

THE FORM, FUNCTION AND MEANING OF ENGLISH SLANG USED BY
MEMBERS OF BALI HIP-HOP COMMUNITY

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Abstract:

Tentunya kita tahu bahwa Bahasa Inggris merupakan Bahasa yang kompleks dan kaya akan variasi gaya bahasa, seperti; gaya bahasa ungkapan, kiasan, jargon, slang dll. Sebagai salah satu gaya bahasa yang paling sering digunakan dalam percakapan sehari-hari, penelitian ini mengambil slang sebagai tema utama. Slang adalah penggunaan kata-kata informal dan ekspresi yang tidak dianggap standar dalam dialek pembicara atau bahasa. Slang sering dapat ditemukan di pinggiran kota dan perkotaan dimana banyak digunakan oleh kaum muda dalam bahasa harian mereka. Biasanya, pembicara kaum muda menggunakan slang sebagai 'bahasa rahasia' untuk berkomunikasi satu sama lain dalam kelompok mereka. Oleh karena itu, untuk mengetahui pemakaian slang dalam bahasa sehari-hari, penelitian ini mengkaji 3 pokok bahasan; menganalisa bentuk, fungsi serta makna dari slang yang dipakai dalam percakapan sehari-hari. Penelitian ini mengadopsi teori dari Chapman (1988) dan Leech (1974), serta menggunakan sumber data yang diambil dari percakapan terpilih yang dilakukan oleh beberapa anggota dari salah satu komunitas kaum muda yang terbentuk di daerah Kuta – Legian Bali, Bali Hip-Hop Community. Dari hasil analisa data, ditemukan bahwa bentuk slang primer dan sekunder digunakan oleh anggota Bali Hip-Hop Community dalam percakapan mereka. Anggota Bali Hip-Hop Community juga menggunakan ke-lima fungsi bahasa yang diusulkan oleh Leech. Kelima fungsi bahasa itu adalah; ekspresif, informasi, direktif, estetika dan fungsi fatis. Makna slang yang ditemukan dalam data analisis diambil dari kamus Bahasa Inggris-Slang dan dianalisis berdasarkan teori makna dari Leech (1983) yang mengusulkan makna bahasa menjadi tujuh jenis. Ada enam jenis makna ditemukan dalam data, yaitu; makna konseptual, makna konotatif, makna sosial, makna afektif, mencerminkan makna, dan makna collocative.

Keywords: Bentuk, Fungsi, Makna, Slang, Bali Hip-Hop Community

1. Background of the Study

Language can be defined as basic verbal form of communication. Language is the most important aspect in the life of all beings. In daily conversations, people are always faced with language choices to speak. English is one of language choices to speak. English is a rich language that has many idioms, metaphors, jargons, etc. Slang is one of those varieties. Slang is the use of informal words and expressions that are not considered standard in the speaker's dialect or language.

Slang is often to be found in suburb and urban areas that refer to things considered taboo. Slang is used by all kinds of groups of people who share situations or interests. Slang is also known as street talk. Normally, the speakers use it as 'secret language' in communicating with others in their group.

There are many communities at Legian, Kuta-Bali, which often use English slang in the daily conversations. As we know, Kuta-Bali is the most well known tourist place in Bali that is always filled with tourists who are either on vacation or living in the area itself. In regards to this matter, many local people are influenced by the foreigners in using English slang in conversations. Therefore to know the use of slang in daily conversation, in this study, the writer tried to identify and analyze the use of English slang from one community at Kuta-Legian, named Bali Hip-Hop Community.

2. Problems of the Study

1. What form of English slang is used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community?
2. What is the function of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community?
3. What is the meaning of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community?

3. Aims of the Study

1. To identify the form of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community.
2. To explain the function of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community.
3. To find out the meaning of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community.

4. Research Method

4.1 Data Source

The source of data for this study were taken from the selected conversations of some members of Bali Hip-Hop Community who live at Kuta-Legian, Bali.

4.2 Method and Technique of Collecting Data

In collecting the data for this study, the methods used were observation and documentation. The data of English slang were collected from several conversations in different times and situations, i.e. during afternoon when the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community were practicing in a studio or during weekend in their leisure times when they were interacting to each other.

4.3 Method and Technique of Analyzing Data

The technique of analyzing data applied in this study was qualitative and quantitative method. The data were analyzed to classify the form of slang based on Chapman (1988) theory, to find out the function of English slang based on the theory proposed by Leech (1983), to find out the meaning of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community using the theory proposed by Leech (1974). In addition, dictionaries of slang were also used to analyze the meaning of the English slang found in the data.

5. Results and Discussion

5.1 Data Presentation

There were twenty seven slang expressions found in the conversations used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community. They are as follows:

1. **OMG!** After dancing all night I am really beat!
2. **OMG!** After dancing all night I am really **beat!**
3. I wastootired to**hangout.**
4. The party last night was **sick.**
5. I still don't believe can be a winner of **B-boy** battle in Little Breakin'.
6. I saw your video last night, **nice one!**
7. I love your **freestyle.**
8. Yeah, I went **bonkers** at the time.
9. One thing caught my eye, you really have **dope** shoes!

10. It pretty helps you to look shining than the other **fags**.
11. **Lol** no. That's mine. He copped it from me.
12. Lol no. That's mine. He **copped** it from me.
13. **Damn**, what did you say?
14. Wow **cool down** man!
15. Come on guys we have to **cut out** and catch some rays.
16. Come on guys we have to cut out and **catch some rays**.
17. Yea, let's go to the beach and **down** a few beers.
18. I'm craving some **foxy bitches** in bikinis.
19. We'll be the winner for **shizzle!**
20. We've nothing to worry about, we're **gonna** do absolutely fine.
21. Just can't wait to **wreck** it.
22. Hey Lil A, **wussup?**
23. Who's your **homie** this time?
24. Yea I remembered him, the **guy** from Borneo Clan.
25. **Hype** man! I like it.
26. I get a **kick out** of the rhyme.
27. You do it like a real **nigga**.

5.2 Data Analysis

5.2.1 The Form of Slang

There are two kinds of slang; primary slang and secondary slang. *Primary slang* is the general slang, the pristine speech of subculture members; so it very natural to its speaker that it seems they might be mute without it; then *secondary slang* deals with the stylistic choice rather than true identification.

5.2.1.1 Primary Slang

From the conversation spoken by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, there were fourteen of English slang found and identified as primary slang. Here is the sample of the data:

DATA		ANALYSIS
DPN.1	(PS/A1) OMG	<i>OMG</i> is the acronym of <i>Oh My God</i> . It is a general-purpose exclamation. <i>OMG</i> is a general expression, mostly used in teenage talk.

DPN.: Data Presentation No., PS: Primary Slang, /A: Acronym

5.2.1.2 Secondary Slang

From the conversations spoken by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, there were thirteen of English slang expressions found and identified as secondary slang. Here is the sample of the data:

DATA		ANALYSIS
DPN.2	(SS/W1) Beat	<i>Beat</i> is a slang word for <i>tired</i> . The word <i>beat</i> in the data is not intended to the true identification; <i>defeat, hit, strike, etc.</i> It has stylistic choice matter.

DPN.: Data Presentation No., SS: Secondary Slang, /W: Word

5.2.2 The Function of Slang Language

There are five functions of language; expressive function, informational function, aesthetic function, directive function, and phatic function.

5.2.2.1 Expressive Function

Expressive function can be used to express someone's feeling and attitudes which is focused on the speaker and writer who wants to express directly to what they are writing or speaking at the moment. There were seven expressive functions of language found in the conversations spoken by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, here is the sample of the data:

DATA		ANALYSIS
DPN.9	(ES/W1) Dope	<i>Dope</i> is a slang word for <i>very good, excellent</i> . It is an expression of amazement. It is a spontaneous verbal reaction from the speaker towards beautiful shoes the speaker has seen.

DPN.: Data Presentation No., ES: Expressive Slang, /W: Word

5.2.2.2 Informational Function

Informational function is the function of language that tends to inform people. In this kind of language function, the speakers or writers give information to the listeners or readers. There was only one informal function found in the conversations spoken by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, as follows:

DATA		ANALYSIS
DPN.4	(IS/W1) Sick	<i>Sick</i> is adjective, used to describe something that is great/good. <i>Sick</i> in the data is referring to the speaker who informs the listener that the party was attended by him is great/good.

DPN.: Data Presentation No., IS: Informational Slang, /W: Word

5.2.2.3 Directive Function

Directive Function is used to influence the behavior or attitude of others, such as command and request. There were five directive functions of language found in the conversations spoken by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community; here is the sample of the data:

DATA		ANALYSIS
DPN.14	(DS/P1) Cool down	<i>Cool down</i> is a slang phrase for <i>to stop being angry</i> , used to express command to someone. The speaker gives an order to the listener to do <i>cool down</i> as the speaker wants.

DPN.: Data Presentation No., DS: Directive Slang, /P: Phrase

5.2.2.4 Aesthetic Function

Aesthetic function is focused on the linguistic message itself and the speaker tends to choose words according to his/her desire. There were thirteen aesthetic functions of language found in the conversations spoken by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, here is the sample of the data:

DATA		ANALYSIS
DPN.8	(AS/W1) Bonkers	<i>Bonkers</i> is a slang word for <i>crazy, wild, hectic, etc.</i> The speaker expresses his idea and prefers to choose the slang term <i>bonkers</i> rather than <i>crazy/wild</i> .

DPN.: Data Presentation No., AS: Aesthetic Slang, /W: Word

5.2.2.5 Phatic Function

Phatic function is used for opening, keeping, or stopping communication line. There was only one phatic function found in the conversations spoken by members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, as follows:

DATA		MEANING
DPN.22	(PS/AB1) Wussup	<i>Wussup</i> is slang abbreviation/ contraction of the greeting " <i>What's up?</i> ". The speaker used phatic function of language which aimed to keep the communication line between he and his friend opened, by saying greeting.

DPN.: Data Presentation No., PS: Phatic Slang, /AB: Abbreviation

5.2.3 The Types of Meaning

Leech in “Semantics: The Study of Meaning” (1974) breaks down meaning into seven types, five of which are included in the associative meaning.

There are six types of meaning found in the data. They are; conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning and collocative meaning. There was no thematic meaning found in the data.

6. Conclusions

After analyzing the form, function and meaning of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community in the previous chapter, some conclusions can be drawn.

There are two forms of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community in their conversations, primary slang and secondary slang. The form of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community is generally in the form of primary slang. It was found that fourteen expressions were identified as primary slangs. Then, from the data taken from the conversations of the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, there are thirteen expressions found as secondary slang.

There are five functions of language found in the data taken from the conversations used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community. The functions are expressive function, informal function, directive function, aesthetic function and phatic function. From those five language functions of English slang, the aesthetic function was mostly used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community in communicating to each other. Thirteen expressions were found as aesthetic function in the data.

Based on the analysis of the meaning of English slang used by the members of Bali Hip-Hop Community, there are six types of meaning found in the data. Those are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning and collocative meaning. There is no thematic meaning found in the data. From all of types, the members of Bali Hip-Hop

Community mostly used social meaning than other meanings in their conversations. It is certainly, social meaning which was mostly found in the senses of their conversations since we know, Hip-Hop culture is always related to the social circumstances and always thick with slangs and elements in its culture.

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