

## **CHAPTER II**

### **FRAMEWORK OF THEORIES**

#### **2.1 Theoretical Framework**

##### **2.1.1. Sociolinguistics**

Sociolinguistics is the branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and society, and it is also the study of the ways people use language in social interaction (Spolsky, 1998: 3). Thus, sociolinguistics refers to the use of language in society based on their social identity. The way people talk is influenced by the social context in which they are talking. It matters who can hear us and where we are talking, as well as how we are feeling (Holmes, 2013, p.1). In addition Sociolinguistics study is related to the language and also the time to use it. People will choose appropriate language depending on the situation and also their partner, this case can reveal information about their social relationship.

According to Holmes (2003), there are two kinds of language variation in sociolinguistics study; first language variation focus on users is about social status, gender, age, ethnicity, and the kinds of social networks. The point is someone can identify other people's characteristics even their educational and socio-economic background based on the language used. Furthermore, the second language variation focuses on the uses that concern style, context, register, speech, function, politeness, and cross-cultural communication. This research discusses the language variation that does not concern a group of language users but the use of language itself. Moreover, the research focuses on language style.

Sociolinguists study the relationship between language and society. They are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social contexts, and they are concerned with identifying the social functions of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning. Examining the way people use language in different social contexts

provides a wealth of information about the way language works, as well as about the social relationships in a community, and the way people convey and construct aspects of their social identity through their language (Holmes, 2017, p.1).

### **2.1.2. Slang**

This part discuss the definition of slang, the history of slang, and the types of slang.

#### **2.1.2.1. Definition of Slang**

Slang is very informal words and talks that are commonly used in spoken languages and are not suitable for formal purposes (Putu Okki Pratama, 2016). Slang belongs to certain social groups because it comes from terms that come from every part that is recognized and understood by particular people. In a section consisting of everyday language, which is currently not good enough to be used in polite conversation. According to Thorne (2007) “slang is languages deliberately selected for its striking informality and are consciously used in preference to ‘proper’ speech or, more rarely, writing”. Therefore, Eble (as cited in Vivik and William, 2018) argues;

“The emergence of social media has predominantly increased the usage of slang and non-standard forms and slang is now worldwide the vocabulary of choice of young people”(Eble, 2012).

Slang is an interesting informal language to communicate verbally and deliberately. slang can be used in everyday language, as Coleman says in his book "life of slang" states that slang isn't a register: slang is a label for individual uses of individual terms which are inserted into the appropriate slots in standard or colloquial English sentences (Coleman, 2012, p.13). Thus, unusual terms can insert in formal and informal sentences

that can show an individual tag. Slang can also fulfill someone's desire to express his feeling in communication.

In Oxford Dictionary, slang is explained as very informal words and expressions used in spoken conversation especially by a particular group of people. It means that slang is a very informal word used by a particular social group to communicate with each other in their circle.

Based on the definition above, I know that slang can be explained as non-standard informal words that tend to come from subcultures in society. Slang has no social boundaries or boundaries as it can exist in all cultures and classes of society as well as in all languages.

#### **2.1.2.2. Types of Slang**

Slang is divided into two types. They are slang in the form of words and slang in the form of expressions. According to Trask (Trask, 1999) the explanation of the types of slang are:

##### **1. Slang in the Forms Word**

Word is a group of letters that has meaning when spoken or written. Word is a linguistic unit typically larger than a morpheme but smaller than a phrase. Some examples of slang words are as follows:

- Ain,t means are not
- Gosh means God

##### **2. Slang in the Form Expression**

Expression is something that people do, say or even write to express their opinion or feeling using words or phrases. Some examples of slang expressions are as follows:

- What's up means how are you?
- How y'all doing means how are you all?

### 2.1.3. Word Formation

There are two main divisions in word-formation called inflection and derivation. According to Haspelmath and Sims, word-forms connection in a lexeme is called inflection, while derivation is lexemes connection in a word family. Word forms and word families are the important part of inflection and derivation (Haspelmath and Sims, 2006, p.14-15).

Word-formation refers to the latter processes only, these being subclassified into such types as compositional or compound” (David Crystal, 2008, p.523-524). So, word-formation processes consist of some subs of word types, such as; a compound or compositional, inflectional, derivational affix, etc. It is called word formation because it deals with some forms of words. There are some kinds of word forms in a language. For instance, according to Plag, the words employee, inability, meaningless, unhappy, apartment building, greenhouse, truck driver, son-in-law (Plag, 2003, p.12). Those words are obviously composed by putting together smaller elements to form larger words with more complex meanings.

We can say that we are dealing with morphologically complex words. It can be called complex words because for example, an employee can be analyzed as being composed of the verb employ and the ending -ee, the adjective unhappy can be analyzed as being derived from the adjective happy by the attachment of the element un-. We can decompose complex words into their smallest meaningful units. These units are called morphemes. Another example is a neighbor word, it cannot be decomposed into smaller meaningful units because only consist of one morpheme.

Based on the examples above, there are some meaning changes by adding some affixes and another word with a complex form. Lieber states that generally affixation, compounding, and conversion are used to create a new forms of words (Lieber, 2010, p.51), but there

are still other ways to produce new word form under minor processes, as follows:

### **2.1.3.1 Coinage**

Coinage is a rare process to coin new words by selecting bases and affixes into new combinations. For instance, there are product names by coining processes like Xerox and Kleenex, both of them are copier products.

### **2.1.3.2 Backformation**

Plag states that new words are derived by removing a suffix called backformation (Plag, 2003). The word edit is an example of backformation coming from editor word by deleting -or. Another example is acting from the word actor by removing -or.

### **2.1.3.3 Blending**

According to McCarthy (2002, p.141), “blend is kind of compound in which at least one of the components is reproduced only partially”. Plag also states that combining two or more words by removing material from one or both word sources (Plag, 2003, p.150). For example:

1. breakfast + lunch > brunch
2. smoke + fog > smog
3. motor + hotel > motel

### **2.1.3.4 Clipping**

Clipping is the process of reducing an available word to create a new word (Lieber, 2010, p.53). For example:

1. Info: information
2. Lab: laboratory

Based on the explanation above there are some kinds of word changes. Furthermore, changing process of word forms can be called the word-formation process. Besides, there is also

another method to form a new language especially slang called abbreviation. In the following, there are some explanations about abbreviations and also common abbreviations that are used in social media.

### **2.1.3.5 Abbreviations**

Abbreviations are a shortened form of a written word or phrase used in place of the whole word or phrase. Meanwhile, Plag says that abbreviation refers to creating a new word by taking the first letters of some word series (Plag, 2003, p.161). Those definitions obviously state that abbreviation is a short form of a word or phrase made by taking the beginning letters of word series. Plag also says that there are abbreviations which pronounce as regular words or they can be called acronyms.

#### **1. Acronyms**

According Yule (2006, p.57) acronyms are new words formed from the initial letters of a set of other words. These can be forms such as CD (“compact disk”) or VCR (“video cassette recorder”) where the pronunciation consists of saying each separate letter. More typically, acronyms are pronounced as new single words, as in NATO, NASA or UNESCO. These examples have kept their capital letters, but many acronyms simply become everyday terms.

#### **2. Initialism**

Initialism is a word formation process that happens by using the first letter of words to create a new word. Acronym is quite similar to acronym. The difference is the word formed through acronym process is pronounced as a word. Moreover, (Harley, 2006, p.96) states that acronyms and abbreviations are the main part of initialism:

“The whole family of inventions is called initialisms, and it has two main subgroups: acronyms, which are a collection of initials that are pronounced as a single

phonological word according to the spelling conventions of English, and abbreviations, where the letters are read out one at a time. AIDS /ejdz/, from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, and SARS /sarz/, from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, are acronyms; MS / EmEs/, from Multiple Sclerosis, and DOA /dijowej/, from Dead On Arrival, are abbreviations”.

From the explanation above, that abbreviations refer to a short form of a word or phrase which can pronounce as individual letters and also as regular words. In the following, I will explain more detail related to slang abbreviations in social media.

#### **2.1.4. Slang Abbreviations in Social Media**

In this digital age, many social media applications are proliferating and are popular interest. These developments affect language, especially in online communication. Goldstuck (as cited in Geertsema dkk, 2019, p.476) states that “a new, dynamic English slang in development due to text messaging” (Goldstuck, 2006). Thus, slang is also useful in this digital era to communicate in a more relaxed language.

##### **2.1.4.1. Types of English Slang Abbreviations**

###### **1. Phonetic Replacement**

Phonetic replacement is one of the most commonly used slang categories in social media. The process of phonetic replacement involves replacing the characters with alphanumeric characters. According to Craig (2003), phonetic replacements are “words in which one or more phoneme units have been replaced by a series of letters that, phonetically, read the same way” (p.120). Phonetic replacement requires a certain degree of creativity to understand the meaning of the slang and

how the slang was produced in the first place since they combine morphemes and phonetics to produce symbols with a certain sense of an actual word or phrase (Zulkifli Zulfati Izazi & Tengku Mahadi Tengku-Sepora, 2020).

## **2. Word**

Abbreviation is one shortened version or form one word or phrases. He is very popular informally written. The abbreviation of the word is similar to the abbreviation. Most of the time, the vowel leaves would be an abbreviation of the word. Like other types of Internet slang, acronyms are used to reduce the use of space and time in the communication of online platforms.

## **3. Phrase**

With the rise of electronic communication, whether by SMS or social networks, the abbreviations began to appear. People use abbreviations because don't have words for to represent the concept of certain words in other languages (Winarto, 2019). As more and more social media users switch to apps like Twitter, the use of acronyms is gaining popularity. Twitter is also a segment of online news and social networks websites where people communicate in short messages so called tweets up to 280 characters (Zulkifli Zulfati Izazi & Tengku Mahadi Tengku Sepora, 2020). As the simplification of the terms become the necessary, the occurrences of the abbreviations become more common among the social network users.

### **2.1.4.2. Forms of English Slang Abbreviations**

Bieswanger (2007) says that initialisms, clippings, contractions, letter/ number homophones, phonetic spellings are part of shortening. Besides, following



Christophers (2013) idea there are social network abbreviations in form of acronyms/ initialisms, shortenings, clippings, letter homophones, number homophones, symbolic substitution, punctuation omission, and non-standard use of lowercase. Based on the explanation above, I choose some forms or the features of abbreviation which commonly use in social media by George Yule (2010) in his book entitled “The Study of Language” to analyze the data. There are ten word formation processes according to Yule:

### **1. Coinage**

Coinage is the invention of totally new terms in a word (Yule, 53). Hatch and Brown (175) defines coinage as a process when a new word is needed but no exact word to express. Coinage happens when a new word is needed. The most typical sources are invented trade names for commercial products that become general terms for any versions of that product. For example, ‘kleenex’ for tissue, ‘Indomie’ for instant noodles, and many more.

### **2. Borrowing**

Yule said that borrowing is the taking over of words from other languages (54). Borrowing actually is the process of borrowing words from foreign languages. Hatch and Brown said that every language is borrowing from other languages (170). Throughout history, the English language has adopted of words from other languages, including Arabic, French, Dutch, Italian, German, and so on (Yule 2010, p.54). Example: in Japan, besiboru, is borrowing words from English which means ‘baseball’.

### **3. Compounding**

According to Yule (2010, p.55), compounding is a joining of two separate words to produce a single form. While in Chaer (2010, p.185), compounding is the result and the process of merging the basic morphemes, whether free morpheme or bound morpheme, thus forming a construction that has a different or a new lexical identity. Common English compounds are bookcase, doorknob, fingerprint, sunburn, textbook, etc

### **4. Blending**

The word formation process in which there are two root words merge into one. According to Yule (2010, p.55) Blending is the combination of two separate forms to produce a single new term. Blends are similar to compounds but parts of the words that are combined are deleted and so they are “less than” compound (Fromkin and Rodman 183, p.89). Usually, blending is only taking the beginning of one word and joining it to the end of the other word. Examples: smog from the word smoke and fog, brunch from breakfast and lunch, motel from motor and hotel.

### **5. Clipping**

Clipping process happens when a word of more than one syllable is reduced to a shorter form (Yule 2010, p.56). Clipping is one way in which we change the words. We may shorten dormitory to dorm, we use the longer term if the situation is formal and use the shorter one if the situation is informal. O’Grady et al says that clipping is especially popular speech of the students where it has yielded the new form (O’Grady and de Guzman 2010, p.135). Other common examples are

phone from telephone, ad from advertisement, condo from condominium, flu from influenza.

## **6. Back Formation**

Form a word of another type usually a verb (Yule 2010, p.56-57). While according to O'Grady is a process that creates a new word by deleting a real affixes from another word in the languagem form (O'Grady and de Guzman 2010, p.136). A good examples for back formation are, the noun television become the verb televise, donate from donation, housekeep from housekeeper, etc.

## **7. Conversion**

Conversion is a process of a changing the function of a word without any reduction (Yule 2010, p.57). While according to Hatch and Brown, conversion is process which allows us to create additional lexical items out of those that already exist (179). This process usually changing a noun becomes a verb. For example, nouns such as bottle, butter, vacation have come to be used, through conversion, as verb: We bottled home-brew last night; Have you buttered the toast?; they're vacationing in Florida.

## **8. Acronym**

Every acronym is an abbreviation because acronym is a shortened word or phrase. Acronyms are new words formed from the initial letters of a set of other words that pronounced as new single words, as in NATO, NASA or UNESCO (Yule 2010, p.58). Actually, there is another type of abbreviation that is Initialism, this type is the shortening from the initial letters of each word and can be read with spelling of each

letter (Hatch and Brown, 210). The examples are, BFF for Best Friends Forever, USA for United State of America.

## 9. Derivation

O'Grady and Guzman (2010, p.144) defines derivation as a process when one word added by affixes and form in which meaning and categories are different from the basic word. This process is the most common word formation process to be found in the production of new English words. This process makes clear the word class assignment of the word to make it into adjective, adverb or another part of speech.

Examples:

Verb to Noun:sing + er = singer

Adjective to adverb:happy + ly = happily.

Noun to Verb:vaccine + ate = vaccinate

Affixes have to be added with the word in case forming the new word. Some affixes that have to be added to the beginning of the word are called prefixes (e.g. un- and mis). Another affixes that have to be added to the end of the word (e.g. -ly, less) are called suffixes. The third type of affixes is called infixes, morphemes that are inserted into other morphemes (Fromkin and Rodman, p.72). The most common infix in America is the word fuckin and all the euphemism for it, such as friggin, freaking, flippin. In Britain, a common infix is bloody.

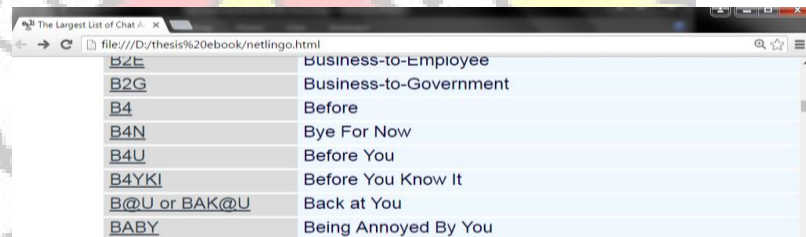
## 10. Multiple Processes

A particular word is possible to have more than one process. Multiple process happen when one word is needed another process just in case to

configure a new word (Yule 2010, p.60). For example, the term *deli* seems to have become a common American English expression when it is actually a borrowing word from German *delicatessen* and then clipping that borrowed form.

### 2.1.4.3. Meaning of English Slang Abbreviations

To find slang abbreviation meanings, social media users can use an online dictionary or websites like [onlineslangdictionary.com](http://onlineslangdictionary.com) or [netlingo.com](http://netlingo.com). Both sources can help the users, especially new members of social networks to comprehend slang abbreviations. For instance, b4n is slang abbreviations, the users can access the [netlingo.com](http://netlingo.com) website to know the meaning, as follows;



B2E	Business-to-Employee
B2G	Business-to-Government
B4	Before
B4N	Bye For Now
B4U	Before You
B4YKI	Before You Know It
B@U or BAK@U	Back at You
BABY	Being Annoyed By You

Based on the source above, “b4n” stands for a bye, for now, this abbreviation only has one meaning. Also, there are some abbreviations that have more than one meaning. For example, “ga” is one of the slang abbreviations that has two meanings, it stands for a go-ahead and good afternoon. Furthermore, to understand the meaning of ga, social media users can see the context, Crystal (2001) states that a context can clearly show the meaning, for instance, the charge is a word that has some meanings. The same case also occurs in slang abbreviations. For example, “lol” has three distinct meanings: lots of love, laughing out loud, and little old lady. Therefore, the meaning of lol can be concretized according to the context in which it is used”.

Based on the theory above, the context has an important role to comprehend slang abbreviations in Twitter. The context in Twitter refers to a tweet by Artists.

#### **2.1.5. Twitter**

Twitter is an American online news and social networking service where users post and interact with messages known as "tweets". Tweets are originally limited to 140 characters, but as of November 7, 2017, this limit is doubled for all languages except Chinese, Japanese, and Korean. Registered users can post, like, and retweet tweets, but unregistered users can only read them. Users access Twitter through its website interface, via the Short Message Service (SMS) or its mobile device application software (application). Twitter is based in San Francisco, California, and has more than 25 offices worldwide.

Twitter was created in March 2006 by Jack Dorsey, Noah Glass, Biz Stone, and Evan Williams and launched in July of that year. Quick service obtained worldwide popularity. In 2012, more than 100 million users posted 340 million tweets per day, and the service handles an average of 1.6 billion search queries per day. In 2013, it was one of the ten most-visited websites and has been described as "SMS from the Internet". As of 2018, Twitter has more than 321 million monthly active users. Since 2015 Twitter has been a hotbed of debate and news that covers United States politics. During the 2016 US presidential election, Twitter was the biggest news source of the day, with 40 million election-related tweets sent before 10:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) that day. It is also the source of information on the Brett Kavanaugh and United 2018 Supreme Court nominations state midterm elections. Twitter's growth is currently getting better. In the first quarter of 2020, there was a surge in daily active users from 134 million in the first quarter of 2019 to 166 million users or an increase of 24 percent. In the second quarter of 2020, that number again increased to 186 million users. This daily

active user figure exceeds analysts' forecasts, which initially estimated it would only reach 176 million users.

## **2.2 Previous Related Studies**

After I explain sociolinguistics, slang, abbreviations, word formation, and Twitter, this section discusses previous research. The first related study reviewed in this chapter is Rossa S (2018) entitled "The Slang words used in the Hitch film by Andy Tenant" in her thesis slang words with a sociolinguistic approach, she analyzed the types of slang words, the meanings, and function of slang in hindrance by Andy Tenant. Of course, the primary data is different.

The second research is a paper from Diana Kristin Tambunan (2019) from the University of North Sumatra, with the title "A Description of Slang words used by millennial generation on social media: Instagram". In her research, she analyzes the types, meanings, and forms of slang used by the millennial generation through social media Instagram. In her research, she classified the theory of kridalaksana. The difference between her research and my research is that she uses social media Instagram as an object, and she uses a different theory in the form of slang.

The next researcher is L.N Sudyanti et al (2018) with the title "A Descriptive Analysis of Slang Words Used in "Step Up: All In" Movie". She analyze the types of slang functions, the type of hose and observed the function of the hose used in the film "Step Up: All In". She uses Theory from Allan and Burrige (2006) on the types of slang and theory from Hymes. There are four types of slang found in this film, namely fresh and creative, impudent, imitative, and clipping. There are six functions of slang found in this film, namely to greet, establish a friendly atmosphere, start a casual conversation, show an impression, show intimacy, and embarrassing. This research is very related to what I researched, but the difference is that I am more specific to the type of slang abbreviations. Of course, the primary data are different.

The fourth researcher is a journal from Junior and Syahrul Efendi Lubis (2021) from the ITMI Foreign Language College with the title "The Use Slang Words in the Movie Pitch Perfect 3". In their research, they used the theory from Burke (2001) to classify the types of slang in the film. They also examine

the type of genre in the film. In this journal, I found several theories that relate to my research, such as the types of slang from Burke's theory. Of course, the primary data is different.

The last researcher is Dini Apriani Zainuddin from Makassar University (2017) with the title "Slang usage analysis on students daily communication (A descriptive research at the eleventh grade of SMA Negeri 7 soppeng). In their research, she found that students know and use slang words that are included in acronyms. It also shows that 29% of the mix is used by them. Then, 15% used aphaeresis and the remaining 3% used new insights from pre-existing words, most of them answer for happiness in using English slang, and it shows that they often use English slang words in informal communication.

Based on the previous studies above, it can be concluded that expert research is similar to this research. However, researchers differ to analyze the types of slang. Of course, the primary objective is different. Some of the journals and thesis above use films, social media Instagram, schools as objects, while I use American Artists' Twitter as the object of my research.

