never' because hell is a place that full with fire, so it will be impossible for hell to be freeze. Penny thinks that they should make Leonard a birthday party because she thinks that Leonard will never have a birthday party in his life if they do not make it.

4.2.1.4 Idiom with Prepositions

According to Seidl and McMordie, idioms with prepositions are divided into three types of prepositional phrases. They are prepositions with nouns or

noun phrases, phrase prepositions, and particular difficulties with certain prepositions. There are 11 idiomatic expressions found in *The Big Bang Theory*. But there are no particular difficulties with certain prepositions found in this analysis.

4.2.1.4.1 Preposition with nouns or noun phrases.

The first type of idiom with preposition is preposition with noun or noun phrase. In this type, noun or noun phrase are connected with preposition, and the prepositions that found in this type are ‘at’, ‘on’, ‘beyond’, and ‘out’. In episode 1 and 2 there are *at least* and *out of my league* idioms, while in episode 2 an idiom *at length* is found. And in episode 7 there is idiom *on fire* and in episode 17 there is *beyond repair*.

For example, in episode 7, Leonard says something to Penny while they are playing *Halo* game together with Raj and Sheldon.

(14) Leonard: Penny, you are **on fire!**

The type of the idiom that occurs above is preposition with the noun. The preposition ‘on’ is used as a single unit with the noun ‘fire’. Leonard compliments Penny by using this idiomatic expression.

The idiomatic expression *on fire* does not mean that Penny is burning in fire. Idiomatically, it means that someone is doing very well. In this scene, idiomatic expression *on fire* portrays Penny’s spirit and her ability to play *Halo* game. Leonard does not know that Penny is doing very well at playing this game as she beats Sheldon. So, he expresses her feeling towards Penny’s ability with idiom *on fire*.

4.2.1.4.2 Phrase preposition.

The second type of idiom with preposition found in the analysis is phrase preposition. The phrase prepositions are phrases that have a structure: preposition + (at/the) + noun + preposition. The several idiomatic expression found in *The Big Bang Theory* are *on the back burner*, *in the meantime*, *down to the bedrock*, *outside the box*, *in the first place*, and *for the record*.

For example, in episode 7 Howard says to Leonard, Sheldon, Raj, and Penny about Christy's problem.

(15) Howard: Let me offer a little **outside the box** thinking here. Why doesn't Christy stay with me?

The idiom *outside of the box* is also a kind of idiom with preposition. The structure of this idiom is preposition (outside) + (the) + noun (box).

Lexically, the expression means someone who is outside a box. The actual meaning of noun 'box' is a square or rectangular container and having a lid. But the idiomatic meaning of this expression is different from the actual meaning. The noun 'box' here represents someone's brain or usual thought. The idiomatic expression *outside the box* used to say something outside or beyond what is considered usual, traditional, or conventional. In this case, Howard uses this expression to suggest to others about where Christy can stay tonight. He suggests Christy to stay at his home. It is beyond everyone's expectation because Howard and Christy are just met also Howard is still living with his mother.

4.2.1.5 Idiomatic Pair

McMordie and Seidl stated that there are five combinations in idiomatic pairs. They are pair of adjective, pairs of nouns, pair of adverbs, pair of verbs, and identical pairs. In *The Big Bang Theory* TV series, there is only one idiomatic pair found in episode 16 when Sheldon speaks to Penny.

4.2.1.5.1 Identical Pair

(16) Sheldon: **Year after year**, I had to endure wearing conical hats while being forced into the crowded sweaty hell of bouncy castles. Not to mention being blindfolded and spun towards a grotesque tailless donkey as the other children mocked my disorientation.

The type of this expression is idiomatic pair specifically it belongs to the identical pair. The noun 'year' used identically and separated by the preposition 'after'.

The association of the noun 'year' is quite explaining the idiomatic meaning. The identical pair *year after year* means something that done repeatedly for several years. In this case, Sheldon is telling his childhood birthday story to Penny. Sheldon tells her that he used to be forced to celebrate his birthday for several years. Even though Penny thinks that it is normal to have a birthday celebration for a child, he still does not like it.

4.2.1.6 Verbs with Prepositions and Adverbial Particles

Seidl and McMordie (1980) stated that there are six basic verb patterns of this type. They are divided into three patterns with intransitive verbs and the other three with transitive verbs. This type of idiomatic expression is the most dominant types found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. There are 47 idiomatic expressions consisting with prepositions and adverbial particles in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. See the following examples:

(17) Receptionist: **Hang on.**

Being found in the first episode, type of expression *hang on* is verb with preposition and adverbial particles. It consists of the verb ‘hang’ and adverbial particles ‘on’.

The idiomatic expression *hang on* occur in command form to ask someone to wait. The concept of idiomatic meaning is taken from the word (hang). In this context, the receptionist of the high-IQ sperm bank is telling Leonard and Sheldon to wait. She asks them to wait because she still filling her crossword puzzle.

(18) Leonard: Are you insane? You can't just **break into** a woman's apartment in the middle of the night and clean.

In the episode 2, there is an idiomatic expression *break into*. This type of expression is verb with preposition and adverbial particle. The form of this expression is verb ‘break’ and the preposition ‘into’.

Leonard is mad at Sheldon. They are arguing inside Penny's apartment in the middle of the night. The idiomatic meaning of this expression is entering a room by using force and breaking a lock or window. In this scene, Sheldon is the

one who entering Penny's room by force without she knows while she is still sleeping. Sheldon is having her apartment key so he can sneak in to her apartment in the middle of the night and tidying up.

(19) Leonard: You're lucky I didn't **run** you **over**.

The idiomatic expression above found in episode 9. The type is verb with preposition and adverbial particle. The verb 'run' combined with adverbial particle 'over' to make an idiomatic meaning.

Leonard is speaking to Sheldon in their apartment after the Physics Bowl competition. Sheldon is already in apartment and he complained to Leonard because he does not go home with him. Idiomatically, the idiomatic expression above means to drive over someone or something with vehicle. In this scene, Leonard tells Sheldon that he is lucky he did not go home with Leonard's car. Leonard is mad because of Sheldon's attitude in the Physics Bowl.

(20) Gablehauser: Gentlemen, I'd like you to meet Dennis Kim. Dennis is a highly **sought after** Doctoral candidate and we're hoping to his graduate work here.

The type of idiom *sought after* is verb with preposition and adverbial particle. It consists with the verb 'sought' and adverbial particle 'after'. Gablehauser says this idiom to Leonard and Sheldon.

In episode 12, Gablehauser introduces Leonard and Sheldon to Dennis Kim. He asks them for help. The idiomatic meaning is a very popular and in demand. This expression uses the past participle of seek in the sense of desired or searched

for. The one who is being very popular is Dennis Kim, and Gablehauser really desired to want him to join in the University.

(21) Penny: Oh, honey, is your medication **wearing off**?

Being found in episode 15, the type of idiomatic expression above is verb 'wearing' with adverbial particle 'off'. Penny says this expression to Raj in front of her apartment.

When Raj arrives in front of Penny's apartment, he cannot speak clearly. It feels like his tongue is stuck. Penny realizes his weirdness. Before that, Penny knew that Raj is taking up medicine so he can speak to woman. But now he cannot speak to woman anymore. The idiomatic meaning of this expression is to lose effectiveness. In this scene, the medication that Raj take is diminishes gradually. Thus, he cannot speak to Penny or Christy. Then, he goes back to Leonard's apartment.

4.2.1.7 Idiom with the Verb 'TO BE'

There are two types of idiom with the verb 'to be' as stated by McMordie and Seidl. The first type is 'to be' followed by noun or adjective phrases. The second type is 'to be' followed by prepositional phrases. In *The Big Bang Theory*, the writer finds two idiomatic expressions with the verb 'to be'. The first idiomatic expression *being so bold* is 'to be' followed by adjective phrase while the second idiomatic expression *are in for a treat* is 'to be' followed by prepositional phrase. Howard is the speaker of both idioms found.

(22) Howard: Excuse me for **being so bold**, but I now see where Sheldon gets his smoldering good looks.

The first idiom *being so bold* occurs when Howard flirts Mrs. Cooper in episode 4. The idiomatic expression is *being so bold*. This is idiom with the verb 'to be' 'being' and followed by adjective preposition 'so bold'.

The idiomatic meaning of this expression is to dare to do something. The adjective 'bold' refers to Howard's attitude as a womanizer who always with every woman. In this scene, Howard dares to flirt on Mrs. Cooper, Sheldon's mother. Howard as a womanizer does not care if he flirts her closest friend's mother.

(23) Howard: Then you **are in for a treat**. Behold, an ordinary cane.

The second example of idiom with the verb 'to be' is found in episode 15. This type of idiom formed with the verb 'to be' followed by prepositional phrases, to be (are) + prepositional phrases (in for a treat).

The idiomatic meaning of this expression is to be guaranteed to receive something unexpectedly pleasant or beneficial. The prepositional in for a treat refers to someone who will receive something unexpectedly. The one who will receive the experience is Missy. It can be seen in this scene, Howard asks Missy out in a romantic way by doing magic and showing a paper that says "Will you go out with me?"

4.2.1.8 Idiom with Common Verb

This is the type of expression with verb that is common in idiomatic expression. The verbs used in this type are commonly found in idiomatic expression. There are 28 idioms with common verbs in *The Big Bang Theory*. The common verbs that are found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series such as make, get, fell, kick, go, take, drop, love, have, put, hold, think, come, beat, throw, take, and give.

(24) Leonard: Okay, well, **make yourself at home**.

The type of the expression above is idiom with common verb. The core word is the verb 'make'. The verb 'make' is commonly found in idiomatic expression. In this context, the common verb 'make' combined with the noun 'yourself' and preposition 'at home' to make an idiomatic meaning.

The idiomatic meaning of *make yourself at home* is to act as though one were in one's own home and feels comfortable and relax. The noun 'home' here represents other person's home. The idiomatic expression *make yourself at home* occurs in the first episode when Leonard and Sheldon invite Penny to their apartment. This idiomatic expression usually uses by the owner of the place to someone who visit for the first time. In this case, Penny visits their apartment for the first time. Leonard uses the idiomatic expression to make Penny comfortable with the place and also with them.

(25) Leonard: I know what you're thinking. I've **taken** your asthma **into account**. There's a feline geneticist in San Diego who has developed the cutest little hypoallergenic calicos.

This type of expression is also an idiom with common verb. The common verb here is 'taken'. The preposition 'into account' here is the idiomatic words. The idiomatic expression *taken into account* found in episode 3, when Leonard is planning to adopt a cat.

The actual meaning of the expression has nothing related with the idiomatic meaning. The idiomatic expression *taken into account* above means to consider particular fact, circumstances, etc., especially when someone is making a decision about something. In this scene, the particular circumstance that should be considered is about Sheldon's asthma. Leonard is planning to get a cat but Sheldon is having asthma. But before making a decision about adopting a cat, Leonard is already considered Sheldon's asthma that is why he adopts a kitten that hypoallergenic calico.

(26) Penny: So you **got canned**, huh?

The type of the expression *got canned* is idiom with common verb. The common verb 'get' is the core word. The word 'canned' is the idiomatic word. Penny says this idiomatic expression in episode 4, when she is with Sheldon in a car.

Lexically, can means. But in this expression, *got canned* means someone dismissed or ousted from employment. In this scene, Sheldon is fired from his job in University because he was insulting Dr. Gablehauser. Instead of saying "So you got fired, huh?" Penny is using the idiomatic expression *got canned* to ask about it. There is no indication that Sheldon got a can or tin. It just shows that he is fired from his job.

(27) Sheldon: I let you think we went alphabetically to spare you the humiliation of dealing with the fact that it was my idea. Not to put too fine a point on it, but I was **throwing you a bone**. You're welcome.

The expression above is idiom with common verb. The verb 'throw' is a common verb found in idiomatic expression. The core word is the common verb 'throwing' while the idiomatic word is 'a bone'.

Lexically, the expression means about throwing a thing to someone that is a bone. The word 'bone' does not mean about the pieces of hard in the skeleton of humans. The idiomatic meaning of *throwing a bone* is to provide someone with a usually small part of what has been requested, especially in an attempt to placate. The concept here is taken from the word 'throw' and 'bone'. The feeling towards the expression and the context of the sentence make the change of lexical meaning to be idiomatic. In this scene, Leonard and Sheldon are arguing about their research. The idiomatic word 'bone' here refers to the placing of Leonard's name that comes first in every research he done with Sheldon. Sheldon put the name alphabetically because he does not want to hurt Leonard feeling to the fact that all research is Sheldon's ideas.

4.2.1.9 Idiom with Less Common Verb

This type of idiomatic expression is the opposite of the previous type. This type uses less common verb idiom. The verbs used in this expression are rarely used and only appeared in certain context only. The idiom with less common

verbs that found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series are *pin her hopes*, *carved in stone*, *rule with an iron fist*, *cop a feel*, *paints the picture*. The examples of idiom with less common verb are explained below.

(28) Sheldon: I know. And I do yearn for faster downloads, but there's some poor woman is going to **pin her hopes** on my sperm. What if she winds up with a toddler who doesn't know if he should use an integral or a differential to solve the area under a curve?

Found in episode 1, Sheldon is talking to Leonard at the high-IQ sperm bank. The expression *pin her hopes* is kind of idiom with less common verb. The less common verb is 'pin'. In forming an idiom, the verb 'pin' is rarely used and it is appeared in a certain context only.

In this scene, Leonard and Sheldon are at high IQ-sperm bank. They are about to donate their sperm. But Sheldon is getting argued about this even though he thinks that there are women who *pin her hopes* on him. The idiomatic expression *pin her hopes* means to rely on someone completely for success result. Sheldon thinks that there are women out there who come to high-IQ sperm bank and rely on him to get a genius child from his sperm but he is afraid he cannot make one like that. Thus, he asks Leonard to cancel their plan.

(29) Leonard: Cause it's not **carved in stone**.

The other less common verb found in episode 3, is the verb 'carved'. The verb 'carved' is rarely used in idiomatic expressions. Leonard says this idiom when he is speaking with Penny.

He says this idiomatic expression to make a dinner date arrangement with Penny. The idiomatic meaning of this expression is permanent or not subject to change. In this scene, Leonard says the idiom *carved in stone* figuratively to show her that the time is already carved in stone so it cannot be changed again. Thus, they agreed to have a dinner date at 6:30 pm.

(30) Sheldon: Hey look, now maybe you have democracy now in your beloved Russia, but on this physics bowl team I **rule with an iron fist**.

Found in episode 13, the type of expression above is idiom with less common verb, 'rule'. The verb 'rule' is also rare in idiomatic expression and appears in certain context only. Sheldon says this idiom in the Physics Bowl tournament.

Before knowing the idiomatic meaning, it can be seen from the meaning of the word 'iron'. The meaning of 'iron' is a strong and hard magnetic that usually used for construction. Thus, the idiomatic meaning of idiom *rule with an iron fist* is to rule in a very stern manner. At the Physics Bowl competition, Sheldon does not let the janitor—his group mate to answer the questions because he does not believe on others answers. He says that he is the ruler of the team and he rules in a very stern manner. Thus, it means that he is the one who decided the final answers to give.

(31) Howard: Good idea. Sit with her, hold her, comfort her, and if the moment feels right, see if you can **cop a feel**.

Found in episode 17, the idiom *cop a feel* belong to the type of idiom with less common verb. The less common verb is ‘cop’. The verb ‘cop’ is rarely used in idiomatic expression, usually the less common verb ‘cop’ appeared with nouns to make idiomatic meaning.

In this episode, Howards tells his naught mind to Leonard who will comfort Penny. Penny has just been broken up because of her ex-boyfriend. The idiomatic meaning of this expression is to touch someone’s body without their permission in order to get sexual excitement. Thus, Howard suggests Leonard to comfort Penny by sitting with her, holding her hand, and when the time is right he can secretly touch her body maybe by hugging her to get sexual excitement.

(32) Leonard: Okay, well, you know, this isn’t that bad. It just **paints the picture** of a very affectionate woman who’s open to expressing her affection in non-traditional locales.

While in episode 17, the writer found the other idiom with less common verb, *paints the picture*. The verb ‘paints’ is also rarely used in idiomatic expression. Leonard says this idiomatic expression to Penny.

He says it to make Penny calm in this situation. Penny is angry to her ex-boyfriend who posts their sexual stories in his blog. The idiomatic expression *paints the picture* used to describe a situation in a particular way. Thus, Leonard makes Penny calm by saying that the figure of her in her ex-boyfriend’s blog only

describes herself as a very affectionate woman. He tells Penny not be worry about it. Leonard's words make her feel better.

4.2.1.10 Idiom from Special Situations and Categories

This type of idiom is categorized based on special situations and categories. The special situations are politics, health, motoring, etc. Meanwhile, the idioms based on special categories are group of idioms that contain the names of animals, colors, parts of the body, etc. In this analysis, the writer only finds idiom from special categories. There is no idiom from special situations. There are 18 idiomatic expressions from special categories in *The Big Bang Theory*. The special categories are time, part of body, animal, day, and number. The most frequent special category is part of body.

4.2.1.10.1 Idiom from Special Categories: Time

The first special category found is idiom from special category 'time'. Idioms from special category including 'time' in *The Big Bang Theory* are *take your time, all the time, at a time*.

(33) Receptionist: Oh, **take your time**. I'll just finish my crossword puzzle.

For example, in episode 1, the receptionist in the high-IQ sperm bank tells Leonard and Sheldon to *take your time*. The type of this expression is idiom from special category, 'time'. The word time here has an idiomatic meaning.

This idiomatic expression is made up by the concept of the words 'take' and 'time'. They become the clue to get the idiomatic meaning. The special category 'time' indicates someone to use as much time as needed without hurrying. While

the word ‘take’ means to carry or bring with one. In this scene, the receptionist is busy with the crossword puzzle. After she gives Leonard and Sheldon the registration paper, she tells them to not hurry to fill it because she will be busy finishing the crossword. Thus, *take your time* means they can use all of their time to fill the registration paper because there is no time limit. They do not need to be hurry to fill it.

4.2.1.10.2 Idiom from Special Categories: Part of Bodies

The second special category is ‘part of bodies’, the most frequent special category found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. There are ten idiomatic expressions from special category, ‘part of bodies’. They are *rip our eyes out*, *keep an eye*, *get out of your hair*, *on the other hand*, *got her eye on you*, *gotten on the wrong foot*, *face to face*, *blow up my head*, *break a leg*, *give a hand*. See the following explanation:

(34) Sheldon: Uh, I’m not sure. Everyone **keeps an eye on Howard** in case he starts to swell up.

In the example above, the special category: part of body ‘eye’ used in episode 2. Leonard says this idiom to Sheldon and Raj when they are going to eat Thai food. The special category ‘eye’ has an idiomatic meaning.

The meaning of idiomatic expression ‘keeps an eye on Howard’ is related with the function of eye. The function of part of body ‘eye’ is to see everything in this world, while the idiomatic meaning is to take care of someone closely and make sure that they are not harmed, damaged, etc. In this scene, Leonard forgot if the Thai food is made from peanut oil or not. Howard is allergic to peanut.

Therefore, he tells Sheldon and Raj to watch Howard closely in case he starts to swell up.

4.2.1.10.3 Idiom from Special Categories: Animal

The next special category that found in *The Big Bang Theory* is ‘animal’. The idiomatic expressions with special animal category are *snail mail*, *guinea pigs*, and *goose bump*.

(35) Penny: I need some **guinea pigs**.

For example in episode 8, Penny enters Leonard and Sheldon’s apartment to ask for something. She asks for *guinea pigs*. The animal ‘pigs’ is the idiomatic word here.

When she asks for *guinea pigs*, Sheldon thought that she really needs pigs from guinea. In fact, the idiomatic expression *guinea pigs* mean someone or something to use as the subject of an experiment. In this scene, Penny is not really looking for a pig from guinea but she is looking for someone to use in her experiment. She gets a shift as bartender in the Cheesecake Factory. Thus, she wants the boys to be the subject of her experiment in practicing mixing drinks.

4.2.1.10.4 Idiom from Special Categories: Day

(36) Sheldon: This is my first **day off** in decades, and I’m going to savor it.

The other special category is ‘day’. There is only one idiomatic expression with the special category day found in episode 4. Sheldon uses this idiom when he is talking to Leonard.

Sheldon is not working because he was fired from his work. Leonard suggests him to get his job back but Sheldon refused to do it. The idiomatic

meaning of idiom *day off* is a day away from work or similar obligation. Sheldon is just at home doing research after he was fired from his work because insulting Dr. Gablehauser. Leonard asks him to apologize but he says he does not want his job back because it is the first day in his life that he is free from work and other obligation.

4.2.1.10.5 Idiom from Special Categories: Number

(37) Leonard: Fine. We'll just play **one on one** until he gets back.

The last special category found in this analysis is 'number'. There is one idiomatic expression consists with special category number in episode 7. The number is 'one'. The number one uses here as idiom *one on one*.

The number 'one' here represents the number of people to play the *Halo* games. The idiomatic meaning of idiom *one on one* is a direct encounter between two persons. In this scene, Leonard suggests to Sheldon and Raj to play *Halo one on one* not as a team because Howard is busy with Christy. The nerdy four characters are portrayed as intelligent but socially inept brainiacs. They all love to play video games regularly in Leonard and Sheldon's apartment. But this time, Howard could not join to play the video games. Even though Howard could not join, they still insist to play the video game.

4.2.1.11 Idiom of Comparison

The last type is idiom of comparison. There are two main patterns of this type. The first pattern is using comparison 'as', "as + adjective + as + (a/the) + noun". The other pattern is using comparison 'like', "verb + like + (a/the) +

noun”. In this analysis, there is only one idiomatic expression of comparison. The idiomatic expression is *as good as*.

(38) Sheldon: My apologies Leonard. I’m only **as good as** my teacher.

Being found in episode 17, the idiomatic expression above is using the comparison ‘as’. The pattern of this expression is: as + adjective (good) + as + noun (my teacher). The adjective ‘good’ refers to Howard’s ability to speak Mandarin. But Sheldon uses the adjective ‘good’ in order to tease Howard’s ability. The noun ‘my teacher’ refers to Howard who teaches Sheldon Mandarin at that time.

The comparison ‘as’ is used to show the similar ability between Sheldon and Howard. The idiomatic meaning of this expression shows that someone is almost or nearly good as the person who being compared. Sheldon greets Leonard who just enters the apartment in Mandarin. But Sheldon does not know that the meaning is a syphilitic donkey. He is teasing Howard by saying that he is almost as good as him in speaking Mandarin. The idiom *as good as* is used to comment on Howard’s ability in teaching Sheldon Mandarin. Sheldon is learning Mandarin just because he wanted to complain his favorite Mandarin restaurant about the menu.

4.2.2 Functions of Idiomatic Expressions in *The Big Bang Theory*

McCarthy and O’Dell (2010) stated that there are seven functions of idiomatic expressions. The first function of idioms is to emphasis a statement in the sentence. Second, idioms are used to agree with a previous speaker. Usually,

the idiom uses here to answer the previous speaker question. The third function is used to comment on people. The fourth function is used to comment on a situation occur in the dialogue. Fifth, the function is used to make anecdote more interesting. The sixth function is used to catch the reader's eye. The writer may play with idiom to make a pun in order to create a special effect. The last function is used to indicate membership of particular group.

Based on the findings, there is only five functions of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. They are used to emphasis a statement, to comment on people, to comment on situations, to make the anecdote more interesting, and to catch reader's eye. The characters in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series mostly used the idiomatic expressions in order to comment on other characters or comment on their own self.

4.2.2.1 To Emphasize a Statement

The first function of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* is to emphasize a statement. There are 19 idiomatic expressions functioned to emphasize the statement by the characters. For example in episode 8, Raj is speaking to the boys. He says, "My parents are trying to marry me off to a **total stranger**. What am I going to do?" Raj uses the idiom *total stranger* to emphasize his statement that his parents will marry him, and the one that his parents are trying to meddle is a *total stranger* to him.

4.2.2.2 To Comment on People

The second function that consists with 62 idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series is to comment on people. This is the most dominant function in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. This function is used to comment on the other character or the own character's attitude. For example in episode 1, Leonard tells his feeling to Sheldon. He says, "Anyway, I've learned my lesson. She's **out of my league**." In this expression, Leonard uses the idiom to comment on Penny. He thinks that Penny is *out of his league* means she is not suitable for him. The other example is found in episode 15. Howard is looking for Missy in front of Penny's apartment. He says, "I've come to **call on** Missy." This idiomatic expression used to show Howard's purposes. He comes to Penny's apartment only to visit Missy not Penny.

4.2.2.3 To Comment on Situation

The third function is to comment on the situation. There are 52 idiomatic expressions used to comment on the situation in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. For example in episode 3, Leonard is talking to Sheldon. He says, "I've been thinking about names. I'm kind of **torn between** Einstein, Newton and Sergeant Fuzzy Boots." This idiomatic expression shows the situation that Leonard is facing. He is in a situation to choose the names of his future cats. He cannot decide whether the name should be Einstein, Newton, or Sergeant Fuzzy Boots. The other example is found in episode 12. Dennis Kim, a support character in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series uses the idiom to comment on the situation in the

University. He says, “I already know you’re not. You don’t have an Open Science Grid computer, or a free electron laser, and the string theory research being done here is nothing but **a dead end.**” He states that he already knew that the situation in the University is having no progress, because the University does not have an Open Science Grid computer or else. Thus, he already knew the situation of the University before he joined in it.

4.2.2.4 To Make the Anecdote Interesting

The fourth function of idiomatic expression found in *The Big Bang Theory* is to make anecdote more interesting. For example in episode 10, Leonard tries to cheer Penny. He says, “**Break a leg.**” This idiomatic expression usually used to wish someone in order to say good luck. Leonard uses this idiom to make her wishes on Penny to be more interesting. He knows that Penny will sing for the first time in a showcase called *Rent*. Thus, he wishes her luck by saying this idiom.

4.2.2.5 To Catch the Reader’s Eye

The last function of idiom found in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series is to catch the reader’s eye. This is the least function of idioms occur in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. There are only 7 idiomatic expression functioned to catch the reader’s eye. The example of this function found in episode 2. Leonard is talking to Penny. He says, “Well, we’ll **get out of your hair.**” Leonard uses the idiom “get out of your hair” instead of “get out of you room” to catch the reader’s eye.

The writer uses this idiom to make a special effect, because people will think about the word 'hair' here. Idiomatically, it means to stop disturbing someone. Thus, Leonard uses this idiom *get out of your hair* to show that he and Sheldon will go out from her room and stop disturbing her.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

This study analyzed the idiomatic expressions occur in the sitcom TV series, *The Big Bang Theory*. The analysis focused on the types and meaning, and also the functions of the idiomatic expressions. The data that have been analyzed in chapter 4 are taken from the transcription of dialogues in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series from Season 1 consisting of 17 episodes.

Based on the analysis of idiomatic expressions in the previous chapter, the writer found eleven types of idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. Concerning with the number of the orderly-classified eleven types of idiom proposed by Seidl and McMordie (1980), the top five total numbers are 47 verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles, 28 idioms with common verbs, 21 idioms with adjectives and nouns in combination, 18 idioms from special situations and categories, 12 particular words with special idiomatic uses. Meanwhile, the remaining ones are 11 idioms with prepositions, 5 idioms with less common verbs, 2 idioms with verbs and nouns that are used together, 2 idioms with the verb 'to be', 1 idiomatic pair, 1 idiom of comparison. Therefore, it can be concluded that verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles is the most frequently used, while idiomatic pair and idiom of comparison are the least type.

The results also showed that there are five functions within 148 idiomatic expressions from the seventeen episodes. Idiomatic expressions in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series are most frequently used to comment on the other people or characters with 69 idiomatic expressions. Besides that, the second dominant function of idiomatic expression is used to comment on the situation with 45 idiomatic expressions. The third function in the analysis is used to emphasize a statement with 18 idiomatic expressions. The least functions of idiomatic expressions in the analysis are used to make the anecdote more interesting with 9 idiomatic expressions and to catch the reader's eye with 7 idiomatic expressions. It is concluded that the character in *The Big Bang Theory* TV series Season 1, used idiomatic expression to comment on other characters or their own attitude.

Based on the result of the types and functions, the use of idiomatic expressions helps the script writer to introduce the characters in the first season of *The Big Bang Theory* TV series. The main and supportive characters frequently used the idiomatic expressions to comment on the other characters or to comment on their own character's attitude. It is because the TV series that being analyzed is the Season 1. Thus, they are mostly introducing the characters with the help of idiomatic expressions.

5.2 Suggestion

In accordance with the findings of this study, the writer suggests to the next researchers, especially the English Department students who are interesting in doing research relevant to this study, to analyze the idiomatic expressions in different text such as poetry, speeches, advertisement, slogan, etc. The writer also suggest to compare this study with other theories, the writer suggests the reader to conduct a research on idiomatic expressions by using the theory by another expert, like Palmer, Makai, etc. The next researcher might be interested in doing an analysis of idiomatic expression in magazine horoscopes. Hopefully the writer gives some guidance for the further researchers to be more careful in doing research so the result is being better than this.

In terms of the use of English idioms in sentences or daily conversation, it is suggested to know the meaning of idioms to be coherence with the context because it can give a colorful word of choice. To know the meaning of idioms, the writer suggests looking on dictionaries such as the *Cambridge Idioms Dictionary* to give you examples of how idioms are used, in the internet to find out more about the meanings and origins of idioms, and in a vocabulary notebooks to help learning idiom quickly. Thus, people can avoid the misunderstandings among others when using idioms.

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