Chapter III

Method of the Study

3. 1 Research Approach

In this study the research approach selected to analyze the data is qualitative method. According to Dörnyei (2007), one of the characteristics of qualitative approach is interpretative analysis. It is basically interpretive, which means that the research result is ultimately the product of the researcher's subjective interpretation of the data. The qualitative method is useful for making sense of highly complex situations. This approach is suitable for this study because the writer interprets how the idioms in the English language represent the image of men and women. This study also shows which gender dominates the other, and this information is expected to be useful for teachers in order to avoid gender inequality in the teaching and learning process, especially within the topic of idioms.

3. 2 The Corpus

A corpus is a large, principled collection of naturally occuring examples of language stored electronically (Bennett, 2010). The corpus of this study is taken from the idioms found in the *Oxford Dictionary of English Idioms* 3rd edition (ODEI3). ODEI3 has 416 pages with 6,000 idioms from all over the English-speaking words. Hundreds of illustrative quotations, both modern and historical, offers readers a clear idea of how the

phrases can be used. The editor of this dictionary, John Ayto, was made a clear and concise introduction in explaining and summarizing the key features of idioms. This dictionary draws on the latest findings of Oxford's language monitoring program which is the largest dictionary research program in the world and the third edtion of the *Oxford English Dictionary.* These include a range of recently established idioms such as "the elephant in the corner", "a walk in the park", "win ugly", and many more. This edition also features a greatly increased number of cross-references, making it deal for quick reference. Many entries include more detailed background on the idiom in question. There are 700 new entries in third edition. There also hundreds of additional headwords and senses to reflect new research and new terms in lexicography field (Oxford University Press, 2014).

The writer chooses ODEI 3th edition which published in July, 2010. For the reason, this dictionary is in English language, especially British English. Its publisher, Oxford University Press, is the largest university press in the world, and the second oldest, after that of Cambridge University Press (Michael, 1994). So that it is well-known by people all over the world, especially in academic field. This edition is the latest edition.

3. 3 Techniques of data collection

In collecting the data, the writer took three steps. The first was using the electronic version to look for the idioms. In this case, the writer chose ID-2000 that was produced by Casio Computer Co., Ltd. This electronic

dictionaries is designed English language learners. This unit contains 13 useful reference titles including the Oxford Dictionary of English Idioms, the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, Oxford Learner's Thesaurus, and Practical English Usage from Oxford University Press that each helps to improve writing and expression in English (Casio Computer CO., LTD., 2014). In this unit, there were many idioms in the menu "idiom". As mentioned earlier, the only took the idioms related to the word "man" and "woman".

The second step was to type in the word "man" in the search menu then press enter. After that, the results are shown. The same procedure was done for the word "woman". The writer chose the singular form of the word "man" and "woman" because both of its plural ones have no results in the electronic version of ODEI.

The results of the idioms from the electronic dictionary cannot be copied and saved directly to a computer file. Therefore, the writer typed into Microsoft Words format in order to saved the data which are going to analyzed step by step.

3. 4 Technique of Data Analysis

There were three steps in analyzing the data. First, the writer divided the idioms into three groups. They are idioms those related to the word "man", "woman", and "both man and woman". This is necessary to be done manually because the automatic search may result in both

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"man"and"woman". For example the idioms 'be twice the man/woman (that somebody is).

After dividing the idioms into three groups, the second step was classifying the idioms into positive, negative, and neutral for each group. This is necessary to determine the number of negative or positive idioms related to a particular gender. Sometimes, the idioms are neutral since they are have general meaning and have not anything to do with imbalance gender. In this case, this classification is needed for comparing the data.

Finally, the writer interpreted the result to decide which gender is portrayed well than the other. The interpretation is related to the related theories, particularly on the fact that idioms are the reflection of the society. It can be seen in the dictionary since the corpus is a collection of the natural texts of language use in a particular society.