

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE USE OF ENGLISH SLANG

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ABSTRACT

Social media has an important effect on almost every aspect of modern communication, completely changing how people communicate and express themselves. Furthermore, social media has influenced English slang in ways that extend beyond simple linguistic development and involve larger sociocultural patterns. Recognising the revolutionary impact of social media on language trends, especially the creation and spread of English slang, this study purpose to examine the understanding and knowledge of the impact of social media in the use of English slang through the perspective of people who have studied English and ordinary people. This research was designed as a qualitative research using Narrative Inquiry Study. It also used interviews to collect data. The data was taken from two people of which one was an English language education student and the other was an ordinary person. The results showed that there were significant differences in the perspectives of the two regarding the understanding and knowledge of the use of English slang.

Thus, this shows the importance of understanding multiple perspectives and highlights the need for linguistic education programs that are inclusive and seek to minimize the impact of social media evolution on language trends. As English usage begins to change in the digital age, individuals receiving formal education and the online community as a whole make significant contributions to a comprehensive understanding of language evolution.

Keyword : *English slang, Social Media, Linguistic*

INTRODUCTION

Social media has grown as a major platform influencing a lot of daily life, including linguistic shifts, in an era of increasing globalisation and digitization. The use of informal or slang English on social media platforms is one area that this phenomena is very noticeable. The use of code-switching, code mixing, interference (inserting foreign language elements into Indonesian words or vice versa), borrowing foreign terms, and using slang both orally and in writing have become the informal language styles of today's young people. One of the language variations that is often used in social interactions is slang. According to Chaer & Agustin in Antoro (2018: 2), slang is created and used by certain social groups to interact internally so that it is not known by others. Slang has distinct qualities; it is frequently more informal imaginative, and prone to quick changes. Users can participate in real-time online interactions on social media. As a result, a new ecology is created in which people can effortlessly exchange, spread, and adopt new slang terms. (Gedhe 2021)

The transition includes adjustments to communication structures and patterns in addition to vocabulary modifications. Slang English develops and spreads quickly on social media, creating a distinct linguistic culture among users. Thus, monitoring the development of language in the ever changing digital environment requires a deep comprehension of how social media affects the usage of colloquial English.

The linguistic landscape has become more dynamic, especially in the area of slang, as social media platforms keep redefining the dynamics of communication. Those who have studied English in a formal setting may have a more structured and scholarly perspective, taking historical backgrounds, grammatical nuances, and nuances into account. Conversely, common people interacting with the language in their daily

lives on social media may have an organic role in the development of slang, as it is shaped by real-time trends, cultural changes, and the dynamic nature of online communication.

in this case recognizing the need to explore the various viewpoints brought by people with different levels of language proficiency into the discussion of how social media has influenced English slang. Through the analysis of these viewpoints, this research offers insights into the ways in which social media affects linguistic expression, thus advancing a thorough understanding of the complex interplay between education, digital communication and the dynamic evolution of language in the digital age through the perspectives of English-educated people and ordinary people.

METHOD

The purpose of this study is to examine the understanding and knowledge of the impact of social media in the use of English slang through the perspective of people who have studied English and ordinary people. The researchers used qualitative research and narrative inquiry in the research design of this study. According to Lodico et al. (2006), narrative inquiry is a qualitative procedure in which researchers describe people's lives, and collect and tell their stories. This research was conducted in two different places, namely, at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin university, precisely in the English department and another place in the Kelayan area. The first participant is a student from the English department class 22 and the second participant is an acquaintance from outside the campus who does not have basic English.

The data for this study were collected through interviews, narratives, and documentation. This study used interviews to gather information regarding the influence of social media on the use of English slang through the perspective of people who have studied English and ordinary people. The interview instrument was created by the researchers themselves through close observation. There were five questions asked to the participants, 1. What do you know about English slang? 2. What English slang do you often use and hear? 3. What makes English slang on social media so interesting and fun? 4. Other than on social media, where do you usually use English slang? 5. How does using English slang on social media affect the way you communicate with your friends?. After collecting data from the interviews, the researcher used a narrative framework to double-check all the information and data from the interviews.

FINDING

The first thing the researchers asked was what they knew about English slang. According to the first participant where she is a student of the English education department, she knows a little about English slang and sometimes does not realize that the things she often says and hears include English slang. while the second participant where she is an ordinary person said that, if she just knows about English slang but often does not realize that it includes English slang. from these two participants it can be concluded that, they know enough about what English slang is and they sometimes do not realize that what they say and hear everyday is included in English slang.

Next, the researcher asked the participants to mention any English slang that they often use and hear and asked them to explain the meaning of the word. The first participant mentioned several English slang words that she often uses, namely Lol, btw, otw, idk, fyp. Lol stands for laugh out loud which means laugh out loud. Btw stands for by the way which means omomg-omomg when we want to express something. Otw stands for on the way which means on the way, according to her, many people now blame the meaning. Many people call otw when they just want to take a shower or just woke up, even though the actual use of otw is when we are heading for a trip. Idk stands for i don't know which means don't know, some people already know the meaning. Fyp stands for for your information but she only knows the term without knowing the meaning. Meanwhile, the second participant, mentioned some English slang that she knew, namely btw, lol, idk, omg, otw and there are more but she does not know whether it is included in English slang or not. Btw is a word that she often uses in everyday life such as, "*uh btw today...*" she also

knows the extension of btw which is by the way which means by the way. She uses the word idk a lot when chatting. The word idk itself she knows is i don't know which means I don't know. As for lol, she actually doesn't know what it stands for but she knows that it means laughing out loud. Omg stands for oh my god which means oh my god or oh my gosh. Otw stands for on the way but in the sense that she uses it when she is just getting ready or going to take a shower. In this case, it can be concluded that, from the two participants, the English slang they know on average is an acronym form. The first participant although did not know much about English slang but she could explain the meaning and purpose of the English slang used appropriately. While the second participant, she knew English slang but only knew and did not know the real meaning.

The researcher also asked what makes English slang on social media interesting and fun. The first participant mentioned that of course it is very interesting and fun because the way of expressing it is very unique and does not use abbreviations, such as we don't need to say i don't know just idk people already know what it means and understand. Meanwhile, the second participant revealed that she was initially interested because one of the influencers she liked often used words that included English slang and she followed it and eventually became a habit. This habit is what he finally uses in his daily life. In conclusion, English slang is very interesting and fun for its users.

Furthermore, the researcher asked them where else they use English slang other than on social media. The first participant stated that apart from social media, she uses it when she is hanging out with her friends. Besides that, according to her, as a student majoring in English, we should at least use English even a little bit in our friendship circle. Meanwhile, the second participant said that he used to use it in the neighborhood and sometimes when talking with her friends. Therefore, English slang can not only be used on social media but can also be used outside of it such as the home environment, school, campus.

Finally, the researcher asked How does the use of English slang on social media affect the way you communicate with your friends. The first participant explained that of course from this influence we get new vocabulary. When using these words, it looks more trendy and cool, especially as one of the students majoring in English because in the eyes of people, they will look smart because they know the meaning and purpose. Meanwhile, the second participant said that the impact will depend on each person who responds. Because there are some people he meets when using English slang even in judge, "*pretentious English*" and so on, but not all of them are so there are those who consider it normal or even ask what the meaning of her words is. It can be concluded that the use of English slang has a variety of different impacts.

DISCUSSION

Based on finding, that slang in the realm of social media is very impactful for young people now whether they are a student from an English education background or just an ordinary person who is active in current trends and social media. This is in accordance with the journal Gede Budiasa (2021) entitled slang language in Indonesian social media, that Slang has become a trend among teenagers and one of the factors that has contributed to spreading this out is social media. This is because using social media has become a new lifestyle among teenagers, where on social media they can have certain groups with similar hobbies, interests, work, and others. English slang itself they actually know but they are less aware of the use of the word. When they want to mention slang, they think of acronyms like btw, otw, lol, omg, fyp and so on. Though English slang is not just an acronym but can be from expressions or basic English such as introductions. There are also differences when asked to explain the meaning and purpose of using the slang words they mentioned earlier. Of course, for ordinary people who do not have an English background they just follow the trend and apply it in everyday life without knowing the real meaning. Unlike those who have an English background, of course they know the meaning and purpose of using the slang word because they have learned it so that they don't say the wrong word. In addition to social media, the use of English slang can be used when gathering with friends or in the home environment we can use it. The impact caused by

the use of English slang varies depending on the person responding to it. For people with an English background, of course he must be considered smart because he knows English. For ordinary people it will be said that they are too English or arrogant even though they only follow the existing trends but there are also those who appreciate it in the form of praise.

CONCLUSION

This research aim to examine the understanding and knowledge of the impact of social media in the use of English slang through the perspective of people who have studied English and ordinary people. So it was found that the impact of using English slang from social media from the results of different perspectives from those with an English education background and those without or just ordinary people. People with an English education background have more knowledge about English slang both from the meaning and purpose of using the word, and other people also judge that they are smart and cool because they already have basic English. In contrast to ordinary people who do not have an English education background, they only know how to use it but do not know the real meaning because they only follow trends from social media and in people's views they are considered too English or arrogant, but there are also those who appreciate it with praise.

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