

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

A symbol of a speech sound system used as a communication tool by the user is language. Language has functioned as a means of communication and is the most complete and effective way to convey ideas, messages, moral values, opinions, and suggestions. The research that studies language is called linguistics. According to Martinet (1987: 19), the science of linguistics can take language as the object of study. In scientific discipline, the study of the relationship and interplay between language behavior and social behavior is called sociolinguistics.

Sociolinguistics is the science of language and society (Holmes, 1992: 1). Sociolinguistics contains two words in society, which means some of the people, and the second is a group of people who speak a particular language (Wardhaugh, 2006: 1). Sociolinguistics discusses the relevance of language and behavior in society. In certain societies or social groups, sometimes they use temporary and informal language.

Fishman (1975: 4) explains that there are three language styles surfaces owned by each community that can be used as the official language of daily conversation and cannot be equated with slang, although it does not show any official features and is realized in the form of speech or writing. One type of vocabulary that is very informal is slang that is commonly used by people who already know very closely. Using a slang language by a certain group can make them different. The language used by this group can also be a sign used to communicate therefore that others are

baffled by what is being said. For example, the word "crazy" in English is called "cray-cray" which means "crazy".

A transformation used in this language is in the system of shortening words or transfer among one or perhaps more elements in a word, as well as modifications in tone and meaning, to make it simpler for people from certain groups. Slang words and phrases may be creative, although it can also be an expansion of a word literally (Adolof, 2014: 4).

Some slang words are acceptable inaccurate since they sometimes refer to sex, violence, crime, and drugs. Sometimes it is used to determine a personal social standing. English slang can also differ depending on the race of the group of people talking about it. Slang is often found in films, short stories, and even in a novel. In this study, the data are analyzed based on slang form and the meaning of that slang in the use of "The Color Purple" novel by Alice Walker is the person who writes this novel. There are many slang words found in this novel, for example: "*ast, kilt, fer, teef...*". These kinds of slang forms have their meanings based on their context. For the reader, the meaning of slang words will be very important to know and learn as well as informal talks in English in general and because the slang word can increase knowledge about words and for the slang word in this novel using the African American language which makes the writing of the novel more interesting and unique.

## **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the background that has been explained above, the problems of this study can be described as follows.

1. What types of slang word are found in “The Color Purple” novel?
2. How is the process of creating Slang words found in “The Color Purple” novel?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems that are formulated in this study, the objectives of this study are as follows.

1. To identify and classify the types of slang words found in “The Color Purple” novel.
2. To analyze the process of creating slang words found in “The Color Purple” novel.

### **1.4 Limitation of the Study**

Based on the problems above, this study was focused on identifying, categorizing and analyzing the types of slang words found in “The Color Purple” novel. Besides that, this study also analyzes the process of creating slang words found in “The Color Purple” novel.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

There are two significances as the reason for analyzing slang words found in “The Color Purple” novel, namely theoretical significance and practical significance.

#### **1.5.1 Theoretical Significance**

The result of this study can be helpful to some development of linguistic study and become a reference for the future researchers who need some data for analyzing slang words.

### **1.5.2 Practical Significance**

This study is expected to be a reference for some development of linguistic study and the references for the next researcher, especially for the student at the Faculty of Foreign Language, Mahasaraswati Denpasar University.



## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES**

In accomplishing this study, this chapter discusses the review of related literature, concepts, and theories.

#### **2.1 Review of Related Literature**

In this subchapter, there are two previous theses and one article reviewed which were concerned with the types of slang words. A review of related literature consists of three previous pieces of research regarding to the study of slang. The first thesis was written by Benany (2019) entitled “The Analysis of Slang Words that Found on Family WhatsApp Group”. The second is a thesis conducted by Pertiwi (2019) entitled “Slang Words used by The Character in “Suicide Squad” movie”. The last is an article entitled “Semantics Analysis of Slang Words in Social Media of the Millennial Generation” by Rezeki (2019). Those three reviews are explained below.

The first thesis is written by Benany (2019) entitled “The Analysis of Slang Word Found on Family WhatsApp Group”. This previous research aims to find out the type of slang in term of phonology and term of morphology. The data were taken from the member of the family WhatsApp group. The researcher also used the theory from Kridalaksana (1989) to analyze the slang language in terms of morphology. This previous research found four types of slang languages in terms of phonology. As a result, there are three kinds of slang languages applied by the members of the family WhatsApp group. 115 times of occurrence were found in their conversations, which were divided into the addition (15), replacement (2), sound transposition divided as word reversal (80), PVB (14), insert one letter (2),

sound change (2). While for morphology process it finds that from four types of slang words in terms of morphology, there are two kinds of slang language applied by the members of the *family* group what app. 13 times of occurrence was found in their conversations divided into prefix (11), infix (1), and reduplication (2).

The similarities of the study done by Benany (2019), it can be explained that both of the studies concern with similar topic that is slang words. The differences between these studies are in the theories and the data source. The previous research used “Family WhatsApp Group”, whereas this study used “The Color Purple” novel.

The second is a thesis conducted by Pertiwi (2019) entitled “Slang Words used by The Character in “Suicide Squad” movie”. This previous research applied a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. Qualitative research is used to investigate social phenomena (Trochim and William, 2006). The problem that the researcher solve is the classification and meaning of slang words by used theories from Kipfer and Chapman (2007), Leech (1981) and Halliday (1989). This previous research found 44 words, which are 41 (93,18%) data classified into primary slang and 3 (6,82%) data were classified into secondary slang.

The similarities of between Pertiwi’s thesis and this study are the method used, namely descriptive qualitative method and both of the studies analyze slang words as topics. The differences of both of the studies are the theory and the data source. In Pertiwi’s thesis, there are three theories applied, theory types of slang word by Kipfer and Chapman (2007), theory types of meaning by Leech (1981) and the theory of context situation by Halliday (1989) meanwhile this study used theory

from Mattiello (2008). The data source of Pertiwi's study is taken from "Suicide Squad" movie, for this study from the novel entitled "The Color Purple" novel.

The last is an article entitled "Semantics Analysis of Slang Word in Social Media of Millennial Generation" by Rezeki (2019). The aim of this work broadens current knowledge of the phenomenon of Semantics Analysis of Slang (SAOS) in Social Media of Millennial Generation. This study investigated: 1) The types of SAOS used by millennial generation in social media; 2) How the meaning of SAOS used by millennial generation in social media; 3) Why millennial generation used SAOS in social media. This study applied descriptive qualitative research in order to reveal the data from the discourse of English Department students at Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara in social media such as Facebook and Instagram and it was obtained from observation, interview and documentation. The data showed that millennial generation used slang language in their communication in social media namely 33 slang languages in Facebook and 31 slang languages in Instagram. Allan and Burrige (2006) classified five classifications of slang namely fresh and creative, flippant, imitative, acronym and clipping. Based on the data, the millennial generation used these types in their social media. Based on the data observation the percentage of types of slang used millennial generation on Twitter.

Rezeki's article has similarities with this study in which both of the studies used the same classification method to analyze the data source. The differences are in the theory used and the data source. Rezeki's research used theory from Allan and Burrige (2006) whereas this study used from Chapman (2007) and Mattiello

(2008) and for the data source this study is taken from novel entitled “The Color Purple”.

## **2.2 Concepts**

The concept is an abstract or generic idea generalized about the definition of the study that is used to make a good framework for the analysis. The concept of this study is divided into three concepts such as slang words, novel, and “The Color Purple” which further description is given below.

### **2.2.1 Slang Words**

Eble (1996) stresses the social and interpersonal aspects of slang and its function “to establish and reinforce social identity or cohesiveness within a group or with a trend or fashion in society at large”. Obviously, using of the same slang vocabulary helps to gain the acceptance in a group and to preserve group solidarity. Slang in sociological approach serves such social purposes as being on the same speech level with one’s audience, facilitating social intercourse, and inducing friendliness or intimacy. Besides that Oxford Learner’s Dictionary defines slang words as very informal words and expressions that are more common in spoken language, especially used by a particular group of people, for example, children, criminals, soldiers or that can be found in novels, song lyrics, and films.

### **2.2.2 Novel**

Hornby (2011:285) defines novel as a kind of literary work, is the reflection of life that could be created depending on the author’s experiences which contain values for people’s lives. Moral values are values concerning principles of right and

wrong and the standards of behavior. Novel is a story long enough to fill a complete book, in which the characters and events are usually imaginary.

### **2.2.3 The Color Purple**

“The Color Purple” novel explains that purple is a kind of color that represent a sense sadness, violence and gloomy life is shown in Alice Walker’s novel. The main character gets bad treatment from her stepfather and husband. Her marriage was never happy with her husband. Her childhood is not enjoyable. Celie has to do all the housework. Alice Walker wants to emphasize color in this novel. “The Color Purple” shows that the issues of color people are explored in this novel. This novel spots the life of the black people community (Sparknotes.com)

### **2.3 Theories**

Slang is an informal language that is often used in daily conversation, slang usually used in speaking rather than writing. There are two theories used in this research to help in analyzing the problems. The first theory is from Kipfer and Chapman (2007) is used to analyze the types of slang words. The second theory is from Matiello (2008) used to find out the process of creating slang words.

#### **2.3.1 Types of Slang Words**

Based on Collin Dictionary the meaning of the slang is uncountable noun, where slang consist of words, meanings, and expressions that are informal. Slang usually used by teenagers and many people to communicate with their friends because the already know each other well. According to Kipfer and Chapman (2007:8), the types of slang words is divided into two namely primary slang and secondary slang. Those can be explained below.

### **2.3.1.1 Primary Slang**

According to Kipfer and Chapman (2007:8), “Primary slang is the natural and original speech of subculture members. As often heard, primary slang is a lot of young people’s speech and the speech used by urban street gangs”. For example: “*gangsta*” which mean a group membership. This word is usually used in informal situation by the people to call someone in a group to show familiarity.

### **2.3.1.2 Secondary Slang**

According to Kipfer and Chapman (2007:8), “Secondary slang is chosen to convey one’s attitudes about agreement or disagreement and resourcefulness in borrowing the verbiage of such a group, rather than to display one’s part in the group”. Rather than true identification, secondary slang is a matter of personal preference. It means to expose something; wherein just limited and certain people can know the meaning. Secondary slang is used to hide something in a secret way where just closed people who comprehend the definition of that words “noogie” is slang expression that used to show painful of the act rubbing on a person’s head so to produce a mildly painful sensation.

### **2.3.2 Process of Creating Slang Words**

According to Matiello (2008), the process of creating slang words is divided into fifteen, namely compounding, prefixation, suffixation, final combining forms, infixation, conversion, back-formation, reduplicatives, acronyms and initialisms, blending, clipping, elliptic rhyming slang, reversed forms, variation, word manufacture and fanciful formations. Those can be explained below.

### 2.3.2.1 Compounding

Compounding is a common morphological mechanism that obtains new words consisting of two elements, the first of which is either a root, a word or a phrase, the second of which is either a root or a word. For example, *doss-house* is 'a lodging house', *a hot chair* 'the electric chair', and an *outside man* 'which indicates someone is involved in the robbery (Mattiello, 2008:72).

### 2.3.2.2 Prefixation

Among slang affixes, prefixes is the type of word formation that has a marginal role. A very small amount in comparison, especially when compared to slang suffixes. No case study of slang extra grammaticality is provided by the other prefixes (de-, re-, super-, un-, and under-) which are attested in standard English. For example, *de-bowel*, *re-arrange*, *super-cool* and *un-clear* (Mattiello, 2008:91).

### 2.3.2.3 Suffixation

In English Slang, suffixation is a wider phenomenon than prefixation. Yet the productivity of slang suffixes is constrained by their ephemeral character, and it is difficult to predict possible words, that is their applicability in terms of base and suffix. It is perhaps easier to talk in terms of token frequency rather than type productivity. A broader phenomenon in the formation of nouns and adjectives. For example: *pollute*>*pollution*, *chop*>*chopper*, *completely* according to English grammar (Mattiello, 2008:93).

### 2.3.2.4 Final Combining Forms

Traditionally term is seen as semi-finals pseudo or semi-suffixes occurring in neoclassical compounds. There are two extra types of combining forms in

modern English, namely truncated forms of model words. For example, holic>alcoholic, as in *spendaholic*, and the model part of words, which have been established morpheme-term. For example: - gate<Watergate, as in *yuppiegate*, burger<hamburger (Mattiello, 2008:120).

#### **2.3.2.5 Infixation**

The process by which affixes (called an infixes) are put in the word's middle other than the extra-grammatical morphology for putting swear words into words for emphasis, morphologists generally believe that English has no infix. For example → perhaps>per-bloody-haps, also-blooming- likely, fantastic → fan-bloody-tastic, defense → de-damn-fenc (Mattiello, 2008:123).

#### **2.3.2.6 Conversion**

Conversion also called zero-derivation, zero-affixation or functional shift in the literature is a process changes meaning or modify the synthetic of a word without a corresponding official change (*v run > n run, n bottle > v bottle*). Thus, since there are no overt clues to distinguish the language from its derivatives, this process creates problems in ascertaining which pair the couple comes first. For example *chicken* < *chicken* 'cowardly person' and coke < 'cocaine' (Mattiello, 2008:124).

### 2.3.2.7 Back-Formation

Called-back derivation is a mechanism that is rarely in English. A word from a non-existent base, which however is recreated analogically. For example: (v) confess (←confessor) or (v) baby-sitt (←baby-sitter) (Mattiello, 2008:128).

### 2.3.2.8 Reduplicative

There are four main patterns of reduplicative, namely: a. Ablaut (or aphoponic) reduplicates, indicating by repeating sounds as in *chit-chat*, *tick-tock*. Rhyming showing constituent sounds and ablaut from the initial consonant, as in *fuzzy-Wuzzy*. Rhyming Compounds, both of which have meanings like on *funny bunny*. And Copy Reduplicative where the two constituents are identical, such as in *bye-bye* (Mattiello, 2008:131).

### 2.3.2.9 Acronyms and Initialisms

This form is a word created by taking the initiative of the words in the initial letter or phrase since acronyms are words pronounced as full words. For examples: dink (←double/dual no kids) and AC/DC, AC-DC (humorously alternating current, direct current (Mattiello, 2008:135).

### 2.3.2.10 Blending

A common derivational process or combining in English. Blends also called contaminations or “*portmanteau words*” (after Carroll), are formed by merging parts of words into one word as in *smog*, from *smoke* and *fog*. Blends are preferentially formed by taking the beginning (head) of a word and the end (tail) of another one (as in *smog* above). But also less typical blends exist, which are formed by combining two heads (as in *modem* < *modulator* + *demodulator*), or a word with a

tail (as in *guesstimate* < *guess* + *estimate*, *fanzine* < *fan* + *magazine* (Mattiello, 2008:138).

### **2.3.2.11 Clipping**

Process that shortened words are used to make one of the slang word forms. The most common pattern is back-clipping, in which the beginning of a base lexeme is retained for example: (lab<laboratory), other possible pattern include fore-clipping, in which the final part of the word is retained (phone <telephone), and clippings in which the middle of the word is retained (flu<influenza) (Mattiello, 2008:141).

### **2.3.2.12 Elliptic Rhyming Slang**

There are many rhyming slang formations word creations that are not fully used but rather as elliptic shapes that sometimes lose the final elements. For example, the full *butcher's hook*, rhyming slang for "look", is often reduced to its elliptical counterpart *butcher's* in daily conversation, as in the above quote. Loss of rhyme and therefore of iconicity between onset (*hook*) and beginning (the rhyming reference 'look') are the key consequence of such an ellipsis (Mattiello, 2008:148).

### **2.3.2.13 Reversed Forms**

Slang reversed forms are typical of back-slang. Create a term that makes sense when read backward. For example, yob was originally used in the sense of 'boy' but in modern use, it also reduces the contempt of criminals. A kind of slang in which every word is pronounced backwards as *ynnep* for *penny* (Mattiello, 2008:149).

#### **2.3.2.14 Variation**

A piece of mechanism of slang formation that adjusts word base by varying (part of) the sound. This is a term common to different processes. Variation covers a range of processes that are not merely morphological. But also pertain to the phonological system of English. For example: letter pronunciation is based on the pronunciation of word letter, which are reproduced at the written level as in *Gee* < *Guy*, or contractions which are made in spoken English as in *watcher* < *what cheer?* (Mattiello, 2008:150).

#### **2.3.2.15 Word Manufacture and Fanciful Formations**

In ordinary English, this process is commonly used in the formation of brand names and scientific words. Comprise in making the scientific words without morphological motivation as in “*heroin*”. Explicitly demonstrating this procedure is *scag/skag* ‘a cigarette (*stub*)’. The origin of fanciful formations is likewise unknown. They have no recognizable base, in fact, but a fantastic odd shape, which mostly reproduces a blurred indistinct meaning, as in *Amer*. This reproduces a blurred indistinct meaning (Mattiello, 2008:154).