

## AN ANALYSIS OF SLANG WORDS IN *IT* MOVIE

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### ABSTRACT

This research discussed slang words found in the movie entitled *It* directed by Andy Muschietti. This research aimed to find out the kinds of slang words and to know the function of slang words used in *It* movie. This research was conducted using a descriptive qualitative method. Regarding the research findings, there were two kinds of slang that have been found from twelve kinds of slang theory by Partridge. They are society slang and public house slang. Meanwhile, the next finding was the function of slang. The writer found that there were six functions of slang in *It* movie, namely to address, to form intimate atmosphere, to initiate relax conversation, to reveal anger, to humiliate, and to show intimacy. This research was expected to enrich the new English vocabulary used in daily conversation. The writer suggested the further researchers to analyze slang with another theory and use a poem, novel, advertisements, or song as the object of research.

**Key words:** Slang, Kinds of slang, Functions of slang, *It* movie

### ABSTRAK

*Penelitian ini membahas tentang kata-kata slang yang terdapat dalam film berjudul It yang disutradarai oleh Andy Muschietti. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui jenis kata slang dan mengetahui fungsi kata slang yang digunakan dalam film It. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Berdasarkan temuan penelitian, ada dua jenis slang yang ditemukan dari dua belas jenis slang teori oleh Partridge. Mereka adalah slang masyarakat dan slang rumah publik. Sementara itu, temuan selanjutnya adalah fungsi slang. Penulis menemukan bahwa ada enam fungsi slang dalam film It, yaitu untuk menyapa, untuk membentuk suasana yang akrab, untuk memulai percakapan yang santai, untuk mengungkapkan amarah, untuk mempermalukan dan untuk menunjukkan keintiman. Penelitian ini diharapkan dapat memperkaya kosakata baru bahasa Inggris yang digunakan dalam percakapan sehari-hari. Penulis menyarankan peneliti selanjutnya menganalisis slang dengan teori lain dan menggunakan puisi, novel, iklan atau lagu sebagai objek penelitian.*

**Kata kunci:** Slang, Jenis slang, Fungsi slang, Film *It*

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

Language plays an important role in human life. People use language to interact and communicate with others in society. Language is produced by a system of voice in the human body and it has an important function of making communication. In communication, there are many ways to convey the language in oral and written. Written language is a language that is recorded in writing to convey information. Whereas in human daily interaction, oral language is easily used in each case because it expresses people's idea to the listener. Some people have their language that is used in a daily activity which different from others. Every people also have different characteristic from their culture which determined the variety of language that they use. It means that language has many variations in society. One of the famous varieties of language used by many people is slang.

Slang is generally considered an informal style of speech used by society in a specific community. Swan (1995) states that slang is a very informal kind of vocabulary, used mostly in a speech by people who know each other. Slang is not used in formal conversation. It is usually used in an informal situation when there is no rule to say something. Slang is commonly used nowadays. Almost a lot of people use slang in daily conversation. That is why the writer is interested in choosing slang as a topic in this study. Besides, slang is important because people can know someone's dialog in both formal and informal communication.

In this research, the writer is interested in analyzing slang words in the movie entitled "*It*". *It* is an American supernatural horror movie based on Stephen King's 1986 novel of the same name, directed by Andy Muschietti and written by Chase Palmer, Cary Fukunaga and Gary Dauberman. The writer chooses *It* movie for this research because this movie depicts the adventures of a group of teenagers, where it makes slang easy to find since teenagers generally use slang. Besides, the main characters who are teenagers often use slang in their conversations. On the other hand, this movie has won many awards.

There are two objectives of this research. The first is to find out the kinds of slang words used in *It* movie and the second is to know the function of slang words used in *It* movie.

## **B. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

### **1. Definition of Slang**

Slang is informal language used by people in a particular social group for internal communication. According to Kipfer and Chapman (2007) "slang is a language that has little to do with the main aim of language, the connection of sounds with ideas in order to communicate ideas-rather, it is an attitude, a feeling, a verbal action" (p.9). Claire (1998) defines that slang is a term used by people in social situations where they feel comfortable with their friend. Slang can make a conversation more intimate. Fromkin and Rodman (2003) states that slang is a kind of casual language that occurs due to the rapid growth of new words that are used as a creative expression by people to make the words more efficient.

From the definition above, the writer concludes that slang is an informal language used by particular groups of people related to informal communication. Slang is usually used to communicate with a group to express people's ideas, verbal actions, feelings, and creativity. In addition, people use slang for easiness, enjoyment and simpler to be uttered.

## **2. Kinds of Slang**

According to Eric Partridge (1970), there are some kinds of slang as follows

### **a. Cockney slang**

Cockney slang is a form of English slang that comes from the End East of England. Nowadays, almost all of people in England use cockney slang, especially London. Cockney slang is the brightest spot in England because it has a very pronounced accent (Partridge, 1970). For example, *eye in a sling* means crushed or defeated.

### **b. Public House Slang**

The definition of public house slang is considered as public house group words and phrases make up for the smallness of the recorded vocabulary by nature of the subject. It is the main, genial, cheery, materialistic, but not gross nor cynical. For example, *round the corner* means a drink.

### **c. Workmen's Slang**

This kind of slang has a link with public house's slang. The characteristics of the users of workmen's slang do not mention the real something, but they call it with another name that is already used and understood. Usually, this slang is used by people's activity in their work. For example, *brass* means money.

### **d. Tradesmen's Slang**

In tradesmen's slang as in workmen's slang, some words are related to origin slang and used by the worker. However, in tradesmen's slang, consider four as typical: tailors, butchers, chemists, and builders.

### **e. Slang in Art**

Slang in art has always along with society. It is quickly adopted by society. This slang is considerably more difficult than other slang terms, the meaning is hard to be guessed even in the present day. For example, *frame* means a picture.

### **f. Slang in Publicity**

This slang refers to slang used in commerce. Because much of the success of modern commerce depends on publicity, a firm needs the catchy phrase or rhymes that can impress the public. For example, *sunlight* means soap.

### **g. Society Slang**

Society slang is concerned with the spirit of the universe, the world life, it also hovers, joyously or jauntily over objects and the practices of the slangster's own calling. The writer concludes that society slang is commonly used in daily speaking and connected to society. Society slang is like familiar words, common words that come from society even sometimes has rude meaning. For example, *vogue* means fashion or mode.

## **h. Slang of Commerce**

This slang is of business transaction of the various exchange of the man in the street will have heard of the formation trust and ring, concerning a commodity. It is often used by businessman. For example, *shunt* means to buy and sell securities between two home exchanges.

## **i. Slang in Public School and University**

In this kind, students become the main source because they are fresh, full of spirit to move forward for their future. For example, *bung* means a lie. Slang in university is different from slang in public school. They tend to replace their old school slang and to create the slang in university. As they grow into adults, they can choose to do new things and make their own rules of alma mater. For example, *leccer* means a lecture.

## **j. Slang in Theatre**

Slang in theatre is related with slang in art, because theatre is one of art term. In theatre slang, there are some familiar terms such as actor by professional is called *pro*. The band or orchestra is called as *manageria*.

## **k. Medicine Slang**

Medicine slang is from the very nature of the case. This slang is slang used by doctors and nurses. For example, *drinks* mean medicine.

## **l. Soldier's Slang**

Soldier's slang is slang terms that come from around the army community that the soldiers commonly use. Soldier slang refers to words related to the war and the attributes and these slang terms are generally used in soldier's community. For example, Old Soldier words, such as: *pawny* means water.

## **3. The Function of Slang**

According to Allan and Burridge (2006), there are seven different functions of slang: to address, to form intimate atmosphere, to initiate relax conversation, to express impression, to reveal anger, to humiliate, and to show intimacy.

### **a. To address**

Someone who has a close relationship usually prefers to use informal address than formal. Using the formal address indicating the speaker has a distant relationship or has a specific purpose with another speaker.

### **b. To form intimate atmosphere**

People usually choose to use slang words rather than formal words to form intimate atmosphere and show close relationships. By using slang can be a way to alleviate the relationship between strangers, so that it flows smoothly.

**c. To initiate relax conversation**

Sometimes people prefer to use slang word rather than the standard variant of vocabulary or formal word to create relax conversation. It is done to smooth the conversation in informal situations. Someone who has a close relationship with others tends to use certain vocabulary to make the conversation more relaxed and feel more comfortable.

**d. To express impression**

When the speakers feel that they are impressed with someone they meet or something they see, they tend to use slang words to express their impressions.

**e. To reveal anger**

There is the tendency to express dislike or unpleasant feelings of the speaker to something. Someone who has a close relationship often uses slang words to curse others instead of using the common words when they need to reveal their anger.

**f. To humiliate**

The speaker tends to express unpleasant or dislike feeling to someone or something by mocking them.

**g. To show intimacy**

The speaker prefers to use slang words to show their close relationship and show intimacy or solidarity in their social relationship. When someone has a close relationship with the other, they will prefer to use slang compared with distant relationships.

## **C. RESEACH METHOD**

### **1. Research Design**

This research belongs to descriptive qualitative research because the data are presented in the form of words not number. Miles and Huberman (1994) states that qualitative research is a kind of analysis research that uses data in the form of words not number. Therefore, it can be said that qualitative research is research that the data results are in the form of words and it does not form numerical as the result because the data will be in the form of description or written as the result of qualitative research.

### **2. Data and Data Source**

The data of this research is all utterances that contain slang. The data sources of this research are It movie and the script of the movie. From this movie, the writer analyzed the kinds of slang and the functions of slang.

### **3. Research Instrument**

The instrument of the study is the writer herself. Bodgan and Biklen (1992) state that the writer is the key instrument in conducting qualitative research.

#### 4. Data Collection Techniques

There were several steps to obtain the data required for this research. First, the writer watched the movie several times in order to understand the movie. Second, the writer read the movie script comprehensively. Third, the writer marked the words or sentences that were included in slang and made a note of the data. Fourth, the writer classified the data that are related to the kind and the function of slang.

#### 5. Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the writer analyzed the data using three qualitative data procedures by Miles and Huberman (1994). First, data reduction, which is the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming the data that appear in written-up field notes or transcriptions. Second, data display, an organized, compressed, assembly of information that permits conclusion drawing and action. Third, conclusion drawing, draw the conclusion after analyzing the data.

### D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### 1. Kinds of Slang

##### a. Society Slang

Society slang is commonly used in daily speaking and connected to society. This is included in society slang such as familiar words, common words that come from society and sometimes even have rude meaning. Here is the data included in society slang.

##### Data 2: Shit

Bill : What's going on? Richie!

Richie : I can't!

Bill : Open the door, Rich.

Richie : Oh, **shit**. Stupid clowns

The conversation above happened at the old house on Neibolt Street. This slang word said by Richie when he was locked in a room. It separated him and Bill. Richie is annoyed by the clown that keeps him locked in the room.

*Shit* is considered as slang because the writer found the meaning of the word in the Dictionary of American Slang which means an obnoxious. This slang meaning is also derived from situational context, where the meaning is appropriate the situation in the conversation that shows Richie's annoyance. This slang is categorized into society slang based on the characteristics of the word connected to theory. This word has characteristics that is often employed in daily conversation by character to express their feelings of annoyance. This word is also connected to the society since this is common word that come from the habitual society of the character.

The slang word *shit* has a function to reveal anger. There is the tendency to express unpleasant or dislike feeling of the speaker toward something. The anger feeling is a major reason of using the kind of slang word. It can be seen from the conversation above that after Richie heard a strange sound in the room, then he expressed his anger by using the slang



word shit. Richie uses this slang word to express his annoyance and anger towards the clown who always bother him.

## **b. Public House Slang**

The definition of public house slang is considered as public house group words and phrases make up for the smallness of the recorded vocabulary by nature the subject. The characteristics of public house slang such as genial, cherry, materialistic, but not gross nor cynical. Usually this kind of slang is a word or phrase used in neighbor relationship or community to address each other. It is also a word that represents the subject and has characteristics that are more friendly, not gross or have a cynical smell.

## **Data 16: Man**

Mike : Stan!  
Richie : Shit! Stan!  
Eddie : Stanley!  
Mike : We're coming, **man!**

The conversation took place at the well house. This conversation happened between Mike, Richie and Eddie who are looking for Stanley who has disappeared. They are looking for Stanley while calling out his name.

*Man* is consider as slang because this word is used in informal situation by character to call their close friend. Besides the meaning of the word is found in the NTC's Dictionary of American Slang and Colloquial expressions 3rd Edition which means friend. This slang is categorized into public house slang based on the characteristics of the word connected to theory. Where this is a word that is often used in a character's friendship environment to address his friend and this word is conveyed with genial expression and not gross.

Here, the slang word *man* has a function to address. The speaker uses slang words to address another speaker in order to maintain their close relationship. The topic of conversation is looking for Stanley. Stanley is missing and his friends search for him by calling out his name. They have a close relationship because they are friends and schoolmates. When they were looking for Stanley, suddenly they heard Stanley's scream. Then mike said "we are coming man". The word *man* refers to Stanley. Therefore, the slang word *man* is used to address Stanley.

## **E. CONCLUSION**

In this research the writer found twenty three slang words used in It movie. The writer concluded that slang in this movie are classified into society slang and public house slang by Partridge (1950). From the kinds of slang that mentioned, society slang is the most common used by the characters and public house slang is the fewest kind of slang used in the movie. In this research, the writer also found that the meaning of the slang word in the movie is based on the dictionary of slang that appropriated with the context.

The writer also analyzed the function of slang in It movie. There are six functions of slang used in this movie which are to address, to form intimate atmosphere, to initiate relax conversation, to reveal anger, to humiliate and to show intimacy. The most dominant function used by the character is to reveal anger. Meanwhile the fewest function used by the

character are to humiliate and to show intimacy. The function of slang word is not only analyzed based on the theory but also based on the meaning and the situation when the slang word used by the character in the movie.

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