The Expansion of Teenagers’ Slang Language Application Found in Batam

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Abstract: This research is a development of previous research conducted by researchers such as the construction of the formation of slang language, the form of slang greetings and adolescent perspective in its use found in Batam. In the present study, the researchers again conducted a follow-up study of slang in order to find the spread of adolescent slang use, the social aspects that influenced the use of slang, and the group of slang types in the adolescent community. This research is descriptive qualitative research because researchers use data in the form of words instead of numbers taken from the main source and interpreted by instinct and the researcher’s understanding of this research object. In data collection, the researcher will use the method compiled by Sudaryanto [1]. At the stage of providing data of researchers using the metode simak with Simak Bebas Libat Cakap Technique. At this stage the researcher performs a silent observation and recording the use of slang in teen community. Recorded data will be transcribed in phonemic form and interpreted by the author. At the stage of data analysis the researchers used the Padan Method with basic techniques of Pilih Unsur Penentu (PUP) with pragmatic form. The results of the analysis aim to find out the rules about extending the use of slang in adolescent communities, social aspects that influence the use of slang, and grouping the types of slang in teenagers in Batam. From the analysis of data collected, it can be found that the expansion of slang use in adolescent community occurs in all aspects of the use of language either written or oral form. In written form can be found in social media and writing such as facebook, instagram, WA, Twitter, BBM, Path, paper, and Line. In the oral form it is contained in live conversations in a secretly recorded teenage community and also in the film.

Key words: Expansion, Slang, Teenagers, Language application

1. Introduction

This research is an extension of previous research about slang which has been researched by researchers last year about slang language and address forms of slang used by the teenagers in Batam in 2015. In this research, the researchers still expand the research about slang in teenagers’ community and concern to find out the expansion of slang language application, social aspects influence the use of slang, and the sort of slang language classification used in teenagers’ community. This research is designed finally to find out the comparison of the slang forming and used from year to year, so it can be seen the contribution to the Indonesian vocabulary, or break the rule of Indonesian structure. The finding of this research is important as a reference to predict the presence of slang in the future and avoid the use of slang that is able to break the rule of Indonesian structure.

This research is different from the previous researches [2, 3] focused on the forming of slang in the teen magazines of “Aneka Yess!” and analyzed the American slang to find out the perspective, the forming and the use in social life. This research continuously captures the expansion of slang language application, social aspects influence the use of slang, and the sort of slang language classification used in teenagers’ community. It is viewed from the linguistics micro and macro aspects.

The use of slang does not only appear in big cities in Indonesia such as Jakarta, Bandung or Surabaya but also this phenomenon appears in small cities like Batam. Teens are an urban community which has a high creativity and productivity to create a new language in its community. Slang cannot be separated from the life of teens. Slang is an informal language of a community, and is understood by the group such as teenagers. Yule [4] says:

Slang is used for a very informal speech variety which often serves as an “in –group” language such as teenagers, army, pop group, etc. The word slang is used only known by the group itself. The word actually has informal language. The slang has been defined as one of those that everybody can recognize and nobody can define. Slang words almost could not be found in dictionary.

To support Yule’s statement, Trask [5] says that slang is a language that is difficult to understand by others, but its concept is able to be understood by others. Generally, the slang is not corresponding with standardization of an official language. Its forming is from the variation of official language itself, or shaped with the new formula and agreed to be used in the community. Slang has been changing from time to time. Slang is temporary which is caused by the change of the teenagers’ life.
The expansion of slang is influenced by the communities of teenagers in big cities through the mass media. Nowadays, slang is not only influenced by the community of teenagers from big cities, but the teenagers have created their own slang in their community although it is still influenced by the outsiders. The use of slang in Batam is still influenced by the non-resident of Batam from other places.

The acquisition of language is taken from formal or informal level. Formally, the acquisition of language is taken from formal institutions such as schools, universities or formal tuitions. Informally, the acquisition of language is taken from the mastering of mother tongue. They master the mother tongue naturally since they were kids. Yule [4] said that the mother tongue acquisition is taken naturally or informally since was born through the direct interaction to the people around such as parents, siblings, and relatives, and the second language is taken from the schools and formal institutions.

The phenomenon of slang acquisition which has difference background with the form of languages which is formally and informally taken by the children has a different way in acquainting because slang is not taught in formal or informal way to the teenagers. By seeing formally and informally the difference of first and second language acquisition thus, the process of slang acquisition could be interesting in being researched.

Slang is used widely in daily activities such in households, education, friendship, entertainment and cultural social. According Holmes [6] domain in linguistics refers to the choice of language use to the social aspect in society in which there are the language users and the setting. The language use domain is in households, friendship, religion meeting, education and workplace.

The creativity of teenagers to create the new things in their community gives a contribution to the widespread of slang use. The widely and massively use of slang would give the negative influence in conserving the officially standard Indonesian. Knowing the slang more is the way to avoid the negative impact to the other official language. The teenagers bring the slang as their communication tool to their daily communication. Slang has been to their formal situation such as school, workplace and in the family.

Based on the phenomenon, the researchers are interested in finding out deeply the expansion of slang language application used in teenagers’ community in Batam. So, the result of this research will be the finding in avoiding the negative impact to the language and supporting the use of slang to enrich the vocabulary standard language.

2. Sociolinguistics

The use of slang which is as a social phenomenon in a particular community is used only by the users in the community such as teenagers. Slang which is a part of communication tools in society cannot be separated from the social activity in community. To understand the phenomenon of slang used in a society, it is understood the concept of sociolinguistics which studies the use of language in society. Sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship among the language users in the society. Thus, sociolinguistics has a relationship with the social aspects in society. Sociolinguistics also discusses about the different variation of language used in society in capturing the social phenomenon such as the use of slang. Sociolinguistics is the branch of macro-sociolinguistics which studies the relationship of language and social factors such as age, social status, community, job, religion, politics, social culture, and so forth. [7] Nevertheless, sociolinguistics is also a discipline in linguistics that study the relationship of languages and social elements which influences the use of language user such as participant, setting, topic, function, social status, and formality. [8]

From the two concepts of sociolinguistics, it is concluded that slang which is as a phenomenon of language use in society is not separated from the influence of social elements such as social status, education level, age, gender, family relationship and social culture.

2.1 Language Domain

The word task derives from Old North French tasque, which meant a duty, a tax, or a piece of work imposed as a duty. Tasque originated from the Latin taxre, to evaluate, estimate, or assess (Barnhart 1988:1117, cited in Oxford [6]). This suggests a task is obligatory and might be tedious.

Slang is part of communication tool in a particular community such as teenagers has been widely used to all communities. Theoretically, domain of language is a variation of a language used in particular community and setting. The use of particular language refers to the particular community in a society. There are kinds of language use domain such as family, friendship, religion, education and workplace. According to Debora [9] language domain is the use of language which is agreed by the particular group or community in a society.
a. Family:
The use of language in a family occurs in a kinship or household such as father, mother, siblings, and grandparents.
b. Friendship
The use of language in a coeval friendship is informal and intimated in particular situation and condition such as on the road, market, and restaurant. The use of language in this point of view is aku, saya, gue, and loe.
c. Religion
The use of language is in a religious scope such as in mosques, churches, temples, and shrines.
d. Education
The use of language is in formal education institutions such as schools. The words are teachers, principals, and students.
e. Workplace
The use of language relates to the workplace such as in office and factory. The words are sir, manager, supervisor, and employees.

2.2 Language style
The variation of language use is determined by the aim of language use and refers to the users. The use of language is influenced by the place where the language used, users who and whom the language used. [10].

2.3 Kinds of Language Style
Language style is divided into two; formal and informal language style. Informal language style is a language used in a friendship domain with the speakers like friends. Formal language style is a language used in a formal domain with the higher social status speakers. [12]

From the explanation above, it is concluded that slang is one of the informal languages which is used by the teenagers in their group. Slang is used in community informally which involves the coeval friendship.

2.4 Slang
Yule [4] stated that slang is used to communicate informally in a particular group such as teenagers, army, group singer, etc. The vocabulary of slang used is known by the speakers in the community. In other words, slang is defined by the speakers in the community. Slang is not nearly found in the dictionary. Slang is almost the same with idiom used in informal communication. Traditionally, slang is known as vulgar and rude language. Slang is reflected as an impolite language in society. Linguistically, slang is prohibited in use in society in a formal way. Slang is one of the language styles used by the teenagers to express themselves in using language and developed to the need of communication [3]. There are some factors the use slang of slang among teenagers [13]. They are being cool, updated, easy to communicate with coeval, following friends, being joked, being popular, habitual. Slang is formed from words and phrases. The use of words and phrases depends on the situation [13]. The words of slang are formed from the processes. Word is a group of letters that has meaning. This research found the form of slang as words in communication.

The meaning of words in slang is determined by the contextual meaning. Analyzing from the dictionary, the meaning of words in slang is only taken from the native slang speakers. [13] The words of slang are known by the group itself. Slang is a language which is recognized the form but not understood. According to Trask [5] context is dynamic, flexible; it continuously changes and develops as well as the change of situation and condition of the environment. Widely, context is used to express the language users daily. In relation to slang, slang which is used in community of teenagers is dynamic and being wide to all context of oral or written communication.

3. The Theoretical Framework
Language acquisition is a process of human to study language formally and informally. In a formal way, the one masters the language from formal language institution, and in informal way, the one masters the mother tongue from their parents naturally. The concept of language acquisition is related to the theory of Damanhuri [15].

The domain of slang use refers to a group of particular language in daily use. Holmes [6] stated that language domain is variations of group of language in which the use of language is definitely determined by the situation where the group of language is used. Thus, the use of a group of language is grouped based on the existing domains. The understanding of context the use of language is influenced by the social factors when the communication occurs. Trask [5] The concept of context describes about some aspects such as situation and condition when the conversation happens formally or informally, the theme of conversation which refers to the understanding of conversation content, speakers and listeners as the persons to determine the content and the aim of conversation, and the setting and background which support to the understanding of the whole content of conversation. To understanding, context determines the use of language which aims to understand the content of conversation.
4. Research Method

In this research, the researchers observed the use of slang in teenagers' community. Slang used in this community has its own characteristic which cannot be understood by the others. In other words, the concept of slang can be easily understood but the meaning of slang cannot be easily understood. The understanding to the theoretical base about the phenomenon the use of slang brings the researchers to the research problems as an object of discussion in this research. Next, the researchers conduct the method related to data collecting, analyzing and research finding display. This research is qualitative research. The data collection is taken directly to the slang speakers, in this case is the teenagers as well as the theory of the experts. The data taken will be analyzed using Metode Agih. The aim of applying this method is to find out the construction of slang used in its expansion. Having done the analyzing process, data will be presented in a formal and informal way. This research will use qualitative-descriptive method.

5. Data Analysis

In this chapter, the researchers analyse the the data collected and finding the result which is related the formulation problem arranged. The data analysed using Method of Padan and Agih to find out the expansion of slang language used by teenagers in Batam. The researchers display the data and analyse them to get the result related to the purpose of this research. The data taken from many sources such as social media, daily conversation, and magazine.

Facebook Source

The data circled above also taken from facebook source. In this source, the use of slang can be seen from the word “ga”, “taken” and “cuman”. All of these words are quiet different from standard Indonesia language. The word “ga” refers to “tidak” or no in English. This word mostly used to ignore or reject someone’s opinion. The word “taken” means “adian” or having special relationship with someone such as boy friend or girl friend. This word used by teenagers to declare someone who just having special relationship with others. The word “cuman” means “hanya” or only in English. This word is informal style which is used by teenagers in their daily communication among them.

The data above also describes the use of slang in facebook. The words belong to slang can be seen from the words “HBD”, “Frend” and “cepu”. The word “HBD” is the abbreviation of happy birthday. Teenagers most used English abbreviation to make slang such as “GWS” get well soon. The word “frend” means that “friend” in English. The way teenagers make it slang by making the word related to the sound they hear. The word “cepu” means that refers to someone who assume as “provokator” or provocateur in English. In teenagers’ community this word mostly used when they want to say someone who says what is not true or does not exist.
The data displayed in Instagram Source 7 above also shows the use of slang language in teenagers’ community. The words refers to slang are “lu” and “baday”. The word “lu” is the same as the word “kamu”. This word familiar used in big city like Jakarta and Bandung. Teenagers imitate and applied it in their interaction. The word “baday” means “keren” or cool in English. This word used by teenagers to praise someone’s unique hair style.

The use of slang also can be found from the source 9 above. The teenagers express their slang by using word “caper” and “nanjak”. The word “caper” means that “cari perhatian” or show off in English. This word used when teenagers express their feeling to say someone who wants to take another attention especially in starting the relationship. The word “nanjak” means that “jadian” or someone who wants to be invited in making relationship. This word can refer to “pacar” or boy friend or girl friend in English.
The source above is taken from Instagram. The use of slang can be seen from the use of words “gue, mahul, trs, and ngomongin”. The word “gue” is the same as word “saya” or “aku”. Teenagers use word “gue” to say him or herself. Another slang is described from the word “mahul”. In this way, the teenagers change the standard word “mahal” means expensive. The word “trs” is also classified as written slang of teenagers’. They abbreviate the word “terus” into “trs”. The abbreviation way is also familiar among teenagers to create slang words. The last word belongs to slang is “ngomongin”. This word means “berbicara” or talk in English.

The data taken from Instagram source 16 above also show the use of slang language in teenagers’ community. There are some slang words used by teenagers in their interaction. The words belong to slang can be seen from the words “ngebet”, “gue/gw”, “nyoba” and “nyokap”. The words are created by teenagers in many ways such as the word “ngebet” is the new creation of teenagers in making slang word which the meaning refers to “sangat ingin” or really want in English. Another word is “gue or gw” is the imitation word adopted from other slang users from big city such Jakarta and Bandung. The word meaning refers to “saya” or I in English. The slang word “nyokap” refers to “ibu” or mother. This word mostly used in Jakarta and other big cities in Indonesia. This is the new word creation of teenagers. The last slang word is “nyoba”. This word refers to “mencoba” or trying in English. Teenagers incorrectly stated the standard Indonesia.
The slang words used can be seen from the source 18 above. In this source, the teenagers used slang words “bakal” and “kaya”. The word “bakal” means “akan” or to express something happened under prediction. This is the new creation of teenagers make a slang word. Another word slang is “kaya”. The word meaning refers to “seperti”. This word also created by teenagers by making the new style of slang word.

The next source which is indicated as a media for teenagers to express their slang word is Line. The source 19 above is taken from Line source. In this source the data is indicated as slang can be seen from the words “nyebelin”, “gak”, “galau”, “mulu”, “ngelucu” and “melulu.” the word “nyebelin” refers to the meaning of “menyakiti” or to express disspointing feeling to something bad happenend. This word is very familiar among teenagers. Another slang word is “gak” refers to the meaning of “tidak” or no in English. The word “galau” means under bad feeling to something bad happened or can be defined as “gelisah”. The word “mulu” or “melulu” means “selalu” or always in English. This word used to say something happened regulerly.

From the source 21 above can be seen the use of slang language in Line by teenagers. There are some slangs used by teenagers “lo”, “gede”, “gblk”, “lu”, “ceni”, “gini”, “dahi”, “gua”, “demen”, “emp”, “gabakil” and “bekasoy”. All of these slangs is created by teenagers in many ways. The slang words “gblk” for instance is created by abbreviation. The meaning refers to “goblok” or stupid in English. Another way is by creating new word style such as “demen” and “gede” which the meaning refer to “like” and “big”. The next way is by deleting sound such as “ceni” comes from “macam”. The last way is by changing the sound style of the basic word such as “bekasoy” means that “bekasi”.
The slang language used also can be found from the source 22 above. The source is taken from paper source. The expansion of slang language happened in many aspects one of them is in the article as displayed above. The use of slang language can be seen from the words “nge-buktiin”, “kalo”, “nggak”, “dapat”, “nganalisa”, “nyesuain”, and “ngejalanin”. All of these words is used by teenagers in informal style. The teenagers change the standard words into the informal style. It can be seen from the words “nge-buktiin” means “membuktikan”. The word “kalo” means “kalau”, “dapat” means “dapat”, “nyesuain” means menyusuiakan.

The source taken from paper source 23 above also describes the use of slang language by teenagers in the article. There are some words indicated as slang words such as “ngejaga”, “ngadep”, “nyeimbangin”, “ngeliat”, “banget”, “nyoba” and “kayaknya”. The way teenagers create slang words mostly by changing the formal style into informal one. It can be seen from the words “ngejaga” means “menjaga”, “ngadep” means “menghadap”, “nyeimbangin” means “menyeimbangkan” and “ngeliat” means “melihat”. The word “kayaknya” is the new word style created by teenagers.

The slang language used also can be found from the source 22 above. The source is taken from paper source. The expansion of slang language happened in many aspects one of them is in the article as displayed above. The use of slang language can be seen from the words “nge-buktiin”, “kalo”, “nggak”, “dapat”, “nganalisa”, “nyesuain”, and “ngejalanin”. All of these words is used by teenagers in informal style. The teenagers change the standard words into the informal style. It can be seen from the words “nge-buktiin” means that “membuktikan”. The word “kalo” means “kalau”, “dapat” means “dapat”, “nyesuain” means menyusuiakan.

The use of slang also can be found from the paper source 24 above. The way teenagers created slang is as the same as what explained in source 22 and 23 above. The teenagers created slang words by changing the formal style into informal style. The data displayed prove that slang language exists and expands in many aspect of language used. The word “nggak” means “tidak”, “mikirin” means “memikirkan”, “ngerasa” means “merasakan”, “ngebantu” means “membantu” and “bikin” means that membuat.
Twitter Source

The next source is taken from Twitter. As the source 25 displayed above, the slang words are used by teenagers in Twitter. The slang words are used by teenagers in Twitter can be seen from the words “ngapal”, “banget”, “kocak”, “ngakak”, and “baper”. The word “ngapal” means “menghafal”. Teenagers change the word style into informal one. The word “banget” means that “sangat”. This word is the new word style created by teenagers. The word “ngakak” refers to “lucu”. And the last word is “baper” means that “bawa perasaan”.

WA Source

The next source is taken from WhatsApp. The source 26 above displays the use of slang language in social media. The slang words are used in this source “gw”, “disampein”, “maap”, “nyepam”, “btw”, “gue”, “emg”, “gt”, and “w”. All of these words are created by teenagers in informal style.

Movie Source

Film "Koala Kumal" by Raditya Dika (2016)
1. 00:37 - 00:40
"Cowok kalo diputusin pas nangis."  
2. 07:48 - 07:50
"Maaf ya, bro, kita dewasa aja."  
3. 10:03 - 10:06
"Cantik kok anaknya. Udah deh, kece punya."  
4. 4:49 - 4:54
"Lo kenal gua dari jaman kapan sih, kaku amat kayak pembantu baru."  
5. 55:58 - 56:01
"Pergi seenak jidat kamu dan gak ngabar aku."  
6. 1:12:25 - 1:12:27
"Kalian basi tau gak."
The source 27 above is taken from the movie. The dialogue among characters in the movie appears the use of slang language. Many forms of slang language in the dialogue used by characters. It can be seen from the word “kalo”, “bro”, “aja”, “udah deh”, “kece”, “lo”, “gua”, “jaman”, “sigh”, “amat”, “kayak”, “ngabarin” and “basi tau”. All of these words are indicated as slang form.

6. Research Finding

Based on the data analysis and displayed above can be defined that there are some problems appear related to the use of slang language among teenagers. There are the expansion of slang language use, social aspect and classification of slang language.

The expansion of slang language used among teenagers happened in written and spoken language. The way the teenagers construct the slang language can be seen from three ways they are: By changing the basic standard word sound or letter, creating the new word formation, and imitating of other languages

1. Changing the basic standard word sound or letter can be devided into some ways;

a. Change the letter of the standard word to the other close similar letter sound
   Qa , Frnd, Mapp, Kalo, Mahul, abiz

b. Word abbreviation
   Trs, Emg, Gini, Gblk, Cam/cem, Pala, Baper, Capen, Curhat

c. Additional syllable “nya”
   Nyadar, Nyoba

d. Additional syllable of “nge” to change the initial “me” in the form of verb
   Nge-jaga
   Nge–jalanin
   Nge-rasa
   Nge-bantu
   Nge–lucu
   Nge-nalisa
   Nge-bukti
   Nge-lihat

e. Additional suffix “in” to change the suffix “kan”
   mikirin
   Nge-bukti
   Nge–jalanin
   jelek

f. Changing of the letter “a” in final syllable with “e” sound
   dape
   die

g. Acronym
   PHP
   HBD
   TTDJ

h. Additional syllable “ngo” and “in” to the word with initial sound “o”
   Ngo-mongin
   Ngo-bain
   Ngo-bralin

i. Additional syllable “in” for the passive form
   Diajar-in
   Ditempat-in

2. Creating the new word formation
   Such as: Ga, Taken, bingit, Onyoo, Cepu, Capen, Baday, Cuman, Yaps, Kepo

3. Imitating of other languages
   Such as: Banget, Gua, gue, gw, Loe, lu, Nyokap, Gede, Kagak/gak/nggak, Ngebet, Bakal, Kayak, Kocak, Btw, Omg, Bikin, ngakak

7. Conclusion

Language as a tool of communication changed rapidly in social interaction especially among teenagers. As creative and innovative people, teenagers create language variation in their community as their existence appearance in the society. The language variations which are created by teenagers are totally different from the standard language that mostly used by people in communication. The style of this language is called as slang language. Slang language is non standard language that created by teenagers in their community, and the meaning only can be understood among them. Sometime the meaning and the form can be recognized by others because the form of slang is variated from the basic standard words. The expansion of slang language in teenager’s community spread widely in many aspects of language use. The use of slang in teenagers’ community communicated in the form of written and spoken. Teenagers use slang when they write something such as message, book, article and so on. Also in spoken, the teenagers freely spoke the slang to show off their existence.

The way the teenagers construct the slang language can be seen from three ways they are: By changing the basic standard word sound or letter, creating the new word formation, and imitating of otherlanguages. By changing the basic standard word sound means that teenagers create the non standard or slang language by tingkering the standard form to the non standard one. The way the teenagers change the standard form can be seen from some ways, they are:
a. Change the letter of the standard word to the other close similar letter sound
b. Word abbreviation
c. Additional syllable “nya”
d. Additional syllable of “nge” to change the initial “me” in the form of verb
e. Additional suffix “in” to change the suffix “kan”
f. Changing of the letter “a” in final syllable with “e” sound
g. Acronym
h. Additional syllable “ngo” and “in” to the word with initial sound “o”
i. Additional syllable “in” for the passive form

Meanwhile, the way teenagers create a slang form by imitating of other languages can be seen from two ways:

a. By imitating other regional language, and
b. By imitating other foreign language.

Another way teenagers create slang form is called by creating the new word formation. The way teenagers create the new word formation of slang language is unpredictable its existence. The form suddenly expand from one to another and naturally used in their community.

References


