

An Analysis on Slang Words in 8 Mile Movie: A Sociolinguistics Study

Analisis Kata Slang Dalam Film 8 Mile: Kajian Sociolinguistik

Igo Bani Christian¹, Putu Chrisma Dewi^{2*}, Km Tri Sutrisna Agustia³

^{1,2,3}Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Universitas Dhyana Pura, Bali, Indonesia

(*) Corresponding Author: chrismadewi@undhirabali.ac.id

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Keywords: <i>Slang Words, 8 Mile Movie, Sociolinguistics Study</i>	Abstract <i>Slang is an informal language as the outcome of the relationship between language and society. This study aims to analyze the types and the function of slang words in sociolinguistics view found in the 8 Mile movie. The theory used in this study is Wardhaugh (1986) and Alan & Burridge (2006). Classifying the slang words into five type and identifying the function into three function of slang words. The method used to conduct and collect data was descriptive qualitative method research, using observation and documentation methods. The analysis results from the study are consist of; the first of which is the types of slang words found consisting of fresh and creative slang words, clipping slang words, acronym slang words, flippant slang words, and imitative slang words. The second is function of slang words founded is consist of slang to initiate a conversation, slang to address person, slang to humiliate person. It can be concluded that the most type of slang found is clipping and function used to humiliate a person.</i>
Kata kunci: Kata-kata gaul, Film 8 Mile, Kajian Sociolinguistik	Abstrak Bahasa gaul adalah bahasa informal yang merupakan hasil hubungan antara bahasa dan masyarakat. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis jenis-jenis dan fungsi kata-kata slang dalam pandangan sociolinguistik yang terdapat dalam film 8 Mile. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah Wardhaugh (1986) dan Alan & Burridge (2006). Mengklasifikasikan kata-kata slang menjadi lima jenis dan mengidentifikasi fungsinya menjadi tiga fungsi kata-kata slang. Metode yang digunakan untuk melakukan dan mengumpulkan data adalah metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif, dengan menggunakan metode observasi dan dokumentasi. Hasil analisis dari penelitian ini terdiri dari; yang pertama adalah jenis kata slang yang ditemukan terdiri dari kata slang <i>fresh and creative</i> , kata slang <i>clipping</i> , kata slang <i>acronym</i> , kata slang <i>flippant</i> , dan kata slang <i>imitative</i> . Yang kedua adalah fungsi dari kata-kata slang yang ditemukan terdiri dari slang untuk mengawali pembicaraan, slang untuk menyapa orang, slang untuk mempermalukan orang. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa jenis bahasa gaul yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah kliping dan digunakan untuk mempermalukan seseorang.

INTRODUCTION

Human speech is a very valuable aspect in mankind life. establishing communication through various sound that will be compounded into one formation and utilizing it to utter their desire. Speech or human speech is a way to communicate using language as the main tool in order to give their utterance. According to Spolsky (1998)

Language is a symbol to differentiate one from another. In addition, it is also a repository to identify people especially in society. The study of language is also known as sociolinguistics that concerned on the relationship of language and society. Similar to how sociology of language seeks to understand how social structure can be better understood through the study of language, sociolinguistics is concerned with examining the relationships between language and society with the aim of better understanding language structure and how languages function in communication (Wardhaugh, 1986).

According to Wardhaugh (1986), relationship between language and society cannot be separated from one to another as the influence of social structure is responsible for terraforming language structure. Dividing language use to certain social group that determined by age can be seen from various daily interaction that took place in society, moreover literary works consisting of informal language as tool to reach audience easily has been very popular.

Slang or informal language formed due to the vastness of the society with the variety of identity and background. Slang language development is not only caused by a certain society or group it can also be caused by needs, current circumstances, and of course the wishes of the speaker (Chaika, 1998: 8). According to Allan & Burridge (2006) slang is a contemporary language that serves as an expression to give identity to a certain social group. Slang is a language that commonly used by people in daily conversation and perceived as informal language. Allan and Burridge (2006) stated slang words can be divided into five types. fresh and creative, imitative, acronym, clipping and flippant. and three function. To initiate conversation, to address a person, to humiliate a person. Literary works can also be a platform for slang words to evolve and developing. Song, movies, poetries, novel, short stories that are related to everyday social life can also contain slang words (Oktavia, 2017). "8 Mile" is a movie or works that can also be related to the usage of slang words by a certain group of people in a society. Slang usage in this movie is related to a social hierarchy or status of some certain group that showing and expressing their culture through speeches. This article aims to discuss the type and function found in the 8 Mile Movie as the main source of slang words.

METHOD

The data taken from the 8 Mile Movie released in 2002. Data from the movie as selected data source was collected by observation and note taking method. First was watching the movie 8 Mile to collect the slang words used, second the data collected will be further classified into the corresponding type, third is to write and analyzed the slang words. The study conducted using descriptive-qualitative method. The descriptive-qualitative method was chosen because the study aims to describe the slang used in the movie. the data will be analyzed using Wardhaugh (1986) Sociolinguistics theories and Allan & Burridge (2006) slang words classification. After the data analyzed it will be presented in descriptive text, and conclusion was drawn.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

According Allan & Burridge (2006) the type of slang is classified into five type and the function into three types of slang. The type of slang word found in the movie is, 1) Fresh and Creative, 2) Clipping, 3) Acronym, 4) Flippant, 5) Imitative, all types of slang words was found in the movie. and the function of slang words found is 1) To initiate a

conversation, 2) To Address, 3) To Humiliate a person, all function of slang words was found in the movie.

Discussion

From the result it can be seen that the types and slang words found in the movie, here is the discussion of the result based on the theory used

A. Type of Slang Words

Slang words as a main data source in the movie was taken from the 8 Mile movie subtitle then chosen to be further classified in to the corresponding type based on the theory. The classification as follows:

1. Fresh and Creative

From the conducted research most slang words were products of the imagination and the creativity of the people who uses them in daily basis, most words used is everyday interaction is not as raw or standard.

Data 1

“*Jiggity* Jump your ass offstage”
(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

Based from the data above the slang word “*Jiggity*” is classified as Fresh and Creative. The slang word does not associate or refer to a shaking motion word “*jiggle*”, it is more of an imaginary word to express the situation. The character papa doc in the movie uttered the slang word to his opponent during the rap battle in the movie, followed by a command that demanding him to get off the stage. This slang fit the characteristic of fresh and creative as the result of imagination or creativeness of the speaker.

2. Clipping

Based from the conducted research the Clipping of formal words was cut or shorten when used in daily interaction but still keep the meaning of the words only not fully pronounce when used.

Data 2

“Alright next up is my man Bunny Rabbit and *Lil’* Tic”
(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

Based from the data above the slang word “*Lil’*” is clipping from the word “*little*”, as the character in the address their name based on their body size. the word little is pronounce shortly to fit their character but does not take away the meaning. The character Lil’ Tic name gave more stylistic impression as a stage name and easier to keep in mind.

3. Acronym

From the conducted research acronym was formed through combining the two initial first letter or sound from two word into one short word, meaning of the formed short word does not change through the process.

Data 3

“MC Bob”

(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

Based from the data above “MC” is slang word classified as acronym type, the word is a shorten from originally “*Master of Ceremony*” into one word. taking the first initial letter from the original word to then formed a single slang word as “MC”, from the data the slang word is used mainly as alias for one artist or as occupancy that control an event.

4. Flippant

Slang word meaning does not always refer to a denotative meaning, some slang word does not correlate to its original meaning.

Data 4

“Untill something *dope* hit you”

(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

The existing data can be classified as flippant type of slang words that does not carries its denotative meaning, the slang word “*dope*” denotatively means a drug or anesthetic as medicine. From the data “*dope*” as a flippant slang mean an expression of something great or cool by some person standard, as its often used as symbol of impressiveness by certain social group.

5. Imitative

Slang words can imitate a formal word or combining them into one short word that still carries meaning of the original word.

Data 5

“Okay, *lotta* love, *lotta* love”

(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

Based on the existing data above the slang word “*lotta*” is identified as imitative type of slang words. Related to the previous data in the same situation as the host of rap battle asking on audience opinion regarding the hip-hop battle, as audience seems very enthusiastic giving their respond. As he assessed the situation he uttered “*okay, lotta love, lotta love*”, using the slang word lotta imitate from the word “*lots of*” into his sentence.

B. Function of Slang Words

From the conducted research the function of slang words is to start a conversation, address, and humiliate on daily social interaction. Slang words used as conversation opening until humiliate a certain individual in every daily interaction, many used by a much younger audience with the connotative meaning.

1. To Initiate a Conversation

Conversation will happen to every human in their daily life, some can be very relaxing and some can be tense. Based from the conducted research on the movie character

that used slang word to begin their conversation and delivering their statement, where some can be very aggressive or relaxed.

Data 6

“Yo, Jimmy, hold up”

“Don’t worry about it, dawg, I’ll call you tomorrow”

(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

Based on the data above slang word is used to start or open a conversation by utilizing the word to start a relax and timid conversation or statement. As the character in the movie proceed his true statement to apologize, he started with a more friendly slang “Yo” with a connotative meaning as a greeting toward his colleague. From a movie that took a background during Detroit around the 90s hip-hop is very popular and on the rise among youngsters, utilizing slang word “Yo” or “Hey yo” as greeting is very popular and sound more stylistic with meaning to greet and have a conversation. From the movie this slang word also found used to gather audience attention, for example “Yo, yo, listen up” as they begin their rap battle. This slang can also replace pro noun *you* as its used by some character in the movie for more aggressive or disturbing sentence, for example “yo, what the fuck?”. The movie itself embodied the cultural of hip-hop were many of the artist prefer using this slang then regular formal word when beginning their conversation in daily situation as they lead toward a more relaxed interaction.

2. To Address

Based on the function of slang words addressing people with slang words is very possible. Data gathered from the conducted research supported that slang words can be used when addressing certain individual, as the movie character used it in multiple occasion during daily socialization.

Data 7

“Why are you fuckin’ with the gay guy, G?”

“When really you’re the one who’s got the HIV”

Data above is taken from the movie scene where jimmy the main character is involved in a street rap battle duel against other character as one of his rap lines. The existing data shows that jimmy address his opponent with a slang word as they get more and more heading toward their finishing line, jimmy addressed his opponent with the slang “G” in his rap line followed by the rest of his sentence. From the previous analysis the “G” slang word can be classified as clipping slang word that been through. As mention in previous analysis hip-hop culture prefer to use slang to address their member of society or people with the same social status as them. Based on the data above jimmy the main character addressed his opponent by slang word with the connotative meaning of a male equivalent to his position or can be said *guy*, but with the cultural mixing with hip-hop it said in a manner of slang word. Based from the data collected only certain social group from the society can make use the slang word “G” that addressed their own member of social group and dividing people outside their circle.

3. To Humiliate

From previous research slang word common function is to humiliate other member, whether the member from the same social group or from others. The manners of using slang word to put lower value to other people was not taboo in youngsters in the movie character or in real life.

Data 8

“You ugly *motherfucker*, you pops should wore a rubber”
(8 Mile Movie, Released 2002)

From the existing data the slang word used does not carried the meaning of one person mother as their copulating partner, but it stated as insult of his opponent presence as interluded by the statement “*you ugly motherfucker*”. As both characters went on an argument one uttered the slang word as insult of the other appearance, however the slang words “*motherfucker*” does not have any correlation toward relationship of son and mother. Simply the slang word connotatively means as an insult of the appearance and existence their interlocutors that he encountered during the argument. The slang word in the data does not relate to specific social group or social class, the slang can be uttered in heated situation by many individuals as way to oppress, degrade and insult other individual.

CONCLUSION

From this result of this study, all types of slang words were found in this study. The first type is fresh and creative, second type is clipping, third type is acronym, fourth type is flippant, and fifth type is imitative. in total there are five type of slang words data from this study.

There are all three functions of slang found in this study. the functions of slang found were consist of, first slang to initiate a conversation, second function is slang to address a person, the third and final function of slang is to humiliate a person. All three function was found in this study discussion.

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