PUBLICATION JOURNAL

AN ANALYSIS ON SLANG IN THE SCRIPT OF 8-MILE FILM: A SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACH

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education in English Department

by

Cahyo Anjar Widyanto
A 320 040 152

SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA
2013
APPROVAL

AN ANALYSIS ON SLANG IN THE SCRIPT OF 8-MILE FILM:
A SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACH

by

CAHYO ANJAR WIDYANTO
A 320 040 152

PUBLICATION JOURNAL

Approved to be Examined by Consultants

Consultant I

Drs. H. Maryadi, M.A.
NIP.195803041986031001

Consultant II

Titis Setyabudi, S.S.M.Hum
NIK.948
SUMMARY

CAHYO ANJAR WIDYANTO A.230 040 152 AN ANALYSIS ON SLANG IN THE SCRIPT OF 8-MILE FILM: A SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACH. Research Paper. Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. 2013. This research discusses the syntactic forms of slang expressions in the script of 8-mile film, the kind of meanings of slang expression in the script of 8-mile film and the reasons of using slang expression in the script of 8-mile film. This research is a qualitative research. The data are taken from document analysis. The object of the study is analyzing the slang in the script of 8-mile film: Sociolinguistic approach. The results of the study, 1) there are only found 3 syntactic forms in 8-mile film that are: word (single word and compound word), slang phrase, and acronym. The frequency of use and the percentage of use that are: there are found 10 single word or about 62.5% of all the data. Compound word has one data, or 6.3% of all the data. Slang phrase has 4 data or about 25% of all the data while slang acronym has only 1 datum or about 63% of all the data. 2) There are only found 2 kinds of meaning of using slang word in 8-mile film, denotative and connotative. The frequency of use and the percentage of use that are: there are 2 denotative meaning data or about 12.5% of all the data. Connotative meaning has 14 data, or about 87.5% of all the data. 3) There are only found 4 reasons of using slang word in 8-mile film that are: To exuberance of spirit and the sheer joy of living or the exhilaration of the moment, Connotative (spontaneous), to escape from cliches-an intention usually arises from impatience with existing words and phrases, to enrich the language, and to intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class; artistic, literary, or musical set, or cultured group or stratum. The frequency of use and the percentage of use that are: as spontaneous data, or about 18.7% of all the data. To escape from cliches has 8 data, or 50% of all the data. To enrich the language has 2 data or about 12.5% of all the data while to intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class, has only 3 datum or about 18.7% of all the data. 

Key words: Sociolinguistic, Slang Word.

Consultant I

Dra. H. Marvadi, M. A
NIP. 195803041986031001

Consultant II

Titis Setyabudi, S.S., M.Hum
NIK. 948

Dean

Drs. H. Sofyan Anif, M.Si
NIK. 547
AN ANALYSIS ON SLANG IN THE SCRIPT OF 8-MILE FILM:
A SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACH

1. Introduction

Background of the Study: Language is a basic tool in society. It is used to make communication. Language allows some people to say thing to each other and express their communicative needs. Language is the cement of the society, allowing people to live, working and playing together. Sometimes it is used to merely keep communication channels open so that if any need arises to say something of importance a suitable channel is suitable.

Wardhaugh (2000:12) states that sociolinguistics is concerned with investigating the relationship between language and society with the goal of being a better understanding of the structure of language and how language function in communication. The definition above can be inferred that language and society is so closely related.

Usually, in the informal utterances, young people choose a language variety which they want, they want to show intimacy in their group. In addition, Willis (in Alwasilah 1985:57) says:

For the most part, slang is the result of linguistic inventiveness, especially of young and lively persons who want fresh, original pungent, or racy terms which they can rename ideas, actions, and objects that they feel strongly about. In effect, slang is the result of combination of linguistic irreverence and a reaction against staid, stuffy, pompous, pretentious, or colorless diction.

Slang is often used in western film especially film made in Hollywood. One of them is 8-mile film. This film tells about a white skin young rapper (Eminem) in Detroit. He struggles with his anger and social status through music. Scott Silver, the writer of the script as well as the director of the film, makes the film to show an event of controversial rapper in that time, that is Eminem. In this film, Eminem plays as Jimmy Smith who is the main character of the film.
The 8-Mile itself was considered as the biography of Eminem. He is one of outstanding and controversial rap singer. He was born on October 17, 1972, at Kansas City, Missouri, USA, but he is growing up at Detroit. He already has 76 albums. Most of his album got platinum, no wonder if Curtis Hanson made 8-mile based on Eminem’s Biography.

The Characters of this film are Jimmy Smith, Stephanie Smith, David ‘future’ Porter, Alex, Cheddar Bob, Sol George, DJ Iz, Wink, Janeane, Bouncer, Lil’tic, Shorty Mike, Battle DJ, Greg Beuhl, and Lily Smith. In this Film, The character utters many slang words. To clarify the background of the research, below is the example:

In the club, Jimmy who should show his talent in rapping, suddenly went to bathroom. When Jimmy hustled up some stair, future right on his back. Cheddar Bob and Future confused him.

Future : Where you running to?
Jimmy : I fucking pocked on my shirt.
Future : ( Laughs) first time is always crazy. You know what I am saying? Didn’t fucking marry calm, You down?
Cheddar Bob : Hey Rabbit – Where you?

The conversation above takes place at stair of club. Domain of the conversation is friendship. The participants are Jimmy, Future and Cheddar Bob. They are friends. They use slang to show their close distance. The slang that are used by them are fucking and rabbit. The first slang that is used is fucking by Jimmy. He used this word to show his anger expression because when he went to show his talent, he gets some pock on his shirt, he is angry with himself. The second slang that is used in the conversation above is fucking by future. He used this word to give understanding to Jimmy so that Jimmy is not nervous in his first time of rapping. In this case both of the words fucking is not taboo word. Based on Spears (2007:132) the meaning of the fucking is “exclamation, absolutely, totally absolutely; (usually objectionable)”. It means that fucking word can be as slang and rabbit. Rabbit here is not an animal. It is a nick name for person who has a nose that is like plane, Jimmy has a nose that
is like plane so people in his surrounding especially people who have close relation to him always call him “rabbit”.

From the example above, it can be seen that the occurrence of language choice in the speaker’s utterances depends on social contexts and the motivation of the speaker himself. Thus, the researcher felt fully encouraged to analyze the phenomena in the research paper entitled AN ANALYSIS ON SLANG IN THE SCRIPT OF 8-MILE FILM: A SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACH.

**Previous Study:** The writer realizes that this research is not the first study in analyzing slang word. To prove the originality of the research, the writer will show the previous study that deals with this research. The first research by Astriyani (2000). The title of her research is *an analysis of slang language related to sex in Eminem’s rap songs’ lyrics*. She analyzed the slang words and slang meanings in Eminem’s rap song’s lyric. The result of her analysis was that are 9 data of words which classifies into 3 data of sexual perversion, 3 data of gender identity sexuality and 3 data of sexual attraction.

The second research by Laila Oksiana (2005). The title of her research is *An Analysis of Slang Language Related to Race, Drugs, and Violence in D12 Rap Songs Lyrics*. She analyzed slang words and slang meanings used in D12 song’s lyrics related to race, drugs, and violence in the data. The result of her research showed that terms such as white, fags have slang meanings as the terms related to race. The term crack, weed, pop and squeeze have a slang meaning related to drugs and violence.

From the previous research, the writer is sure that this study has not been analyzed yet. Therefore, he is going to analyze on slang used in the script of 8-mile film and to continue the previous research on slang. In this research, the writer is going to do the similar research but in different scope in which the subject is sociolinguistics study on slang used in the script of 8-mile film. The researcher analyzes slang expressions that used by the characters in the script of 8-mile film and the researcher wants to analyze the language form, contextual meaning and the reasons of using slang expressions.
**Problem Statement:** There are many slang words that are used by the characters in *8-mile* film. The researcher identifies the problems are as follows:

1. What are the syntactic forms of slang expressions in the script of *8-mile* film?, 2. What is the kind of meanings of slang expression in the script of *8-mile* film?, 3. What are the reasons of using slang expressions in the script of *8-mile* film?.

**Objectives:** The research is conducted to find out the answers of the problem statements. They are: 1. To find out the Syntactic forms of slang expression in the script of *8-mile* film. 2. To clarify the kind of meanings of slang expression in the script *8-mile* film. 3. To describe the reasons of using slang expressions in the script *8-mile* film.

**Benefits of the Study:** The results of this study is hoped to give contribution on:

1. **Theoretical Benefits**
   This research will give more contribution for the progress in the science of sociolinguistic especially on slang expressions.

2. **Practical Benefit.**
   a. For lecturers
   This research might be useful for lecturer in giving additional input and reference about slang expressions in teaching sociolinguistic.
   b. For other researchers
   For the next analysis wish that other researchers will analyze on slang with a different aspects and an attractive write to attract other researcher to do better than previous.
   c. For movie watchers
   This research will be able to help for movie watchers to understand the slang expressions in *8-mile* movie.
2. Research Method

Type of Research: The researcher using the qualitative research to analyzed the slang expressions that are used in the script of 8-mile film.

Object of the Data: In the research, the writer chooses slang expressions in the script of 8-mile film as the object of the study.

Data and Source of Data: The source of data in the research is collected in document. It is the script of 8-mile film. The main sources of the data in this research are dialogues and event found in the script of 8-mile film. It is distributed by Detroit project in 2002. This script of film consists of 111 pages. It is a script of film that portrays the reality and existences of slang expression in society.

Technique of Data Collection: Technique of data collection used by the researcher are: The first time, reading the movie script, applies the documentation in order to find the slang word in the script of 8-mile and the last, coding the data to get easier to analyze the data collection. For Example is DN.1/P12. DN is data number 1 and P is Page 12.

Technique of Analyzing Data: The researcher analyzed the data as the following chronology. Next, the researcher used sociolinguistics approach in analyzing the data. The steps are: 1. Describing the syntactic form of slang. 2. Describing the contextual meaning of slang in the script of 8-mile film. 3. Describing the reason of using slang in the each dialogue which contains slang expression. 4. Discussing the findings of data analysis. 5. Drawing the conclusion.
3. Slang

a. Notion of Slang

According to Holmes (1997:11) slang is "as an ever changing set of colloquial words and phrases that speakers use to establish or reinforce social identity or cohesiveness within a group or with a trend or fashion in society at large". Another definition by Menchen (1988:481) slang is expressions that do not belong to Standard English.

b. Forms of Slang

According to Hornby in Oxford Dictionary (1995:807), slang is words, phrases, meaning of words, etc commonly used in talk among friends or colleagues, but not suitable for good writing of formal occasions, especially the kind used by and the typical or only one class of persons.

From the definition above, it can be concluded that slang expression are classified in to three forms that are: word, phrase, and meaning.

c. Meanings in the Relation of Using Slang

Wierzbicka (1996:3) state “language is an instrument for conveying meaning. The structure of this instrument reflects its function, and it is only properly understood in term of its function”. It means that, the study of language without reference to meaning is impossible, because language can be useful because of its meaning.

d. Reasons of Using Slang

According to Americana Encyclopedia (1991:15) there are many reasons why people use slang. The reasons of using slang are as follow:

1) To exuberance of spirit and the sheer joy of living or the exhilaration of the moment: “just for the hell of it”: play fully or waggishly”. Either as a conscious exercise or as a wholly or mainly spontaneous expression of
2) ingenuity, of wit of him. In this case people use slang expression to entertain to the other. It means, basically, people use slang words just for fun. They can change quickly as long as utterances.

3) To show, perhaps to prove, that one is “different”; to novel. In this case people use a new word that different from other may be to shoe that, “this I am or these we are”. They want to show that they have new ideas in calling or mentioning about something. In Glasgow working class boy’s gang in the 1960s called a hard man who never runs away from a fight as “gammie”.

4) To escape from clichés—an intention usually arises from impatience with existing words and phrases. In this case people create new word which is up to date base on the time. If there is a new thing, they call it with their agreement. For example they call to a very close related male friend with ‘homeboy’

5) To enrich the language. In this case, such deliberated originality is common only among the educated: the uneducated persons using the convey dialect peculiar to the East End of London form an exception. It literary or, at the least, cultured rather than spontaneous.

6) To entertain and amuse superior public; to speak down, or write down, to what one conceives to be an inferior public; or merely to speak or write, on equal terms, to one’s public.

7) To ease of social intercourse (a motive not to be confused, much less to be merged, with the preceding).

8) To intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class; artistic, literary, or musical set, or cultured group or stratum. (this may be done in order to establish relation).

9) To reduce or to dispel solemnity or pomposity of conversation.
4. Research Finding

The writer finds out several findings, the arrange the findings which are divided into three classifications. The finding based on the Syntactic forms of slang, kinds of meaning and Reasons of using slang expressions.

Following is the table of the results of the data classification based on the Syntactic forms of Slang, kinds of meaning, and Reason of Using Slang in the Script of 8-mile Film.

**Table 4.1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syntactic Forms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the Table 1 there are 10 single word or about 62.5% of all the data. Compound word has one data, or 6.3% of all the data. Slang phrase has 4 data or about 25% of all the data while slang acronym has only 1 datum or about 63% of all the data.

### Table 4.2
**Kinds of Meaning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Kinds of Meaning</th>
<th>Data</th>
<th>The frequency of use</th>
<th>The percentage of frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>- Denotative</td>
<td>Nope DJ</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>- Connotative</td>
<td>dawg rabbit baby shit fucking hon sweetie bunny dude bullshit tea girl. fucked up shit</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the Table 2 there are only two kinds of meaning in 8-mile film: denotative and connotative. In the table 2 there are 2 denotative meaning data or about 12,5% of all data. Connotative meaning has 14 data, or about 87,5% of all data.

### Table 4.3
**Reasons of Using Slang Word**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Reason of Using Slang Word</th>
<th>Data</th>
<th>The frequency of use</th>
<th>The percentage of frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>To exuberance of spirit and the sheer joy of living or the exhilaration of the moment. Connotative (spontaneous)</td>
<td>fucking, bullshit, fucked up shit</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To escape from clichés-an intention usually arises from impatience with</td>
<td>Nope, rabbit, baby, bunny, tea girl.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
existing words and phrases. | fucking puckies  
| hon  
| sweetie  
---|---
| DJ  
| your way up  
---|---
| dawg  
| shit  
| dude  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>To enrich the language.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>To intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class; artistic, literary, or musical set, or cultured group or stratum.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total | 16 | 100 |

In the Table 3 there are 3 reasons of using slang word as spontaneous data, or about 18,7% of all the data. To escape from clichés has 8 data, or 50% of all the data. To enrich the language has 2 data or about 12,5% of all the data while To intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class, has only 3 datum or about 18,7% of all the data.
5. Conclusion

The researcher concludes the results of this research are as follows:

1. There are only found 3 syntactic forms in *8-mile* film that are: word (single word and compound word), slang phrase, and acronym. The frequency of use and the percentage of use that are: there are found 10 single word or about 62.5% of all the data. Compound word has one data, or 6.3% of all the data. Slang phrase has 4 data or about 25% of all the data while slang acronym has only 1 datum or about 63% of all the data.

2. There are only found 2 kinds of meaning of using slang word in *8-mile* film, denotative and connotative. The frequency of use and the percentage of use that are: there are 2 denotative meaning data or about 12.5% of all data. Connotative meaning has 14 data, or about 87.5% of all data.

3. There are only found 4 reasons of using slang word in *8-mile* film that are: To exuberance of spirit and the sheer joy of living or the exhilaration of the moment, Connotative (spontaneous), to escape from clichés-an intention usually arises from impatience with existing words and phrases, to enrich the language, and to intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class; artistic, literary, or musical set, or cultured group or stratum. The frequency of use and the percentage of use that are: as spontaneous data, or about 18.7% of all the data. To escape from clichés has 8 data, or 50% of all the data. To enrich the language has 2 data or about 12.5% of all the data while To intimate, maybe to prove, that one belongs or has belonged to a certain school or university, trade or profession, or social class, has only 3 datum or about 18.7% of all the data.

Based on the result above, it can be seen the use of slang word on *8-Mile* film is dominant and become the style of the rap music and the film itself.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


