INVESTIGATING INDONESIAN SLANGY WORDS ON TIKTOK'S COMMENTS

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Abstract:
This research aims to investigate the characteristics and functions of slang used by Indonesian netizens in the comments on TikTok. The method used in this research is a qualitative descriptive method proposed by Bogdan (1998:69). Data collections is conducted by reading the comments written by Indonesian netizens on TikTok, collecting data, classifying the types of slang, analyzing the functions of the slang found, and finally, drawing conclusions. The data source was taken from comments of netizens in TikTok. The theoretical framework used for the types of slang is based on the theory of Allan & Burridge (2006) and the theory of the functions of the slang is from Zhou and Fan (2013). The results of this study show that the morphological process of the slangy words found in the data analyzed are clipping (40%), blending (40%) and backformation (20%). The characteristics of the slangy words are creative (20%) and creative and fresh (80%). The function of the use of slangy words found in the data is to pursue self-identity (100%.)

INTRODUCTION

Sociolinguistics is a discipline interested in how language is used by society (Chaika: 1994:2). Trudgill (1974: 32) defines sociolinguistics as a branch of linguistics which studies language; the relation of language and social and cultural phenomena. Sociolinguistics investigates the relation of language and society as users of language.

Language is dynamic; it develops, adapts and changes in accordance with the users' needs. New words, new terms emerge in the social life. As the result, language variations appear in groups of society. During Shakespeare period the pronoun thee and thou were used. Now, those words are considered archaic, not common to use in conversing. Chomsky (1957:13) asserts that a process of free creation is called language. There is consistency in the rules and ideologies. However, the way in which the ideologies of generation are employed free as well as infinitely diverse.

Language variety manifests people's styles of speech and written communication to represent their ethnicity, social background, age and gender. Slang is one of language variation used by group of people when communicating. Slang is a language variation which is casual.

According to Holmes (2001: 183) slang is a variation of language which characterizes and describes an environment, and group of people in a society. In line with Holmes, Allan and Burridge (2006) asserts that slang is a sign or identity of a group of people. In addition to the above theories, Yule (2006) defines slang as words or phrases used by a group of people having the same interest.

Therefore, the use of slang in a group is the result of the agreement of the members to symbolize something. Secrecy is one of the main reason members of the group use slangy words that have

become a culture in their group. Slang can be a word or a collection of words formed from the process of reducing letters, changing meanings, and forming symbols to represent new thing. Effectiveness is the target when people create or form slang words in their expressions.

Moreover, Wijayana (2012) states that slang, specifically in Indonesian colloquial expressions or *Bahasa Gaul* (friendship language) is aimed at creating intimacy among the users. His research focus on the use of English words in Indonesian slangy expressions or friendship language. The research elaborates on the form and the formation, the linguistic processes and the meaning of the slang which are borrowed from English. The research shows interesting findings where the use of English in Indonesian friendship language involve creativity,

Regarding the use of slang in the real realm, there are slangs which are considered acceptable, impolite or rude. Slang is generally used by younger generation/adolescents in their daily communication within their group. They create slangs from borrowed words, create new words from existing words with new meanings. Referring to Allan and Burridge (2006), slang is characterized into four characteristics;
 1. Creative,
The first characteristic of slang is creative. Slang is created by the presence of imagination, novelty and production. Slang is created from the words or phrases existed; some slang is constructed from

No	Constructed from	Slang words	meaning
	numbers	Dress to the nines	Very well dressed
	colors	In the pink	healthy
	food	Piece of cake	Very easy
	animal	Beef	To be in disagreement
	name of human	Barney	The police
	fruit	Apple field	An orchard
	things	Bed	To have sex

Table 1. Examples of Slang

 2. Fresh,
Language is dynamic and so is slang. New slangy words come to existence from time to time.
 3. Flippant,
Combinations of two or more words which the combination words do not correlate with the lexical meaning.
 4. Onomatopoeia,
Slang may also be produced by imitating the sounds of human, objects, nature, and animals.

In terms of the functions, Zhou and Fan (2013), categorize slang into three;
 1. To pursuit of self-identity,
In the society people are group based on their social background, professions, interests, gender, and age. Each group may have slangy expressions representing their group. For examples, adolescents' group in school may have their own list of slang words or phrases which are used by the members.
 2. Emotive feeling,
Another function is the emotive feeling. This is crucial in determining the attitude of both the speaker and the hearer towards a particular matter. The acceptance in the conversation may be positive or negative depending on the emotive feeling conveyed. This emotive feeling has tremendous effect on the psychological circumstances.
 3. Achieving politeness.
Discussing achieving politeness cannot be separated with the register; the manner or the way oral or written communication is conducted to accomplish certain function in a domain of communication. Three factors determine the register;
  a. the occasion, which can be formal or informal,
  b. the addressee, which are influenced by the gender, age, degree of familiarity and occupations,
  c. the content of the conversation.
inappropriate usage of the three factors above may cause communication hampers. Using slang to the wrong addressee, improper situation and unfitting content or topic can lead to negative

impacts to speakers and the interlocuters relationship. Slang is also employed to maintain positive face; its role as phatic function.

Concerning on how words are formed, Yule (2006) in Simatupang, E. C., & Supri, I. Z. (2020). elaborates that words are created in morphological processes. Following are the morphological processes which form new words:
1) Affixation is the process of adding affixes to the roots (Chaer:2003). The word developer is the combination of the verb develop and the -er suffix which create new class of word and new meaning.
2) Compounding, According to Yule (2006), two or more words are joined creating new ones whose meaning does not denote the earlier two things.
3) Blending, this is a process of blending parts of two words into one word whose meaning is the combination of the two initial words, for instance, sitcom (situation + comedy), motorbike (motor + bicycle), cyborg (cybernetic + organism)
4) Clipping, the proses of cutting the beginning, or the ending, or both parts of a word to make a new word. This is used in less formal situation. For examples,
   Prof. → Professor
   Gym → Gymnasium
   Photo →Photograph
   Plane → Aeroplan
   Bus → Omnibus
5) Back-formation, morphological process which involve deleting an affix from of derivative words, for example, vacuum clean from vacuum cleaner, advisor from advisory, ameliorate from amelioration. The processes cause class of words changes.
6) Conversion, this is the process of changing the wording category without changing the word. Thus, words are derived without changing the base of the words, e.g.
   -   My mom microwaved her lunch. (verb)
   -   She heated her lunch in the microwave. (noun)
7) Acronym, A word is formed from the initial letters of a name (for example, NATO, from North Atlantic Treaty Organization) or by joining initial letters of a series of words (radar, from radio detection and ranging).

METHODS
This research uses a naturalistic qualitative method. The step by step of data collection is not orchestrated or obstructed. Qualitative research is a naturalistic method that inspects understanding phenomena in context-specific settings such as 'actual world setting' where the scholar does not attempt to manipulate the phenomenon of interest. Bogdan (1998:69) suggests that a descriptive inductive analytical approach is a instantaneous act of the wide-ranging patterns of data analysis during the data collection stage. Data obtained are scrutinized, related then, concluded.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS
This research aims to seeking answers to the following questions:
1) What morphological processes occurred in the slang found in the comments of Indonesian netizens in TikTok?
2) What characteristics of slang are found in the comments of Indonesian netizens in TikTok?
3) What are the functions of slang used in the comments?

LIMITATION OF THE RESEARCH
This research focuses on the morphological processes, the characteristics and the functions of the slang used in the comments of Indonesian netizens in TikTok.

RESEARCH OBJECT AND SOURCE OF DATA
1. The object of the research is slang used by netizens of social media platform called TikTok.
2. The source of the data used is the slang found in the comments of Indonesian netizens on TikTok. TikTok is a platform of social media which is very popular worldwide. The data are randomly taken from the posts appeared in the home page of TikTok. According to https://www.businessofapps.com/ TikTok is the second largest used application after Facebook.

This application allows its users to create short videos, back sounded by music clips. Indonesian users of TikTok is 22.2 millions ranks the first worldwide.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

1. to analyze the morphological processes of the slang used by Indonesian netizens in the comments on TikTok.
2. to identify the characteristics of the slang
3. to investigate the functions of slang used by Indonesian netizens in the comments on TikTok.

DATA COLLECTION

A set of data collection is implemented:
    1. Reading comments of Indonesian netizens on TikTok
    2. Collecting comments containing slang.
    3. Classifying the data of the slang based on their characteristics.
    4. Analysing the functions of the slang used in the comments
    5. Drawing conclusions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data 1 **Alay** *banged deh*! *Alay layangan* (A kite kid/person)

Slangy word *alay* is originated from the root word *anak* (kid/person) and *layangan* (a kite) is from the root *layang* and suffix *-an*. The two words are blended into one word, alay. Therefore, the morphological process of this slangy word is blending. Just like a kite, it is controlled by the movement of the wind; alay is referred to people whose life style are controlled by others, such as their idols.

The characteristics of the slangy word alay is creative and fresh. *Anak layangan* literally are kid who are playing kite under the sun. generally, their hair turns brownish because of the heat of the sun. then, alay is referred to people whose hair dyed red or brown unaesthetically. Alay is also referred to people who has a tacky style or exaggerating style. The way of their using language is also different, for instance, the use of mixed capital, small case and numbers when typing or writing words. In spoken language they use certain intonation,

The function of the use of slangy word in data 1 is to pursue self-identity. Referring to the acts showing in the video post, the commenter may want to state that what is being done by the poster is categorized as *alay*. The commenter wants to be casual and be part of the group of the comment thread.

Data 2: *Sangat menghibur,* **ngab**! (very entertaining, brother)

Ngab in data 2 above is the backformation of letters of the word bang, becomes *ng-a-b* which means brother. The morphological process of data 2 is back backformation of letters.

The characteristics of slangy word *ngab* is creative and fresh. Back formatting of letters is commonly used by teenagers and adults. It is one of the most technique of process of changing the regular word into a slangy one.

The word *ngab* in data 2, *Sangat menghibur, ngab*! functions to pursue self-identity. Discussing to the acts display in the video post, the viewer who comments wants to say that what is posted is so entertaining. He addresses the TikTok account user *ngab*, to be casual and be part of the group of the comment thread.

Data 3: *Gw kaget banget,* **njir**. (I was so surprised, dog)
Slangy word *njir* is originated from the word anjing (dog). This is used for addressee or to refer to person who are very closed in certain group of people. In standard language, addressing other people using the word *anjing* is impolite and rude. The word anjir experience a deletion at the beginning *a-* and the end of the word *-ng* changes become *-r*. Therefore, the morphological process of slangy word *njir* is clipping.

The characteristic of slangy word *njir* is creative. There several versions of saying slangy word anjing, for instance, *anjrit, anjis, anjir, anjim, anjay,* and *njir.* Those variations are commonly used in casual conversation among teenagers and even adults. This can be used as an addressee or to express excitement, anger, surprise or disappointment. This can be used at the beginning or the last of the utterance.

The purpose of using slangy words in data 3 is to pursue self-identity. The commenter uses the slangy word *njir* to express his surprise while watching the video shared in the for your page post. He states that *Gw kaget banget njir,* which means that he is surprise with the content in post and he emphasis his surprise by using the word *njir*.

Data 4: *Susah buat ngga **baper**,* (bawa perasaan), (it's hard not be carried away)

 The morphological process of data 4 *baper* in, *Susah buat ngga baper,* is blending. *Baper* comes from to words, root word *bawa* and root word *rasa* added with prefix *pe-* and suffix *-an* becomes *perasaan* (to be carried away). The slangy word *baper* has commonly used in informal conversation.

The characteristic of slangy word *baper* is creative and fresh. This slangy word came to existence in the late 90s and is still used until today. *Baper* is used to describe a situation when people involved their feelings toward a particular matter.

The function of using slangy word *baper* in *Susah buat ngga baper* is to pursue self-identity. The viewer comments the video posted and appreciate the content by saying that the content has carried him away. The viewer gives comment by using casual language, slangy word, to show that he and the one who post the video are in the same group or representing the same group.

Data 5: *Cocok buat kaum **mager**. (malas gerak) (*It's suitable for couch potato people*)*

The morphological process of data 5 *mager* in *Cocok buat kaum mager,* is blending. *Mager* is formed from the combination two root words; *malas* and *gerak* and then blended into one word becomes *mager.* The slangy word *mager* has commonly used in informal conversation.

Mager or *malas gerak* (lazy to move) is a slangy word which appears in the last five years. The characteristic of slangy word *mager* is creative and fresh. The advancement of technology and the vast social media application have made people tend to use their gadget to browse and communicate in different social media, watching their favourite serial films or movies which result in an inactive activity; they tend to sit, lay down doing those aforementioned activities. *Mager* means feeling lazy to move because by sitting down or laying down they can do many fun activities. *Mager* is also used to express that they do not want to move because they already feel comfortable with their position, for instance, a kid is sitting on a sofa while watching a serial film on her cell phone, then her mother invites her to the garden to pick some fruits, then she refuses because she is lazy to move and leave her present activity.

The function of the use of slangy word *mager* in the comment thread in TikTok is to pursue self-identity. The viewer comments the video posted and responds that the video is suitable for the coach potato people. The comment is delivered casually; slangy word, *mager* is used to represent that they share the same group of people.

CONCLUSION
To summarize, the slangy words are often used by Indonesian netizens in commenting the videos posted in their pages. The morphological process of the slangy words found in the data analyzed are clipping (40%), blending (40%) and backformation (20%). The characteristics of the slangy words are creative (20%) and creative and fresh (80%). The function of the use of slangy words found in the data is to pursue self-identity (100%).

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