



## **A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF SLANG WORDS FOUND IN “THE MITCHELLS VS THE MACHINES” MOVIE**

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### **Abstract**

This study aims to find out the contextual meaning of slang words and the functions of slang words used in the movie *The Mitchells vs the Machines*. Then, in this study the researcher used a descriptive method. *The Mitchells vs the Machines* movie was selected as data from the study using Holmes and Zou & Fan's theory. The researcher found 32 slang words spoken by Katie which were then categorized based on the type of 19 newly made slang words and 13 slang words from newly interpreted slang words. Slang words are all analyzed. Contextual meaning is determined based on social factors involving the participants' social relations, the setting of the place, and the topic of conversation. Then, the researcher examines the function of slang for each slang word that has been analysed. As a result, the researcher found 2 types of Function of slang in this movie, namely, PSI (Pursuit-Self Identity) and EF (Emotive Feeling).

**Key words:** Sociolinguistic, Slang Language, Function of Slang, Characteristic, Movie, Script

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

Language is a tool that can be used to express the culture of its users properly. Language can convey ideas more accurately and help build relationships good between users and society. Language users can acquire and impart knowledge or ideas to others. This is supported by Chaturvedi's definition of language, which is an instrument for communicating, feeling, describing, and expressing thoughts, feelings, and actions. The language around us defines our personality, defines our social behaviour, supports our social system, expresses our thoughts and feelings, and provides us a platform to share ideas, work together and develop our (Chaturvedi, 2014).

Therefore, as Chaturvedi mentioned in the quote above, language and society are intertwined. In general, the term used to study the relationship between

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language and society is known as sociolinguistics. Furthermore, Trudgill (2000) states that from a social point of view, there are two very important aspects of linguistic behaviour. The first is how language works in shaping the order of social relations, and the second is the role of language in conveying information about speakers. Both aspects of linguistic behaviour reflect a close relationship, the relationship between language and society.

In the study of language, one can see that there are many different languages in society. However, there are some language variants that exist for most people such as versions in languages that are officially accepted in their community, these are known as standard languages. According to Yule (2006), like Standard English, this version will be widely used by the mass media and is taught in most schools. This is clearly related to education and broadcasting in a public context. On the other hand, there are also non-Standards that are used in situations other than formal and which are more commonly spoken, including slang.

There's a lot of words in *The Mitchells vs the Machines* movie scripts using slang. This is interesting to be analysed by researcher because according to many previous studies, not everyone understands the meaning of slang. In this case, it can be seen that there are many words that are categorized as slang that the researchers found.

## **B. TYPES OF RESEARCH**

This research uses a descriptive research method. According to Nassaji (2015) the purpose of descriptive research is to describe a phenomenon and its characteristics. This study explains and describes what are the contextual meanings of slang words contained in deep slang words *The Mitchells vs the Machines* Movie scripts. In addition, this study aims to determine the function of slang words that appear in social communication.

## **C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Research Finding**

In this chapter, the researcher found 40 slang words from *The Mitchells vs. the Machines* movie by Mike Rianda and Jeff Rowe. The data that has been collected has already been identified and classified in tables, namely Newly Created Slang and Newly Interpreted Slang. In this study, there are two discussions that will be explained further by the researcher. The first is the contextual meaning which is analyzed based on social factors of slang words spoken by the main character in the film. The second is the function of using slang words.

Table 1. Slang words found in The Mitchells vs The Machines Movie

NO.	Newly Created Slang	NO.	Newly Interpreted Slang
1.	Ocupado	1.	Go Bump
2.	Velociraptors	2.	<i>Groovy</i>
3.	Ghoublish Blue Light	3.	Buggin'
4.	Green Ooze	4.	Sucky
5.	Father -daughter stick shift lesson	5.	Cameo
6.	Poseys	6.	Killer
7.	Slip n slides	7.	Whatever
8.	Life long bonds	8.	Ralphing
9.	The tooth fairy	9.	Dope
10.	Ghostbusters	10.	Classic
11.	non-neutered feral possum	11.	Bonehead
12.	a top-heavy James Bond	12.	Ditz
13.	<i>Dawn of the Dead</i>	13.	As if!
14.	Fluff 'n' fold		
15.	Furby		
16.	Robo-boy		
17.	Hipters		
18.	Sweaty meat logs in unison		
19.	Psycopath		

Based on the table above, it can be seen that there are two types of slang words in The Mitchells vs. the Machines newly interpreted slang and newly created slang. The meaning of new interpreted is when the word already has a meaning in the standard language, but has a new meaning in the film based on social factors, while the newly created slang applies to words that do not exist in the previous standard language. Newly interpreted words have a higher frequency than newly created words, with 22 Slang words like wanna, gotta, and gonna. In comparison, the newly created words have a frequency of 18 Slang words that have been spoken by the main characters in the film, for example, ocupado, Velocoraptors, and posey.

Apart from being interpreted recently, certain communities also have several new words which are considered slang words. The newly created slang applies to words that did not previously exist in the standard language. One example is the slang word doobie, which is not part of the standard language, but certain people understand it from its meaning of marijuana.

## **D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

### **A. Conclusion**

Based on the findings and discussion, there are several conclusions regarding the analysis of contextual meaning and the function of slang found in slang words in the film *The Mitchells vs The Machines*. The conclusions can be described as follows: The types of slang in the movie *The Mitchells vs The Machines* are divided into 2, namely Newly Created Slang and Newly Interpreted Slang. Then all the slang words are analysed for their contextual meaning using the analysis method of character background, place, time, and context of the conversation, where the most dominant slang word is newly created slang. After obtaining the contextual meaning of each slang word, we can see the function of the slang of each slang word contained in the film *The Mitchells vs The Machines* using the same analysis method as before, and it is found that the Pursuit of self-identity is more dominant than emotive feeling. This shows that the film *The Mitchells vs The Machines* is trying to show new slang words and interesting backgrounds for each character involved in the conversation with Katie to be known.

### **B. Suggestion**

After concluding this research, the researcher the researcher suggests for future researchers enrich sociolinguistic analysis by conducting similar research but with different study objects. The movie is a type of literary work that can be easily analysed using a sociolinguistic approach. This is because different scenes in a movie can be taken as screenshot evidence for detailed analysis. However, the writer advises future researchers to be careful in collecting slang word data because there are many similar slang words with different meanings, it all depends on the context of the conversation.

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