

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents general outlines of the research. It provides background of study, research question, aims of the study, scope of study, significance of study, research methodology, clarification of terms and organization of paper.

A. Background of Study

Language can be used both in oral and written forms based on their contexts, formal and informal. People usually use the formal or standard language in the formal context and use the colloquial one in the informal context.

There are some forms of language varieties used in the informal context, i.e slang and idiom. *Compton's Encyclopedia* (1994) mentions that slang is the most common element of language's vocabulary after standard and informal words and considered as the use of wordplay. It is a special kind of intimate speech to obtain some privacy and to show the solidarity among the members, (Swan, 1995; Spolsky, 1998). For example, 'doze off' in "I *dozed off* during the movie" is used as slang which means 'fall asleep', or *adorbs* in "Oh, my god. That is so *adorbs*" is used as slang, a short form for 'adorable'.

Slang is context and time bound. Its use has developed from time to time. In the middle ages, different dialects and pronunciations were first considered as slang. Moreover, slang particularly developed in the 16th century and was mostly used by criminals. It was considered as taboo words. In 1700s, slang became more popular because of the influence of cultural difference in America (Bullard, 2004). Nowadays, American slang is commonly used in daily conversation. It is not only used among certain group of people. A large amount of slang has been widely used by public.

In addition, there are several functions of slang (Fairclough, 1985). First, it is used as solidarity markers. Second, slang is used to show intimacy; slang partially is able to fill a certain lack in standard language in showing the intimacy and solidarity with listeners. (Boatner and Gates, 1975; Holmes, 1992) Lastly, slang is used for the purpose of concealing.

Moreover, one factor of the slang as language diversity emerges in the society is the age of the speaker. Teenagers have their own language. Wylie (as cited in Gerber, 1968, p. 13) stated that teenage language is not only vivid and whimsical, but also creative, lack of grammatical form, quite sly and highly nuanced. They invest many new slang words to show their group identity and their independence from adult (Thorne, 2004; Tongkhamdee, 1998). Mostly, they copy slang from the media, such as TV, movie, song, magazine, comic, novel and internet.

From all of the media above, movie is chosen as the object of the study because movie is the reflection of society and culture in a certain time, and it is a type of media that advertise slang. Similar to other media such as novel, comic and internet, movie is not only entertaining, but also it gives information to audience. Biran (as cited in Choerunnisa, 2013, p. 2) stated that language has important rules and functions in the movie. It conveys meaning and messages to the audience. In other words, without language a movie will lose its ‘strength’ and ‘soul’. Imagine that a cartoon movie for children uses the formal and academic language, which is only understood by adults, instead of informal and simple language. Thus, this study will analyze the language used in the movie, and the novel adaptation movie will be interesting to be discussed. A novel that is adapted into a movie is usually a popular one. The language style in the novel may be also adapted, such as slang.

In Indonesia, Indonesian slang is known as *bahasa gaul* (Grafura, 2006; Ani, 2008; Sitio, 2011; Wydiasari, 2011; Rahmawati, 2012). *Bahasa gaul* emerged in 1970s. It was usually used in certain communities, such as the thugs and the transgenders. They used it to conceal their talking topics from others. Since it has been used in daily conversation, the term of *bahasa gaul* has been known since

the end of 1980s (Grafura, 2006). It is spread through popular media, such as television, radio, magazine and novel, and it has been widely used by public.

Previous studies on slang, which focus on the word formation process of slang words in the Indonesian novels and movies (Ani, 2008; Sitio, 2011; Wydiasari, 2011; Rahmawati, 2012) found that Indonesian slang, known as bahasa gaul, is formed by 13 word formation processes according to word formation theories from Katamba (1993), Hatch dan Brown (1995), O'Grady dan Guzman (1996), and Kridalaksana (2008) and borrowing is the most common word formation process used in slang.

Meanwhile the sociolinguistics study on slang words in Indonesian high school (Nurhayati, 2008; Salma, 2013) presents the usage of slang words among the students. High school students, who are teenagers, frequently use slang word expression in their daily life. Their peer-group and friends become one of many factors that drive the usage of the slang word expression. Gender also influences the usage of slang. Salma (2013) found that male teenagers tend to be more aware of using slang than female teenagers and clipping forms most of the slang.

Furthermore, the study of English informal language or slang used in the movie (Suksriroj, 2009; Pradnya Asri, 2013) presents the comparison between informal English and Standard English. The informal style of conversation reflects career, age and relationship between the speaker and the hearer, and it is used for comfort, naturalization and promptness in communication. Also, it found that slang development is influenced by the dynamic of meaning change in every period. Slang is more stylish and appealing in order to exclude the true identification, especially the characters of the movies which are the member of criminal group.

The present study is fairly different from previous ones in that it compares two movies of identical topic, a high school student conflict, with two different time settings. Comparison of slang used in two different time slots is crucial because slang is time bound. Some words which used to be slang in the past may no longer be slang today or no longer popular slang. For instance, *bonceng*, Bowden (2014) said that *bonceng* was slang in 1950s-60s. Today, *bonceng* has been included in *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia* (KBBI), which means ‘*bonceng*’ is no longer slang.

Thus, this study seeks to identify the types of slang, and the word formation processes of the slang in order to identify the commonalities and differences between the slang used in two *Lupus* movies, *Lupus: Tangkaplah Daku, Kau Kujitak* (1987) and *Bangun Lagi Dong, Lupus* (2013). *Lupus* is chosen as the object of study since *Lupus* is considered representing the Indonesian teenagers who use slang. Also, *Lupus*, either the novel or TV series, is thought has destroyed the Indonesian language by using slang or slapstick words, and it influences Indonesian language use. So, it will be interesting to analyze and discuss the slang in the movies.

Furthermore, this study will apply the word formation theory from O’Grady and Guzman (1996) which is complemented with Hatch and Brown’s (1995). Moreover Mattiello’s (2008) theory is used to classify the types of slang. By identifying the commonalities and differences of slang used in two-decades-different movies, this study presents how slang has grown in two decades.

B. Research Questions

This study is conducted to answer the following questions:

- 1) What are the types of slang observed in both movies?
- 2) What word formation processes of the slang can be observed in both movies?
- 3) What are the commonalities and differences of the slang used in both movies?

C. Aims of the Study

This study is aimed to:

- a. Identify the types of slang observed in both movies
- b. Identify the word formation processes of the slang in both movies.
- c. Identify commonalities and differences between the slang used in both movies.

D. Scope of the Study

This research focuses on the informal variety of Indonesian, i.e. slang. The limitation study is necessary to simplify the subject and the problem solving of the research (Surakhmad, 1975, p.3). The study will limit the analysis only on types of slang and word-formation processes of slang used in two Indonesian novel adaptation movies, *Lupus: Tangkaplah Daku Kau Kujitak* (1987) and *Bangun Lagi Dong Lupus* (2013).

E. Significance of the Study

This study is about the slang used in a movie. This study compares the slang used in two-decade-different movies. It identifies the commonalities and differences, according to the types of slang and the word-formation process of slang used in the movies.

F. Clarification of the Terms

To avoid misconception and misunderstanding, there are some significant terms have to be clarified here:

a. *Lupus*

Lupus is a fiction character of Indonesian novelist, Hilman Hariwijaya.

b. Slang

Slang is the very informal vocabulary. It is a special kind of intimate speech where the speaker knows each other well associated with peer group to obtain some privacy and to show the solidarity among the members. (Swan, 1995; Spolsky, 1998)

c. *Bahasa Gaul*

Bahasa Gaul is another term used to refer to Indonesian slang, also known as *bahasa prokem*; a language variation used and popular between teenagers (Grafura, 2006).

H. Organization of the Paper

This study consists of five chapters. It will be organized as follows:

CHAPTER I

This chapter focuses on introduction of the study including the background of the study, study purposes, research questions, scope of the study, and the organization of the paper.

CHAPTER II

The second chapter discusses the theoretical frameworks as the foundation of the study.

CHAPTER III

In the third chapter, the discussion revolves around the research methodology describing the steps and procedures of the study as well as the data resources in conducting the study.

CHAPTER IV

The fourth chapter presents the findings and discussion of the study. It will be the part where the discussion of the study is elaborated.

CHAPTER V

As the last chapter, this section is the conclusion of the study and the suggestion for further research.