



## AN ANALYSIS OF WORD FORMATION OF ENGLISH SLANG USED IN STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON MOVIE

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### Abstract

The aim of this study was to find out the tendency of slang words used in Straight Outta Compton movie and word formation processes of slang words. The type of this study was descriptive qualitative. This research used the theory of word formation processes by George Yule (2010). The researcher found 6 types of word formation in slang words in the *Straight Outta Compton* movie script namely coinage, blending, clipping, compounding, acronym, and multiple-process. The data of slang words collected from the movie script. This study found that the most dominant type of word formation was blending with the percentage of 29.24%. It was followed by coinage and clipping with the proportion of 26.16% and 24.65% respectively. Then, it was followed by compounding with the percentage of 13.84%. Acronym and multiple-process were the least dominant ones with the percentage of only 3.07%.

**Keywords:** Language Style, Slang word, Word Formation

### A. INTRODUCTION

Language variety is variations of the language used in situations, circumstances, or of specific needs. Language variety that is used in the formal situation is called standard language, while language variety that is used in an informal situation is called non-standard. The non-standard English is a form of language that does not fulfill any standard norms, which is classified into sub-standard or non-standard. The non-standard English usually used in an environment that is not in contact with formality, such as songs, books, movies, etc. One example of the nonstandard English language is slang.

Slang is a non-standard use of the word in the language of a part social group. Slang is something that everyone can easily detect but nobody can define it. According to Partridge (1950: 69) slang is mainly in spoken form, which is used in social milieus and popular media, and to certain extents, it is used in the movie script. Slang words also could be found in a movie script, it means that

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slang is used in an informal situation and people usually use slang to talk with their friends or their society but it is not polite to talk to elders.

Slang is one of the higher variations of the language used in the community. The use of slang usually formed in abbreviating or removal of one or more letters in a word, or even a change in sound and meaning. A word has an important role in the language. The people who do not study linguistics may say that the word is the smallest component in the language, but in fact, the word itself has several processes to become a word. The process is called the word formation process. Word formation is one of the discussions in morphology discussing how the word can be formed in a language in this world. Slang words are usually often used in Hollywood movies. Movie is an actualization of the development of community life at the time. At present, it is certain that most people, whether young or old would certainly watch a movie. Movie has recorded several cultural elements that rely on behind them, including the use of language that appears in the dialogue between the characters in the movie. The use of slang in the movie occurs due to many things, such as simplifying the characterization in the movie so that the movie does not seem monotonous that causes the audience to become bored and usually, slang that used in the movie will be viral in the actual life.

There are some studies that have been done related to slang found in song lyrics, movies, and advertisements. Some studies focused on song lyrics (Lestari 2016; Teguh 2017; Evadewi, 2018; Haspo & Rosa, 2018), some focused on slangs used in movies (Marzita, 2013), and some focused on slangs used in advertisements (Wahyuni & Rosa, 2013). However there is no research about Straight Outta Compton movie. In analysis of word formation processes focused on medical terms articles in New York magazine (Meisara, 2014). Therefore, the researcher interested in exploring the slang language but before that, the researcher try to search about research that has never been done, so Straight Outta Compton movie is selected. Yule (2010) explains that there are ten processes of word formation. Those processes are coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, and backformation. In addition, there are another processes based on Yule, they are conversion, acronym, derivation, and multiple processes.

The researcher found many slang word used in Straight Outta Compton movie. The author intends to analyze and learn about the types of word formation of slang words used in the Straight Outta Compton movie. The researcher only focused on the types of word formation process of the slang word and the slang word used in Straight Outta Compton movie based on Yule's theory.

## **B. RESEARCH METHOD**

This study was descriptive qualitative research that related on the instruments used in the research. This research was conducted by using a qualitative approach because the results of the data are analyzed in descriptive phenomena such as words, phrases, and utterances. Kothari (2004:2) states that the function of descriptive research is to describe and report all events and phenomena relate to what is being observed and happened. The researcher found the data in Straight Outta Compton movie script.

## C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Research Finding (tentative)

The researcher analyzed the data based on the theory of types of word formation which is picked up from Yule (2010). In addition, the classification and the explanation of the slang words found are based on *The Routledge of Modern American Slang and Unconventional English* by Dalzell (2008). The data that have been found in *Straight Outta Compton* movie script was categorized only seven out of ten types of word formation processes. They are coinage, blending, clipping, compounding, acronym, borrowing, and multiple-process.

### Analysis of Slang Word

1. *That ain't even true, momma. I get paid --*

Slang: ain't

The slang word **ain't** is commonly used by many speakers in oral and informal settings which means 'is not, are not, am not', especially in certain regions and dialects. Its usage is often highly stigmatized, and it can be used by the general public as a marker of low socio-economic or regional status or education level. Its use is generally considered non-standard by dictionaries and style guides when used for rhetorical effect.

2. *You little Crab ass niggas could've got this whole bus shot the fuck up! We saw that bullshit you was throwing up out the window! Hit me up now!*

Slang: bullshit

The slang word **bullshit** is mostly a slang term and profanity which means 'nonsense', especially as a rebuke in response to communication or actions viewed as deceptive, misleading, disingenuous, unfair, or false. As with many expletives, the term can be used as an interjection, or as other parts of speech and can carry a wide variety of meanings. The term **bullshit** is sometimes used to specifically refer to statements produced without particular concern of truth, to distinguish from a deliberate, manipulative lie intended to break the truth.

3. *Nah, I already know how to gangbang. I'm just tryin' to learn how to make some of this white people money.*

Slang: Nah

The slang word **Nah** is an informal version of the word 'no'. It is often used in text messages and casual online writing. The first written use of **Nah** can be dated back to 1920 when it likely came about as a part of an eye dialect or a nonstandard way of spelling words to represent the pronunciation it has in different dialects. **Nah** is a slang word found in some American dialects as well as in Cockney English.

4. **Wuddup, Dre?**

Slang: wuddup

The slang word **wuddup** is an informal greeting 'hey, what is going on, what's up. **Wuddup** can be traced back to the early 19th century, appearing in English works of fiction as a question or a greeting. It often referred to an event or problem that was "up". **Wuddup** or 'what's up' is widely used among the general population. It is considered a more casual greeting and is often meant rhetorically, requiring no actual update on specific events. **Wuddup**, in particular, is commonplace in AAVE and is the name of a popular hip-hop song by artist LL Cool J.

5. **Just lemme produce. Get comfortable, man.**

Slang: lemme

**Lemme** is a slang form of 'let me'. It is often used by entitled people who view others as tools for their own sake. It is not discovered by the people, but it is actually renowned 'everywhere'. When some people say 'let me', it comes out as **lemme** instead. Although it is used mostly in a text, this vocal verbatim is a key component of the language of modern youths.

### Analysis of Word Formation of Slang word

#### 1. Coinage

*Yeah **nigga**, I'm looking for my girl Felicia. Heard she was up here in one of these rooms.*

**Slang:** nigga

**Word formation:** coinage

In this dialogue of movie script, one of the actors in this movie said the slang word **nigga** to mention greeting for someone that is mostly used in African Americans. So this slang belongs to coinage because the word **nigga** is another way or a variation to greet a friend with a new word created either deliberately or accidentally. This word includes a slang word because the word **nigga** is listed in Urban Dictionary that has a meaning used to describe a friend.

*Hell **naw**, that's Kurtismothafuckin Blow. Only rapper with a Jheri curl.*

**Slang:** naw

**Word formation:** coinage

The slang word **naw** is the word that people use to say "no" in order to sound better. So the researcher put this slang into a coinage type. This word includes a slang word because the word **naw** is another variation to say "no" with a new



word created either deliberately or accidentally. The word is listed in Internet Slang and also in Urban Dictionary.

*Nah, I already know how to gangbang. I'm just tryin' to learn how to make some of this white people money.*

**Slang:** Nah

**Word formation:** coinage

In this dialogue, the slang word *Nah* is a word commonly used as an informal situation for "no" and it is often used in text messages and casual writing. So this word belongs to coinage because the word *Nah* is another variation to say "no" with a new word created either deliberately or accidentally. This word includes a slang word because the word *Nah* is listed in Internet Slang and also in Urban Dictionary that has a meaning used to describe "no".

## 2. Blending

*What's the use to having this dumbass knock if I **gotta** tell you my name anyway?*

**Slang:** gotta

**Word formation:** blending

The word "*gotta*" consists of two separate forms to produce a single new term. They are 'got' and 'to' that can be classified as free morphemes because it can stand alone as a word. The word formation that happens here is blending. The word "*gotta*" is created by changing each part of the word. To combine it into a new word, they change the last part of the word to into "ta". So the beginning of the word got and then added it with the word "ta", and it became "*gotta*". The word is listed in Urban Dictionary that has meaning have to.

*So you just **gonna** disrespect my house like that, Cuz?*

**Slang:** gonna

**Word formation:** blending

The word "*gonna*" consists of two separate forms to produce a single new term. They are going and to that can be classified as free morphemes because it can stand alone as a word. The word formation that happens here is blending. The word "*gonna*" is created by clipping each part of the word. To combine it into a new word, they are omitted and changed the last part of the word 'going', 'ing', and changed into 'gon'. Then, the second word 'to' are changed into 'na'. So the word "gon" and "na" are combined to produce a single new term "*gonna*". The word is listed in Urban Dictionary that has meant going to.

*That **ain't** even true, momma. I get paid –*

**Slang:** ain't

**Word formation:** blending

The term "**ain't**" consists of two root words. They are 'am' and 'not', 'is' and 'not', or 'are' and 'not'. The first word 'am', 'is' and 'are' can be considered as a free morpheme and the second word 'not' that can stand on its own and have their meaning. The word formation that occurs here is blending. The word "**ain't**" is created by changing each part of the word. To combine them into a new word, they are omitted and changed the part of the word 'am', 'is', and 'are', and changed into 'ain'. Then, the second word 'not' are omitted and changed into 't'. So the words 'am', 'is', and 'are' are combined with the word 'not' to produce a single new term "**ain't**".

### 3. Clipping

*We got cards on all of **'em** already.*

**Slang:** 'em

**Word formation:** clipping

The word '**em**' is a shorter form of the word 'them'. The word 'them' is considered as a free morpheme that can stand alone. 'Them' is a free morpheme that can be used in a sentence. Then '**em**' is classified as clipping word. The word '**em**' is omitted from the first part of the word from them. It is shortened by clipping some letters which is easier to say. This word is listed in the Urban Dictionary and Cambridge Dictionary that has meaning for those people or things.

*You ain't gotta talk to my **moms** like that, man!*

**Slang:** mom

**Word formation:** clipping

In this movie script, the word **mom** is a new vocabulary to describe 'mother' in an informal situation. So the word **mom** belongs to clipping because the word **mom** is omitted from the last part of the word from 'mother'. This word is listed in Urban Dictionary that has meaning someone who gave birth to you.

### 4. Compounding

***Dumbass**, this a dope house! It's already disrespected*

**Slang:** Dumbass

**Word formation:** compounding

The word **dumbass** is considered to have more than one morpheme. The first is 'dumb', which is a free morpheme. Second is 'ass' which is also a free morpheme. This word formation happens when the free morpheme 'dumb', it is always stated as a word, merge with the word 'ass' and form a new word **dumbass**. It can be concluded this word is having a compounding process of forming a new word. There is no special change in omitting or adding any letters to create the word **dumbass**. It only combines the words that already exist, 'dumb' and 'ass'. This word is listed in Urban Dictionary and the slang dictionary that has meaning to a stupid person.

*You little Crab ass niggas could've got this whole bus shot the fuck up! We saw that **bullshit** you was throwing up out the window! Hit me up now!*

**Slang:** bullshit

**Word formation:** compounding

**Bullshit** consists of two free morphemes, bull and shit. They can stand independently as a word. This word is having a compounding process, where the word 'bull' merging into the word 'shit' and makes the new lexical item that has a different meaning from original words. **Bullshit** is listed in Collins Dictionary and also in Urban Dictionary that has meaning to someone talk nonsense or complete lies.

*What you little muthafuckas need to do is start **gangbang** them got damn books!*

**Slang:** gangbang

**Word formation:** compounding

The word **gangbang** has two free morphemes; they are 'gang' and 'bang'. The word 'gang' is a free morpheme that when it stands alone it has a meaning and can be used in another sentence without combining it first with other morphemes, so does the word 'bang'. The process of word formation is when there are two words which merge into one, and then generate a new word, the process is called compounding process. In this case, the word 'gang' is a free morpheme that is joined together with the other free morpheme 'bang' and creates a new word **gangbang**. The word **gangbang** is listed in Urban Dictionary. The word gangbang is uttered when a group of gang commits in crime.

## 5. Acronym

*It's Bone Thugs' new **LP**. It's good, Eric. It's gonna be huge when it drops.*

**Slang:** LP

**Word formation:** acronym

The slang **LP** belongs to acronym process because of a word formed by combining the beginning letters of each word to create a shorter and typically quicker word to refer to ‘Long Play’. In this process, there is no special change to create the word **LP**. It only shortens the base words ‘Long Play’ by taking the first letter L and P and omitting the other letters. This word is listed in the Urban Dictionary and Collins Dictionary of Slang.

*FREESTYLE TBD...*

**Slang:** TBD

**Word formation:** acronym

The slang **TBD** belongs to acronym process because a word formed by combining the beginning letters of each word to create a shorter and typically quicker word to refer to ‘To Be Determined’. In this process, there is no special change to create the word **TBD**. It only shortens the base words ‘To Be Determined’ by taking the first letter ‘T’, ‘B’, and ‘D’, and omitting the other letters. This word is listed in the Urban Dictionary and Collins Dictionary of Slang that has meaning to something commonly used in business.

## 6. Multiple-processes

*the fuck up, Blood!*

*(Addresses the whole bus) You young muthafuckas wanna die today?!*

**Slang:** muthafuckas

**Word formation:** multiple – process

The word **Muthafuckas** is derived from the word ‘mother–fucker’. **Muthafuckas** is a word that consists of three morphemes; they are, ‘mother’, ‘fuck’ and ‘–er’. ‘Mother’ and ‘fuck’ are free morphemes that can stand alone as a word, while ‘–er’ is a suffix that considered as a bound morpheme. **Mother-fucker** is a word that having multiple–process in forming a new word. First is having a compounding process between ‘mother’ and ‘fuck’ as ‘mother-fuck’. Then having inflection process which added a suffix ‘–er’ to make the new words that have a different meaning from the word ‘mother-fuck’. Although, this word is considered as the most frequent slang word to say it is only listed in Urban Dictionary.

*Deep in the dirt cause you a sucka. And your ass up high so I can kick the muthafucka –*

**Slang:** sucka

**Word formation:** multiple – process

The word **Sucka** is derived from the word ‘sucker’. **Sucka** is a word that consists of two morphemes; they are, ‘suck’ and ‘–er’. ‘Suck’ is free morphemes



that can stand alone as a word, while ‘-er’ is a suffix that considered as a bound morpheme. ‘Sucker’ is a word that having multiple – process in forming a new word. First is having a compounding process between ‘suck’ and ‘-er’ as ‘sucker’, then changing the last part of the word ‘-er’ into ‘a’. This word is listed in the Urban Dictionary and Collins Dictionary of Slang which means a person who is easily deceived or swindled.

### Finding of the Research

**Table 1. Types and frequency of word formation in Straight Outta Compton Movie**

No	Type of Word Formation	Frequency	
		Number	Percentage
1	Coinage	17	26.16%
2	Blending	19	29.24%
3	Clipping	16	24.66%
4	Compounding	9	13.84%
5	Acronym	2	3.07%
6	Multiple – processes	2	3.07%
	Total	65	100%

In these findings, there are six types of word formation found in the Straight Outta Compton movie. According to the data, the first word formation process which is analyzed is coinage. The researcher found that 17 data of the coinage. In the second aspect, the slang word of the blending process appears 19 data. In the third aspect, the slang word of the clipping process appears 16 data. In the fourth aspect, the slang word of the compounding process appears 9 data. In the fifth aspect, the slang word of the acronym process appears 2 data. In the last aspect, the slang word of multiple–processes appears only 2 data

### 2. Discussion

Slang word in this research has several similarities and differences with the research by Marzita and Lestari. Marzita resulted in different dominant types of word formation processes that have been analyzed in Marzita’s research. According to this study, slang language gives a reflection of phenomena about using language in the society because the difference of word is to determine adulthood every character. Furthermore, the study that had been done by Lestari also resulted in different dominant types of word formation processes in his research. Lestari only focused on the types of word formation, but the researcher focused not only on word formation processes of slang words but also on their characteristics. The analysis of word formation of English slang words used in *Straight Outta Compton* movie and the previous study also describes the same way to identified slang words, but the object, result, and the theory are not as

similar as the aforementioned study. In Marzita's research, in the result of this research, Marzita figure out about the dominant types of word formation processes when it is compared to the research that have been analyzed in this thesis. The differences between Marzita's study and the analysis of word formation of slang word in Straight Outta Compton movie script is the methods that were being used to find out the result. In Marzita's study, the researcher used O'Grady theory to analyze the word formation processes and descriptive method to get the result. In the word formation processes of slang words in *Straight Outta Compton* movie script, the researcher used Yule (2010) theory and the method of this research is descriptive qualitative.

Then, Lestari has several processes of the same types of word formation that were used in each study. In Lestari's study, the researcher only focused on the types of word formation processes and their characteristics. What makes the writer's study different to Lestari's study is in this research, the researcher did not put attention to the characteristics of the word formation processes that were found in Straight Outta Compton movie script.

#### **D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

After analyzing the data which have been discussed in previous chapter, the writer found 65 slang words from the Straight Outta Compton movie and analyzed all of the data. This research concludes six types of word formation processes found in the Straight Outta Compton movie. There are coinage, blending, compounding, clipping, acronym, and multiple processes. Among the six types of word formation processes, blending was the most frequent word formation process. However, not all types of word formations are explained in the data. From ten types of word formations in the theoretical description, four types are not found in the research. Those are back formation, conversion, borrowing, and derivation.

The result of this study brings some suggestions to a lot of sides. Firstly, this study may be used as a reference related to the word formation processes. It is suggested that the next researches can developed in their research related to this subject from different perspective. It can be studied in the micro linguistics study to figure out the linguistics aspect of word formation processes and slang words in the movie script.

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