

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter present background of the research, statement of research problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research and definition of the key term.

### A. Background of the Research

Language is crucial instrument for human being both in everyday conversation. Language as means of communication has important roles in human life. It is means of communication between individuals. Harmer (2007:13) stated that by the end of the twentieth century English was already well on its way to becoming a genuine *lingua franca*, that is language used widely for communication between people who do not share the same first or even second. English has become an international language because it is spoken by million's people in the world. Language should be easy to be understood. Language is a system. Language is formed by components that are patterned regularly and to be norm. Sign of language to present something called meaning it means that every articulate of language has meaning. It shows that the people or individuals that use variations of the language to convey something.

In language, we can express an idea up to emotions in writing or not. Besides reviewing and critiquing the meaning of a poem or music is another example. In our daily routine we often use language just to enjoy the music with their individual tastes. Based on the *Oxford Advanced Dictionary*, music is the arrangement of sounds in a pleasing sequence or combination to be sung or played on instruments. In communication there are have two kinds of language, they are formal and informal language. People use the formal language such as when they are in formal situation so they should look at the degree of politeness which is influenced by the speaker, the person who is spoke and the context of the conversation. Conversely, when they are in informal situation they will use informal language. Basically, to determine a context is using a variety of formal or informal can be seen from the selected of vocabulary. The informal vocabulary in English includes Slang or vocabulary called slang language.

Slang is an informal words or phrases and expressions that are not used in general. The phrase or word is often used by certain social groups to communicate with words difficult to understand by others. According to George Yule (2006:211), slang is more typically used among those who are outside established higher-status groups. Like clothing and music, slang is an aspect of social life that is subject to fashion, especially among adolescents. However, the use of slang varies within the younger social group, as illustrated by the use of obscenities

or taboo terms. Slang is an important aspect in American culture. It is more effective than standard or conventional English to describing sport, sex, and intoxication in daily conversation. American Slang, according to Flexner in *The New Dictionary of American Slang*, is the body of words and expressions often used by intelligible to a large portion of the general American public but not accepted as good. Formal usage by the majority.

Slang often met in circles a particular community or rather adolescence. Slang is very rapid development considering each period continue to emerge. The language is not everyone's idea of the purpose of a community unless the community itself. Samples, in Aloon-Aloon Tulungagung sure we find the various communities gathered together. It will be mixed in the same location. Each community must have their own slang. Have distinctive characteristics and a unique code that is taboo even if people outside the community misrepresented.

Sometimes other in daily conversation we often find the use of slang is in the song lyric, because in every lyrics of song should be delivered a sense for the listeners. Thus, the musicians should be charm in selecting the vocabularies in each sentence, in order it make the listener interest to listen the music. For the alternative ways, musicians uses slang into song lyrics. Talking about song and music, in this world, a lot of various streams of music, one of them is hip hop.

Some reasons why the writer chose Hip Hop music for analyzing slang because first, slang is mainly from hip-hop music. Hip-hop music or African - American music, in many ways has played an important role in this development of music. Many of the words and phrases from hip-hop music became combined and used by outside communities who had figured out the context and definitions of these rappers' words. This adaptation process happened in many of the ethnic communities and areas within America and their language containing much from this language. Second, Hip hop is a cultural movement that began to grow around the 1970s developed by the community of Afro-American and Latin-America. Hip hop is a very dynamic composition between the elements that are consisting of MCing (rapping), Djing, Breakdancing and Graffiti. This latter element of hip hop also characterized by Beat boxing, fashion, slang and other lifestyle.

There are many slang words that we could find in daily conversation especially when hearing Hip-Hop songs. Sometimes native speakers and non-native speakers get confused with that new slang words, because they did not know the meaning of that words, especially nowadays there is so many media that occurs that new slang words spread quickly. Based on the phenomenon above the writer interested in conducting a research concerning the use of slang words in Hip-hop music.

Elaborate with the reasons above the writer wanted to analyze slang used in Black Eyed Peas with their album, *The E.N.D.* this research still minimal done by students to pursue undergraduate level whereas the research is very tightly and closely related to our daily life. The Black Eyed Peas is an American hip hop group that was formed in Los Angeles, California in 1995. The group consists of rapper will.i.am, apl.de.ap, and Taboo, and singer Fergie. Since their third album, *Elephunk*, which was released in 2003, this group is estimated to have sold about 56 million records worldwide. B.E.P (Black Eyed Peas) scored their first hit worldwide with "Where is the Love?" In 2003, this occupied more than top 10 of the charts worldwide. Other singles are "Shut Up" became a hit in Europe. The next album, *"Monkey Business"* also achieved worldwide success with certified 4x platinum in the US and produce two hit singles, "My Humps" and "Do not Phunk My Heart".

The reason the writer chose their fifth album, based on *LA Times* was published on June 2, 2009 that based quartet Black Eyed Peas is possibly the greatest bubble gum group of the Extreme Ice Fruit Explosion era. Following in the path forged by the Monkees, the Archies and the Spice Girls, the Peas present themselves as a cast of zany characters whose music is, on one level, like a child's game, and on another, as calculatedly smart and seductive as test-marketed pop gets.

The titles of the Peas' biggest hits tell the story: the giggle-inducing pun of "Don't Phunk With My Heart," the cheerily crude anatomical gesture of "My Humps" and now the Imax-ready sound effects burst of the chart-topping "Boom Boom Pow." Crass, good-hearted, funny, unfailingly loud scavengers of every shiny thing lying on pop's cross-cultural dance floor, the Peas present themselves as juvenile, but there's a lot going on behind the mugging.

From those, the study of slang is much needed for everyone. As woman society, we have to know the differentiation between informal vocabularies (slang) and formal vocabularies. In order we can selected and used both of them based on the situation and condition when we conduct some conversation with other people. Other side, especially for English student, they should make themselves get more understand about slang, whether it is in the form of spoken , written or in slang used in the song lyrics. It is suggested to understand all about song not only literal meaning but also contextual meaning so that enrich vocabulary, language variation, complete formal instruction which classroom usually tend to teach formal English. So, slang found in songs can enrich theirs. I believe that the knowledge of English is useful not only for learning the language, but also for learning all other subjects.

The studies on slang has been interesting conducted (Abadi, 2009; Setyowati, 2004; Hasanah, 2003) still it seems endless to discuss and it can be used as a reference by the readers especially the students at English Education

Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training The State Islamic  
Institution of Tulungagung who want to analyze slang language as object in  
thesis writing, and interested in study slangs in song lyrics.

Based on the explanation above and description of the slang  
language, the writer interest to conduct a study entitled “*Slang used in  
Black Eyed Peas’ in the E.N.D album*”.

## **B. Statement of Research Problems**

The problem that is discussed in this paper can be stated as;

1. What are the characteristics of slang used in Black Eyed Peas' in "The E.N.D album"?
2. What are the meanings of slang found in Black Eyed Peas' in "The E.N.D album"?

## **C. Objectives of the Research**

The Objectives of the study are:

1. To know the characteristics of slang used in Black Eyed Peas' in "The E.N.D album".
2. To find out the meaning of slang found in Black Eyed Peas' in "The E.N.D album".

## **D. Significances of the Research**

Referring to the purpose of the study above, the result of this study is expected to give worthy contribution for all people who want to study more about language. Practically, English teaching learning especially slang could use the song as its object because the lyric in the song contains many slang useful to enrich the language for learners and have better understanding about slang especially used in hip-hop songs as in *Black Eyed Peas' in The E.N.D album*.



### **E. Scope and Limitation of the Research**

The scope of this study on Slang used in song or lyric. Referring from the research questions above the writer limits the study it is focusing to know the types of Slang and find out the meaning of Slang on Black Eyed Peas' in the E.N.D album. There are seventeen songs in this album but writer only focus on ten selected songs. It was:

1. Boom Boom Pow
2. I Gotta Feeling
3. Imma Be
4. Mare
5. Meet Me Halfway
6. Missing You
7. Ring-A-Ling
8. Rockin To Beat
9. Rock That Body
10. Alive

### **F. Definitions of Key Terms**

1. Slang

Slang - Informal, nonstandard words and phrases, generally shorter lived than the expressions of ordinary colloquial speech, and typically formed by creative, often witty juxtapositions of words or images.

## 2. Black Eyed Peas (BEP)

The Black Eyed Peas is an American hip hop group that was formed in Los Angeles, California in 1995. The group consists of four personnel.

## 3. The E.N.D Album

The E.N.D (The Energy Never Dies) is the fifth album of the Black Eyed Peas. Released on 9 June 2009 in Los Angeles, California.