

The Analysis of Slang Words in The “Straight Outta Compton” Movie Script

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Abstract This study aims at finding out and describing kinds of slang words found in the Straight Outta Compton movie script, especially those used by the main character as well as analyzing their meanings. This study contributes knowledge of slang language in use to listeners or audiences. The data were collected by reading the Straight Outta Compton movie script, and then listing the data that are taken from the dialogues done by the characters. In the findings of this research, there are two points that are answered based on the problems of the research. The first part is the types of slang words used in Straight Outta Compton movie script can be classified into Society slang, Cockney slang, and Public House slang. And the second part is the meaning of the slang words in the Straight Outta Compton movie script which the point is to explain the function of the word that indicates based on how those words are used in conversation. The slang words are in the form of nouns, verbs, and adjectives used in the sense of kindness and also in the sense of harshness.

Keywords: sociolinguistic, slang words, types of slang, slang meaning, American movie. Background of Study..

I. INTRODUCTION

Slang is a type of language that consists of words and phrases that are regarded as very informal, are more common in speech than writing, and are typically restricted to a particular context or group of people. According to Leech and Svartvik (198 p.26) slang is a language used by a particular social group to show intimacy and solidarity among its members which are not fully understood by those outside the group. Slang is referenced from modernity and sociolinguistics diversity. Modernity, as a mechanism for communicating socialization as well as the explanation why young generation created this word variety (Soliman et al, 2014 p.3471). This study is about exploring English slang words and considering it from a linguistics perspective. Linguistic and social features of slang words can be found in the lexical, the phonological, the morphological, the syntactical, and part of the language that focused on the effect of language in society.

This study analyzes and discusses the kinds of slang words, and slang words meanings that are found in Straight Outta Compton movie script especially that are being used

by the main character. I found it necessary to do a study about the slang language that was generally spoken by the actor and actress in American movie entitled Straight Outta Compton directed and written by F. Gary Gray. Since in this movie, many characters frequently use slang words in their conversation, which is the reason for the researcher to analyze the slang words. The importance of this research is to contribute an understanding to the hearer's knowledge about slang language in use.

As we know, there are a lot of American movies that use lots of slang words, and it is hard to recognize the slang words that are being used by movie actors. This study is important because the use of slang is really popular. In the past, slang was often associated with vulgar words that were considered nonstandard language. In general, the use of slang is popular and appears anytime. And in all languages around the world, slang also has lots of types. It is interesting to conduct a research about slang, because it will give additional information about the type of slang that is being used and the meaning of the slang word.

According to Partridge (1933 p.148) "The different kinds of slang are numerous, and I propose to treat of only the twenty-four most important: after all, there are limits". It means that slang is the term used to define, and has no regulation on the use of, the informal or non-official language that exists among many social groups.

Several studies that are analyze slang words. The first one is an undergraduate thesis proposed by Ratna Perwita Sari (2010) entitled "An Analysis of Slang Language Types in Rush Hour 2 Movie". She is using the same theory by partridge. The second study is an undergraduate thesis from Andrianto Aris S. (2015) entitled Slang Words in "Ride Along" Movie. He wanted to examine the types of slang language used by the main characters of the "Ride Along" movie. The third study is an undergraduate thesis by Herman (2020) entitled An Analysis of Slang Language Types in "The Duff" Movie. The concept is to determine the type of use of slang language in the movie. The fourth study is an international journal by Mai Samir El Falaky (2015) entitled Yes We Are: A Sociolinguistic Study of Egyptian Slang. This journal focuses on a sociolinguistic study of slang as a Egyptian youth speech style. And the last one is an international journal that was published by I Dewa Putu Wijana (2012) entitled The Use of English in Indonesian Adolescent's Slang. He wanted to investigate the existence of English expressions in colloquial Indonesians broadly known as "Bahasa Gaul".

Based on the foregoing introduction, this study aims to figure out types of slang words found in the *Straight Outta Compton* movie script, and to analyze the meanings of the slang words that are used by the characters in the *Straight Outta Compton* movie script.

II. MATERIAL AND METHOD

This chapter discuss data source, method and technique of collecting data, method and technique of analyzing data, and method and technique of presenting analysis. Data source was taken from Straight Outta Compton movie script written by Jonathan Herman in 2015. The script was downloaded from the website: https://www.scripts.com/script/straight_outta_compton_616. This movie has lots of slang words with certain meanings and the slang words usually used by specific communities in America, and this is interesting to be analyzed. Moreover, the reason why the movie script was taken from Jonathan Herman's work is because he's an American screenwriter, and also best known for his work in Straight Outta Compton for which he received numerous award nominations, including Best Original Screenplay at the 88th Academy Awards.

This study is the library research using a documentation method. The data were collected by reading the whole Straight Outta Compton movie script in English, and then listing the data that are taken from the dialogues done by the main character and four supporting characters from the movie script. The dialogues done by the main character and four supporting characters are enough to provide the data required for this thesis.

This study uses the qualitative approach by observing the

Expression	Slang word or phrase	Meaning of slang in the movie
Yep. But not from these <i>strawberry</i> bitches you got right here. (Scene 3)	<i>strawberry</i>	a woman who trades sex for crack cocaine

collected data that is analyzed with a descriptive method to know what types of slang words and what are the meanings of the slang words used in the movie script. And there are two steps to analyze the data. First, by identifying and classifying the slang words into their types based on the classification of slang word types by Partridge (1933 p.148). Secondly, analyzing each slang word based on their meanings by Partridge (2008) related to the context of the situation in the scene.

This study uses both formal and informal methods. The data were presented in tables (formal method) in order to list the slang words, types of slang, corpuses, and meanings. Each of the tables was given some explanations (non-formal) to make it easier to analyze the meanings and describe them in correlation with the slang type based on the context of the dialogues.

III. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses the finding of the research applying the theory of types of slang words by Partridge (1933). The result of the type of slang employed by the characters in this movie can be seen as follows translation, and adaptation translation procedure. Moreover, the translation equivalence is described according to the theory of translation equivalence proposed by Nida (1964). The translation equivalences consist of two types that are formal and dynamic equivalence. The following subchapter will explain the analysis.

Types of Slang

This subchapter discusses the finding of the research applying the theory of types of slang words by Partridge (1933). The result of the type of slang employed by the characters in this movie can be seen as follows.

A. SOCIETY SLANG

Every social group in the world uses some types of slang especially in American social life, and in society, those slang words become property that belongs to that group. For short, slang in society to show someone sense of belonging. The analysis below is the classification of data that part of the Society Slang.

(3-1)

Eazy and Tone speak about their drug deals inside the house of drug users, and there are also women who trade sex with drugs. Eazy spreads three freezer bags each containing 10 ounces of drugs.

Eazy: Now where the money at?

Tone: Man, you heard what happen? My best runner got cracked. They sent his young ass to Y.A.

Eazy: The fuck that got to do with me?

Tone turns to Tasha in the kitchen, nods.

Tone: Tasha, get this dude a 40.

Tasha opens the fridge, grabs a 40oz.

Eazy: Do I look thirsty to you? Where my ends at?

Tone: Why you so ruthless, Eric, damn! You don't want nothin' to drink? What you want? you want some pussy?

Eazy: Yep. But not from these *strawberry* bitches you got right here.

Eazy said *strawberry* in the conversation above, which in this context means a woman who trades sex for crack drugs. *Strawberry* is classified as society slang by the writer because it has features such as a rude sense and a unique vocabulary. This word is unique because it's the name of a fruit that is being used in different meanings. This word is often used around drug users.

B. COCKNEY SLANG

Cockney slang is in the form of English slang, most people in England use Cockney slang, especially in London. There are slang words in this movie which are categorized as

Cockney Slang. The analysis below is the classification of data that part of the Cockney Slang.

(3-8)

Expression	Slang word or phrase	Meaning of slang in the movie
Man, you heard what happen? My best runner got <i>cracked</i> . They sent his young ass to Y.A. (Scene 3)	<i>cracked</i>	mentally impaired

Eazy spreads the contents of the brown bag before them on a long table. Three freezer bags each containing 10 ounces of drugs.

Eazy: Now where the money at?

Tone: Man, you heard what happen? My best runner got *cracked*. They sent his young ass to Y.A.

Eazy: The fuck that got to do with me?

Tone said *cracked* in the conversation above, which means "mentally impaired." He said that his best runner had already been mentally impaired and had been sent to Y.A. as the consequence. Since the word *cracked* is discovered in British slang in this context, the writer categorizes it as Cockney slang. But, as we can see, the word has already been brought up to America.

C. PUBLIC HOUSE SLANG

This slang is the result of linguistic inventiveness, especially used by the young people, and lively persons who want refreshment. It is genial, cheery, materialistic, but not gross nor cynical. The analysis below is the classification of data that part of the Public House Slang.

(3-12)

Expression	Slang word or phrase	Meaning of slang in the movie
Man, shut the fuck up? This <i>dude</i> knows the game inside out. He been out there shopping our shit around. Gonna find distribution for Ruthless, get us on tour and bring a whole lot of money to the table. (Scene 31)	<i>dude</i>	a regular fellow

Eazy talks to N.W.A. crew that are making fun of Jerry.

Eazy: (irritated) Man, shut the fuck up? This *dude* knows the game inside out. He been out there shopping our shit around. Gonna find distribution for Ruthless, get us on tour and bring a whole lot of money to the table.

In this scene, Eazy got irritated because his friends were making fun of Jerry. Eazy said *dude* which in this situation that slang word refers to Jerry. This situation explains the meaning of *dude* which means a regular fellow. The writer categorizes the word *dude* into Public House Slang because it is related to the characteristic of Public House slang that is genial, cheery, but not gross nor cynical.

Slang Meaning

About finding a word's meaning, we need to know where it came from. Some of the slang words have an explanation of how the words are formed, but some of

the slang words are formed like language in general, which is formed through the thoughts of a human.

The slang words' meanings are collected according to the Slang Words Dictionary by Partridge (1937). And part of the slang words meaning from this movie script are as follows.

(3-3)

Data 3: *Gank* (verb)

Context of Situation and meaning:

Cube feels aggrieved in this situation, believing that the manager has robbed the work he has done by didn't paying him.

Jerry: Soon as you sign this contract, the money is all yours.

Cube freezes. Realizes he's being shaken down.

Cube: That's my money anyway, Jerry. I earned it. I wrote a lot of hit songs. I been on tour for months. Performing. Gettin' arrested and shit. And you gonna try to *gank* me?

Jerry: That's ridiculous.

Cube: Give me my money, Jerry.

Jerry: You're kidding me, right? Who do you think pays for everything? All the hotel rooms, the parties, the transport? You think that's free?

Cube said "you gonna try to *gank* me?". They talk about money. Cube, who is the unpaid lyricist, got mad because Jerry, who is the manager, seems like just taking advantage of him. And in this situation, the word *gank* means to steal. The word *gank* was first recorded in the US, 1996 (Partridge, 2008, p. 280). We can see here that Cube is wondering if it is true that Jerry wants to rob him.

(3-10)

Data 10: *Nibble* (noun)

Context of Situation and meaning:

N.W.A. which is a rap group that is looking for sponsors to help them to go to a higher stage. Jerry, who is the manager, finds couples labels that are interested in sponsoring them.

Jerry: Hey fellas, sorry I'm running late. I'll be honest. We've had a lot of passes. People are scared of you guys big time. They think you're dangerous. But I think that's a good thing. And we've had a couple *nibbles*, from a couple labels. Epic, Capitol, Priority.

Jerry said *nibble* which means a non-committal expression of interest, from the image of a fish trying a bait. This word was first recorded in the UK, 1959 (Partridge, 2008, p. 456). He says *nibble* to show that he had caught the attention of the labels.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the previous discussion of figuring types of slang words in the Straight Outta Compton movie script, the writer concluded that the slang used in Straight Outta Compton movie script can be classified into Society slang, Cockney slang, and Public House slang. There were Society slang such as *blood*, *strawberry*, *gank*, *faggot*, *squash*, *crab*, *strapped*, etc. Cockney slang such as *cracked*, *crab*, *nibble*, *plate*, etc. Public House slang such as *dude*, *homie*, *kid*, *guys*, etc. Society Slang was the most frequently used slang word in the movie, out of the slang types described by the writer. Because this movie has a lot of background locations that are closely linked to society. They strengthen their bonds with the people around them. Then they come up with new terms and approach their friendship on their own. They use informal words or expressions that have their origins in a society's cultural groups. Slang language was seen as a modern fashion or style by those in society. To enrich society's vocabulary, they created their own words and phrases that can only be understood by their own groups.

The writer also analyzed the meaning of the slang words that are being used in the Straight Outta Compton movie script. It is important to understand the meaning of slang words, especially those that we don't hear very often. The writer concludes that the slang words meaning in the Straight Outta Compton movie script are divided into nouns, verbs, and adjectives, which are further divided up based on how those words are used in conversation. Some of the slang words used by the character in the "Straight Outta Compton" movie script are nouns used for insults and mocks, such as *strawberry*, *faggot*, *crab*, and *cracked*. There are also nouns like *nibble*, *plate*, *dude*, *homie*, *kid*, and *guy* that are used to express kindness. Moreover, slang words in the form of verbs, such as *gank*, are used in the sense of violence. Also, slang words in the form of verbs like *squash* are often used to express friendliness and innocence. Slang words in the form of adjectives that describe the context of violence, such as *strapped* and *cracked*, are also available in this movie script.

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