



AN ANALYSIS OF SLANG WORDS FOUND IN THE SONG LYRICS OF KATY PERRY MTV UNPLUGGED ALBUM

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ABSTRACT

Slang is very informal language or specific words used by a particular group of people. Slang words are usually spoken more often in emails or other written text. This included song lyrics. The study aims to analyze the types of slang and the meaning of slang words from the song lyrics of Katy Perry songs in MTV Unplugged album. This study used a descriptive qualitative method. The selected song lyrics by Katy Perry were chosen as the data source. Descriptive study in textual analysis is applied to elaborate the types and meaning which occur in song lyrics on MTV Unplugged Album. The theory proposed by Partridge (1984) was referred to analyzing the types of the slang words and the theory proposed by Leech (1981) for the meanings of the words. Based on the data were 16 words of society slang, slang in theater have 1 data, cockney slang have 2 data, public house slang have 1 data and 1 data from slang in art. Meanwhile, based on the theory of Leech (1981) this study found conceptual meaning occurred with 14 data, connotative meaning occurred with 6 data, and reflected meaning occurred with 1 data. There is no data that can be classified into social meaning, affective meaning, collocative meaning, and thematic meaning.

INTRODUCTION

Slang is words, phrases, and usages of informal registers that members of particular groups prefer over the common vocabulary of a standard language. The word *slang* came about in the 18th century and has been defined in multiple ways since its conception with each implication. According to Chapman (2007) slang emerged from the special languages of subcultures and has little to do with the main aim of using language.

In this 21st century, some English common expressions are commonly abbreviated and used in internet interaction to make the communication efficient, such as HBD (happy birthday), GBU (god bless you), FYP (for your page), BTW (bye the way), TGIF (thank God it's Friday), OTW (on the way), FYI (for your information), and OOT (out of topic). Such word forms may also be considered as slang. However, slang words can also be found in song lyrics. Almost all song genres contain some slang in the lyrics. Singers and songwriters use slang words to give some characteristics to their songs. They use slang as an expression of togetherness. By using slang, they want to identify themselves as members of a group that is different from others in the society. One of the popular singers who use slang words in her song lyrics is Katy Perry.

Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson was born on October 25, 1984, Santa Barbara, California and known professionally as Katy Perry. Katy Perry is an American singer, songwriter and television judge, businesswoman, and philanthropist. After singing in church as a child, she pursued a career in religious music as a teenager. Katy Perry was signed to Red Hill Records and released her debut studio album *Katy Hudson*, which is her real name in 2001, but was not commercially successful. She moved to Los Angeles the following year to pursue a career in secular music after Red Hill ceased operations and then she worked alongside producers such as Glen Ballard, Dr. Luke, and Max Martin. After taking the stage name Katy Perry and being released by The Island Def Jam Music Group and Columbia Records, she signed a record deal with Capitol Records in April 2007.

Katy Perry gets achievements from the results of her hard work. Starting from 2009 about MTV Australia Awards for Best Breakthrough, ESKA Music Award for Favorite Tour Headliner, People's choice Award for Artist Pop Favorite (I kissed a girl), Appreciation Music NRJ for best International album, from 2010 about Teen Choice Award, 2011 People's Choice Award for Favorite Online Sensation, Billboard Music Award, Teen Choice Award for Summer Music Star- Female, Mtv Europe Music Award, Mtv video Music Award, Achievement Juno for album International in this year, 2012 Mtv Video Music Award for best Art Direction, Billboard Spotlight Award, 2013 Nickelodeon Kids's Choice Award, 2014 Billboard Music Award, Mtv Europe Music Award for best style, Teen Choice Award

for Choice Social Media Queen, Billboard Music Award for Top Digital songs Artist, World Music Award for Special Achievement Award, 2015 Appreciation Youtube Music, 2018 Nickelodeon Kids Choice Award for Favorite Dance Trend, 2020 Billboard Latin Music Award for Crossover Artist of the Year, iHeartRadio Music Award for Latin POP/ Reggaeton Song of the Year.

METHODS

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the types of slang word and the meaning of slang word that found in MTV Unplugged album which the data was analyzed descriptively concerning on types of meaning which divided into 5: Society slang, cockney slang, slang in theater, public house slang, and slang in art. Meaning of a slang word is divided into 3: Conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, reflected meaning. The data was collected through the library research and with an observation method with some steps. The steps to analyze the data are first classifying the types of the slang words, and second, identifying meanings of the slang words, using the theory by Eric Partridge (2004) and Leech (1981).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

RESULTS

The data found in selected song lyrics by Katy Perry are divided into five types, namely: Society slang which consist of 13 data, slang in theater consist of 1 data, cockney slang consist 2 data, public house slang consist of 1 data, and slang in art consist of 1 data. In this section about the analysis type and meaning of slang words in Katy Perry song lyrics. The first table present the data of the types of slang word in Katy Perry song lyrics, the table is presented as follows:

Table 1 Finding on Types of Slang Word in Selected Song Lyrics by Katy Perry

No	Types of Slang	Example of Slang Word	Lyrics
1	Society slang	1. Wanna	1. Just wanna try you on
		2. Cause	2. cause when I'm with him
		3. Gotta	3. You gotta help me out
		4. Gonna	4. we're gonna tear up the town
		5. Ain't	5. Ain't no big deal, it's innocent
		6. Ur	6. Ur so gay and you don't even like boys
		7. Pull'em	7. You pull'em down and there's really nothing there
		8. Talkin'	8. I saw you talkin' to Christopher Walken
		9. Freakin'	9. Spare me your freakin' dirty looks
		10. Dad	10. Now I work for my dad
		11. Outta	11. I'm so mean cause I cannot get you outta your head
		12. Outer	12. I just sending words into outer space
		13. Shit	13. I think you're shit

2.	Slang in theatre	14. Acting	14. I started acting to approach and kissed you
3	Cockney slang	15. Back street 16. Prevent	15. I approached him through the back street 16. the prevent kissed the girl
4	Public house slang	17. Hot beer	17. I got so brave, drink in made of hot beer
5	Slang in art	18. Drawing	18. Scraping the drawing of off the wood floors
Total		18	

In terms of the meaning of slang words found in the Katy Perry song lyrics are categorized into three meanings of slang words, such as connotative meaning, conceptual meaning, and reflected meaning.

Table 2 Findings on Types of Meaning of the Slang Word in Selected Song Lyrics by Katy Perry

NO	Types Meaning	Example of Slang Word	Meaning
1	Conceptual meaning	- Wanna	- Something used to give advice to subject, meaning should: You- to be more careful
		- Ain't	- Something used in non - standard spoken English. Short for AM NOT, IS NOT, ARE NOT
		- Ur	- Original or earliest
		- Pull'em	- To move something towards yourself, something with great physical effort

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outta - Outer - Gotta - Gonna - Talkin - Freakin -Drawing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Short form of out of - At a greater distance from the centre - Something is used to refer to obligations which from outside the speaker - Short form of going to - Something to make the subject of conversation or discourse - Something to emphasize what is being said, or to express - The act of making a picture with a pencil or pen.
2	Connotative meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Cause -Shit -Back street -Acting -Hot beer -Pervert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Person or thing that makes happen - Something that have a poor quality or mess - on a small, quiet street, often in an older or poorer area of a town city - the job of performing in films or plays - an alcoholic drink made from grain and hops - to change something so that it is not what it was or should be, or to influence someone in a harmful way.
3	Reflected meaning	-Dad	- A father
Total		18	

The types of meaning of slang words can be classified into three meanings of slang that are found in this table: conceptual meaning occurred only 14 data, connotative meaning occurred 6 data, and reflected meaning occurred 1 data. Conceptual meaning mostly dominantly in the most of the best Katy Perry, because the data of slang words in the songs rarely has any other meaning.

DISCUSSION

1. Society Slang

According to Partridge society slang is commonly used in daily speaking and connected to the society. Every society group uses some types of slang and by association, those words or phrases become property that belongs to that group.

Data 1

“Just **wanna** try you on”

(In song I Kissed A Girl, line 6)

The word “*Wanna*” can be identified as a Society because “*Wanna*” which means want to, this word is well known and widely used in every group and individual and is often used among groups as a slang word. This word is familiar to young people.

Based on the theory of meaning proposed by Leech (1981) the word “*wanna*” is identified as conceptual meaning because the word “*wanna*” shows the real meaning which does not contain an additional meaning conveyed in the word above is conceptual meaning. The word “*wanna*” still has the same meaning as “*want to*” or has a meaning like “*will*”. Therefore the word “*wanna*” can be categorized as a conceptual meaning.

Data 2

“**Cause** when I’m with him”

(In song Thinking of you, line 10)

The word “*cause*” can be identified as a society slang, because the word of cause means “*because*”. This word is usually used in informal situations which is used by everybody to make comfortable communication when speaking with each other and make it easier to communicate with each other. Nowadays in social life, the usage of word “*cause*” more popular rather than “*because*”, because the usage of shortened word is more efficient

The word because is a subordinate conjunction or is conjunction which is used at the beginning of a clause or clause, before the subject and the verb.

The meaning conveyed in the word above is connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is created when someone means something else, something that might be initially hidden. The connotative meaning of a word is based on implication, or shared emotional association. In the lyrics of the song, when I am with him tells that when he is with someone he does not love and he thinks of someone far away .

2. Slang In Theater

According to Partridge, slang was used for the first time on stage in the sixteenth century. Theater slang began to develop in the nineteenth century and expand its influence on ordinary and information spoken English.

Data 3

“ I started **acting** to approach and kissed you”

(In song I Kissed A Girl, line 9)

The word “Acting” can be identified as a Slang In Theater, because acting is an activity in which a story is told by means of its enactment by an actor or actress who adopts a character in theater, television, film, radio, or any other medium. “Acting” is the job of performing in films or plays.

Based on the theory of meaning proposed by Leech (1981), the word acting can be identified as a connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is created when someone means something else, something that might be initially hidden. The connotative meaning of a word is based on implication, or shared emotional association with a word.

3. Cockney Slang

According to Partridge, cockney slang is in the form of English slang which originated from the East of England. Cockney slang only used by working class England. But nowadays, almost all people in England use cockneys, especially in London. This slang is used in film, music, songs, and literature. Cockney slang is the brightest spot in England because it has a very pronounced accent. For example, there is a change in consonant variation of sounds.

Data 4

“ I approached him through the **back street**”

(In song Lost, line 6)

The word “back street” can be identified as cockney slang. This word is well known and widely used in every group and individual and is often used among groups as a slang word. This word is familiar to young people. The word back street is known to young people about the love that has been lived but the love has not yet fused.

The meaning conveyed in the word above is connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is created when someone means something else, something that might be initially hidden. The connotative meaning of a word is based on implication, or shared emotional association. In the lyrics I approached him through the backstreet telling someone returns with love.

Data 5

“The **pervert** kissed a girl”

(In song I Kissed a Girl, line 12)

The word “pervert” can be identified as cockney slang. The word is well known and widely used by many people. The word pervert is usually said to guys who like to go out at night and look for a girl in a certain place.

The meaning conveyed in the word above is connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is created when someone means something else, something that might be initially hidden. The connotative meaning of a word is based on implication, or shared emotional association. In the lyric The pervert kissed a girl, explained that a guy was kissing a girl at a party.

4. Public House Slang

Public house slang is byname pub an establishment providing alcoholic beverages to be consumed on the premises. The traditional pub was an establishment found originally in Britain and regions of British influence. A public house, in term’s broadest sense, could be any site where alcohol is legally consumed on the premises.

Data 6

“I got so brave, drink in made of hot beer”

(In song I Kissed A Girl, line 3)

The word above can be identified as public house slang. This word is usually used for someone who dares to try something that he thinks is challenging and different from the others.

The meaning conveyed in the word above is connotative meaning. Connotative meaning is created when someone means something else, something that might be initially hidden. Connotative is about getting a

meaning from the word, phrase, or sentence according suggests, or what we associate the word with, which goes beyond its formal definitions.

5. Slang In Art

Slang in art is still related to society. Words or phrases if slang in art are quickly adopted by society, although there are only a few words known as artistic slang. According to Partridge (2004:221), slang in art appears in the seventeenth century when slang was brought to the stage for the first time in Richard Brome's comedy *A Jovial crew*. Furthermore, this slang is considerably more difficult than other slang terms. The meaning is so difficult to guess in the present day.

Data 7

"scraping the **drawing** off of hard wood floors"

(In song Hackensack, line 15)

The word of the songs can be identified as a slang in art, the words and phrases of art quickly adopted by society, which however knows only a few words of artistic slang.

The meaning that conveyed in the word above is conceptual meaning. Conceptual meaning shows the real meaning of the word which does not contain an additional meaning. Drawing means a picture in water-color. The word "drawing" does not have any additional meaning.

CONCLUSION

This study aims to find out the types of slang words found in song lyrics of Katy Perry MTV Unplugged album, which were divided into types of slang words proposed by Partridge (1984) and Leech (1981) are found in MTV Unplugged album of Katy Perry. The total data for the types is 18 data. The data were classified into society slang, slang in theater, cockney slang, public house slang and slang in art. Society slang was the types that commonly appeared with 13 data, slang in theater was the type that commonly appeared 1 data, cockney slang commonly appeared 2 data, public house slang commonly appeared 1 data, and slang in art that was commonly appeared with 1 data. Society slang occurred dominantly because this type of slang is always used by the people in their conversation to make it easy to be understood by listeners.

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