

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes research background, statement of problems, research problems, research purposes, as well as research significances.

1.1 Research Background

The importance of communication in human life cannot be underestimated. People communicate with one another at all times and in all circumstances to fulfill their goals. Information or idea is exchanged during communication. Simply stated, it is a method of communicating thoughts, facts, and emotions to a person or group of people through a channel while getting feedback from the speaker. Having a conversation is a normal occurrence. In a wider sense, conversation is a basic impulse shared by all living things, most especially by humans. Language is a tool that individuals use to communicate with one another. One can express viewpoint, amount of knowledge about certain subject, the history of certain country and state, level of education, and even the character through language. As a society and as individuals, language becomes a reflection of who we are. Both the sender and the receiver must be fluent in their respective languages for communication to be successful. (Rabiah, 2018:6).

Language evolves over time as a result of social circumstances and people's needs. As people develop new terms that better capture their society or culture, language also develops and continually adapts, therefore, one should be able to adapt during a conversation to the situation. According to the settings, there are two different forms of conversation; formal and informal. (Holmes, 2001). The standard conditions and context of formal or official topics frequently create variations in formal language, for instance, when conversing with an old person or at the office. Meanwhile, informal language diversity is found in a wide range of non-standard languages, as

well as the circumstance and setting of an informal or casual subject, such as when we converse with our friends, family, or even partners.

Slang is a sort of linguistic variation that is frequently employed by a group of individuals in an informal setting. (Anderson and Trudgill in Yulia, 2020). Slang, in general, refers to unique words or phrases used in informal talks by a specific group of individuals. Even though slangs are frequently used in everyday's communication, they can also be used in a variety of media like podcasts. Podcast is a common media of communication nowadays.

Podcast is an acronym for iPod Broadcasting, the term "podcast" alludes to the Apple iPod device, which was the initial platform for distributing podcasts. Podcast is the technology that allows professional and amateur radio stations to distribute, receive, and listen to on-demand programming. (Yamaguchi, 2016)

Very Really Good is a podcast hosted and produced by Kurtis Conner, a Canadian commentary YouTuber and stand-up comedian. Conner is one of YouTube's most popular commentary creators, it can be seen from his YouTube and social media followers. the theme of this podcast is comedy, Kurtis frequently telling their viewers about what's going on in the internet world while adding their own viewpoint, insight, and humor.

As a YouTuber, Conner mainly use informal languages in his podcast, he uses slang to create a direct and personal connection with his audience. Conner's use of slang, on the other hand, frequently leads to misinterpretation or wrong guesses, especially among those who are unfamiliar with slang, its use, and function. Therefore, the researcher chooses this problem into a research since it is essential to obtain clear information and to understand the speaker's or writer's interpretations of the utterances or texts, to avoid any incorrect guesses, as well as to demonstrate to people that slang phrases are not necessarily bad—in fact, they are crucial for conversational flow since they can unite people from all generations.

In this instance, the researcher discovers some earlier studies that are pertinent to the work that is currently being done. They are in journal and thesis format. These studies indicate that this type of research has been conducted.

The first one is a journal entitled “An Analysis Of Slang Words On Comments Of Podcast On Youtube Channel ”Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo”” The goal of this study is to identify the kinds and definitions of slang words used in a podcast from the “CURHAT BANG Denny Sumargo” YouTube channel. This study makes use of Mattiello's (2008) theory regarding the different categories of slang words. This study employs a descriptive, qualitative methodology. The information was gathered from podcast captions that the YouTube channel posted in October 2022. This study identifies six categories of slang employed by Mattiello in the podcast “Gagal bikin anak di Malaysia, air mata Lucinta Luna tumpah disini,” including compounding, reduplicative, variation, acronym or initialism, word manufacture, and fanciful formation. The most common slang on the podcast among the six categories of slang that were found is acronym. However, there was some word manufacture, reduplicative, and clipping in the podcast. This research finds that more than 50% of Mattiello’s slang words used in the podcast.

The second one is “Slang Words Used by the Characters in Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising by Ariyanti, Suardhana and Mulyawan (2018)”. The purpose of this study was to categorize and analyze the slang terms and expressions used by the characters in the film “Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising.” The storyline for the movie “Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising” served as the source for the study's data. The script for “Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising” contained 67 slang terms or expressions. The data was gathered using a documentation method. The descriptive-qualitative method was utilized in this study to analyze the data. Based on the theory regarding the kinds and uses of slang words put out by Allan and Burridge (2006), there were only eighteen slang words or phrases examined.

The third one is a thesis entitled "Analysis of Slang Words in Selected Avril Lavigne Song Lyrics on "Head Above Water" Album" by Yulia (2020). This study aimed to identify the types and meaning of slang word found in Avril Lavigne song lyrics on "Head Above Water" album, descriptive qualitative research was applied in this study. The data of research were taken from Avril Lavigne song lyrics on "Head Above Water" album, 74 words found in this song. It was found that there were four types of slang in selected Avril Lavigne song lyrics on "Head Above Water" album namely blending, coinage, clipping, and compounding.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the study that has been mentioned previously, the statement of problem formulated as follows:

- a. What types of slang words are used by Kurtis Conner in his *Very Really Good* Podcast?
- b. What are the functions of slang words used by Kurtis Conner in his *Very Really Good* Podcast?

1.3 Research Purposes

Based on the problems above, researcher identifies the purpose as follows:

- a. to describe the types of slang words in Kurtis Conner's *Very Really Good* Podcast, and
- b. to uncover and describe the function of slang words used by Kurtis Conner in his podcast.

1.4 Research Significances

The researcher hopes that by completing this research on the types and functions of slang words, the researcher would be able to provide some benefits both theoretically and practically.

Theoretically, this study should contribute to a better understanding of slang words as depicted in a podcast both the types and functions. Practically,

this study is expected to reveal some types and functions of slang words, and not only in social media also in real life people are practicing the informal language particularly slang. It is beneficial for people to be more conscious of the importance of understanding slang words in a conversation in order for it to flow well. They can also prevent being misunderstood.

1.5 Classification of Key Terms

People in a society may speak different languages depending on the type of social situation they encounter, as stated by Holmes (2001). It is important for people to understand when they are in an official or informal setting. When people converse, they ought to be fully aware of the surrounding circumstances. Selecting the right words to use, whether in a formal or informal setting, is crucial. Slang usage can be influenced by a variety of social factors, including status, gender, age, and so forth. Another vocabulary item that conveys an individual's age is slang (Holmes, 2001; 167).

A podcast is a digital media file, or a series of such files, that is distributed over the Internet using syndication feeds for playback on portable media players and personal computers. (Yamaguchi, 2016:1). Podcasts, which include audio and video content that is shared online, are created by combining the words "broadcast" and "iPod."