



## AN ANALYSIS OF SLANG WORD IN SONG LYRICS EMINEM ON ALBUM KAMIKAZE

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### Abstract

This study was intended to find out the slang words that appear in the lyrics of the song of Eminem and classification of slang words in song lyrics of Eminem on album Kamikaze. The method of the research was qualitative descriptive method. The research got the data from transcript, which was from the internet. The writer uses transcript of this song as his main sources, the sources of data are 5 transcripts of the lyrics of the song by Eminem. Data obtained from the data collection through reading and comprehending the lyrics, the data were analyzed based on the theories of word formation proposed by Yule (2006). Based on the data analysis, it was found that there are 4 out of 9 types of word. They are (1) Coinage, (2) Compounding, (3) Blending, (4) Clipping, (5) Conversion, (6) Acronym, (7) Derivation, (8) Back-formation, and (9) Multiple Processes. Among the 4 types of word formation found, the type of word formation most frequently used in Eminem song lyrics on album Kamikaze is clipping with the frequency of 50 data (84%). This finding shows that Eminem in song lyrics mostly used clipping to make the rhyme and beat balance.

**Keywords:** *Language Variety, Slang Word, Sociolinguistics, Word Formation.*

### A. INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication system which is needed to help do their activities in society. People at least use one language to convey and express their ideas, desire and feeling through communication with others. Yule (2014:12) explains that language is a set of symbols being used mainly for communication. The symbols may be spoken or written. Language is an aspect of human behavior. In written form it is a long-term record of knowledge from one generation to the next, while in spoken form it means of communication.

Language serves people to fulfill their communicative and personal needs, and on the other hand, people shape the language in their everyday linguistic

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interactions. Language use and language variation affects every language user in a unique way. The use of language within the community includes language variations.

Slang is one of the forms of language variation. Slang is used by all kinds of people who share situations or interests and it is often used in informal situation. Burke (in Abadi 2010) stated that slang includes “secret” words or sentences used in everyday conversations, books, magazines, televisions, movies, or song lyrics. Slang language is not an official or it is informal language although it is widely used for oral communication in many purposes, as many words quickly become outdated or obsolete because of trend. There is no formal classification in slang language, except that is a subclass of the language. Slang words have a variety from generation to generation and from one geographical area to others. Thus, the existence of slang is never constant. The form of slang and colloquial words occur through some processes. Linguistically, these processes are called word formation processes.

Word formation processes are the processes of creating new words and the new uses of the old words. For example, in daily communication, the term *lol* is often used. It is formed by the process of acronym, in which it is actually derived from *Laugh of Loud*. There are several theories about word formation processes that are introduced by the linguists. According to Yule (2006:53-59) explains that there are ten processes of word formation. Those processes are coinage (*Kleenex*, *Teflon*), borrowing (*lilac* from Persian), compounding (*bookcase*, *doorknob*), blending (*telecast* comes from *television* + *broadcast*), clipping (*fan* from *fanatic*), backformation (*emote* from *emotion*). In addition, there are another processes based on Yule, they are conversion (*crazy ideas* becomes *a crazy*) (adj), acronym (*CD* → *Compact Disk*), derivation (*unhappy*), multiple processes.

There are many slang words used in song lyrics, especially song lyrics by Eminem. Eminem is an American rapper, record producer and actor and he is known as one of the most controversial and best selling artist of the early 21st century. He is the only artist to have nine albums consecutively debut at number one on the Billboard 200. Based on the explanation above why this research is important to discussing especially slang in song lyrics is to identified and classification the slang appear in the song lyrics of Eminem on album *Kamikaze*.

## B. RESEARCH METHOD

This study used descriptive method in analyzing word formation processes on slang word in Eminem song lyrics on album *Kamikaze*. It is because the slang appears in song lyrics by Eminem need to be categorized. According to Pambudi (2009), descriptive research is a way to describe then interpret the data as it should be. In collecting the data, descriptive research is a study to test research questions or hypotheses to the existing events. This way of research reports these events about the data as it is.

Based on the theory above, this study investigated types of word formation, as one of the language existing event used in Eminem song lyrics on album *Kamikaze*.

## C. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Findings

The discussion related to the types of word formation of slang words used in Eminem song lyrics on album Kamikaze are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 The Frequency of Word Formation Process in Eminem song lyrics.

No	Types of Word Formation	Frequency	
		Number	Percentage (%)
1	Clipping	50	84%
2	Blending	6	10%
3	Acronym	2	3%
4	Coinage	2	3%
Total		60	100.0%

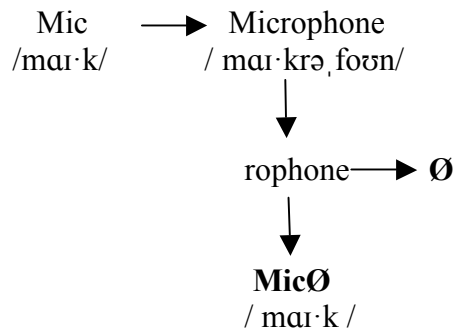
Based on the analysis of slang words that are used in selected song lyric in album Kamikaze by Eminem, there are 60 data collected in this analysis. From these data, clipping is type of word formation that mostly used in song lyric on album Kamikaze by Eminem, it is 50 words. After that, there is Blending have 6 words. Then, acronym and coinage have 2 each data. It shows that from 60 data of word formation in song lyric on album Kamikaze by Eminem, clipping is type of word formation that mostly used it is about 84%. After that Blending is the second type of word formation that mostly used with the percentage of 10%. Then, it is followed by Acronym and Coinage about 3%.

#### a. Clipping

Clipping is one of slang word formation which is formed by shortening the word. Clipping may occur in front or back part of word. Beside, in clipping process, it may be replace with certain new spelling. From the data, the writer find some slang word that used in clipping process. The example of clipping in the song lyric by Eminem on album “Kamikaze” are:

1. *But as cold as i get on the Mic*

From the data above, the word *Mic* is a slang word and it refers to the word *Microphone*. The word *Mic* becomes slang word because the original word is *Microphone* and there is a process of clipping. *Mic* is clipping form by cutting the ending of the word. It is shown below:



The word *Mic* above refers to *Microphone*. The word *Microphone* is a device that records sound or increase the loudness of sound by changing the sound waves into electrical waves. The type of the meaning of the word *Mic* above is dennotative meaning because clipping is a word made by shortened word without changing the meaning.

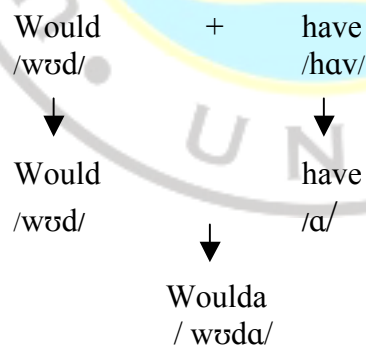
**b. Blending**

Blending is one of slang formation process that creat by two words. Typically, the beginning of word is joined to the end of the other word. The blending form process is also used in Eminem song lyric slang word.

The writer fined several data formed by blending in the lyric:

1. And you **woulda** bought it.

From the data above, the word *would* is a slang word. There are two combination of words would + have. It can be seen as below:



This is the systematic process of word formation of *woulda* which comes from two words: *would* and *have*, *would* is taken as a complete word, while the part of *have* which is taken is /ɑ/. Therefore, the word *have* experiences changes, in which all of the word constituents are removed except /ɑ/.

### c. Acronym

Acronym is formed by taking the initial sounds or letter of the words of phrase and uniting them into a combination. The examples in the song lyric by Eminem are:

1. *All i am simply is just an MC*

MC      —————>      Master of Ceremony

From the data above, the word *MC* refers to *Master of Ceremony* and considered as the slang word. There is a process of acronym used in forming of the word. The word *MC* is formed by taking the first letter of the each word.

### d. Coinage

Coinage is formed by new words based on the name of people or place or products. The invention and general use of totally new term is not very comon in english. The examples in the song lyric by Eminem are:

1. *Fuck the system, i'm that nigga*

*bend the law, Cut the rules*

From the data above, the word *nigga* often used by black gangsta rappers to address each other, or just refer to each other in brotherly way. And for some reason it's no problem for them to use the word and no one else. In otherhand, this is a salng generally accepted by people of African descent as meaning my friend. Basically making a good thing from the derogatory term *nigger*.

## 2. Discussion

In this section discusses of data analysis. Based on the result of the data about slang words appear in song lyrics of Eminem on album Kamikaze. In the study the researcher finds some slang word are used in Eminem song lyric. Slang word can categorized with word formation processes. The category of word formation includes coinage, compounding, blending, clipping, conversation, acronym, derivation, and back formation.

The researcher found some slang words appear in Eminem song lyric on album Kamikaze, after that marking the slang word that found in the lyrics and classify the types of slang words that found in the lyrics are used by Eminem. After collecting slang word in lyrics, the researcher looking the characteristic of slang word that appear in the song lyrics of Eminem on album Kamikaze. The characteristic was found is Clipping, Blending, Acronym and Coinage.

Based on the analysis of slang words that are used in selected song lyric in album Kamikaze by Eminem, there are 60 data collected in this analysis. From these data, clipping is type of word formation that mostly used in song lyric on album Kamikaze by Eminem, it is 50 words. After that, there is Blending have 6 words. Then, acronym and coinage have 2 each data. This indicated large of numbers of slang words in Eminem songs are clipping. Eminem's as a rapper stay

on beat by stressing syllables in time to the four beats of the musical backdrop, this technique are called “flow”. Stressing syllables on each of the four beats gives the lyrics the same underlying rhythmic pulse and keeps them in rhythm. That is why Eminem used clipping in the song lyrics to make the rhyme and beat in his songs balance with shortened the word.

From the analysis, the researcher compares the study with other studies. The researcher compares this study with research that similar of the study but different object.

The first slang research is done by Marzita (2013) entitled *An Analysis of Word Formation Process of English Slang in Teenager Movie Scripts*. She researched about slang in teenager movie script. The aim of her study is to find the types of slang words formation process that are found in the movie “Camp Rock” and “Juno.” Based on the result, Marzita found some formation process of slang word in the two movies; those are coinage, internal change, clipping, affixation, derivation, compounding, blending and acronym. Based on the movie “Camp Rock,” it is found 32 data and clipping becomes the process that is found mostly. While, in the movie “Juno,” it is found 71 data and coinage becomes the process that is found mostly. She also found that character differences and plot of each movie are the main influences of the result and finding variances.

Second, Gemilasari (2013) in her research entitled *An Analysis of Word Formation of Slang Words Found in Short Stories in Teenager Magazines Aneka Yess* researched about how slang words that are found in short stories on *Aneka Yess* magazine works. First, she described the types of slang words formation on 2002-2012 editions. Based on the research, she found 10 types of words formations. Those are acronym, abbreviation, blending, clipping, coinage, compounding, multiple processes, borrowing, reduplication and affixation. Based on the entire slang words, coinage is the type of word formation that is mostly found in every magazine edition.

After comparing the result and finding of this paper and the two previous studies, it can be found that the first study has similar finding, because the first study resulted that clipping types is the word formation process that is found mostly in data research. The first and second studies are indeed different, because in the first study, Marzita took the data from movie script and in the second one; data were taken from magazine. Otherwise, the data in this paper were taken from song lyrics of Eminem as a rapper that surely has its own characteristic and different with movies or magazine in word formation process. That is why it is found distinguishing between the result of this paper and the first and the second study.

#### **D. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

In this analysis, the researcher found 60 slang words in the lyrics of *Kamikaze* albums by Eminem. The researcher describes the type of word formation. The types produce the slang words which are found in the album. There are four types of word formation that writer found and analyzes in this research. The first type is clipping, clipping is type of word formation that mostly used in song lyric on album *Kamikaze* by Eminem. In this type, the researcher

found fifty slang words. It is *'bout*, *'cause*, *mic*, *'til*, *'fore* (see more in appendix). The second type of word formation is blending. In this type the researcher found six slang word; it is *woulda*, *ain't*, *wanna*, *shoulda*, *gonna* and *y'all*. The third type of word formation is acronym. In this analysis, the researcher found two slang words. They are *MC* and *ASAP*. The fourth type of word formation is coinage. The researcher found two slang words; it is *nigga* and *hokies*.

The study found that the process which mostly used in song lyric on album Kamikaze by Eminem is clipping. It this indicated by large numbers of word in his song are clipped to make the rhyme and beat balance as it is shown in data analysis. Thus, it could shape most of the line share the same rhyme.

The researcher hopes that the research can be use full not only for the researcher but also other researchers in the future. For a suggestion, this study can be elaborate by sociolinguistics point of view in order to find the meaning of the slang words in society. Besides, the slang words can be analyzed from a particular community to see the meaning and the function of its original word.

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