Slang Words Found in Hidden Figure Movie

Yemeliana Ovince Kalakmabin 1*

1Maharaswati Denpasar University, Indonesia
Ovincekalakmabin@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study deals with slang words found in Hidden Figure movie. This research attempts to find out the types of slang and the characteristics of slang words in Hidden Figure movie. The theory proposed by Chapman (1988) was used to find the types of slang and the theory from Sumarsono (2007) was used to analysis the characteristics of slang words. The documentation method was used to collect the data by taking advantage of the picture, note taking, and recording. Regarding to the first objective, there are two types of slang words found in this movies, such as primary slang and secondary slang. The occurrence of primary slang dominates the slang type used in this movie, since the speaker can make this slang type is easily understood by people. Referring to the second object, there are six characteristics of slang words found in this movie, which are clipping, creative, metathesis, acronym, use new existing words and metaphor, but the most ones used are clipping, creative, acronym, new existing words and metaphor. Therefore, the mostly characteristics used is use new existing words.

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a set of arbitrary vocal symbols that used by human to communicate (Wardhaugh,1972:3). According to Fromkin (2000:3), the scientific study of language is known as linguistic. In linguistics, language diversity is used to called language

* How to Cite

https://traverse.asia/
https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0
variation. One of the factors that cause language variation is the choice of language variety which is influenced by the needs or writers for communication tools that are appropriate to the situation. Holmes (2000) adds that people who speak their own language are usually influenced by the social context. There are many ways to use language, and the way they use language varies. This variation is indicated by linguistic differences in sound and structure. One of the varieties of language that we can find in everyday life is slang.

Leech and Svartvik (1981:26) explained that slang usually close to the members of a particular social group which is very familiar in style or language. Some certain social groups such as teenagers groups, army slang and theater slang. Slang can express something in a new way either something that new or old. Slang is the use of words that are often repeated and their definitions are always changing in conversation, both informal and formal, often using references as a means to compare or show these actions. Slang may come in the form of a single word, a phrase or a sentence, e.g. dope, knock, feeling blue, etc. Slang can be born from any number of situations or ideas, and can be blunt or riddle with metaphor, and often quite profound. Slang generally expresses a certain emotional attitude, and it is also sometimes used for many reasons. Nowadays, teenagers repeat words or slang phrases spoken by their favorite actors.

In this study, researched analyzed two types of slang words namely primary slang and secondary slang, and analyzed the characteristics of slang words found in Hidden Figure movie. Hidden Figure Movie as the data source in this study, it is a 2016 American biographical film written by Allison Schroeder and Theodore Melfi.

2. METHODS

The data of this study was taken from Hidden Figure Movie. This study used documentation method to collect the data. By taking of the picture, note taking, and recording. By doing these steps, the researched used documentation method for gathering information to give record of certainties of something particularly. The techniques of data collections are through several steps. First, downloading movie and movie scrip, second the movie is watched for several times and reading the movie script intensively to know the all of the stories of Hidden Figure Movie. After downloading the movie, and its script, with the movie several times, the writer finds the slang words and selecting the slang words in the movie is collected. The data were analyzed using qualitative method to explain it based on the theory by Sudaryanto (1993).

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The chapter presents the result and data analysis. The analysis of the data of study is segmented into sentences according to the types of slang words proposed by Chapman (1988). The analysis also present the characteristics of slang words in Hidden Figure movie based on the theory proposed by Sumarsono (2007).
Results

Tabel 4.1 Types of Slang words used in *Hidden Figure* movie by the main character.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Types of slang</th>
<th>Total Data</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Primary Slang</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Secondary Slang</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the table above the data can be classified into primary and secondary slang. Primary slang was the most used on the movie, there are 14 primary slang words, and for secondary slang there are 10 slang words found in *Hidden Figure* Movie. The secondary slang words mostly used in the movie conversation because this film shows the life of the main character in social group, such as in a room dedicated to people of colored, meanwhile the used of primary slang words rarely used in the movie because the target market of movie is not for young adult only who almost used slang words in daily life also primary slang usually become the mostly used one because easier to use and understand by the viewer.

There are also six characteristics of slang words that can make the viewer easy to understand about the slang words. The six characteristics of slang words proposed by Sumarsono (2007) which are clipping, metathesis, creative, acronym, use the existing word and metaphor. These characteristics of slang words were described in the table below.

Tabel 4.2 The Characteristics Of Slang Words Used In *Hidden Figure* Movie.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Characteristics of slang words</th>
<th>Types of slang</th>
<th>Total Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Acronyms</td>
<td>Primary words</td>
<td>slang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Use the existing words</td>
<td>Primary words</td>
<td>slang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Use the existing word</td>
<td>Secondary words</td>
<td>slang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Metaphor</td>
<td>Secondary words</td>
<td>slang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Clipping</td>
<td>Primary words</td>
<td>slang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion

Data 1

Sumner : Katherine
Father : Hurry on now, love! Let mama tuck you in
Sumner : You have to see what she becomes.

The word *mama* means a woman. This words is often found and also used in a daily conversations, a movie, chat or call. This slang is categorised as a primary slang because it can be found in the daily conversation also the meaning is easy understand by people.

The characteristics of using *mama* in this movie by The character is included as use new existing word. It is often used by the younger generation in communication, especially in web communication. There are many things that are inherent in our daily lives, one of which is web communication which is part of the daily life of teenagers.

Data 2

Dorothy : okay, try to turn it over now! Kathern, mary?
Mary : quit staring off into space and turn the damn car over
Katherin : I got it.

The word ”damn” above means a woman just feel dislike or swear of a broken car which is obstruct their journey to the NASA. This slang words categorized as a primary slang words because this word often found in daily conversations and this words used by teenegrs or even old ages now day to call their close friends, family or something that they do not like. The characteristics that used in this word is use new existing words characteristics by Mery to her friends which is this words show how her dislike feeling or unpleseant feeling to a broken car and also to katherin because she didn’t hear what mary says.

Data 3

Ms. Mitchell : We are on double-time this morning girls.
I need to this calulation before lunch. Speace task group
Need a computer, ASAP.
Dorothy : permanent ot temp?
Ms. Mitchell: everything’s temporary

From the conversation above it is found one slang word which is (ASAP). The word *ASAP* in conversation means as soon as possible. *ASAP* is informal way to expressing
the urgency. This words often appear or found in people conversation on movie, daily conversation, chat or call. This categorized into primary slang because it can be found in daily conversation also the meaning is too easy to be understand. The function of using slang word **ASAP** by the character is to initiate relax conversation. The characteristics of slang words **ASAP** is categorized acronym because it is role to communicate quickly.

Data 4

Ms mitchell : Do you have someone?

Dorothy : Katalhrine’s the **gal** for tha

Ms. Mitchell: I’ll check her credentials

**Gal** is used in written english to represent the word girl as it as pronounced in a particular accent and used in informal situation. Nowadays, the word is controversial, with African Americans saying it derogatory, while the others have been rised saying it in an unoffensive manner. The word sometimes found in conversation on movie, chat or call. This word categorized as a primary slang words because people usually especially African American usually saying it in daily conversations or even in a movie. In this scene, the charcteristic of slang word that used by character is creative because the character used a word that make people can understand.

Data 5

Mr. Zielinkski : Mery, a verson with engineers mind should be an engineers. You can not be a computer to rest of your life

Mery : I am a negro woman. I am not **gonna** entertain the impissible

Mr. Zielinksiki : and i am a polish jaw.

The slang words”**gonna**” here is means going to. Word **gonna** usually used to explain something that will happen on something progres. This slang words is categorized as a primary slang words because easily to found in any movies that we watch. This slang word also often use in a movie conversations, daily life conversation, dialog or even in a chat or call. In this scene Mr. Zielinkski inform mery to keep her occupation to become a computer don not be an engineers, and she express her feeling and saying that she is a negro woman and she not gonna entertain the impissible because she considers anyone can be engineers even there are white people or black people. This type of slang categorized as characteristics of clipping slang because it is a word that consists of the initial results of several words which are going to be then become gonna. Usually these components are individual letters or parts of words or names.
Data 6

Levi: I do not understand. A female Engineer?
Mery: I do not wanna talk about this again, okay?
Levi: but, a female engineer? We are negro baby.
Mary: it is not like that, Levi.
Levi: ain’t not such thing. Understand it.

The word wanna stand for words want to. In this word used to saying something that still want to be done, but not necessarily happen. This type of slang words is categorized as a primary slang word because often used in movie conversation, then usually used in dialog. This slang word is categorized as characteristics of clipping because the word “wanna” is slang word that is formed from two words (want + to). The sentence above explains how Mary did not want to hear levi saying that word again repeatedly.

Data 7

Levi: I do not understand. A female Engineer?
Mery: I do not wanna talk about this again, okay?
Levi: but, a female engineer? We are negro baby.
Mary: it is not like that, Levi.
Levi: ain’t not such thing. Understand

From conversation above “ain’t not such thing” there are two slang words, i.e. ain’t and such. Ain’t means is not and such is expressing something good or bad. These slang words categorized as primary slang words because usually appear on movies or used in daily life. The function of slang word ain’t in english conversation is change all negative of to be. As example, am not, are not etc. These slang words categorized as characteristics of use new existing words slang words. In this scene, Levi try to explain how hard to be engeener to Mary. By saying ain’t not such thing, Levi consider if her wife change her minds and better to looking to another job because in that era become an engineer is too difficult and mostly a lot of men do this job.

Data 8

Old woman: what are you looking for? You have in colored section
Dorothy: It does not have what i am looking for
Police: Go on, now. You know better than this
Dorothy: Get your hands off my boys! Do not touch theme.
The word “hands off” is one of slang words that used in above conversation between police and Dorothy. The word hands off means do not touch or another meaning is allow people to do what they want to do without bothering or stopping them. In this scene, Dorothy and her children went to a library to searching a book therefore there is a woman that bothering them by asking her to searching a book in colored section. This word categorized as primary slang and as characteristic of use new existing words of slang word because in this scene Dorothy can say do not touch or get away from them but she said handsoff that means she derived new word to expresses her feeling.

Data 9

Girl 1 : **Holy Moses**, that is lighting fast
Girl 2 : They never got that to work
Dorothy : Ok. I will run it eventually. And when it does, we have to know how to programe it. Unless, you would rather be out of the job

The word “Holy Moses” is used as an exclamation of surprise or amazement. If someone in real life and seen in movie that saying *holy moses*, it means that person is shocking or suprising by seeing something. This slang word is categorized into primary slang because this word often found in conversation and this word used by teenagers now days. And also this slang word usually use on conversation in movie. The world is categorized as characteristic of use new existing words in slang word.

Data 10

Jim : I am afraid i simply **misspoke** the other day, Mrs. Globe. I’v been away For a long time
Kathrine : you have not said you are sorry yet
Jim : Right, of course i am sorry katahrine
Katharine: for what Jim?
Jim : for understimating you.

The word means to speak something such as a word incorrecty or to express imperfectly. This word categorized into primary slang word because usually found in conversation in a movie or dialog in everyday life. In this scene, Jim say sorry because he is misspoke to Katherin and understimating her because he just know that she is a negor woman that works at NASA because at this era it is just impossible think if negro woman work there.
Data 12
Jhon : what do you mean by there is no bathroom here?
Katahrine : There is no bathroom for colored people! I have to walk to Timbuktu just to relive my self, and I cannot use one of the handy bikes. And I work like a dog, living off a coffe a pot none of you wanna touch.
Jhon : alright.

The word work like a dog means to work very hard and still not make ends meet. Saying someone works like a dog can mean that they put in a lot of effort and work tirelessly towards a project or goal. However, historically it is also known to refer to someone who does work for little or no pay. The word often found on a conversation of people in the movie. This slang categorized into secondary slang because too much for express someone's attitude.

Data 13
Katahrine : I just back from bathroom because there is no bathroom here
Jhon : what do you mean by there is no bathroom here?
Katahrine : There is no bathroom for colored people! I have to walk to Timbuktu just to relive my self, and I cannot use one of the handy bikes. And i work like a dog, living off coffee a pot none of you wanna touch.
Jhon : alright

There is found slang word which is living off a pot none. It seems like does not make sense if reading it but yes, it makes sense. It may sound a bit confusing or fragmented at first, but that's because the person is feeling intense emotions while saying this. The words are categorized as secondary slang because this slang word used to express something in a secret way where only restricted people who understand the meaning word.

As what has been stated in findings, the results of the data analysis in the study shows that the types of slang words which is dominantly used in Hidden Figure movie is primary slang words with the total use 14 times and the dominant od characteristics of slang words is use the new existing words with the data use 13 times. As we know, people tend to use primary slang words to talk with their friends, especially their close friends.

4. CONCLUSION
According to the analysis in the previous study, the researcher found some point that can be presented as conclusion. From 24 slang words found in this movie, there are 75% which are categorized as type of primary slang words and there are 25%
categorized as secondary slang words that proposed by Chapman (1988). Next, there are four out of six characteristics of slang words used in this movie such as clipping, acronym, metaphor and use the new existing words theory proposed by Sumarsono (2007). The dominant use of characteristics of slang words is use the new existing words.

5. REFERENCES


Susanti, Susanti. 2015. An Analysis of Slang terms Used In Fast and Furious 7 Movie. Undergraduate Thesis. IAIN Palangka Raya
