IDIOMATIC WORD USED IN READER’S DIGEST MAGAZINE

A THESIS

BY

EVELINA TAMBUNAN
REG. NO. 110721002

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
FACULTY OF CULTURAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF SUMATERA UTARA
MEDAN 2013
IDIOMATIC WORD USED IN READER’S DIGEST MAGAZINE

A THESIS

BY:
EVELINA TAMBUNAN
REG. NO. 110721002

Supervisor, Co. Supervisor,
Drs. Chairul Husni, M.Ed.TESOL Rahmadasyah Rangkuti, MA. Ph.D
NIP. 19570308 198403 1 004 NIP. 19750209 200812 1 002

Submitted to the Faculty of Letters University of Sumatera Utara in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra in English Literature.

UNIVERSITY OF SUMATERA UTARA
FACULTY OF CULTURAL STUDIES
ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
MEDAN
2013
Approved by the English Literature Department of Faculty of Cultural Studies University of Sumatera Utara (USU) Medan as thesis for the Sarjana Sastra Examination.

Head,

Dr. H. Muhizar Muchtar, MS.
NIP. 19541117 198003 1 002

Secretary,

Dr. Dra. Nurlela, M.Hum.
NIP. 19590419 198102 2 001

Universitas Sumatera Utara
Accepted by the board of Examination in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra from the English Literature Department Faculty of Cultural Studies University of Sumatera Utara Medan.

The Examination is held at the University of Sumatera Utara, Faculty of Cultural Studies, English Literature Department on Saturday, July 27th 2013.

The Dean of Faculty of Cultural Studies
University of Sumatera Utara,

Dr. Drs. Syahron Lubis, M.A
NIP. 19511013 197603 1 001

Board of Examiners:

1. Drs. Chairul Husni, M.Ed.TESOL
   NIP. 19570308 198403 1 004

2. Rahmadyah Rangkuti, MA. Ph.D
   NIP. 19750209 200812 1 002

   NIP. 19570626 198303 2 001

4. Dr. H. Muhizar Muchtar, MS.
   NIP. 19541117 198003 1 002

5. Dr. Dra. Nurlela, M.Hum.
   NIP. 19590419 198102 2 001
I, Evelina Tambunan, declare that I am the sole author of this thesis except the references that I use in this thesis are got from some related texts, internet and books. This thesis is not published yet or extracted in whole or in a part from another thesis.

No other person’s have been used without due acknowledgements in the main text of this thesis. This thesis has not been submitted yet for the award of another degree in any tertiary education.

Signed:

Date: July 2013
COPYRIGHT DECLARATION

Name : Evelina Tambunan

Title of Thesis : Idiomatic Word use in Reader’s Digest Magazine

Qualification : S-1/Sarjana

Department : English Literature

I am willing that my thesis should be available for reproduction at discretion of the Librarian of University of Sumatera Utara, Faculty of Cultural Studies, English Department on the understanding that users are made aware for their obligation under law of the Republic of Indonesia.

Signed :

Date : July 2013
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In completing this thesis, there are many people stand for me to give support. First of all, I would like to thank to Jesus Christ, for giving me this huge blessing and love so that I am able to complete my study.

I would like to thank to the Dean of Faculty of Cultural Studies, DR. Syahron Lubis, M.A, Head of English Department, Dr.H.Muhizar Muchtar, MS and the Secretary of English Department Dr.Hj.Nurlela,M.Hum.

Further I would like to thank to be grateful to my supervisor, Drs. Chairul Husni, M.Ed. TESOL as my 1st supervisor and Rahmadsyah Rangkuti, MA.Ph.D as my 2nd supervisor. Who are so generous with their valuable advice, guidance, and time in correcting this thesis. And for all my lectures who have shared their priceless knowledge and guidance so that I have Provisions in accomplishing this thesis.

The special gratitude, I want deliver to dear loving father Hasudungan/ParulianTambunan and the dearest mother Rusti br Sinaga/Darlan br Sagala who have given a lot of love, pray, motivation and spirit who help writer to finish the study. Special thanks also to my great brother Buha April Fajar Tambunan, Hendra Nata SastraTambunan, and Samuel Tambunan and also to my beloved sister Lidia Tambunan, Rumintang Tambunan and SiskaTambunan and all family for all pray, motivation and support until the end of writer study.
Thanks also to English Extension education 2011: Lenny Simanjuntak, Mazlah, Cicik, Agung, Maryadi, Nila, Ferry, Sartika, Nasrul, Haricha, Dinda, Sri Handayani and Roy. We have been together in passing our study and I know that we will leave our dream soon. For them, we can not be mentioned one by one. My big and special thank to Amudi Siregar who has helped and given big motivation, pray and spirit in every activities that done by writer.

I realized that there are still weaknesses in contents and grammar of this thesis, so writer receives critics and advices from the reader that can make this thesis be better. Hopefully, this thesis can be useful for education world.

Medan, 24 July 2013

Writer,

Evelina br Tambunan

ID. 110721002
ABSTRACT

The object of this study is the idioms found in the Reader’s Digest Magazine. The objectives of the study is to describe the types of idioms and to expose the meanings of the idioms in the Reader’s Digest Magazine.

The data were analyzed based on the theoretical concept by Robby Lou (2007) and Palmer (1979) which concerned about types and the meanings of idioms.

The result of this study seeing through the whole data were found the types of the idioms, they were Phrasal Verb, Separable Phrasal Verb, Verb – Noun – Preposition Combination, Preposition – Noun and Preposition – Adjective – Noun Combination, Preposition – Noun – Preposition Combination, Preposition – Adverb and Preposition – Adjective Combination, Adjective – Noun Combination, Noun Phrase and Adjective – Preposition Combination.

There were also 11 other categories found in this study. They were Verb - Preposition - Noun Combination, Conjunction – Preposition – Combination, Noun – Preposition – Combination, Noun – Conjunction – Noun Combination, Determiner – Noun Combination, Adjective – Preposition – Adverb Combination, Proverbial Phrases, Verb – Conjunction – Verb Combination, Verb – Adjective – Combination, Verb – Preposition – Noun Combination, Preposition – Preposition Noun Combination.
The writer also found two kinds of meaning, Semi Opaque Meaning and Opaque Meaning. Moreover, there were 52% of the data belonging to semi opaque meaning (Palmer).
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**ABSTRACT** ................................................................................................................................. i

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** .................................................................................................................. ii

**TABLE OF CONTENTS** .................................................................................................................... iv

1. **INTRODUCTION**
   1.1. Background of the Study ..................................................................................................... 1
   1.2. Problems of the Study ........................................................................................................ 4
   1.3. Objective of the Study ......................................................................................................... 4
   1.4. Scope of the Study ............................................................................................................... 5
   1.5. Significance of the Study .................................................................................................... 5

2. **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**
   2.1. Clarification of Terminologies .............................................................................................. 6
      2.1.1. The Meaning of Idiom ................................................................................................... 12
      2.1.2. The types of Idiom ......................................................................................................... 14
      2.1.2.1. Phrasal Verb ............................................................................................................... 15
      2.1.2.1.1. Phrasal Verbs without Objects .............................................................................. 15
      2.1.2.1.2. Separable Phrasal Verbs ....................................................................................... 15
      2.1.2.1.3. Inseparable Phrasal Verbs .................................................................................... 16
      2.1.2.1.4 Phrasal Verbs with Extra Prepositions ................................................................. 16
      2.1.2.2. Verb – Noun Combinations ...................................................................................... 16
      2.1.2.3. Verb – Noun – Preposition Combinations ............................................................... 17
      2.1.2.4. Preposition – Noun Combination ............................................................................. 18
      2.1.2.5. Preposition – Noun and Preposition – Adjective – Noun
combination .................................................................................. 18

2.1.2.6. Preposition – Noun – Preposition Combinations .......... 18

2.1.2.7. Preposition – Adverb and Preposition – Adjective
Combinations ............................................................................... 19

2.1.2.8. Adjective – Noun Combinations ...................................... 19

2.1.2.9. Noun Phrases ..................................................................... 19

2.1.2.10. Adjective – Preposition Combinations ....................... 20

2.1.3. Meaning of Idioms ............................................................... 21

2.1.3.1. Semi opaque meaning ...................................................... 21

2.1.3.2. Opaque meaning ............................................................... 21

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Research Method ..................................................................... 22

3.2. The Source of Data ................................................................. 22

3.3. Collecting of Data ................................................................. 22

3.4. Analysis of Data ................................................................. 23

4. ANALYSIS OF DATA AND FINDING

4.1. Types and the meanings of Idioms Found in Reader’s Digest magazine 24

4.1.1. Phrasal Verbs ................................................................. 24

4.1.1.1. Phrasal Verbs without Objects ................................ 24

4.1.1.2. Separable Phrasal Verbs ........................................... 29

4.1.1.3. Inseparable Phrasal Verbs ....................................... 36

4.1.1.4. Phrasal Verb with Extra Preposition ......................... 39

4.1.2. Verb – Noun Combinations ........................................... 44

4.1.3. Verb – Noun – Preposition Combinations ................... 45
4.1.4. Preposition – Noun Combinations ........................................... 45
4.1.5. Preposition – Noun and Preposition – Adjective – Noun
Combinations ............................................................................ 46
4.1.6. Preposition – Noun – Preposition Combination ..................... 47
4.1.7. Preposition – Adverb and Preposition – Adjective Combinations
4.1.8. Adjective – Noun Combinations .......................................... 50
4.1.9. Noun Phrases ........................................................................ 50
4.1.10 Adjective – Preposition Combinations.................................. 50
4.1.11 Other Categories of Idioms Found in Reader’s Digest magazine
4.1.11.1 Verb – Preposition – Noun Combination ............................. 52
4.1.11.2 Conjunction – Preposition Combination ............................. 53
4.1.11.3 Noun – Preposition Combination ........................................ 53
4.1.11.4 Noun – Conjunction – Noun Combination ........................... 54
4.1.11.5 Determiner/Pronoun – Noun Combination ........................... 55
4.1.11.6 Adjective – Preposition – Adverb Combination .................. 55
4.1.11.7 Proverbial Phrase ............................................................. 56
4.1.11.8 Verb – Conjunction – Verb Combination ............................ 57
4.1.11.9 Verb – Adjective Combination ........................................... 58
4.1.11.10 Verb – Preposition – Noun Combination ............................ 58
4.1.11.11 Preposition – Preposition – Noun Combination ............... 69

5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION
5.1. Conclusion ................................................................................. 60
5.2. Suggestion ................................................................................ 62
REFERENCES ............................................................................... 63
APPENDIX