

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter present about review of the literature. It consists the definition of many theories that related in the study and the previous study.

A. Slang

a. Definition of Slang

Slang is the new vocabularies made by people in social community which is not considered standard in the speaker's dialect or language. Slang is a very informal kind of vocabulary used by people who know each other intimately (Swan, 1995: 510). Slang is frequently used among younger speakers and other groups with special interests (Yule, 2014: 262). Expressions that are identified as slang are often some types of entertaining wordplay. They are almost always an alternative way of saying something (Spears, 2000). In summary, slang is nonstandard vocabulary which is usually used by a particular social group in a certain region for internal communication.

According to Kipfer and Chapman (2007, p. 10), slang is a gray area that shares boundaries with the relaxed vocabulary identified as informal or colloquial. Slang also shares a gray area with the figurative idiom in which inventive and poetic terms, especially metaphors, are used for novelty and spice. Slang is more informal that colloquialism. Slang is the informal use of language by certain groups of people,

specifically teenagers, and has vocabularies that are created by the users which thus makes it most likely to change with time. On the other hand, colloquial language is the informal language used by people in everyday speech.

Native speakers of a language understand and use language expressions, while non-native speakers may find slangs are difficult to translate. It is due to the use of many slangs expressions as idiomatic or metaphorical sayings which are different from the standard meanings.

From the definition above, we can conclude that slang is a new vocabulary that belongs to a particular group of people especially teenagers related to informal conversation and used in informal situations. Furthermore, slang reflects the social background of the speaker.

b. History of Slang

According to Partridge (1950: 37) slang must, in any country, have arisen almost as soon as there was a colloquial speech at all. Slang originally referred to the sublanguage of the underworld. Slang has been introduced since the sixteenth century in Britain, it is used to change the inelegant statement of being connected with strangers or criminals. Therefore, it was created a new kind of speech used by criminals and cheats, it developed mostly in saloons and gambling houses.

Some people use it to make jokes and to keep the secret of the word's

meaning and also because some people want another language besides standard English to express their ideas. The English of criminals was slow developing. In fact, out of the four million people who spoke English, only about ten thousand spoke the slang criminal. By the end of the sixteenth century this new style of speaking was considered to be a language for no reason.

There are five decades of slang history and each of them has different characteristics which can be seen in the following era: Sixteenth Century, slang for the first time showed in the society and became the strange language, also only a specific group of using it. For examples thieves, beggars, criminals, etc. Then, Seventeenth Century, in this century, slang full of metaphors or symbolic language and related to immoral action. Moreover, slang began to present in popular plays event and put the slang language on the stage for the first time, such as; in Richard Brome's comedy "*A Fovial Crew*" and one of William Shakespeare's poem in the word "*hick*". After that, in the Eighteenth Century, the rhetoricians had created slang for the first time, among the students and schoolmasters, in the same way, a key factor in the social conceptualization of slang. Furthermore, slang recognized as part of English vocabulary. Nineteenth Century, in this era slang, was growing so fast. It could be seen that intellectual first time produced a slang dictionary in 1899. In The World War I and II also influenced slang language, such as; G.I, pissed off, brass, etc. Furthermore, Allan

and Burrige (2006: 70) mentioned that in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, slang denoted the ‘thieves-Latin’, the ‘vulgar tongue of the lowest blackguards in the nation’. So. slang is by association, ‘bad language’, such that any language disapproved of on moral grounds (as vulgarity, swearing, obscenity) will be branded slang and subjected to censoring.

Finally, in the Twentieth Century, slang became a part of spoken language, not only used by criminals or thieves but also used by common people. Slang was used in daily conversation because simpler and easier to speak.

c. Types of Slang

1. Fresh and Creative

Fresh and creative means that slang language has new vocabulary, informal variety, cleverness, imagination, and it can be also up to date words.

Some words which are already familiar with our mind probably will be slang words, as we do not realize it. The reasons why those slang words become familiar in our minds because those slang words appear a long time ago since slang words already appeared since the 18th century. The examples of the fresh and creative type are:

1. *Daddy* is a term to address a man, especially an older man
2. *Mommy* is a term to address a woman, especially older

woman

3. *Guys* means a group of people

2. Flippant

Flippant means that slang language made by two words or more in which the words composed not correlated with the denotative meaning. An example is a *woman's complaint*. The slang word *woman's complaint* is a term for menstruation. It occurs when a man is complaining about the sexual receptiveness of his female partner, or perhaps when a woman is complaining about one or another. Different examples of flippant type are:

1. *Jungle gym* means outdoor activities
2. *Shake the rush out* means give your best
3. *Big deal* means a major issue; often ironic, occasionally as an exclamation

3. Imitative

Imitative means that slang word imitating the Standard English (SE) word, using SE words in different meaning or combining two different words. The examples are:

1. Wanna derived from phrase word "want to"
2. Sweethearts address to beloved person
3. Kiddo address to closest person and usually use as special address

4. Acronym

Acronym is a type of slang constructed by the result of words from the first letters of each word in a phrase or this type is made by initials from a group of words or syllables. When the series of letters is not easily pronounced as a word, the “acronym” is produced by sounding out each letter, as in *NFL* [n f l] for *National Football League*. These special kinds of acronyms are sometimes called alphabetic abbreviations. The examples of acronym are:

1. *LOL* is an acronym of Laugh Out Loud, it mostly used to indicate smiling or amusement
2. *OMG* is an acronym of Oh My God, it used to express shock
3. *F2F* is an acronym of Face to Face, it means conversation which you talk to them directly

5. Clipping

Clipping type is one of the variety of slang made by deleting some parts of the longer word becomes a shorter form in the same meaning. Clipping form is not appropriate to use in formal conversation. Below are examples of clipping type:

1. *Bot* means robot
2. *Cuz* means because
3. *Lil* means little

d. Meaning of Slang

To understand the language, we need to know the meaning of words and the morphemes that compose them. We also must know how meanings of words combine into phrase and sentence meanings. Hence, we must consider context when determining meaning (Fromkin, et. al., 2003: 173). Actually, a text always occurs in two contexts – context of culture and context of situation. Context of culture describes as the sum of all the meanings it is possible to mean in that particular culture, whereas context of situation is a useful term to cover the things going on in the world outside the text that make the text what it is (Butt, et. al., 2000: 3).

In interpreting the text, especially slang language, we also need to consider context of culture and context situation. Within the context of culture, people use language in many more specific context of situation. There are three aspects of the context; field, tenor and mode. *Field* means what is to be talked or written about. *Tenor* is the relationship between the speaker and hearer or the writer and reader while *mode* is the kind of text being made (Butt, et. al., 2000: 4-5). These are the extralinguistic features of a text which are given substance in the words and grammatical patterns that speakers and the writer use consciously or subconsciously to construct texts of different varieties, and that their audience uses to classify and interpret (Butt, et. al., 2000: 4).

Almost everyone uses slang on some occasions, but it is not easy to define the word. Slang introduces many new words into the language by recombining old words into new meanings (Fromkin, et. al., 2003: 473). Slang may deviate from any criterion of predictability and transparency at the level semantics. The meaning of slang words is totally at variance with the meaning of the same words in standard language, and sometimes they are concealed, so as to make word inaccessible to outsiders. (Mattiello, 2008: 45). For instance, the word '*chick*' in the standard dictionary means a young bird, especially one newly hatched, but it is now a slang word that means a young woman. Besides, slang varies from region to region (Fromkin, et, al., 2003: 474), that is why there are some regional slang. For example, in New Jersey or New York, the word '*mad*' means many or very, but the California version of New York's '*mad*' is '*hella*'. Thus, the meaning of slang words should be interpreted based on context of culture and context of situation.

e. Functions of Slang

People tend to simplify the language they use, especially in casual conversations where they can use slang because it is easier and more practical. By using slang, people show solidarity with their friends or relatives in order to minimize differences. Scoot and Quiring (2007) stated that the use of slang in everyday speech does not present a problem, provides accurate information and may indicate that they are

members of a group. This means that slang is not going to cause serious problems, even slang can be a differentiator between social groups.

Allan and Burrige (2006) explain there are seven functions of slang terms as follows:

1. To address, means the speakers use slang word to address another speaker in order to maintain their close relationship
2. To humiliate, the speakers have the tendency to express unpleasant or dislike feeling of the speakers towards someone or something by mocking them
3. To initiate relax conversation, the speakers who have close relationship with other tends to use certain vocabulary in order to make the conversation run more relaxed so that they can feel more comfortable
4. To form intimate atmosphere, slang can be an alternative way to alleviate the relationship among the strangers so that they can reduce social distance and more comfortable
5. To express impression, the speakers often use slang to reflex their impression whether it is a good or a bad impression about something in order to give a clear image about the certain feeling that they want to express
6. To reveal anger, the speakers who have close

relationship often use slang words to curse others rather than use regular words when they need to describe anger

7. To show intimacy, the speakers usually use formal language with strangers during conversation but prefer to use slang with friends to indicate intimacy or solidarity of their social relationship.

B. Movie

Everybody knows a movie, watching a movie is an activity that is often done by people in their spare time. Movie is a kind of entertainment that can do easily. People can watch a movie at home or in the cinema. Moviees are images usually photograph that move, to be sure (Sontag, 2012: 27).

Movie is a truly important art form, a source of popular entertainment, and a powerful medium for education. Watching foreign movies is a great way to learn a new language. by watching a movie we will get rich cultural experiences and the opportunity to improve our language skills. Some movies have become popular international attractions through the use of subtitles to translated the dialog into other languages. Burns (2009), stated, “This study relied on five genres: action-adventure, comedy, drama, horror, and science fiction”. There are other genres in the film industry, but these five tend to be the most

important in the genre research. Below are five genres of movie:

1. Action adventure

Action movie is protagonist or protagonists are force into a series of events that typically include violence, fighting and physical acts.

Action movies tend to feature a resourceful hero struggling against incredible odds, which include life intimidating situations, a criminal or a hunt which usually closes in victory for the hero. Adventure movie contain many of the same features of action movies, but usually set in exotic locations. The characters often exploring places they have not been before or doing things they have not done before. The stories include missions for lost treasure, heroic journeys, and jungle or desert setting. This movie often set in an historical time and based on historical or fictional adventure heroes within the historical background.

2. Comedies

In comedy movie the main importance is on humour. Movies are designed to make the viewers laugh through amusement and most often work by exaggerating characteristics for humorous effect.

3. Horror

Horror movie seeks to bring out fear for entertainment purposes. The themes in horror movie are deathly and supernatural. May also be related to the fantasy, supernatural fiction and thriller genres. Horror movie often goal to suggest viewers' nightmares, fears, and terror of the unknown

4. Drama

Dramas are serious, plot-driven presentation, portraying realistic characters, settings, life situations, and stories involving intense character development and interaction. Usually, drama is not focused on special effects. Dramatic films are probably the largest genre with many subsets.

5. Science fiction

Science fiction deal with the aware rather than the unaware, speculating on technology, gimmicks, and the perfectible future and relaying on society's anxiety about technology and its growth.

C. Synopsys of the Movie

Sherlock Holmes: Abominable Bride, this film takes the audience to the 19th century in England, where Sherlock Holmes and his best friend (Dr. John Watson) investigate a murder case that is

said to have been carried out by the spirit of a bride named Emillia Ricoletti.

In this film, Emelia actually committed suicide a few days earlier by shooting her mouth cavity until the bullet entered her brain. Emelia's spirit killed two people, namely her own husband and Sir Eustache.

Sherlock Holmes finds this case interesting to prove that murderers are not spirits, that demons do not exist. In addition, Sherlock wants to find out how Sherlock's nemesis, James Moriarty can reappear after committing suicide, similar to the case of Emillia Ricoletti's bridal spirit.

In short, it turns out that it was not Emillia Ricoletti's spirit who committed the murder, but Emillia's close friends. When met by Sherlock, John Watson, and Mary Watson in old church. Emillia's friend hide her face with a mask. Because of that, Sherlock then referred to them as "The Invisible Army". And Sherlock was surprised when The Invisible Army took off their masks. It turns out that they are women who are not far from Sherlock's life in modern times like Molly and Janine.

It turns out that Emillia Ricoletti's case is not real or just Sherlock's imagination when he was addicted to cocaine in modern times. Sherlock is accustomed to using illegal drugs to enter his "Mind Palace", a way of concentration for Sherlock to

think and solve mysterious cases as usual.

The case of Sherlock's imaginary the abominable bride explains to Sherlock that James Moriarty is really dead, but he can come back. Back in the sense that Moriarty will always live in Sherlock's mind when Sherlock is afraid or weak. Moriarty calls himself a "virus" that will always be in the "hard drive" of Sherlock's brain.

D. Previous Study

There are several previous studies that had been held by some researcher that has been published in the journal. We need to do the review of literature in order to know how to the other researchers analyze the topic, so we can avoid the possibility of duplication.

The first, In a study about slang word used in Black Eyed Peas in the E.N.D. album done by Wiratama (2016), the result of the study is that rappers are more likely to use slang words. In addition, slang expressions used by rappers in their songs can be classified into four characteristics; creativity, flippant, fresh and onomatopoeic. Moreover, the characteristic of slang expressions used in Black Eyed Peas in the E.N.D. album are mostly fresh. However, this research analyzes slang used by movie.

The second, Fatimatul (2019) analyzed slang language types used in American teenage vloggers. She found that slang used in the vlogs can be classified into cockney slang, public-house slang, workmen slang, tradesmen slang, commerce slang, publicity slang, public schools and universities slang, society slang, art slang, sports

and games slang, and internet slang.

The third, Silvia (2013) conducted a study entitled “The meaning analysis of Slang used in Notorious B.I.G’s song Love No Ho” found that the method used in the study is documentation. In addition, the types of slang used by singer in their songs can be divided into two characteristics; Primary slang and Secondary slang.

The fourth, Hidayati (2013) in “The Semantics study of English Slang used in the column Cosmo Magazine”, the result of the study is analyzes slang word in the lyrics of two songs from Far East Movement entitled “Freal Luv” and “Girls on the Dance Floor. This study only concern on four form of slang. They are; Blending, Clipping, Coinage, and Acronym.

Based on the researches above, it can be summed up that this study is different from those studies because; the users of slang studied by the four researchers above with this study are different. Four studies related to slang above analyzed slang language used in American vlogs and songs, while this study studies about types and the meaning of slang language used by American movies.