

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains of research context, research focus, research objective, significance of study, definition of key terms and previous study.

#### A. Research Context

In the bustling corridors and vibrant classrooms of educational institutions, an intriguing linguistic phenomenon quietly thrives – the world of slang. Slang, an ever-evolving lexicon of informal language, serves as a unique window into the cultural and social dynamics of students' lives<sup>1</sup>. Within the hallowed halls of IAIN Madura, the enigmatic language of slang has woven itself into the fabric of daily communication, becoming an integral part of the student experience. Better School is a work program of student organization of student association of Tadris Bahasa Inggris of Tarbiyah faculty, specifically for new students in first semester and second semester with the aim provide basic knowledge about English, and improve TBI students ability to speak English and of course, to be able to speak, grammar, etc.

As we embark on this linguistic journey, we delve into the captivating world of "Better School's Slang," aiming to unravel its intricacies and decode the messages hidden within its expressions. This comprehensive linguistic

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<sup>1</sup> Mukhtar Abadi, "Analysis on the Use of Slang on Eminem's Lyrics" (PhD Thesis, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim, 2010), <http://etheses.uin-malang.ac.id/id/eprint/47735>.

analysis ventures beyond the surface of words, seeking to understand the profound impact of slang on the educational ecosystem of IAIN Madura.

In this age of rapid linguistic evolution, slang evolves as swiftly as the world around us. From the vernacular of TikTok to the memes shared on social media, slang reflects the influences that shape our lives, and IAIN Madura is no exception. Yet, beyond its playful and often enigmatic surface lies a deeper narrative – a narrative of identity, belonging, and the intricate web of relationships that defines the student experience.

This research charts a course through this linguistic landscape, guided by the desire to comprehend the significance of slang within the educational milieu. By peeling back the layers of linguistic innovation, we aim to shed light on how slang influences student interactions, contributes to the creation of subcultures, and shapes the educational atmosphere at IAIN Madura. Real condition of better school in producing Slang Most of the tutors use slang that is currently viral on social media, but even so, they still use two languages or are bilingual to avoid confusion among students. Sulhan as head of the Better School work program of student organisation association of Tadris Bahasa Inggris of Tarbiyah faculty said that sometimes there are some tutors who use slang because most of the Better School members are very poor in speaking and vocabulary, therefore the Better School administrators presents materials according to class levels starting from basic, intermediate, and advanced<sup>2</sup>. Based on the phenomenon above than

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<sup>2</sup> Sulhan, as a head of the Better School work program of student organisation association of Tadris Bahasa Inggris of Tarbiyah faculty Pamekasan on October 09,2023.

the researcher, decide to conduct it as her research project. With the title "Language Variation in Better School: A Slang Perspective at IAIN Madura"

## **B. Research Focus**

Research focus is research concentration from the researcher's goals what is being done by a researcher<sup>3</sup>. Based the discussion about the definition and the phenomenon happen in the research context above than, the researcher propose research question, as follow:

1. What extent does slang usage vary among different student demographics in Better School at IAIN Madura?
2. How does this variation support communication within the school environment?

## **C. Research Objective**

The aim of a research investigation is a concise and definite declaration that delineates the intent, objectives, and desired outcomes sought by the researcher through the research endeavor<sup>4</sup>. These aims furnish a path for the research journey and direct the researcher in crafting the study, gathering data, and interpreting findings.

1. To explore what extent does slang usage vary among different student demographics at IAIN Madura.
2. To explore the potential variation that support communication within the school environment.

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<sup>3</sup> Robert Bogdan and Sari Knopp Biklen, *Qualitative Research for Education: An Introduction to Theory and Methods* (Allyn and Bacon, 1998).

<sup>4</sup> John W. Creswell, *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches, 4th Edition*, 4th edition (Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, Inc, 2013).

#### D. Significance of Study

Significance of study or reasons for the research where the author explains the importance of the research carried out, the contribution made as well as the benefits of this research<sup>5</sup>. The research purpose that can be taken from this research are:

##### 1. Theoretical

The result of this study are expected to add the knowledgement about language variation to avoid miscommunication in this era where social media is nothing new, it is a symptom of mixed languages and also influences language variations for teenager

##### 2. Practical

###### a) To the student

The result of this study can be used as reference variation of slang language most commonly used at Better School and the impact on communication in the school environment.

###### b) Next Researcher

To provide additional information for other researchers who wish to carry out further research in related fields.

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<sup>5</sup> Christine Daymon and Immy Holloway, *Metode Riset Kualitatif* (PT Mizan Publika, 2008), <http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=GO-PT5-RiKQC&oi=fnd&pg=PR4&dq=metode+riset+kualitatif&ots=GaUeBz2Rxt&sig=o4sflF7KEG0Ho1Hw2Jr2B6xIvA>.

## E. Scope and Limitations

Existence of scope and limitations tell someone exactly what is being discussed and describe how much of a topic is covered<sup>6</sup>. This research focuses on the variations of slang that exist at Better School. This research aims to investigate language variations, especially the use of slang, in the context of “Better School” at IAIN Madura. The scope of this research includes the Use of Slang, Demographic Factors, Social Context, Perception. However, this research also has certain limitations. This research may be limited by the size and representativeness of the sample, as this research focuses on a particular institution (IAIN Madura) and its student population. This study may not take into account the temporal process of change in slang, because language variations change over time. These findings may not be generalizable to other educational institutions or areas, as slang use can vary widely. Perceptions and attitudes are inherently subjective, and there may be certain biases in self-reporting. Time and resource limitations may affect the depth of research.

## F. Definition of Keyterms

### 1. Linguistic variation

Linguistic variation refers to the phenomenon of different language use depending on various factors such as geographical location, social status, cultural background, and context. It includes different dialects, accents, accents and sociolinguistics that result from the diversity of the

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<sup>6</sup> Rizabuana Ismail, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif* (USUpres, 2009), <http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=amoWLP1laEC&oi=fnd&pg=PR4&dq=metode+riset+kualitatif&ots=cubf7RdTWE&sig=AvJAsSkZCOWfMM7fxP yO0togaF0>.

cultural and social environments in which the language is used. Linguistic variations can be observed within a language or between different languages, reflecting the dynamic nature of human communication and social development.

## 2. Slang

Slang encompasses a linguistic category comprising informal, unconventional words, phrases, or expressions, often distinguished by their inventive, playful nature and frequent usage within particular social or cultural circles. It represents a departure from formal or standardized linguistic conventions, embodying a non-standard form of communication..

## 3. Better School

Better School is the name English club in IAIN Madura.

## **G. Previous Study**

The existence of previous studies serves to serve as reference material and benchmarks that will be used as comparison materials to obtain information from research that will be carried out with the same theme. Previous study is very important, because the researcher can know about the previous research from the other author. In here, the researcher can find the lack of the literature from other author.

A study about slang was written by Situmorang, where's This study was focused on determine the types of use slang language style. The types of slangs were analyzed from "Charlie's Angels" movie. Theories used in this research were Sumarsono (2007) about the types of slang language style and

Zhou & Fan (2013) about the functions of slang language. The way to collect the data are; downloading movie, watching movie and downloading movie subtitle. The data were from a movie entitled "Charlie's Angels" in the year of 2019 with action-comedy genre. After conducting the analysis, this study showed that there were four types of slang language style from six types of slang language. They were clipping, creative, uses the existing words and metaphor. Creative was found as the most dominant types of slang language style in the movie with 10 data (40%), metaphor with 7 data (28%), uses the existing words with 5 data (20%) and clipping with 3 data (12%). Finally, the researcher hopes that this study will be useful for the future improvement of studying literature, especially about slang language styles<sup>7</sup>. The similarity between Situmorang and the researcher it has similarities using qualitative methods. This research is a type of descriptive content analysis research which is based on how to conduct qualitative research. However, there are differences in the research subjects, where Situmorang's research is focused on finding out the types of slang style used in the film "Charlie's Angels" while this researcher focuses on the types of slang in Better School students by collecting data by recording, taking pictures or doing an interview to the tutors or managers as the informant of the research<sup>8</sup>.

Another researcher also conduct a research, with the slang is one of the language variations recently used mostly in teenager interaction. The

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<sup>7</sup> Renita Krisdayanti Situmorang and Herman Herman, "An Analysis of Slang Language Styles Used in Charlie's Angels Movie," *Journal of English Educational Study (JEES)* 4, no. 1 (2021): 21–29. <sup>8</sup> Renita Krisdayanti Situmorang and Herman Herman, "An Analysis of Slang Language Styles Used in Charlie's Angels Movie," *Journal of English Educational Study (JEES)* 4, no. 1 (2021): 21–29.

teenagers use this language variation in various types and reasons. This paper reports the results of a qualitative study which is aimed at finding and exploring the types of the slang language and the reasons of using slang in teenager interaction. It is used as the method to describe the result of a process based on the category that has been determined. The data are collected from document analyses and close-ended questionnaires and are analyzed by using the interactive model of data analysis: data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusion/verification. The study finds that the types of the slang language used in teenager interaction show various results in each type.

The first highest result is the acronym (33 words or 37.93%). The second is clipping (25 words or 28.75%). The third is fresh and creative coining (16 words or 18.39%). The fourth is compounding (eight words or 9.19%). The lowest is imitation (five words or 5.74%). In relation to the reasons for the language slang use, seven reasons are found. The first reason is to enrich the language by inventing new words (Freq=15; 17.85%). The second reason is to induce friendliness (Freq=14; 16.70%). The third and fourth reasons are to be different and easing social intercourse (Freq=13; 15.47%). The fifth reason is to reduce seriousness of conversation (Freq=11; 13.09%). The sixth reason is to have fun (Freq=10; 11.90%). The last reason is to have delights in virtuosity (Freq=eight; 9.52%)<sup>8</sup>. Not much different from previous researchers, this research from Frasasti Wahyu Nuraeni and John

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<sup>8</sup> Frasasti Wahyu Nuraeni and John Pahamzah, "An Analysis of Slang Language Used in Teenager Interaction," *Jurnal Penelitian Bahasa, Sastra Dan Pengajarannya* 20, no. 2 (2021): 313–22. <sup>10</sup>  
Frasasti Wahyu Nuraeni and John Pahamzah, "An Analysis of Slang Language Used in Teenager Interaction," *Jurnal Penelitian Bahasa, Sastra Dan Pengajarannya* 20, no. 2 (2021): 313–22.



Pahamzah has similarities in its methods but found differences that have almost significant aims. The research is specifically for each teenager, where in each region the level of accuracy in using slang is different, but in this research it is only specific to one study group, namely Better School students. Another discrepancy is in data collection, which in Frasasti Wahyu Nuraeni and John Pahamzah's research used a closed questionnaire<sup>10</sup>.

Another research about it, was done by Saputra, he said that Slang is a language used by a specific group of people and usually used in an informal situation. Plesbol is an Instagram account that contained the various term of football and usually used slang words in its captions. This study aims to find out the types and the meaning of slang words used by Plesbol. This research used Elissa Mattiello's theories (2008) about types of slang words. This study is descriptive qualitative research. The data were taken from captions of photos that have been uploaded by Plesbol from August until December 2018. The result showed that from 498 data that have been collected, there were nine types of slang that have been found from fifteen types of Elissa Mattiello's slangs. They are acronym (16.15%), blending (27.43%), clipping (3.89%), compounding (27.71%), prefixation (0.13%), reduplicative (7.52%), reversed form (0.27%), variation (10.16%), and word manufacture and fanciful formation (6.68%). Compounding is the dominant slang with 27.71%. This finding of the study means more than fifty percent of Mattiello's Slang words found in Plesbol<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Leo Saputra and Leni Marlina, "An Analysis of Slang Words Used by Instagram Account Plesbol," *English Language and Literature* 8, no. 3 (2019), <https://ejournal.unp.ac.id/index.php/ell/article/view/105802>.

By the research above than the researcher going to discuss the different and the similarities, namely the research variables both examine a certain group of people but with different objects from Saputra's, researching various terms of football with the social media Instagram, data taken from photo captions uploaded by Plesbol, while this research examines study groups at Better School by collecting data identifying and selecting individuals for a study, obtaining their permission to study them, and gathering information by asking people questions or observing their behaviors.