

THE TYPES OF SLANG WORDS IN THE LYRICS OF “JIGSAW” ALBUM BY LADY SOVEREIGN

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Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah (1) untuk mengidentifikasi tipe kata-kata tabu yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu pada album Eminem, (2) untuk mendeskripsikan makna dari kata-kata tersebut sesuai dengan liriknya dan (3) untuk menganalisis fungsi kata-kata tabu yang ditemukan pada album Eminem. Jenis penelitian ini adalah penelitian deskriptif. Data penelitian ini adalah kata-kata tabu yang terdapat pada lirik lagu dalam album Eminem. Dari hasil penelitian, peneliti menemukan bahwa kata-kata tabu lebih banyak digunakan pada album Eminem yang berjudul *Bad Meets Evil* yang terbit pada tahun 2011 dibandingkan pada album Eminem yang berjudul *Slim Shady LP* yang terbit pada tahun 1999. Dari hasil penelitian, peneliti menemukan bahwa tipe kata-kata tabu yang terdapat dalam album Eminem ada tiga yaitu; kata-kata yang berhubungan dengan anggota tubuh, kata-kata yang berhubungan dengan hal seksual, dan umpatan.

Key words: types, slang, words, lyrics

A. Introduction

Language has been improving in use and progress. The development of music, film, and other industry of entertainment influence the use of English. They also influence the vocabulary of English words. Some of the words are the new words but they have meaning shift. Certain people call them as slang words. The majority of people use slang as social and ethnic identifier to reinforce power or status. Slang can be found in lyric of song, conversation on movie, on TV, etc.

Sometimes, slang is used by particular group of people which is created arbitrarily. It is difficult to explain the reason. The use of slang is like a mode. It is

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loved by many persons, used by them, found everywhere. Sometimes, slang is more attractive and expressive than standard language.

Regardless of social position, almost all people especially young people use slang and colloquial from time to time. According to Fromkin and Rodman (1983:264), slang is considered as a result of the development of the new words that happen as a creative expression from people to make the words more efficient and simpler to be uttered. Slang words vary 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 *ASAP* is often used. It is formed by the process of acronym, in which it is actually derived from *As Soon As Possible*.

The phenomena of slang language uses are in rap music. Like the “Lady Sovereign” songs that tell human activity, loves has plagued, and sneaky lyrics. In those “Lady Sovereign” songs the sentences structure and the choice of word not only push forward imaginative quality but follow the reality of life. This rap music mostly uses non-standard English which tends to be vulgar, lazy pronunciation and it is often said as bad, incorrect and poor English. Mostly some of the words in the lyric are slang words.

There are many word in Lady Sovereign song lyrics that use slang language. This is interesting to be analyzed by the writer because the writer thinks that not everyone understands the meaning of slang language. In that case it can

be see that there are many word that catagorized as slang language that writer find in lady savareign song lyrics, for example:

1. Its *kinda* turning me on right now,
2. so what you *wanna* do?

From the example (1) , the word of *kinda* is a slang language because it comes from the word kind + of. There is a process of blending in forming the word *kinda*. Then, in the example (2) the word *wanna* is slang language. It is considered as slang language because the word *wanna* comes from want + to . There is a process of blending in forming of the word *wanna*. A blending is a combination of the parts of two or more words, usually the beginning of one word and the end of another (Fromkin and Rodman, 1988 :139).

From the explanations previously, the writer is interested to analyzed about slang language that is found in the *lady sovereign* song lyrics. The writer choose this song because in this song there are many words that categorized as the slang language.

Slang is the non-standard use of words in a language and it is categorized as a part of language in a society. According to Fromkin & Rodman (1983:264), slang is a kind of casual language that occurs as a result of the rapid growth of new words that is used as a creative expression from people in order to make the words more efficient and simpler to be uttered. They also state that there are several function of slang, they are:

1. Slang is used as solidarity makes, and also it is used to identify people as those who belong to the group members.
2. Slang is used to show intimacy among users.

In addition, Akmajian (1984:303) explains some features of slang language:

1. Slang is a part of casual, informal styles of language use.
2. Slang, like fashions on clothing and popular music, changes quite rapidly. Slang words can enter a language rapidly, and then fall out in a few years or even months.
3. Specific areas of slang are often associated with particular social groups.

According to O'Grady et al (1993:555), slang is a label which is used to show the informal usages of anyone in speech community. On the other word, slang is the use of informal words and expressions that do not considered standard in the speaker's language (www.wikipedia.com).

The form of slang can be a whole sentence but usually slang is categorized as a word. Slang itself can be described as deviating away from standard language use. Slang is a kind of nonstandard use of words in a language and sometimes the creation of new words are from another language. The spreading of slang is very fast, especially among young people. It is caused by the influence of media, such as television, radio, internet, etc.

B. Methodology

1. The techniques in collecting data were as follow:
 - a. Reading the lyrics of the songs in Lady sovereign's album

The writer read the lyrics of the songs carefully in order to find the slang words in those songs.

b. Identifying the slang words that are found in that album

Then, the writer identified the slang words in the songs. All types of slang words put together in this step.

c. Writing the slang words into notes

After that, the writer wrote all slang words found in those songs into notes.

d. Collecting the slang words found in lady sovereign's album

After reading the lyrics of the songs, the writer collected the slang words.

2. The techniques of data analysis were as follow:

a. Categorizing the collected words based on their types

The slang words that were found in lady sovereign's albums were categorized based on their types: clipping, acronym, blending, back formation and deleting..

b. Finding the meaning of each slang words

After categorize the slang words, the writer described the meaning of each word found in those songs.

c. Making a conclusion about the word formation, and the meanings of slang words.

At last, writer made a conclusion of slang words that were found in lady sovereign's albums.

In order to make the data clear, the researcher put all lyrics of the songs in Lady Sovereign's albums. Hopefully, it is help the reader understand about the slang words that are discussed.

C. Discussion

The writer analyzes the slang words found in the lyrics of Jigsaw album by Lady Foreign. The writer analyze the word formation found in the album. It consist of clipping, acronym, blending, back formation, and deleting. Then, the writer describes the meaning of slang words found in the lyrics of Jigsaw album by Lady Sovereign.

1. Data Analysis

1.1 The Word Formation of Slang Word

There were 50 data collected in this analysis. In this analysis the data were analyzed based on the type of word formation, and then the meaning of the new word formatted.

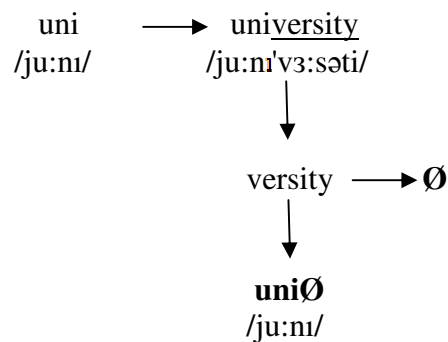
1.1.1 Clipping

Clipping is a process of reducing the element of word to make the word becomes shorter without changing the meaning .The examples of clipping process can be seen in the following :

Datum 1

1) *Never went to **Uni** (Title: Guitar)*

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

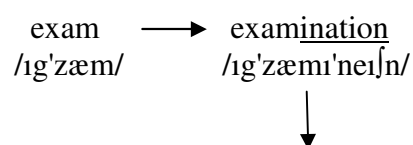


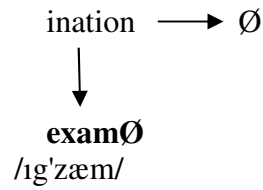
The word *uni* in the lyric above refers to *university*. According to Hornby (2000:1477) the word *university* means an institution at the highest level of education where you can study for a degree or do research. The type of the meaning of the word *uni* above refers to dennotative meaning because the word *uni* is a word made by shortened word without changing the meaning.

Datum 2

2) *Making paper not exam* (Title: Guitar)

From the data above, the word *exam* is categorizerd as slang word and it refers to *examination*. The word *exam* becomes slang word because the original word is *examination* and there is a process of clipping. *Exam* is clipping form by deleting the ending of the word. It is shown in the following:





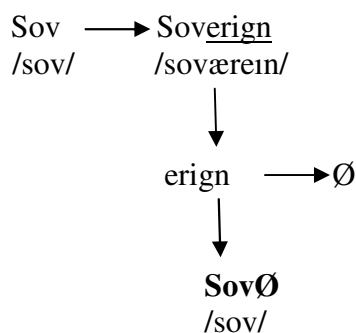
The word *exam* above refers to *examination*. Hornby (2000:454) states that *examination* is a formal written, spoken or practical test, especially at school or collage, to see how much you know about a subject, or what you can do. The type of the meaning of the word *exam* above is dennotative meaning because clipping is a word made by shortened word without changing the meaning.

Datum 3

3) *Sov* (Title: Pennies)

4) *So everybody hum (hum) everybody hum (hum) ya everybody hum (hum) sov* (Title: Bang Bang)

The word *sov* above is a slang word and it refers to *Sovereign*. It is called slang word because the original word *Sovereign* is clipping becomes *sov*. Five letters at the end of the word *Sovereign* is clipped. It can be seen in the following:



The word *sov* in the lyric above refers to *Sovereign*. *Sovereign* is the last name of the singer. The type of the meaning of the word *sov* is dennotative meaning because the word *sov* refers to the last name of the singer.

From the explanation above, there is only one data found in the lyrics. Acronym is used in forming of the slang words in which part of the words are deleted and the first initials are used.

1.1.3 Blending

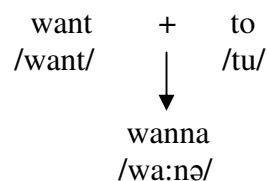
A blending is a combination of the parts of two or more words, usually the beginning of one word and the end of another. The writer find several data formed by blending.

Datum 5

There are similar form of word are found in this song.

- 6) *You **wanna** dance* (Title: I Got You Dancing)
- 7) *I **wanna** try* (Title: Food Play)
- 8) ***Wanna** be my friend* (Title: I Got the Goods)

The word *wanna* in the data above is considered as slang word because it consists of the words want + to. There are some data which have similar type (see appendix for detail). There is a process of blending in forming the word *wanna*. It can be seen as follow:



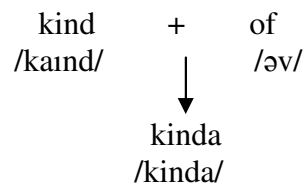
Hornby (2000:1514) states that *wanna* is the informal written form of the word some people use to mean want to or want something. The type of the word *wanna* in the lyric above is dennotative meaning because the word *wanna* in the lyric means need to or want to.

Datum 6

There are similar form of word are found in this song.

- 9) *So I'm **kinda** pissed off* (Title: Jigsaw)
- 10) *Now I feelin' **kinda** lost* (Title: Jigsaw)
- 11) *It's **kinda** turning me on right now, so what you wanna do?* (Title: Food Play)

The word *kinda* is slang word. There is a process of blending in forming of the word *kinda*. The word *kinda* is combined two words kind + of. It can be seen below:



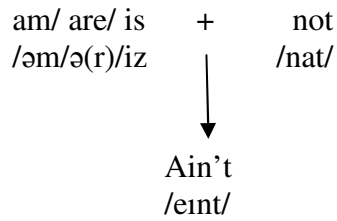
According to Hornby (2000:740) the word *kind* means a group of people or things that are the some way or a particular variety or type, and the word *of* belongs to somebody or relating to somebody. The type of the meaning of the word *kinda* is dennotative meaning.

Datum 7

There are similar form of word are found in this song.

- 12) *You **ain't** never heard of a girl who could* (Title: I Got You Dancing)
- 13) *I **ain't** going down like you sucker* (Title: Pennies)
- 14) *I **ain't** frigid* (Title: Food Play)

The word *ain't* above is slang words. It consists of two combination of words, am/ are/ is + not. The is a process of blending in the forming the word *ain't*. It is combining two words am/ are/ is and not. It can be seen as follow:



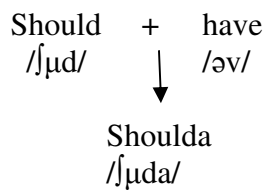
Hornby (2000:28) states that *ain't* is short form or non standard or humorous of am not or is not or are not or have not or has not. The type of the meaning of the word ain't in the lyric is dennotative meaning because the form of the word in the lyric is same with the meaning in the dictionary.

Datum 8

There are similar form of word are found in this song.

15) *You shoulda seen me runnin' out the studio like forest gump* (Title: So Human)

From the data above, the word *shoulda* is a slang word. There are two combination of words and it uses the blending process. It can be seen as below:

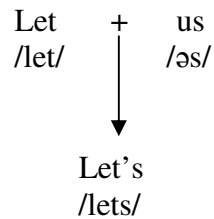


According to Hornby (2000:1235) the word *should have* is used to say that you expect something is true or will happen. The type of the meaning of the word *shoulda* above is dennotative meaning because the word *shoulda* refers to *should have*.

Datum 9

16) *Let's be mates* (Title: Let's Be Mates)

The word *let's* above uses a process of blending in forming the word. The word *let's* consists of two words are combining to be one word. It can be seen as follow:



Hornby (2000:768) states the word *let's* is used for making suggestion. The type of the meaning of the word *let's* above is dennotative meaning because the singer suggests someone to be her mates.

The writer found several data which have blending process. There are *wanna*, *kinda*, *ain't*, *shoulda*, and *let's*. The are some data which have similar type (see appendix).

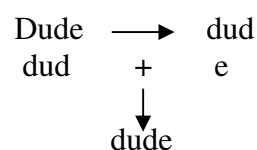
1.1.4 Back Formation

Back formation is made by using a process called analogy to derive new words, but in a rather backwards manner. The writer found two lyrics use the word that form by back formation.

Datum 10

17) *Now ssh and sshoo like a **dude** or a girl now who are you to try and ruin my world* (Title: Bang Bang)

18) *There's that **dude** that I met before* (Title: I Got You Dancing)



The word *dude* in the data above shows that there is an additional letter – *e* at the end of the word *dud*. According to Hornby (2000:410) the word *dude* is a slang word, especially in American English, a man. The type of the meaning of the word *dude* above is denotative meaning.

2. Findings

Slang word can be created by word formation. They are clipping, acronym, blending, and back formation. Based on the analysis about the slang word in the lyrics of *Jigsaw* album by Lady Sovereign, the writer found several data. It can be seen in the following table:

Table 1 : The Form of Clipping

No	Clipping	Original Word
1	Uni	<u>University</u>
2	Exam	<u>Examination</u>
3	Sov	<u>Sovereign</u>

Clipping is a process that shortens a polysyllabic word by deleting one or more syllables. Based on the table above, slang language can be formed from simplifying the word and clipping the part of it. The writer found three words that are used by the singer. They are *uni*, *exam* and *sov*. There are some data which have the same form that used by the singer in its album (see appendix)

Table 2 : The Form of Acronym

No.	Acronym	Original Word
1.	U.S	<u>United States</u>

Acronyms are formed by taking the initial letters of some or all of the words in a phrase or title and reading them as a word. This type of word formation is especially common in names of organizations, country, or scientific

terminology. In the analysis, the writer found one data that is used in forming of the slang words in which part of the words are deleted and the first initials are used.

Table 3 : The Form of Blending

No.	Blending	Original Words
1.	Wanna	Want to
2.	Kinda	Kind of
3.	Ain't	Am/ are/ is not
4.	Shoulda	Should have
5.	Let's	Let us

Blends are words that are created from non-morphemic parts of two already existing items. Based on the table above, the writer found five words that form by the process of blending. They are *wanna*, *kinda*, *ain't*, *shoulda* and *let's*.

Table 4 : The Forming of Back Formation

No.	Back Formation	Original Word
1.	Dude	Dud

Backformation is a process that creates a new word by removing a real or supposed affix from another word in the language. In this analysis, the writer found one data.

D. Conclusion

In this analysis, the writer found many slang words in the lyrics of *Jigsaw* albums by Lady Sovereign. The writer describes the type of word formation

process of the slang word in the album. There are four types of slang words that writer analyzes in this research. The first type is clipping. In this type, the researcher found three slang words. They are *Uni,exam* and *Sov*. The second type of word formation is acronym. In this type the writer found one slang word; it is U.S. The third type of slang word is blending, In this analysis, the writer found five slang words. They are *wanna, kinda, ain't, shoulda* and *let's*. The fourth type of slang is back formation

The meaning of the slang words in this analysis refers to dennotative meaning since the meaning in the lyrics doesn't change the original meaning. Thus, the slang words only reform the word without changing its meaning.

Note: This article was written by the author based on the author's paper with the advisor Havid Ardi, S.Pd, M.Hum

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