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## The Analysis of Slang Words in English Online Learning Classroom

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### Abstract

*Educational system changed to online learning because pandemic covid 19 spreads around the world. Teachers and students have to use an alternative way to carry out education through learning technology. Online learning creates a new way of communicating between teachers and students, especially when they send messages by learning platform so that in its implementation sometimes various variations appear in the use of language in learning or it is the use of slang words. The slang words are informal words or terms that have become a culture or habit in the daily conversations. This study aims to analyse the slang words used by students when learning English during online learning and also to find out the reason students use the slang words. The method used in this research was descriptive qualitative. The data was collected through the analysis of the conversation transcripts of the WhatsApp learning group and zoom comments, then an interview used to know students' perception about slang words. The result shows that students use slang words both in Indonesian and English when chatting with friends, expressing feelings, discussing and so on. Then, there are 13 Indonesian slang words and 15 English slang words that students common use in online conversation. Next, students assume that the use of slang words can make the learning atmosphere less tense, easy to understand, to short words and make the teaching and learning process more relaxed.*

**Keywords:** slang word; elt; online learning

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Currently, human activities have changed and are experiencing chaos due to the spread of the covid 19 virus. This virus is against people and caused chaos and worry around the world. All aspects are affected by the spread of this virus, including educational activities. Schools, universities and educational institutions have closed to prevent the spread of this deadly virus. As a result, teaching and learning activities are stopped and students and teachers cannot go to school to carry out their routines in education. As a consequence, learning is carried out online with the help of learning technology that is connected to the internet. Teachers and students must be able to master and use the learning platforms so that the teaching and learning process can run well in this difficult situation. Then, online learning is an alternative that can be used in difficult situations due to the COVID-19 pandemic (J. S. Prayudha, 2021). Teachers and students are connected to each other from their respective homes not from school.

In the implementation of teaching and learning activities are carried out through the learning technology in the form of a computer/laptop or smartphone that is connected via an internet signal. The technology must have learning applications that can support teaching and learning activities (J. Prayudha, 2022). There are so many learning applications that can be used by teachers and students, including Zoom Meeting, Google Classroom, WhatsApp and so on. Teachers and students must be good at using and operate the application because every teaching and learning activity is carried out on the application so that the ability to use it is needed to get good learning.

The use of learning applications is inseparable from how students and teachers use them to get a good learning experience. Learning

applications support various features that can be used and help students and teachers to have a good user experience (J. Prayudha & Malik, 2021). One of these features is the existence of a comment or chat column that can be used by both teachers and students to communicate during the online teaching and learning process. Teachers can use the comments column as a means of providing material, conveying messages, opinions, ideas and even asking students. On the other hand, students can also use the comments column on the application to share opinions, communicate, provide ideas, suggestions and even as a forum for socializing among other students when online learning is carried out.

In the practice of implementing online learning, students sometimes use some words or informal language or commonly referred to as slang words. This slang language is often used by students during online learning. Slang is one of the studies of linguistics, namely sociolinguistics, including part of language variations. Slang word is an informal and non-standard language variety that is seasonal in nature used by a particular community or society that has similarities such as social class, age, economy and certain situations. In practice, the use of slang words in online classes is also used by students in learning when giving opinions, asking questions, answering or just greeting their classmates.

Research about slang word has been done a lot. However, in the practice of online learning there are still few who do research about it. Therefore, researchers try to analyze and find out students' opinions on the use of slang word during online learning. From this phenomenon, researchers feel very curious about the use of slang language used by students when online learning. Therefore, researchers feel that the use of slang words in online classes is an interesting study. In this research,

researchers will analyze the slang language used by students during online learning and want to investigate the reasons students use that language in online classes. The aim of this research are to describe the use and opinion students when they choose slang words in communicating during online learning.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Language is dynamic, it means that language will continue to develop along with the times and its speakers (Muhammad, 2016). The emergence of new words, meanings and terms that are the result of the creativity of the speaker is something that cannot be avoided. Things like this are very common among teenagers, with full creativity they often produce new utterances and combine various language variations in everyday communication. Slang is the typical language of teenagers, the words or sentences are changed in such a way that only they can understand it, slang can be understood by almost all teenagers in the country who are reached by the mass media, even though the terms of that language develop, change, and increase almost every day (Sarwono, 2004). According to Firmansyah (2018) that changes and development of language in a person can be influenced by several things including the environment, which includes the environment here, namely technology that develops in society.

The language used in social media is very diverse, from standard language and not standard or sometimes not in accordance with linguistic rules, while the use of social media is currently more dominated by teenagers (Lutviana & Mafullah, 2021). Thus, this triggers the emergence of a variety of new languages among adolescents. According to Chaer and Agustina (2004) stated, "slang is a variety of language that is often used by teenagers." This means that slang has become a characteristic for

teenagers in communicating with friends on social media as well as in direct interaction and the vocabulary of slang always changes depending on usage. Alwasilah (1985) states that slang is a variety of language which is characterized by a new and rapidly changing vocabulary and is used by a group of people and generally young people to communicate. Variety of languages is a variation of language according to usage, which varies according to the topic being discussed, according to the relationship between the speaker, the person he is talking to, the person being talked about, and according to the medium of the speaker (Bachman, 1990). One of the varieties of language that is trending among teenagers today is slang. Slang is useful as an expression of the familiarity of the wearer (Budiasa et al., 2021). The use of slang can also be used to show oneself as a member of a community group that is different from other community groups.

The presence of slang is considered reasonable because it is in accordance with the demands of the development of the conscience of adolescent children. One form of slang that is very often used is abbreviations and acronyms. An acronym is an abbreviation of a word or a combination of several syllables. The difference between an abbreviation and an acronym is in the form of pronunciation. Abbreviations are pronounced letter by letter, while acronyms are pronounced as syllables.

The use of slang words does not have a definite standard because their use depends on one's mood when making the word. Even though slang has a writing standard that is much different from good and correct Indonesian. Because basically, slang is not used in formal situations such as exams, speeches, meetings, writing articles and so on. The emergence of a new language, especially slang, will certainly affect the development

of the world of language itself, both positive and negative, including slang itself. The large number of appearances of slang has resulted in teenagers being more interested in using slang than using good and correct Indonesian. So that it is feared that it will have an impact on the existence of the use of Indonesian, this results in the authenticity of good and correct Indonesian vocabulary utterances being threatened. In this regard, the problem in this research is how to form abbreviations and acronyms for millennial youth slang on social media. The purpose of this study is to describe the formation of millennial youth slang abbreviations and acronyms on social media.

According to Mulyasa (2008) slang is a number of words or terms that have special meanings, are unique, deviate or even contradict the usual meanings when used by people from certain sub-cultures. Another opinion was put forward by Widyamartaya (1990) that diction or choice of words is a person's ability to accurately distinguish nuances of meaning according to the ideas he wants to convey, and this ability should be conveyed, and this ability should be adapted to the situation and the sense of value one has. a group of people and listeners or readers. The choice of words in the use of diction allows the formation of new vocabulary that is influenced by the choice of words. The formation of new words is done by going through a process of absorbing words, and the word adaptation process occurs due to the influence of a foreign language which then forms a term.

### **3. METHODS**

In carrying out this research, researchers used qualitative methods with descriptive approach in conveying research findings. Qualitative research is used to find out social phenomena that occur more deeply (Cresswell, 2013). Qualitative research is also used to determine the

perception or opinion of the object under study related to the problem being studied. Sugiyono (2014) explains that qualitative descriptive methods can be used to see the situation or condition of the object being studied naturally without data manipulation and also in qualitative descriptive research, researchers as a key role in carrying out research. Arora & Stoner (2009) add that by using qualitative methods researchers can get more detailed information related to what is being studied so that the information obtained is deeper and more comprehensive.

The research was conducted at SMKN 03 Lebong. The number of students who became respondents in the study was 67 students where they took English subjects. English learning is carried out by online using Zoom and Whatsapp applications. The research was conducted for three months by analyzing conversation transcripts such as Whatsapp group or Zoom comment to find out the slang words use by students when online learning was carried out. The sample used in this study is data analysis in the form of slang vocabulary contained in online class conversation transcripts, both from Zoom conversations and from WhatsApp groups. Then, to get more deep answers about students' perceptions in the use of slang words, the researchers used structured interviews to 15 students through the Zoom meeting application. After the data has been collected, the data is analyzed through several stages, namely; organize, data reduction, data display and conclusion.

#### **4. FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

Communication when learning online sometimes brings up its own uniqueness in its implementation. One of the uniqueness is the use of slang language used by students when learning both Indonesian and English. The results of the analysis of the slang vocabulary can be seen in the following table:

Table 1. Slang Words

No	Language	Total
1	Bahasa Indonesia Slang words	13
2	English Slang words	15

The results of the analysis of transcripts of learning conversations conducted online found that there were 13 Indonesian slang vocabularies used by students as follows:

**Baper** —————→ *Bawa Perasaan*

*"kita bagi kelompok sesuai urutan absen saja ya, tapi jangan ada yang protes dan **baper** kalo dapat kelompok yang tidak sesuai".* (Baper word here represents the emotion of someone in dividing of English group work).

**Gercep** —————→ *Gerak Cepat*

*"Zoom udah mulai ni, **gercep** guys!".* (The meaning of gercep here to told the classmates to immediately enter the zoom room).

**Mager** —————→ *Malas Gerak*

*"bisa off cam ga sih? **Mager** banget on cam".* (The word mager means the student didn't want to turn on the zoom camera because too lazy to show face on the screen).

**Japri** (Chatpri) —————→ *Chat Pribadi*

*"teman-teman jangan spam chat di grup, kita lagi belajar. **Japri** aja".* (Japri means to do personal chat during learning to not disturb learning process).

**Gaje** —————→ *Gak Jelas*



*"Lihat Ari tu **Gaje** banget, orang lagi belajar kok kayak gitu, gak di off cam pula". (Gaje here means do something that not make sense or weird during learning process).*

**Halu** —————→ *Halusinasi*

*"kelas kita ni banyak yang **halu** disuruh buat teks descriptive tentang idola malah ngaku-ngaku istri BTS. Haha". (Halu here means to much dreams about something that is very difficult to make it real).*

**Caper** —————→ *Cari Perhatian*

*"tolong dong omongin sama Sir jangan kasih tugas lagi, tugas kemarin belum selesai weh..., Ica coba **caper** dikit kek Mr. Yudha tu..". (Caper here means to pay attention to ask teacher to not give more homeworks).*

**Gabut** —————→ *Tidak melakukan aktifitas apapun/ bingung*

*"Sir **gabut** banget sekolah online terus, ga asik. Kapan mulai sekolah lagi sir?". (Gabut here means to express a confused feeling of student when online learning because he wants to go to school directly like before pandemic).*

**Komuk** —————→ *Kondisi Muka*

*"sekolah pagi-pagi buta **komuk**-nya ga ada yang mandi ni, hehe..". (Komuk is a word to say about face condition of students during learning in early morning).*

**Mantul** —————→ *Mantap Betul*

*"mantul guys ga ada tugas kita hari ini".* (Mantul is a word to describes happy emotion because there is no homework given by the teacher).

**Woke** —————→ **Oke**

*"tugas bahasa Inggris jangan lupa di kumpul jam 3 sore guys. Woke..".* (Woke is ok).

**Monmaap** —————→ **Mohon Maaf**

*"monmaap guys, tolong kirim ulang link zoomnya, terimakasih".*  
(Monmaap is expression to say sorry).

**Uwu** —————→ **(Ekspresi gemas)**

*"pagi-pagi buta udah didepan kamera, **uwu** banget gak sih, hehe".*  
(Uwu uses if you find something cute or romance or to express something awesome happens).

The words above are often used by students when communicating through the comments chat in learning applications such as Whatsapp and Zoom. The use of slang word is sometimes used outside the context of learning or related to the material being discussed while studying. The use of slang in communication is unavoidable because slang is the result of variations, changes in use made by a group which can then be understood and accepted in general. According to Rizky, (2018) states that slang is the result of a shift in language use that has occurred among millennials. The same thing was also conveyed by Saputra, L., & Marlina, (2019) who said that slang emerged due to a user agreement which was initially understood by the group and then accepted by users in general. Wahyuni, S & Rosa, (2003) found that many users of slang are teenagers where they form and use slang as a modern language which initially is

only understood by certain groups which can then be accepted and used by the majority of society. Relate to the opinion above, Rezeki, T, I., & Sagala, W, (2019) also stated that slang is very familiar and widely used by millennials in daily communication. This means that the use of slang is widely spoken and used by teenagers as a form of self-expression.

In addition to slang in Indonesian, there is also slang that comes from English. There are 15 words that are often used in English slang, which can be seen in table 2 below:

Table 2. English Slang words

No	English Abbreviations	Meaning
1	ASAP	As soon as possible <i>"weh bentar lagi jam 3, tugas tu kerjakan ASAP guys".</i>
2	AFK	Away from keyboard <i>"Mana Justin? Itu dia ditanyain Mr. Yudha. AFK kali dia, nih."</i>
3	BTW	By the way <i>"BTW kita mau ngerjain tugasnya gimana? Bagi-bagi aja tugasnya, ya?".</i>
4	AKA	As known as
5	ANW	<i>"aku ga paham ngerjainnya gimana. Aku mau nanya profesor kita dulu AKA Nabila".</i>
6	BC	Anyway <i>"ANW, tugas kemarin di submit ke grup apa ke email, ya?".</i>  Because <i>"Bil, BC aku ga paham tugasnya, aku boleh nyontek, ya!".</i>

		Get well soon
7	GWS	<i>"Semoga dunia segera membaik, dan buat kalian yang sakit GWS jangan lupa makan banyak-banyak".</i> I don't know
8	IDK	<i>"yang lain mana ya guys? Bentar lagi masuk zoom, oy. IDK, masih belum bangun kali."</i>
9	POV	Point of view
10	IKR	<i>"jelasinnya pakai POV kita masing-masing kan, ya?"</i> I know, right
11	IMO	<i>"kita nanti presentasi sendiri-sendirikan, ya? Yes, IKR."</i> In my opinion
12	SYS	<i>"mungkin kita buatnya bareng-bareng aja dan IMO kita buat videonya sendiri-sendiri terus kirimnya ke email bapak aja".</i> See you soon
13	JK	<i>"SYS guys, jangan lupa videonya dibuat terus kirim ke email sir".</i>
14	VC	Just kidding
15	OMG	<i>"kita bahas tentang apa guys materinya yang bisa jelasin detail buat teks deskriptif? BTS aja? JK, haha..".</i> Video call  <i>"nanti aku tanya-tanya. Lewat VC aja biar jelas".</i> Oh my god  <i>"OMG tugas video ku belum selesai, kalian udah pada ngumpul?"</i>

This slang word is often used in online English classes. The majority of slang word used is English abbreviations, so its use only abbreviates words to make it seem easier to understand. The use of slang word in teaching and learning activities is one of the variations of language used to simplify or shorten sentences to make them shorter and easier to understand.

Then the results of interviews to find out students' opinions regarding the use of slang words can be seen in table 3.

Table 3. Interview answer

Interview Questions	Answer
How did you know about slang words? Why did you use slang words in communication?	I know slang words from my friends also from social media and from television. When I found new words I tried to find the meaning and yes I used slang words depend on the situation and condition. I use slang words so that my friends can understand more easily, then to make it seem slang or according to the latest trends. In learning I use slang words so that the language is not too rigid.
What advantages do you think of when you use slang words in communication?	The advantage of using slang words is make me easier to abbreviate words, so I don't need to spend too much energy typing sentences. In addition, using slang can make the learning atmosphere livelier than using rigid language. I feel more comfortable and look trendy when I use them.

The results of the interview illustrate that the students are used to using slang words in their daily lives. The slang words they get comes from understanding or sources they meet both from friends, social media and television. In addition, the reason students often use slang word is to abbreviate words, so they don't need to type too long and save on word usage. It is related with Budiasa, G, I., Savitri, W, P., & Dewi, S, (2021) finding research that the reason students use slang is to make abbreviate the long word or to make a short a sentence. Trimastuti, (2017) also argues that many of students use slang words because to make easy write something in transfer meaning to other.

In addition, in the context of learning, they argue that using slang word can provoke friends to want to reply to messages or communicate in boring online classes. The use of slang word has its own charm to invite friends to be active in online classes.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Slang word is one part of sociolinguistics. Slang words appear because there is a style or influence from the speaker's environment that makes the slang formed. Slang words are often encountered either directly through daily communication or through social media. Slang words can appear in many languages anywhere in the world, in this study slang words are categorized in Indonesian and English. The use of slang is a variation of language in communication, many users use slang in everyday conversation because it is to shorten the words you want to convey. Students also often use slang words in online classes to make it easier to communicate. The use of slang words can save words, so they don't bother typing too long. In addition, the use of slang words can be used as a suggestion to lure friends to give comments or ideas, suggestions and so on when online discussions are carried out. Finally, for the next researcher can do research that relate with the slang use especially in how slang word can affect students communication in everyday activities.

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