

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter explains the required foundation of the study. It covers the background of research, identification of problems, delimitations of research, research questions, research objectives, and the significance of the research. Additionally, this chapter is closed with the organization of research, which summarises each chapter of the study.

Background of Research

As it becomes globalised, English has been adopted into various aspects of life. According to Cholakova (2015), the impact of English as an international language is apparent in every major field of life and is not limited to the economy or politics. The language itself has been registered as the official in almost 70 countries, and there are around 750 million people that can use it as a second language (Rao, 2019).

The longevity of English as a lingua franca is guaranteed by its interconnectivity and communication within various aspects of life, but its form will not always be static. There is an overflowing consistency of language shifts in English involving its phonetic, lexical, grammatical, and semantics (Murtiana, 2012). This phenomenon has created various configurations of language alteration. It ranges from different social contexts' application, whether orally or in writing, in a casual or formal setting. Language is a social aspect; therefore, it is shaped by the community and culture around it. Moreover, the uare social creatures who that tend

to imitate and adapt to their surroundings. There are a number of language alterations that exist, but one cannot deny that the most apparent is slang.

Slangs are frequently regarded as a distinct anomaly of language that emerges after creativity or diversity, but most slangs can be traced back to standard English. It is originated from the traditional form of English, but it also deviates from its orthodox set of rules and structures. This deviation created a wide range of slangs such as colloquialism, clipping, aphaeresis, and etc. The said deviation that also occurred in slang created an enigma within its usage, especially in the context of foreign language utilization. English slang is an alternative daily language that is used by a particular social group and appears in informal situations (Donal et.al, 2019). According to Dina and Via (2018), slangs may threaten the survival of the original language because users will become accustomed to and more comfortable with slangs rather than understanding the orthodox rules. Language variation, on the other hand, may be more appealing to increases students' motivation and provides enrichment for learning (Stollhands, 2021).

Slangs are a phenomenon that has spread to Indonesia until the present day. Slangs first appeared in the country around 2000, when mobile phones became popular, and text messages with word limits became the primary means of long-distance communication. According to Saddhono (2018), the reasons for slang assimilation could be categorized into two factors, which are internal and external. The first one is the globalization process, which influences the development of culture and language in a country. This includes the prominent appearance of English as a global language in various forms, namely in social media and

technological advancements such as video games or virtual reality. Meanwhile, the external factor is the belief that there is prestige in using foreign language terms, making it a form of social change in the current society that led many communities to mimic slang to adapt to their environment.

The community with significant exposure to slang in Indonesia is the younger generation, especially college students. Namvar (2014) argues that slang is an integral part of the generation's communication due to its multidimensional purposes. This covers slang's function as a sense of identity, style, entertainment, and culture within the community (Maulidiya, 2021). In addition to this, slang is easier to understand and utilize than standardized English.

The influence of slangs has become apparent among college in English department of an Islamic private university at Yogyakarta. There are apparent variations that contribute to the students' English language. For example, the tendencies to shorten words into acronym (LOL, OMG, FR, SMH, etc.) or use the current popular celebrities' catchphrase (Ru Paul's Drag Race's 'yas queen' or 'slay', etc). The slangs are often used verbally or in written form, it is also not limited to face to face but also through social media. This particular phenomenon affect the students' experience in learning English as they grew accustomed to the alternate versions of the traditional standardized English. On the other hand, it also helps the students increase their comprehension of English as they are exposed to various contexts of the language.

Therefore, the researcher proposes this research titled "A Case Study of English Slangs among College Students." With this study, the researcher aimed to investigate the source of slang exposure, its usage, and its usefulness for college students.

Identification of Problems

College students have been exposed to slang through globalization. College students are in an appropriate age range of the population experiencing the process because they have internet fluency and an open mindset. Students are also frequently expected to adapt to their surroundings, which causes them to develop tendencies to adopt the identity and culture of the city in which they live, using modernized language.

College students' views regarding English as a foreign language become varied due to the differences between modernized and traditional language rules. This is the enigma of slang usage as a second language introduction, as students could either find it useful or inconvenient for them. One prominent example is English usage at a private Islamic university in Yogyakarta, where students frequently use various forms of English slang on social media and rarely use traditional standardized English.

The usage of English slangs within the college students community in a private Islamic university in Yogyakarta has contributed to various phenomena that influence the English learning experience. The language deviation such as acronym, blend words and aphaeresis have led the students to utilize the shortened versions more frequently than the standardized forms for efficiency and time-saving reasons.

On the other hand, there is also an emergence of new definitions of word (pre-existing word slang) due to the rise of globalization and multiculturalism, thus making the word has double meaning and requiring deeper contextualization. Students that use English slangs are prone to communicating inhibition because slangs stem from various origins, so the person they are engaging with cannot understand them. In the end, the students could be either benefit or at disadvantage when utilizing English slang in their learning experience.

Delimitation of Research

Based on all previously mentioned issues, the researcher decided to limit the research within the community of an Islamic private university in Yogyakarta. The investigation covered English slangs that are used on social media activities whether it is in the form of written text or in verbal (for example: Instagram story or WhatsApp status video). Furthermore, the study analyzed the students' exposure, utilization and contextualization, and the English slang influence on their English learning experience. The said English slangs would be blend slang, acronym, pre-existing word slang, and aphaeresis.

Research Questions

Based on what have been accumulated so far, the research questions are formulated as below:

1. How were students exposed to English slangs?
2. How do students use the acquired English slangs?
3. How do students perceive the usefulness of English slang for their English learning?

Research Objectives

The purpose of this research is to:

1. To identify the source of exposure in students' slangs assimilation.
2. To identify students' slang usage.
3. To identify students' perception towards the usefulness of slangs for their English learning.

Significance of Research

After finishing this research, the researcher expects several advantages that could emerge when it comes to slangs in English as Second Language Learning as below:

For Students

This research is expected to shed light on the positive and negative of slang in second language learning and helps the student to understand their experience. As the research shows the students an analyzation of slangs based on their exposure, usage and language learning experience, it provides the student with various perspectives to digest the issue of slang within language learning. Those new perspectives will assist the students to use slangs to the best maximum length and provide it as new method to learn second language.

For Teachers

This research is expected to present the value of slang integration in second language learning towards educators. The supposed investigation will help teachers to understand slang as a teaching instrument that can be used for better and authentic learning material by providing study on how slang was adapted towards student's

vocabulary, how student utilize slang, and how student perceived slang usage on their language learning experience. Furthermore, providing an alternative strategy for developing students' language acquisition that is entertaining and relatable for their teaching device in the future.

For Other Researchers

This research is expected to provide further relevant information on the topic of English slang in language learning. The new insight on slang exposure towards student, slang usage by student, and slang on English learning from student's perception. As slang is always intertwined with the current culture and state of the world, an update regarding it will constantly be improving the latest release of the study, thus, presenting more data and perspective for further finding in the future.

Organization of Research

This study is divided into five sections. The first chapter is titled as the introduction, the second chapter is the literature framework, the third chapter is the research methodology, the fourth chapter is findings and discussion, and lastly, the fifth chapter is the conclusion and recommendation.

The first chapter provides an overview of the research context, research identification, problem boundaries, research questions, research objectives, and research benefits. This section aims to emphasize the importance of research and its foundation. It presents the issue of slang and its enigma in the education field of second language learning. People that are included in this case have undergone various experiences that set them apart from other second language learners. Thus,

the research was built on the college students' slangs encounter in terms of exposure, usage and perception on the usefulness.

The second chapter is a review of the literature. This section defines slangs in context of its general concept, its contrast difference with jargon, possible place, or major exposure origins, in non-academic atmosphere and in-academic atmosphere (second language learning). This chapter discusses various slang theories from different perspectives of experts in order to establish the scope of slangs type that will be investigated in the research. Moreover, it presents the relevant studies which precede this research to point out what have been known regarding the issue.

The methodology is covered in Chapter Three. This chapter describes the methods, instruments, participants, settings, data collection techniques and analyzation. The research will be conducted in qualitative design with case study method. The participants will be college students in an Islamic private university in Yogyakarta that active in using English on social media. Then, the data were collected using observation and interview to minimize the possibility of misinterpretation. At last, the data that has been obtained will be analyzed using the qualitative data analysis strategy by Ary R. which are familiarizing and organizing, coding and reducing, and interpreting and representing. Both data collection methods were analyzed with this in form of descriptive analysis.

The fourth chapter delivers the research's findings from each participant in the sequence of their identity, exposure, usage and perception on slang's usefulness

in second language learning. The findings then formulated into discussions that correlate them to the research questions, so the results of the study are realized.

The last chapter consists of the research's conclusion and recommendations regarding its results. As there are various aspects of English slang that contributes to second language learning, the researcher presents suggestions to students, teachers and other researchers for further understanding of them.