

---

## SLANGS USED IN MOVIE “THE HANGOVER”

Ni Wayan Ratna Dewi<sup>1\*</sup>, I Made Rajeg<sup>2</sup>, Sang Ayu Isnu Maharani<sup>3</sup>

<sup>[123]</sup>English Department, Faculty Of Arts Udayana University

<sup>1</sup>[rdewi955@yahoo.co.id] <sup>2</sup>[imaderajeg@gmail.com] <sup>3</sup>[isnu.maharani@yahoo.com]

\*Corresponding Author

### *Abstrak*

*Penelitian ini berjudul **Slangs Used in Movie “The Hangover”**. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi tipe, pembentukan kata, dan makna literal dan figuratif dari setiap kosakata slang yang ditemukan dalam film berjudul “The Hangover”. Penelitian ini menggunakan tiga teori untuk menjawab tiga permasalahan. Adapun tiga teori yang dimaksud yakni; teori tentang tipe slang oleh Allan dan Burridge (2006), teori pembentukan kata oleh Yule (2006), dan juga teori tentang makna literal dan makna figuratif oleh Hayes (1977). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ada lima tipe slang dan lima tipe pembentukan kata yang ditemukan pada film ini, padahal sebenarnya ada sepuluh tipe pembentukan kata yang dikemukakan oleh Yule (2006). Selain itu, penelitian ini juga menemukan bahwa setiap makna literal dari kosakata slang mempunyai makna figuratif yang berbeda-beda dan pemaknaannya tidak hanya berdasarkan kamus tapi juga berdasarkan situasi dan lawan bicaranya saat kosakata slang itu digunakan oleh aktor maupun artis di film ini.*

*Kata kunci: tipe slang, pembentukan kata, makna literal dan makna figuratif*

### **1. Background of the Study**

Generally, slang language is the informal language used by a particular group of people especially teenagers in a very informal situation in order to keep the secret of what they are talking about because slang is produced by the speaker himself/herself and it is only used in his/her own community. According to Swan (1995: 510), slang is a very informal kind of vocabulary, used mostly in speech by people who know each other well. This study used movie as the data source because movie is one of the most favorite entertainments for all people. The people usually imitate the style or the way the characters speak in a movie especially when they use slang language. Moreover, they just imitate the slang words without knowing the meaning of those words. So, the writer is interested in analyzing the slang words in “The Hangover” movie in order to help people to know and understand about each slang word found in this movie so they can understand the plot of this movie and get entertained from this movie.

## **2. Problems of the Study**

- 1) What types of slang were used in the movie “The Hangover”?
- 2) How slang expressions were used in the movie “The Hangover”?
- 3) What were the literal and figurative meanings of the slang expressions used in the movie “The Hangover”?

## **3. Aims of the Study**

- 1) To identify the types of slang used in the movie “The Hangover”.
- 2) To classify the word formations used to create slangs used in the movie “The Hangover”.
- 3) To describe the literal and figurative meanings of the slangs used in the movie “The Hangover”.

## **4. Research Methods**

### **4.1 Data Source**

The data of this study were taken from the dialogue of “The Hangover” movie with the duration about 109 minutes. This movie was chosen because it is one of the famous movies in the world and became the tenth-highest-grossing film of 2009, with a worldwide gross of over \$467 million and won the Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy on January 17, 2010. Besides, it was chosen because there were so many slang words spoken by the characters in this movie from the beginning to the ending of this movie that were very difficult to understand. So, it is interesting to identify the slang types, to classify the word formations and to describe the literal and figurative meanings of slangs in this movie.

### **4.2 Method and Technique of Collecting Data**

This study used documentation method and the technique of collecting data was done in some steps; watching the movie, downloading the movie script, reading the movie script clearly and carefully to find out the slang words and then writing the slang words found in the movie “The Hangover” and finally the data were ready to be analyzed.

### **4.3 Method and Technique of Analyzing Data**

This study used the qualitative method and the data were analyzed through steps; checking the whole data that were collected in Urban Slang Dictionary and Merriam Webster Online Dictionary whether they were slang words or not, identifying the slang types based on the theory of types of slang by Allan and Burridge (2006). Then, classifying the word formations used to create slangs using the theory of word formations proposed by Yule (2006). Next, Hayes's approach was applied to describe the literal and figurative meanings of slang words. In addition, the Oxford Dictionary was used to describe the literal meanings of slang words in this movie, and Urban Slang Dictionary and Merriam Webster Online Dictionary were used to describe the figurative meanings of slang words found in this movie. Moreover, the meaning was described not only based on the dictionaries but also based on the context of situation and the participants when that slang words were used by the characters in this movie. Finally, drawing the conclusion based on the data of analysis.

## **5. Result and Discussion**

This part deals with the result and discussion of the data analysis. The data analysis is divided into three parts: the identification of slang types, the classification of word formations to create slang expressions, and the description of their literal and figurative meanings.

### **5.1 The Types of Slang**

In this part, there are five types of slangs which are analyzed based on theory of types of slang by Allan and Burridge (2006: 69) and the complete result of the types of slang which were spoken by the characters in the movie "The Hangover" can be seen as follows:

#### **1. Fresh and Creative**

The data that are categorized into fresh and creative types are buddy, Dr. Faggot, dude, bro, dick, tits, chop-chop, and nope.

## 2. Flippant

The data that are categorized into flippant type are fucked up, holy shit, goddamn, holy fuck, asshole, dumb shit, and fuck off.

## 3. Imitative

The data which are categorized into imitative types are gonna, wanna, shit, classic, gotta, wolf pack, rack, chick, sweetheart, sweetie, what's up, super hot, snakeskin, hooker, chill out and honey.

## 4. Acronym

The data that is categorized into acronym type is snafu.

## 5. Clipping

The data that are categorized into clipping type are till, dad, congrats, bud, a sec, and, grandpa.

### 5.2 The Word Formations of Slangs

Actually, there are ten word formations used to create slangs proposed by Yule (2006: 52-59) but there are only five word formations found in this movie.

#### 1. Compounding

The following are examples of compounding found in "The Hangover" movie:

1. Wolf pack → wolf (N) + pack (N).
2. Dumb shit → dumb (Adj) + shit (N).
3. Holy fuck → holy (Adj) + fuck (V).
4. Super hot → super (Adj) + hot (Adj).

#### 2. Blending

The following are the examples of blending found in the movie "The Hangover":

1. **Gonna** is the blending of **going** (V) + **to**.
2. **Wanna** is the blending of **want** (V) + **to**.
3. **Gotta** is the blending of **got** (V) + **to**.

#### 3. Clipping

The following are the examples of clipping found in the movie "The Hangover":

1. **Till** is the clipping of the word **until**.

2. **Congrats** is the clipping of the word **congratulations**.
3. **Bud** is the clipping of the word **buddy**.

#### 4. Acronym

The following is the example of acronym found in the movie “The Hangover”:

1. **Snafu**

Based on the context of situation and based on the relationship between the participants who are couple, the word **snafu** was used in informal speech and it was used by Stu when he talked with his girlfriend, Melissa and it is the acronym of **Situation Normal, All Fucked Up**. This acronym was proper because everything did not happen as Stu and his friends had planned. All of their plans were canceled because they were fucked up after the bachelor party and they lost Doug, face so many weird incidents, and met so many strangers.

#### 5. Multiple processes

The following examples show the multiple processes in “The Hangover” movie:

1. Asshole

The word **asshole** is called multiple processes because it is made through two word formation processes. First, ‘borrowing’ because the word **ass** is the borrowing word from American spelling of the British **arse** and then followed by ‘compounding’ the word **ass** (N) and **hole** (N) to form a new single word **asshole**.

### 5.3 Literal and Figurative Meanings

1. **Tits** (Data 19)

Eddie : Yeah, and she’s beautiful, man. Clean, very tight. **Tits** like that.

**The analysis:**

Literally, the word **tits** (Oxford; 2010: 1569) means a stupid person but based on the context of situation when this word was used in this movie, it was used to describe the woman’s breast in informal situation and used by people who know

each other well. That meaning was proper because when Eddie talked that word he also pointed his chest to describe Jade's breast.

2. **Chick** (Data 20)

Phil : Uh, here's the deal. We made a mistake last night. We need this marriage annulled. You do annulments?

Eddie : Of course I do. It breaks my heart and gonna make me sad but it's no problem. Good price for you. I can't do it with just him, though. I need the **chick**. I need both parties.

Phil : Oh, not a problem. That's great. Isn't that great, Stu?

**The analysis:**

The word **chick** (Oxford; 2010: 242) literally means a baby bird, especially a baby chicken but when it is used in the sentence above, it has different meaning. Based on the context of situation, the word **chick** figuratively means a woman in informal situation. **Chick** in this conversation is not a baby bird but a woman because Phil asked Eddie to annul the marriage between Stu and Jade because it happened when they were fucked up. Then, Eddie said that he could annul that marriage but he needed the **chick** which means that he needed the woman who was married with Stu. So, **chick** in this conversation means Jade.

## 6. Conclusion

There are five types of slang that are used by all the characters in this movie. They are eight in fresh and creative, seven in flippant, sixteen in imitative, one in acronym, and six in clipping type.

There are five word formations used in creating slangs found in this movie, such as eleven are compounding, three are blending, one is acronym, six are clipping, and one is multiple processes. There are no coinage, borrowing, back formation, conversion, and derivation that are used in "The Hangover" movie.

This study also found that every literal meaning of slang words which are used by all the characters has different figurative meaning. This study also found that the meaning

of each slang word is not only based on dictionaries but also based on the context of situation and the participants when the slang is used. So, the people who watch this movie have to know more about the meaning of each slang word in order to get the understanding of the plot of “The Hangover” movie and get entertained from this movie.

## **7. Bibliography**

- Allan, K., Burridge, K., 2006 *Forbidden Words: Taboo and The Censoring Of Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Eble, Connie C. 1996. *Slang & Sociability: In-group Languages among College Students*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press
- Leech, Geoffrey. 1981. *Semantics: The Study of Meaning*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Great Britain: The Chaucer Press Ltd
- Swan, Michael. 1995. *Practical English Usage*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Oxford University Press
- Yule, G. 2006. *The Study of Language*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- [http://www.script-o-rama.com/movie\\_scripts/h/the-hangover-script\\_transcript.html](http://www.script-o-rama.com/movie_scripts/h/the-hangover-script_transcript.html)  
[Accessed on Tuesday June 2015]