

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

This chapter covers the background of study, the research question, aim of study, the focus of study and the significance of study.

Background of Study

As known as a standardization of communication in the world, English consists of two standards of languages, standard language and non-standard language. Standard language commonly used in formal situation such as school, office, and etc. On the other hand, non-standard language is particularly used in informal situation and almost used by young people. One of the non-Standard languages most used in informal situation is slang.

According to Steward (as cited in Chaedar, 1985), standardization is the codification and acceptance, within the community of the users, of a formal set of norms defining “correct usage”. Standard English is the variety of English that is held by many to be 'correct' in the sense that it shows none of the regional or other variations that are considered by some to be ungrammatical, or non-standard English. According to Loreto Todd and Ian Hancock (in Chaedar, 1985), standard English is the “term given to the spectrum of English’s taught in school, described in grammars and dictionaries, used by the media and written with relatively little variation throughout the English speaking world”. Standard English is not always clear and separate.

Oxford dictionary (2014) describes slang as “a type of language consisting of words and phrases that are regarded as very informal, are more common in speech than writing, and are typically restricted to a particular context or group of people”. Linhua (2006) states that slang particularly popular among teenagers and college students in general. Because, slang

highly informal and is often used in informal or idiomatic speech which mostly teenagers and college students way to communicate to each other and to get close to each other . It is a part of a language that usually outside of conventional or standard usage and that may consist of both newly invented words and phrases and of new or extended meanings attached to established terms. Some of slangs is unknown for people who are not in group. Because of mostly slang is used in a community and only known by some people. Thus, there are slangs that may confuse some people.

The use of English slang influenced by some factors, some of them are social media, song's lyric, movie or TV programs, and social network. The often questionable slang of our time have stemmed from social media. Social media phrases and words are constantly changing, adapting, and transforming along with our society. Some slang phrases and words have obvious meanings and some are confusing no matter how familiar we are with social media. For instance, one of the data that researcher found "issa", this is one word that could not be found in any dictionary (unless slang dictionary) which actually a combination of three simple words "it's a". That is why researcher found slang as sometimes tricky or confusing.

Nowadays, twitter is one of the most platforms that used social media users, some people get addict to it. It could affect their ability of language, particularly to invent new words or phrase. People use those words or phrase to both their status post and also comments which are actually slang words. Recently Twitter has become one of popular platform social media. There are 55.2 million people in the US will use Twitter. That's 16.8% of the population and a 0.9% increase from 2017, according to eMarketer estimates, a market research company website. The data increases every year because of people needs of communication, interaction and indeed socializes. According to eMarket estimates millennials (the net generation) are more enthusiastic users of Twitter than their younger and older generation. 21.0 million Millennial use the social platform. Teens, on the other hand,

remain less likely to do so. Indeed, just 4.9 million teens in the US use Twitter in 2017.

Though young adult will probably be the most user of twitter. In Indonesia based on the data of Kominfo (kominfo.go.id), in 2019 the internet's users reach up to 63 million people, 95% of them are the social media users. In addition, Facebook and twitter are the most used social media platform in Indonesia.

According to Hughes and Wojcik of Pew Research Center's Study (2019) twitter use among 18-24 year olds increased dramatically between May 2011 and February 2012. Jeff Bullas (2019) said that twitter becomes one evident especially in breaking and spreading news in right in time or real time as well as being able to search tweets and information. Thus, that many things will be shared of the twitter user since it is known as social platform. In other words, there is communication and interaction happened in twitter. That is why the researcher chooses twitter. In fact, the way people communicate and socialize as they share information and get information in twitter are using terms, phrase or words that they understand which indicate slang. Based on the background of study and curiosity of how often people use slang in social media and how the meaning of slang could make confusing to understand, thus the researcher conducted "The use of slang in twitter (period of latest 2018 and current 2019)".

The similar study conducted by Susanti entitled "An Analysis of Slang Term Used In Fast and Furious 7 Movie". In her study, she discusses about an analysis of slang in Fast and Furious 7 movie. The purpose of her study is to find the type and the meaning of slang used in Fast and Furious 7 movie. The source of the data was taken from the script of Fast and Furious 7 movie. Fast and Furious 7 movie are classified as American action movies released on 15th April 2015 and directed by James Wan. This study is much similar than this study,

since Susanti analyze slang. However, the subject of study is different. The object of this study is slang on twitter and hers is the slang in a movie.

Problem statements

Based on the background of the research, the researcher tries to get the answer of the following question:

What are the types of slang found in twitter based on Eric Partridge theory?

Aim of study

Based on the research problem, the aim of the study is to describe types of slang found in twitter based on the theory of Eric Partridge.

The focus of study

In this research, the researcher will limit the discussions of this study only focusing on presenting the types of slang in social media and the meaning of the slang itself, which found in social media especially in twitter. To found out the types of slang, the researcher will use types of slang from Eric Partridge and the slang will be taken from millennial influencer status and comments on twitter.

The significance research

There are two significances of this research, theorytically and practically.

Theorytically, the significance of this research will increase the study about linguistic especially study about slang as a part of nonstandard English language. It also could give more information to the reader about slang and the meaning of its slang.

Practically, This research hopefully has some benefits for the researcher and all the readers. Moreover, in this research the reader can apply their knowledge and comprehension in the appropriate daily conversation, especially in informal occasion. And also this research is expected to give information to the reader about slang language in social media and also the meaning of slang itself.

Hence, this study hopefully will give benefit for English Department students of State University of Gorontalo as references or pilot of study for related study. In fact, this also can be used for the candidate teacher or educators of English to teach slang. Not only for English Department, has this study also had a strong relation to Bahasa Indonesia one other department in State University of Gorontalo which emphasizes on language.