

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses the research method. It contains the aims of the research; population and sample of the study; the data collection; the research procedure and research instruments; and the data analysis.

3.1 Method of study

This study focuses on a case of slang words used by senior high school students. It investigates a language in society, specifically teenage language at a school institution. It can be categorized as a sociolinguistic investigation. Spolsky (1998) states that sociolinguistic explore relationship between language and society and between the uses of language and the social structure in which the users of language live (p.3).

Furthermore, this study uses a descriptive qualitative method. It uses descriptive and qualitative in nature as the means of analyzing the data. The descriptive method of this study is aimed to explain, classify and analyze the data from some instruments. Moreover, the qualitative method is used to investigate the social phenomenon. Thus, this study uses natural setting to describe the factual phenomenon. In addition, Milroy (1992) states,

“Presumably, the best way to observe the relationship between language and society is when language is being used in social situation. For this reason, he argues that we should first look at language being used in a conversation” (as cited in Spolsky, 1998, p.80)

This study uses observation, questionnaire, and interview as the research instruments. The observation was conducted intensively in three months which covered long term observation, seven days for questionnaire and interview. Before being interpreted, the collected data were transcribed, reduced, coded, and displayed. Triangulation was employed by way member check and descriptive statistics to improve the quality of information

3.2 Data Collection

3.2.1. Subjects

This qualitative research uses purposive sampling to select the subjects of the study. The subjects of this research are the first years of senior high school students at a SMAN in Bandung. The students at this level can be classified into teenage group (Douvan & Adelson, 1978, as cited in Coleman, 1980, p.92-93). Moreover, they are in transition period from junior high (SMP) school to senior high School. They brought several slang words when they were at SMP and their vocabulary will increase through interaction among their peers or their senior.

This study records the conversations of all the students at the first years to record the conversation among them as many as possible. Moreover, as member check, there are twenty-two respondents of the study. These respondents are students who are at the XA class. These respondents participate in interview section and check the meaning of slang vocabularies that given in questionnaire sheet.

3.2.2 Data Collection Instruments

Data is collected by using some instruments, such as: recorded observation, interview, and questionnaires.

3.2.2.1 Recorded Observation

The data are taken based on natural observation without any manipulation to the setting either places or time. Thus, the conversations among the students are recorded naturally and spontaneously. The conversation take place at some places such as, at the canteen, around the first years classroom, sport field, security place, and at *Antapani-Ciroyom* public transportation.

This study uses long-term observation to find out slang words as many as possible. The observation was conducted approximately 3 months from August 2007 until January 2008. The schedule of observation is presented in table 3.1

Table 3.1 Schedule of Observation

Observation	Time of Observation	Date of Observation	Place of Observation
1 st	1.30 pm-3 pm	August 1, 2007	At the street, public transportation
2 nd	1.30 pm-2.50 pm	August 6, 2007	At the school
3 rd	1.30 pm-2.15 pm	August 13, 2007	At the school
4 th	2 pm-3 pm	August 15,2007	At the street, public transportation
5 th	1.45 pm-3 pm	August 22,2007	At the school
6 th	1.30 pm-2.45 pm	September 3, 2007	At the school
7 th	1.40 pm-2.30 pm	September 5, 2007	At the street, public transportation
8 th	1.30 pm-2.50 pm	September 6, 2007	At the street, public transportation
9 th	1.45 pm-2.45 pm	October 29, 2007	At the school
10 th	1.25 pm-2.35 pm	October 30, 2007	At the school
11 th	1.30 pm-3 pm	November 5, 2007	At the school
12 th	1.30 pm-2.45 pm	November 7, 2007	At the street, public transportation

13 th	1.30 pm-3 pm	November14, 2007	At the school
14 th	2 pm-3 pm	November19, 2007	At the street, public transportation
15 th	1.45 pm-3 pm	December 3, 2007	At the street, public transportation
16 th	2 pm-3 pm	December 5, 2007	At the school
17 th	1.30 pm-2 pm	December 10, 2007	At the street, public transportation
18 th	1.30 pm-1.45 pm	January 16, 2008	At the street, public transportation
19 th	2.30 pm-3 pm	January 23, 2008	At the school
20 th	2.40 pm-3 pm	January 28, 2008	At the school

The researcher did not have any problem in identifying students who are still at the first grade. Every grade at this school institution has a different color of the emblem institution, which is replaced, at the left side of student's upper arm. At the third grade, the color of the emblem is red. Yellow is for the second grade and green is for the first grade. The researcher avoided observation at Friday, because all of the students wore the same "Batik" uniform.

The researcher stood closer to the students who had green symbol and recorded their conversation. The researcher also followed them when they on the way home. While doing observation, the researcher did not make much strange action. Therefore, the students were not aware that their conversation was being recorded.

3.2.2.2 Questionnaire

The questionnaire was given on January 2008. It consists of 30 slang words among the students. Some of these slang words are taken from the recorded observation. The objective of this questionnaire is to find out either the given slang

vocabularies still used or not and to find out the meaning based on students' perception. On the questionnaire sheet, they had to check list *yes* if he or she usually use it and *no* if he or she doesn't use it. If they checked list *yes*, they had to wrote the meaning of the slang words based on their perception.

Table 3.2 Schedule of Giving Questionnaire

Meeting	Date	The number of Respondents
1 st	January 16, 2008	2
2 nd	January 17, 2008	3
3 rd	January 21, 2008	4
4 th	January 22, 2008	3
5 th	January 23, 2008	2
6 th	January 24, 2008	3
7 th	January 28, 2008	5

3.2.2.3 Interview

The Interview was conducted on January 2008. This study uses an overt interview. Respondents knew that they were being interviewed and they knew the aims of the interview. In this case, the respondents knew that the interview is aimed to find out some information about slang words, such as the places where the students usually use the slang; the reasons of using the slang words; and the hearer (addressee) when the students use slang. This interview was also purposed to find out the slang words that have not been found in recorded observation

The question, "What do I say to people?" is very important. Together with the steps of locating and contacting informants, and getting them to talk freely in a

recorded interview, thus the questions are organized on the interview outline. There are four major questions on the interview (see appendix 4).

Table 3.3 Schedule of Interview

Interview	Date of Interview	The number of Respondents
1 st	January 16, 2008	2
2 nd	January 17, 2008	3
3 rd	January 21, 2008	4
4 th	January 22, 2008	3
5 th	January 23, 2008	2
6 th	January 24, 2008	3
7 th	January 28, 2008	5

3.3 Data Analysis

3.3.1 Mode of Analysis

The data are analyzed by undertaking some steps. First is transcribing data from observation, questioners, and interview. The second is reducing the data. The data of the study needs to be reduced, summarized, and focused on the main topic. The third is coding the data. The fourth is displaying the data. Some data are replaced in table and in chart. The next step on the data analysis is the interpretation of the data analysis.

3.3.2 Analytical Framework

This study uses theories from Potter (1950), and Kahn & Illson (1985) to answer the first question research, *what kinds of slang words used among the students at the first years of senior high school?*. The kinds of slang words are categorized into ten groups; they are cockney rhyming slang, back slang, centre slang, clipping /

shortening, blending, compounding, acronyms / abbreviation, loan/ borrowing slang words, onomatopoeia, and nonsense reduplication. It was elaborated in chapter 2.

3.4 Establishing Trustworthiness

This study uses triangulation, member check, and descriptive statistic in establishing the trustworthiness. In triangulation technique, this study used three methods of collecting the data; they are recorded observation, questionnaire and interview. These data are triangulated with the sources. This study uses member check technique to avoid misinterpretation of respondents' answer and attitude in interview, and to confirm the respondent perspective toward ongoing process. This study also uses descriptive statistic to help in taking conclusion from the numeric data.

The data are accounted through numerical amounts and percentage to make the data accumulation relative easy. The percentage is based on the following formula:

$P = \frac{f}{N} \times 100\%$	P=Percentage f = frequency N=Total
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