

## Idiom Analysis in Covid-19 News at the Thejakartapost.com Online Newspaper Period 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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### Abstrak

*Idiom adalah kata yang artinya tidak dapat didefinisikan dengan deskripsi literal. Jenis-jenis idiom adalah: 1) Kata kerja frase, 2) Frasa preposisi, 3) Idiom dengan kata kerja sebagai kata kunci 4) Idiom dengan kata benda sebagai kata kunci 5) Idiom dengan kata sifat sebagai kata kunci 6) Pasangan idiomatic, 8) kata kerja frase 9) bahasa lain 10) binomial. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui idiom yang digunakan pada item berita. Penelitian ini menggunakan jenis penelitian kualitatif dengan metode studi literatur. Langkah-langkah dalam penelitian ini adalah sebagai berikut: membaca berita di surat kabar online, mernulis idiom yang ditemukan dengan mencatatnya, mendeskripsikan makna idiom tersebut dan membuat kesimpulan dari hasil penelitian.*

*Kata kunci—Idiom, analisis, covid-19, berita, Koran online*

### Abstract

*Idiom is a word the meaning of which cannot be defined by a literal description. The types of idiom are: 1) Phrasal verb, 2) Prepositional phrases, 3) Idioms with verbs as keywords, 4) Idioms with nouns as keywords, 5) Idioms with adjectives as keywords: cold comfort, wishful thinking, plan sailing, 6) Idiomatic pairs, 7) Grammatica Restriction, 8) Phrasal verb, 9) other language, 10) binomial. The purpose of this research is to determine the idioms used in news items. This research uses a qualitative type of research with methods that are literature studies. The steps in the research are as follows: read to the news in an online newspaper, recording the idioms found with note them, describing the meaning of these idioms and making conclusions from the research results.*

**Keywords — Idiom, Analysis, Covid-19, News, Online Newspaper**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Idiom is a word the meaning of which cannot be defined by a literal description. Of the word itself, but instead refers to a figurative sense that is understood only by way of it and popular usage of it. According to New Webster's

Dictionary (1993), the definitions of idiom are: (1) a language that is unique to a people, Nation, class, group or, more rarely, individual; (2) construction or construction; Expression having a meaning distinct from that of the literal or not according to the normal trends of the language. According to Larson (1984), Idioms are expressions of at least two words that cannot be interpreted literally.

Based on McCarthy and O'Dell (2010:22-32), Idioms divided into eight types: 1) Similes which express or compare two things; they always include the words as or like, example: My brother's as thin as a rake (extremely thin) 2). Binomials, It is type of idiom which mix two words by conjunction or linking word, usually "and", example: black and white. 3) Trinomials, it means three words are joined, example: I've looked here, there and everywhere for my glasses but can't find them. 4) Proverbs, they are short sentences which used by people to gives or warnings, example: We should buy extra travel insurance for our skiing trip. Better safe than sorry. 5). Euphemisms, are idiom used to avoid saying words which may offend or be considered unpleasant, example: Go behind a tree if you need to answer the call of nature. 6). Cliché are a comment that is often used in certain common, everyday situations, example: Truth will out! 7). Fixed statements are expressions that you can often hear and use fixed statements in everyday conversation, example: Get your skates on! 8). Other language, it mostly comes from Latin or French, example: Ad hoc, De facto.

Furthermore, according to Lim (2004: 1) state that in general, idiom consist of these types: 1) Phrasal verb: call on, put off, do away with 2) Prepositional phrases: in a nutshell, from time to time 3) Idioms with verbs as keywords: come in handy, fight shy of, leave much to be desired 4) Idioms with nouns as keywords: a blessing disguise, child's play, food for thought 5). Idioms with adjectives as keywords: cold comfort, wishful thinking, plan sailing 6). Idiomatic pairs: safe and sound, aches and pains, sink or swim

In this study, the researchers analyse the idiom of an online newspaper, Thejakartapost.com. Thekartapost.com is an online newspaper in Indonesia with English language. In this online newspaper, there are many news which up to

date in Indonesia. The researchers conduct analysis in thejakartapost.com specifically in Covid-19 edition date of 1-5 February 2021.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

This research uses a qualitative type of research with methods that are literature studies. Qualitative research involves collecting and analyzing non-numeric data (e.g. text, video or audio) for the purpose of understanding concepts, opinions or experiences. The steps in the research are as follows: read to the news in an online newspaper, recording the idioms found with note them, describing the meaning of these idioms and making conclusions from the research results.

## **3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **a. The Definition of Idiom**

According to Charer (1981: 7) Languages are language units, whether in the form of words, phrases or phrases, the meaning of which cannot be inferred from the general grammatical rules applicable in the language or which cannot be predicted from the lexical meaning of the elements that make them up. According to the Munir of Ba'albaki, idioms are expressions that have meaning that cannot be understood in words alone. Muhammad Ismail Shiniy also argued that idioms are expressions or groups of words that we cannot take the literal meaning of each word. The Blessings and the Call explaining idioms, that is, phrases for two or more words that cannot be interpreted literally and semantically to function as one entity. According to Longman Idioms, there is a list of terms that have a special meaning that varies from the meaning of each word in the meaning of the word itself. From the expert definition above, we can conclude that idioms are expressions that have meaning that cannot be understood by words alone.

#### **b. Types of Idiom**

According to Lim (2004: 1) state that in general, idiom consist of these types:

- 1) Phrasal verb: call on, put off, do away with
- 2) Prepositional phrases: in a nutshell, from time to time
- 3) Idioms with verbs as keywords: come in handy, fight shy of, leave much to be desired
- 4) Idioms with nouns as keywords: a blessing disguise, child's play, food for thought
- 5) Idioms with adjectives as keywords: cold comfort, wishful thinking, plan sailing
- 6) Idiomatic pairs: safe and sound, aches and pains, sink or swim

Based on McCarthy and O'Dell (2010:22-32), Idioms divided into eight types:

- 1) Similes which express or compare two things; they always include the words as or like, example: My brother's as thin as a rake (extremely thin)
- 2). Binomials, It is type of idiom which mix two words by conjunction or linking word, usually "and", example: black and white.
- 3) Trinomials, it means three words are joined,  
example: I've looked here, there and everywhere for my glasses but can't find them.
- 4) Proverbs, they are short sentences which used by people to gives or warnings, example: We should buy extra travel insurance for our skiing trip. Better safe than sorry.
- 5). Euphemisms, are idiom used to avoid saying words which may offend or be considered unpleasant, example: Go behind a tree if you need to answer the call of nature.
- 6). Cliché are a comment that is often used in certain common, everyday situations, example: Truth will out!

- 7). Fixed statements are expressions that you can often hear and use fixed statements in everyday conversation, example: Get your skates on!
- 8). Other language, it mostly comes from Latin or French, example: Ad hoc, De facto.

### c. Idiom Analysis in the [Jakartapost.com](http://jakartapost.com) Online Newspaper

#### A. Data Description

Table 1. Idiom Analysis in the [Jakartapost.com](http://jakartapost.com) Online Newspaper date 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

N O	Date	Title of the Article	Idiom	Sentence
1	February, 1st	<i>Inflation slows as COVID-19 restrictions reduce demand</i>	Lockdown	Indonesia's annual inflation rate slowed in January, after a rally in the last four months, as the country's ongoing struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic and extended <b>lockdown</b> limited consumers' purchasing power.
2	February, 2nd	<i>China cracks fake COVID-19 vaccine ring, confiscates 3,000 doses: Xinhua</i>	Carried out	The police operation was <b>carried out</b> by police in multiple places including Beijing, Shanghai and the eastern province of Shandong, Xinhua said.

3	February, 3th	<i>Russia's Sputnik V vaccine 91.6% effective: Lancet study</i>	Rolling out	Russia's Sputnik V vaccine is 91.6 percent effective against symptomatic Covid-19, according to results published in The Lancet on Tuesday that independent experts said allayed transparency concerns over the jab, which Moscow is already <b>rolling out</b> .
			Follow up	They added that the <b>follow-up</b> period was around 48 days from the first dose, so the full period of protection is still unknown.
		<i>Pandemic lifestyle delivers earnings boon for Amazon, Google.</i>	According to	businesses that cut back on digital advertising early last year due to the pandemic returned in force in the final quarter, following customers that flocked to the internet rather than risk exposure to Covid-19 in stores, <b>according to</b> Alphabet chief business officer Philipp Schindler.
4	February, 4th	<i>Sweden COVID death toll tops 12,000 as health agency warns of third wave</i>	Picked up	However, the number of people with the mutation first identified in Britain - which may be more infectious - has <b>picked up</b> and health officials said it was too soon to ease the rules.

		<i>Covid responses chip away at democratic norms worldwide: study</i>	Pulled down	That <b>pulled down</b> its aggregate ranking on subjects including civil liberties, political participation and functioning of government.
5	February 5th	<i>First batch of Russian Covid vaccine arrives in Iran</i>	Lost out	The Islamic republic is fighting the Middle East's deadliest outbreak of the coronavirus, with over 58,000 lives <b>lost out</b> of more than 1.4 million cases.
			Due to	The second and third deliveries of the vaccine were <b>due to</b> be sent to Tehran on February 18 and 28, IRNA quoted Kazem Jalali, Iran's ambassador to Moscow, as saying.
			Outbreak	The Islamic republic is fighting the Middle East's deadliest <b>outbreak</b> of the coronavirus, with over 58,000 lives lost out of more than 1.4 million cases.
			Sensitive and fragile	Announcing the new figures on Thursday, health ministry spokeswoman Sima Sadat Lari warned that the situation in the country was " <b>sensitive and fragile</b> ".

		<i>Talks with Chinese scientists 'very frank', WHO probe leader says</i>	A lot of	"We discussed... a lot of the famous theories and so on, and what has been done to explain them," added Ben Embarak, who was based in the WHO's Beijing office for two years from 2009.
		<i>Unilever profit hits 5,6 billion euros in 'volatile' year</i>	Magnum	However the maker of brands including <b>Magnum</b> ice-cream, Cif surface cleaner and Dove soap, said sales of beauty products were hit by the coronavirus lockdowns.
			Lockdown	However the maker of brands including Magnum ice-cream, Cif surface cleaner and Dove soap, said sales of beauty products were hit by the coronavirus <b>lockdowns.</b>
		<i>Vaccination race: Challenges ahead for Indonesia</i>	Rump up	In the United States, which has the largest number of COVID-19 cases in the world, President Joe Biden issued an executive order using the Defense Production Act to <b>ramp up</b> production of vaccine components, masks and personal protective equipment (PPE).
			In order to	Public-private partnership should be another policy recommendation <b>in order to</b>



				bolster domestic production of health equipment, as well as to participate in vaccine distribution and administration.
			Reach out	It seems that Indonesia must also <b>reach out</b> to community and religious leaders in order to encourage vaccination down to the grassroots level.

The data above was idioms. There were 12 idiomatic expressions in Covid-19 online news of The Jakarta Post published on February 1<sup>st</sup> until 5<sup>th</sup> 2021. As we know, idiom is a combination of two or more basic words which have new meanings and cannot be interpreted as per word. From that definition, the researchers analyse the data based on their types.

**Table 2. Gramatical Restriction Type of Idiom**

No.	Idiom	Sentence
1	Carried out	The police operation was <b>carried out</b> by police in multiple places including Beijing, Shanghai and the eastern province of Shandong, Xinhua said.
2	Picked up	However, the number of people with the mutation first identified in Britain - which may be more infectious - has <b>picked up</b> and health officials said it was too soon to ease the rules.
3	Pulled down	That <b>pulled down</b> its aggregate ranking on subjects including civil liberties, political participation and

		functioning of government.
4	Lost out	The Islamic republic is fighting the Middle East's deadliest outbreak of the coronavirus, with over 58,000 lives <b>lost out</b> of more than 1.4 million cases.
5	Rump up	In the United States, which has the largest number of COVID-19 cases in the world, President Joe Biden issued an executive order using the Defense Production Act to <b>ramp up</b> production of vaccine components, masks and personal protective equipment (PPE).

First type was grammatical restriction. There was a large number of idioms that included a verb and a noun, but the verb can be put in the past tense, and the number of the noun can never be modified (Palmer, 1976). The researcher found 8 idiomatic expressions data that were appropriated in this type. Those data were *Carried out, Rolling out, Follow up, Picked up, Pulled down, Lost out, Rump up, Reach out*. Below were the explained by its meaning.

From data 1, *The police operation was **carried out** by police in multiple places including Beijing, Shanghai and the eastern province of Shandong, Xinhua said*. The idiomatic expression was 'carried out' which were combinations between the verb 'carried' and a noun 'out'. 'Carried out' have similar meaning to 'accomplish' or doing. (Dixson, 1965).

In data 2, "Picked up" with the sentence *However, the number of people with the mutation first identified in Britain - which may be more infectious - has **picked up** and health officials said it was too soon to ease the rules*. The idiomatic expression was 'Picked up' which were combinations between the verb 'picked' and a noun 'up'. 'picked up' have similar meaning to 'taken'.

In data 3, *That **pulled down** its aggregate ranking on subjects including civil liberties, political participation and functioning of government*. The idiomatic expression was 'Pulled down' which were combinations between the verb 'pulled' and 'down'. 'pulled down' have similar meaning to 'lowered'.

In data 4, *The Islamic republic is fighting the Middle East's deadliest outbreak of the coronavirus, with over 58,000 lives **lost out** of more than 1.4 million cases.* The idiomatic expression was 'lost out' which were combinations between the verb 'lost' and 'out'. 'lost out' have similar meaning to 'miss'.

In data 5, *In the United States, which has the largest number of COVID-19 cases in the world, President Joe Biden issued an executive order using the Defense Production Act to **ramp up** production of vaccine components, masks and personal protective equipment (PPE).* The idiomatic expression is 'ramp up', the similar meaning of it is 'upgrade'.

**Table 3. Phrasal Verb Type of Idiom**

No.	Idiom	Sentence
1	According to	businesses that cut back on digital advertising early last year due to the pandemic returned in force in the final quarter, following customers that flocked to the internet rather than risk exposure to Covid-19 in stores, <b>according to</b> Alphabet chief business officer Philipp Schindler.
2	Due to	The second and third deliveries of the vaccine were <b>due to</b> be sent to Tehran on February 18 and 28, IRNA quoted Kazem Jalali, Iran's ambassador to Moscow, as saying.
3	Outbreak	The Islamic republic is fighting the Middle East's deadliest <b>outbreak</b> of the coronavirus, with over 58,000 lives lost out of more than 1.4 million cases.
4	A lot of	We discussed... <b>a lot of</b> the famous theories and so on, and what has been done to explain them," added Ben Embarak, who was based in the WHO's Beijing office for two years from 2009.
5	Lockdown	Indonesia's annual inflation rate slowed in January, after a rally in the last four months, as the country's ongoing struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic and extended

		<b>lockdown</b> limited consumers' purchasing power.
6	Lockdown	However the maker of brands including Magnum ice-cream, Cif surface cleaner and Dove soap, said sales of beauty products were hit by the coronavirus <b>lockdowns</b> .
7	In order to	Public-private partnership should be another policy recommendation <b>in order to</b> bolster domestic production of health equipment, as well as to participate in vaccine distribution and administration.
8	Rolling out	Russia's Sputnik V vaccine is 91.6 percent effective against symptomatic Covid-19, according to results published in The Lancet on Tuesday that independent experts said allayed transparency concerns over the jab, which Moscow is already <b>rolling out</b> .
9	Follow up	They added that the <b>follow-up</b> period was around 48 days from the first dose, so the full period of protection is still unknown.
10	Reach out	It seems that Indonesia must also <b>reach out</b> to community and religious leaders in order to encourage vaccination down to the grassroots level.

The second type of idiom is phrasal verb. Phrasal verb was a combination of verb plus preposition, or adverb and sometimes a combination of three verbs in one idiom. The meanings of these combinations cannot be predicted from individual verbs, prepositions and adverbs.

From data 1, the idiom the the form of phrasal verb is 'according to' in sentence *usinesses that cut back on digital advertising early last year due to the pandemic returned in force in the final quarter, following customers that flocked to the internet rather than risk exposure to Covid-19 in stores, **according to** Alphabet chief business officer Philipp Schindler*. Even though, in every sentence have

different sentences and topics, but this idiom still have same meaning. 'According to' has similar meaning with 'in the order of'.

In data 2, *The second and third deliveries of the vaccine were **due to** be sent to Tehran on February 18 and 28, IRNA quoted Kazem Jalali, Iran's ambassador to Moscow, as saying.* The idiomatic expression was 'due to' which were combinations between words 'due' and 'to'. It has same meaning to 'in consequence of'.

In data 3, *The Islamic republic is fighting the Middle East's deadliest **outbreak** of the coronavirus, with over 58,000 lives lost out of more than 1.4 million cases.* The idiom was 'outbreak'. It consist of word 'out' and 'break' the similar meaning with 'the plague'.

In data 4, *We discussed... **a lot of** the famous theories and so on, and what has been done to explain them," added Ben Embarak, who was based in the WHO's Beijing office for two years from 2009.* The idiom was 'a lot of' thee similar meaning is 'many of'

In data 5, *Indonesia's annual inflation rate slowed in January, after a rally in the last four months, as the country's ongoing struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic and extended **lockdown** limited consumers' purchasing power.* This idiom has same meaning to requires an area to completely close both entry and exit.

In data 6, *However the maker of brands including Magnum ice-cream, Cif surface cleaner. and Dove soap, said sales of beauty products were hit by the coronavirus **lockdowns**.* Even though, in every sentence have different sentences and topics, but this idiom still have same meaning. 'lockdown' has similar meaning with requires an area to completely close both entry and exit.

In data 7, *Public-private partnership should be another policy recommendation **in order to** bolster domestic production of health equipment, as well as to participate in vaccine distribution and administration.* The phrasal idiom is 'in order to'. It has similar meaning with 'for'.

In data 8, *Russia's Sputnik V vaccine is 91.6 percent effective against symptomatic Covid-19, according to results published in The Lancet on Tuesday*

that independent experts said allayed transparency concerns over the jab, which Moscow is already **rolling out**. The idiom is 'rolling out' and it has same meaning 'launching'.

In data 9, *They added that the **follow-up** period was around 48 days from the first dose, so the full period of protection is still unknown.* The idiom is 'follow up' and it has same meaning 'take'.

In data 10, *It seems that Indonesia must also **reach out** to community and religious leaders in order to encourage vaccination down to the grassroots level.* The idiom is 'reach out' and it has similar meaning to 'embrace'.

**Table 4. Other language Type of Idiom**

No.	Idiom	Sentence
1	Magnum	However the maker of brands including <b>Magnum</b> ice-cream, Cif surface cleaner and Dove soap, said sales of beauty products were hit by the coronavirus lockdowns.

The type of the data above is other language idioms. It means the word is come from other community or other nation. It is expressions contained in languages other than English. Magnum is the name of ice cream from Unilever.

**Table 5. Binomial Types of Idiom**

No.	Idiom	Sentence
1	Sensitive and fragile	Announcing the new figures on Thursday, health ministry spokeswoman Sima Sadat Lari warned that the situation in the country was " <b>sensitive and fragile</b> ".

The type of idiom above is binomial. Binomial is type of idiom which mix two words by conjunction or linking word, usually "and". The idiom in the sentence above is 'sensitive and fragile'.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Idiom is a word the meaning of which cannot be defined by a literal description. Of the word itself, but instead refers to a figurative sense that is understood only by way of it and popular usage of it. The types of idiom are: 1) Phrasal verb: call on, put off, do away with, 2) Prepositional phrases, 3) Idioms with verbs as keywords 4) Idioms with nouns as keywords 5) Idioms with adjectives as keywords: cold comfort, wishful thinking, plan sailing, 6) Idiomatic pairs 7) Grammatica Restriction 8) Phrasal verb 9) Other language type 10) Binomial. The researcher did research to analyze the idiom in the Jakarta Post Online Newspaper period 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The purpose of this research is to determine the idioms used in news items. This research uses a qualitative type of research with methods that are literature studies. The steps in the research are as follows: read to the news in an online newspaper, recording the idioms found with note them, describing the meaning of these idioms and making conclusions from the research results. The result is the researcher found the idioms are lockdown, carried out, rolling out, follow up, according to, picked up, pulled down, lost out, due to, outbreak, sensitive and fragile, a lot of , magnum, lockdown, rump up, in order to, and reach out.

#### **5. SUGGESTION**

For the result of this study can be used by other researchers as a comparison or reference in conducting literary research on idiom analysis in the other topics or other period. We also suggest for other researchers to find idiom in large quantities and more varieties.

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