

Chapter I

Introduction

This chapter describes background of the study, research questions, limitation of the study, objectives of the study and the significances of the study

1.1. Background of the Study

Language plays an important role in human life. Language is the most essential human means of communication. Language produced by system of voice in human body or language that produced by gesture, both of them has important function of making the communication.

No living language is simply one set of words which can be used the same way in all situations. The nature of language is such that there are in infinite variety of different ways to arrange its elements. It means that there are many ways to say the same things, depending on where you are, who you are talking to and how you feel. One of the main factors which determine which words and structures are appropriate is the degree of formality of the situation in which you are using the language. In academic situation in general, we use a relatively formal set of words and structure.

So, that is why we recognize either formal or informal language, it means that we talk about diction. In formal situation, we pay attention to traditional language usage or standard language that has certain rules and structure and try to avoid contraction, slang expression that show particular group. Otherwise, in

formal words the speakers prefer to choose contraction, slang expression and other expression which only known among them.

The relationship between language and members of the speaker's community in society is one of sociolinguistic studies. Sociolinguistic is always related to language and society. According to Fishman (2004), sociolinguistic is the study of the characteristics of language varieties, the characteristics of their functions, and the characteristic of their speakers as these three constantly interact, change and change one another within a speech community. It means so sociolinguistics is the study of language use in society. The use of language within the community includes language variations. It can be due to time, social or geographical. Soeparno on *Dasar-dasar Linguistik* (2003) says that language variations consist of chronological variations, geographical variations, social variations, functional variations, stylistic variations, cultural variations, and individual variations. In addition, social variation is subdivided into several forms and one of them is slang.

Slang is one of the forms of language. Slang used by all kinds of groups of people who share situations or interest and it often used in informal situation. Burke (2004) says that slang are “secret” words or sentences used to in everyday conversation, book, magazine, tv, movie, or in song lyrics. Slang is only used by native speaker.” These words created as their tools of communication and only their members know the meaning of it. So they can make a communication each other of the gang.

Today slang is not only used in the communication but also it has influenced into song lyrics. There are a lot of composers and bands who creates song. Many composers often put slang words on their lyrics as the natural expression. One of them is Gun N Roses on their album entitled Use Your Illusion I. The writer chooses Gun N Roses and the album “Use Your Illusion I” as an object of the study. Gun N Roses is one of group band who has many fans all over the world. They also have a high quality lyric to be checked if there is a slang word or not. One of their album is Use Your Illusion has sixteen songs. These album sold 685.000 copies in the first week and 770.000 copies in the second week in the United States.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in discussing about slang especially slang in song lyrics. In addition, the research findings can give the writer beneficial input when he is abroad in the future. The writer will communicate easily with other people who use slang.

1.2. Research Questions

Based on the background above, the writer made some research questions, those are:

1. How many slang words appear in song lyrics Gun N Roses on album “Use Your Illusion I”?
2. What is classification of slang words in song lyrics Gun N Roses on album “Use Your Illusion I”?

1.3. Limitation of the Study

There are about sixteen songs contained in the album “Use Your Illusion I” belong to Gun N Roses. To limit the number of slang words appear in song lyrics Gun N Roses the writer only analyzed ten song lyrics from these album, those are: Perfect Crime, Back of Bitch, Bad Obsession, Don’t Damn Me, Right Next Door to Hell, Don’t Cry, November Rain, Coma, Live and Let Die and You Ain’t the First. To limit classification of slang words that appear in song lyrics Gun N Roses on album “Use Your Illusion I” the writer only analyzed types of slang words.

1.4. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out how many of slang words appear in the song lyrics Gun N Roses on album “Use Your Illusion”.
2. To find out types of slang in song lyrics on album “Use Your Illusion I”.

1.5. Significances of the Study

According to the writer, the significances are important in improving his works. There are some significances of the study as follows:

- For the writer himself, this study provides an opportunity to apply what is meant about language variations, especially about the slang language which is in the lyrics of the song.

- For the reader, this study is expected to be a useful resource in understanding the variation of slang in understanding the kind of slang words.
- Last but not least, this study also explains in the field of sociolinguistics, especially about the slang words that appear in the lyrics of the song on Gun N Roses on album Use Your Illusion I.