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## Idiomatic Expression in Song Lyrics from Arianna Grande Album *Positions*

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### ABSTRACT

A song is a literary work that can describe a person's feelings. Many songwriters write the song lyrics according to the feelings they felt at the time. This research aims to (1) classify the types of idiom expressions that were found in song lyrics of the album *Positions* by Arianna Grande. (2) find out the dominant types of idiom expression found in song lyrics of album *Positions* by Arianna Grande's. (3) identify the meaning of idiom expression found in song lyrics of album *Positions* by Arianna Grande. This research is included in qualitative descriptive research. Researchers have implemented several steps, are a follows: downloading all songs of album *Positions* from website, searching te scripts lyrics songs, listening to the songs as data for the research been carefully, finding the idiomatic expression in *Positions* album by Arianna Grande, classifying the idiomatic expression based on the types, finding the idiomatic meanings in *Positions* album by Arianna Grande. The result of the analysis, the researcher found 16 songs that used the idiomatic expression 22 songs used the types of idiomatic expression phrasal verb. Then, the researcher found 8 songs that used the types of idiomatic expression, preposition verb. In addition, the researcher found 9 songs types of idiomatic expression that used *partial idioms*. The researcher concluded a percentage: phrasal verb (56.40%), preposition verbs (20.50%), and partial idioms (23.10%). The dominant type of idiomatic expression used in the "Position" album was the phrasal verb type, with the highest percentage of 56.40%.

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## Introduction

Language is critical in life. Without language, we could hardly create the human world we are familiar with (Aronoff & Rees-Miller, 2020). Everyone has 2 (two) different ways of responding, categorized orally and in writing. In oral discussions, many people share feelings, ideas, experiences, etc. While in language is critical in life. Without language, we could hardly create the human world we are familiar with paper forums. They often express it through writing poetry or song lyrics and even writing books (Besson et al., 1998; Fell & Sporleder, 2014; Nichols et al., 2009; Orhon et al., 2018).

Based on the above statement, many people like the song, but many do not understand or even often misinterpret the meaning of the song lyrics contained in the music. Sometimes

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in the song's lyrics, several idiom sentences make them fooled by the meaning of the lyrics (Aji et al., 2022; Makkai, 1995; McCarthy & O'Dell, 2002). Idiomatic expressions are figures of speech, similes, or presuppositions realized in a word or sentence (Khak, 2011). If the idiom had translated this, the word would have had a different meaning than intended (Sag et al., 2002). Phrases help add a variety of colours and styles of language that create a picture of the meaning to be conveyed that shapes it through the figure of speech (Groenendijk & Stokhof, 1982; Leech & Svartvik, 2013).

According to Goddard & Schalley (2010); Katz & Fodor (1963) idiomatic expressions are divided into three types. These types include phrasal verb, prepositional verbs, and partial idioms. The type that is very commonly used usually tends to lead to phrasal verb, and this is because it has a mixed definition of verb and adverb. The preposition of the verb is a sequence of verbs, adverbs, and prepositions. This can be seen with various examples of prepositional verbs, including; summon, bring up, break into, despair and others. The other type is the partial idiom which has a meaning where one word has an ordinary meaning, but another word has a special meaning and has a particular order.

Idioms can describe several expressions, ranging from joy to depression, words of love to hate, and even the soul of a hero who becomes cowardly (Ding, 2019; Dixon, 1983). In addition, idioms can be used to express time, place, or measure. Various uses of idioms can be categorized according to their types, and it should be underlined that idioms are a complex and widespread unit. Idiom suitability can be defined as why it is so difficult for readers to understand the words/sentences of the idiom being interpreted (Nursanti et al., 2013). This is what makes idioms so interesting to learn. Many of them do not get bored quickly when learning idiom material. There are many easy ways to get when you want to learn idiom, one of them is through songs. To learn idioms of songs, the media can make them more interested in learning what idioms are applied to in a song, especially songs from someone famous like Arianna Grande.

The researcher chooses the latest album (*Positions* Album), because various types of idioms were found in the lyrics of the Album. Therefore, a clear explanation is needed based on the data obtained so that there is no misunderstanding in interpreting the song's lyrics (Clydesdale, 2006). In addition, the researcher focus on knowing the types, meaning, identifying and classifying the dominant kind in Arianna Grande's song lyrics. Based on the reasons above, this research is essential to do. The issues that will be underlined in this study are as follows:

1. What types of idiomatic expression found in Arianna Grande's album "Position"?
2. What the meaning of idiomatic expression found in Arianna Grande's album "Position"?

### **Research Methods**

The research used a qualitative-based research design, also known as descriptive. This type of research has a goal: to describe the available data and the studied characteristics. In that case, the researcher analyzed a song as a research source. Meanwhile, according to Creswell (2014), qualitative procedural methods are different from quantitative procedural

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methods in natural investigations. Qualitative procedures use other analyses in terms of assumptions, strategies, data collection methods, analyzes and interpreted data.

In this research, the researcher used a used a population of several songs from the Album Positions by Arianna Grande. Then, sample of the research had a two section, are: technique of sampling, it was taken the sample in this research was a purposive sampling. According to (Arifin, 2020), purposive sampling was a technique of consideration to determine the sample. Step technique of sampling, are: the researcher selected the album Positions by Arianna Grande, which contains the context of an idiomatic expression to consider several theoretical considerations, used the research data. The researcher did not used all the songs from album Positions because the two songs are the same (difference in the arrangement), and the other two songs did not found an idiomatic expressions (Larassati et al., 2022; Lestari, 2021).

In this research, the researcher used the song in *Positions* album as the subject, are: *West Side*, *Six Thirty*, *Just Like Magic*, *Nasty*, *Motive*, *Obvious*, *34+35*, *Shut Up*, *My Hair*, *Love Language*, *Off the Table*, *POV*, *Safety Net*, *Worst Behavior*, *Main Thing*, and *Test Drive*.

Meanwhile, Cook & Assessment (1994);Sgier (2012) in their book underlines that the selective process is an unavoidable part of collecting data. In collecting data, the researcher used a purposive sampling technique. According to Neuendorf (2017) stated that purposive sampling has the objective of taking the right sample for research material. So, the findings of idiomatic expressions were chosen randomly based on data that has been taken from the Position album by Arianna Grande. Steps to collecting data, are: downloading all songs of album Positions from website, searching the scripts lyrics songs, listening to the songs as data for the research been carefully, finding the idiomatic expression in "Positions" album by Arianna Grande, classifying the idiomatic expression based on the types and finding the idiomatic meanings in "Positions" album by Arianna Grande.

After the researcher collected of data, the next step was the researcher to analyze the data used 3 stages. According to Cook & Assessment (1994);Sgier (2012) to achieved research objectives include data reduction steps, displaying of data, and drawing conclusions.

Data reduction had a four steps conducted are: first, The researcher listen all songs of "Positions" album, and then the researcher read the lyrics songs carefully to found the sentences or phrases of idiomatic expression. Then, the researcher chose the songs that contained an idiomatic expression, because in the Positions album not all songs contained idiomatic expressions. Third, the researcher listing to record any words or sentences that contain idiomatic expression found in the songs on the album Positions by Arianna Grande .

Displaying of Data had a two section are: first, the researcher provides a clear information table in order to calculate the identification data to find out what types of idiomatic expression is dominant by using a simple percentage formula. The formulated:

$$n = \frac{f}{N} \times 100\%$$

n = percentage of types

N = total types of all category

f = total frequency of the sub-category

Next step, the researcher puts words or sentences in a table which then extracts the meaning contained in the idiomatic expressions according to the category and the last step was drawing conclusions from the findings and discussions which are the final presentation, implications and answers to the research problems.

## Findings and Discussion

The researcher looked the lyrics songs of Position's album as a document sources the data and found the data to appropriated on three of statement problems that mentioned on chapter one. The first was to found the idiomatic types had according to Goddard & Schalley, (2010) (three types of idioms; phrasal verb, preposition verb, and partial idiom) found in songs of *Position* album.

The next problem statement was to classified the types of idiomatic expressions that found in the Positions album. Classification of the types of idioms later found the meaning of an idiomatic expression of Positions album.

### 1. Types of Idiomatic Expressions in Position Album Song Lyrics

Based on the first statement of problems of the research, the researcher finds out the types of idiomatic expression in all songs of Position album with the theory of Palmer.

**Table 1** Types of Idiomatic Expression Found in *Position* Album

No	Title of Song	Types of Idiomatic Expression	Total
1.	West Side	Phrasal Verb	3
		Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
2.	Six Thirty	Phrasal Verb	1
		Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
3.	Just Like Magic	Phrasal Verb	1
		Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
4.	Nasty	Phrasal Verb	3
		Preposition Verb	2
		Partial Idiom	-
5.	Motive	Phrasal Verb	3
		Preposition Verb	1
		Partial Idiom	2
6.	Obvious	Phrasal Verb	2
		Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
7.	34+35	Phrasal Verb	1
		Preposition Verb	2
		Partial Idiom	2
8.	Shut Up	Phrasal Verb	1
		Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
9.	My Hair	Phrasal Verb	1
		Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	1
10.	Love Language	Phrasal Verb	1
		Preposition Verb	-

		Partial Idiom	1
		Phrasal Verb	-
11.	Off the Table	Preposition Verb	1
		Partial Idiom	1
		Phrasal Verb	-
12.	POV	Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	1
		Phrasal Verb	2
13.	Safety Net	Preposition Verb	2
		Partial Idiom	1
		Phrasal Verb	1
14.	Worst Behaviour	Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
		Phrasal Verb	1
15.	Main Thing	Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-
		Phrasal Verb	1
16.	Test Drive	Preposition Verb	-
		Partial Idiom	-

The researcher found 22 data used phrasal verb, 7 data used a prepositional verb and 9 data used a partial idiom in the Position album (16 songs). The researcher found 22 data used a types idiomatic expressions *Phrasal Verb* in fourteen songs they were; West Side song was found 3 data , Six Thirty song was found 1 data, Just Like Magic song was found 1 data, Nasty song was found 3 data, Motive song was found 3 data, Obvious song was found 2 data, 34+35 song was found 1 data, Shut Up song was found 1 data, My Hair song was found 1 data , Love Language song was found 1 data, Safety Net song was found 2 data , Worst Behavior song was found 1 data, Main Thing song was found 1 data, and Test Drive song was found 1 data.

Meanwhile, , the researcher found 8 data used for *Preposition Verb* on five songs. They were; Nasty song was found 2 data, Motive song was found 1 data, 34+35 song was found 2 data, Off The Table song was found 1 data, and Safety Net song was found 2 data. Furthermore, the researcher found 9 data on seven songs was used *Partial Idiom* types. They were; Motive song was found 2 data, 34+35 song was found 2 data, My Hair song was found 1 data, Love Language song was found 1 data, Off the Table song was found 1 data, POV song was found 1 data, and Safety Net song was found 2 data.

Based on the findings above, the dominant one is phrasal verbs which was 56,40% found in the album. Table 2 summarized the the dominant types of idiomatic expression in lyrics song of *Position* album.

**Table 2** Result of frequency the dominant types of Idiomatic Expression in lyrics songs Position album

No	Types of Idiomatic Expression	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Phrasal Verb	22	56.40%
2.	Preposition Verb	8	20.50%
3.	Partial Idiom	9	23.210%
	TOTAL	39	100%

The researchers found 22 data that used the types phrasal verb, 8 data used a preposition verb and 9 data used partial idiom. From the table 2, total of idiomatic expression was found 39 data. The data converted to percentage; the researcher found 56.40% for phrasal verb for the rate of 100%. Based on the table 2, the researcher found highest percentage 56.40% was used phrasal verb and the lowest percentage was preposition verb 23.10%.

## 2. Meaning of Idiomatic Expression Found in *Position* Album

The second statement problems of the research, the researcher had analyzed the meaning of idiomatic expression found in *Position* Album song.

**Table 3** Meaning of Idiomatic Expression Found in Position Album

No	Idiomatic Expression	Meaning
1.	Hold up	Delay someone
2.	Show up	Clearly visible
3.	Roll up	Rotate something
4.	What's up	Asking someone has been doing
5.	Wake up	Awake from sleep
6.	Got up	Get someone into peak condition for something
7.	Sign on	Agree
8.	Lead on	Guide something forward
9.	Bring out	Take something outside
10.	Put up	Action to defense
11.	Spell out	Detail of something
12.	Put on	Wearing something
13.	Keep up	Continue to understand
14.	Stay up	To remain awake from sleep
15.	Shut up	To silent
16.	Let down	Let something move down
17.	Hold down	Prevent someone from standing
18.	Get off	Help someone do this
19.	Put on	To placed something
20.	Catch up	Move fast enough to someone
21.	Pull up	To stop
22.	Pull up	Move a position
23.	Wait on	To await something
24.	Come on	An invitation
25.	Save up	To save a something
26.	Let in	To allow someone
27.	Come back	To return
28.	Thaw out	Change from a frozen solid to a liquid
29.	Like gold	Valuable
30.	Sugarcoat	To make something bad or dissatisfactory
31.	Put plainly	Explain something clearly
32.	Squeaky	Fit and healthy

## Conclusion

The researcher has answered research problems used a various sources, such as dictionaries and internet sites. After analyzing the song lyrics of Arianna Grande's album entitled "Position", the researchers found 16 songs that used the idiomatic expressions in the album "Position", there were found three types of idiomatic expressions. Based on

Palmer's theory, the researcher found that 22 songs used the types of idiomatic expression *phrasal verb*. Then, the researcher found 8 songs that used the types of idiomatic expression *preposition verb*. In addition, the researcher found 9 songs types of idiomatic expressions that used *partial idioms*. The researcher concluded a percentage; phrasal verbs (56.40%), preposition verbs (20.50%), and partial idioms (23.10%). The dominant type of idiomatic expression used in the "Position" album was the phrasal verb type, with the highest percentage of 56.40%. Furthermore, in the album "Position," the researcher concluded that phrasal verbs consist of verbs and adverbs, which can be separated by subject and noun, created a new meaning. Point to that, the composers used idioms to make the songs more interesting, attractive, and powerful. Due to the limitation of this research, the next researchers need to elaborate more on a larger sample of English songs as the object of analysis. To add, the gender variable can be also considered as the moderator variable to compare in the next research.

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