

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher will present six topics related to this study. Those include Background of the Study, Research Questions, Objective of the Research, Scope and Limitation of the study, and Significant of the Study.

A. Background of the Study

Language is a communication system, this means that language is specialized for communication. It is used by human beings to communicate each other. They communicate each other in school, park, house, etc. By using it, human beings can do his role as a social creature.

English is the most used language in the world. It spread throughout the world. It taught in school and used in conversation. It used in writing the books for academic purposes. The English that is taught in school and used in writing the books is Standard English. So far, there are two kinds of Standard English, both are Standard American English and Standard British English. According to Fromkin and Rodman (1981) "Standard American English (SAE) is a dialect of English which many Americans almost speak."

According to Holmes (1992) "dialects are simply linguistics varieties which are distinguishable by their vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation; the speech of people from different social, as regional, groups may differ in this way." The dialect can be vary because of the society that made out of people with diversity background. The differences come in terms of age, gender, religion, power, economy, ethnicity, and others. Language as the essential part of life is also affected by those differences. As the result, language has many variations according to each user's region, gender, social class, ethnic, and so on. One of

several factors that affects language is ethnicity. Therefore, language could vary from one ethnic group to another because every ethnic group has its own characteristics that make each language different. Language is also used to define characteristics of ethnic group membership through the different varieties of the same language (Trudgill, 2000). The example of variety that is affected by ethnic group is African American Vernacular English (AAVE). Beside Standard American English as the standard dialect, there are many non-standard dialects that are used in the United States of America such as Hispanic English, Philadelphia dialect, Chicago dialect, and African American Vernacular English.

African American Vernacular English (AAVE) is a variety of speech that is mostly spoken by the descendants of African slaves in the United States (Reyes, 2010). AAVE has its own characteristics that make it different from the Standard English. Grammatical deviation is one of the differences presented in AAVE characteristics. Since African American Vernacular English (AAVE) is used to describe African people who live in United States of America, there are many literary works that use it as the representative of African American in their works.

African American Vernacular English (AAVE) also considered a dialect that is used by many people in The United States. Although the dialect is labelled as "African American", the dialect is used by white people also, since the whites and blacks interacts in public spaces. Then, the dialect is understood either by whites and blacks. The interaction between blacks and whites all over the country results in using the dialect all over the country.

As a dialect, it has current syntactic, phonological, and morphological characteristics. The syntactic characteristics of AAVE is the prominent characteristics of AAVE since it is used in daily conversation, entertainment, even in National Basketball Association game. As In the entertainment, AAVE's syntactic characteristics is used in Movies and talk shows. There are many movies that contain AAVE's syntactic characteristics, one of them is Straight

Outta Compton film which produced by New Line Cinema and distributed by Universal Studio in year 2015. The movie contains many syntactic characteristics of AAVE from many aspects, such as auxiliaries, questions, and negation.

Straight Outta Compton is a 2015 American biographical drama film directed by F. Gary Gray, depicting the rise and fall of the gangsta rap group N.W.A and its members Eazy-E, Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, MC Ren, and DJ Yella. The members of N.W.A were involved in the production of the film, including Ice Cube and Dr. Dre as producers, as was Eazy-E's widow, Tomica Woods-Wright. MC Ren and DJ Yella served as creative consultants. Ice Cube is played by his real-life son, O'Shea Jackson Jr., with Corey Hawkins as Dr. Dre, Jason Mitchell as Eazy-E, Neil Brown Jr. as DJ Yella and Aldis Hodge as MC Ren. Paul Giamatti also stars as N.W.A's manager Jerry Heller. The movie itself contains a lot of gangster problematic and also rated R (Restricted) as it contains strong language and violence throughout of the movies that only allowed for an adult audiences only.

There are some studies that analyze African American Vernacular Language before. One of them is written by Khotimah (2012) In her thesis by the title “The Comparison of Black English and Standard American English Grammar in the Novel Just Above my Head by James Baldwin”, used the theory of Ralph W. Fasold, J. L. Dillard, and Walt Wolfram to analyze the grammatical characteristics of Black English which found in the novel. She used also the theory of Michael Swan, Marcella Frank, A. J. Thomson and A. V. Martinet to compare between grammatical characteristics of Black English and the Standard American English grammatical characteristics. As same as the previous thesis, in data analysis, she compared the grammatical characteristics of African American English which found in the novel with Standard American English grammatical characteristics. There are differences between previous study mentioned and this study. Such the previous study was analyzing the comparison of Black English and standard American English in terms of Grammar, while this

current study is trying to analyze the AAVE's syntactic characteristics that featured in the media. Also, the second difference between the two studies is the media used as an research object. While the previous one was using novel, this current study is using movie as an object to be analyzed.

The goal of this research is to show the readers regarding AAVE's syntactic characteristic that featured within. This was supposed to avoid the problem that might be faced by English learners when they watch something that feature an AAVE on the media. The problem will raise when someone who watch the movie doesn't understand the types of AAVE's syntactic characteristics in the Movie, for example they don't understand the form of the verb that is used with singular subject in AAVE, also they don't understand the form of negative sentence in AAVE, they will not understand the movie well. It is important to analyze the types of AAVE's syntactic characteristics that occur in the movie. As nowadays, African American English continues to be a vehicle for culture, and is important for cultural affiliation, identity, and self-expression. It is used in formal writing, literature, music, and media, and can convey not only personal stories, but also cultural and social messages. Hip hop, for example, is a genre of music that has been especially successful at using language in a way that voices powerful messages about race, inequality, politics, history, and social justice. The knowledge about types of AAVE's syntactic characteristics may results in the understanding of the Movie. Consequently, this study will analyze the types of AAVE's syntactic characteristics in "Straight Outta Compton" Movie, also to find whether the target readers understand on not the Movie.

B. Research Questions

This research uses research questions as follows:

1. What types of AAVE's syntactic characteristics that occur in Straight Outta Compton movie?
2. How does AAVE differ from American Standard English in term of Syntactic aspects?

C. Objectives of the Study

This research intends to know:

1. The types of AAVE's syntactic characteristics that occur in Straight Outta Compton movie.
2. Deciding on how AAVE differ from American Standard English in term of Syntactic aspects.

D. Scope and Limitations

This research, while studying the syntactic characteristics of AAVE as portrayed in the "Straight Outta Compton" movie script which produced by New Line Cinema and distributed by Universal Studio in year 2015 may have a narrower focus, it still holds significance for education by providing authentic language use examples, promoting language awareness and sensitivity, informing pedagogical practices, representing diverse cultures, and fostering sociolinguistic understanding.

E. Significances of the Study

This research is expected to give a brief explanation about the usage of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) in entertainment until it can be concluded as a reference to deepen the study toward AAVE itself. Besides that, this research is expected to give a brief explanation about African American Vernacular English dialect to the society until they are attracted to watch the dialogues, films, and other interactions by Afro-American people until they can learn their language and culture. Also, studying AAVE characteristics is

significant for education as it promotes linguistic diversity, enhances communication, acknowledges cultural relevance, empowers students, and helps overcome language bias. By valuing and understanding AAVE, educators can create more inclusive and effective learning environments for all students.